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ST. AUSTELL URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL



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


of the

M E D I C A L O F F I C E R O F H E A L T H

for the

Y E A R 1 9 5 3

J.G.S. TURNER, M.B.,
Ch.B., D.P.H.



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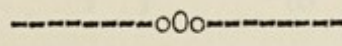
ST. AUSTELL URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL

PUBLIC HEALTH COMMITTEE

1 9 5 3

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To the Chairman and Councillors of the Urban District of Saint Austell

Mr. Chairman, Lady & Gentlemen,

I have the honour to present the Annual Report on the health and sanitary circumstances of the District for the year 1953.

The conditions prevailing throughout the year have been generally satisfactory with a mortality experience similar to that for the whole country.

I wish to record my thanks to Mr. Watts and to Mr. Sturtridge. I am indebted to Mr. King for parts of this Report and to him and Mr. Saunders and Mr. Mules I owe thanks for help.

I thank also Members of the Public Health Committee for their interest and support.

I have the honour to be Lady & Gentlemen,
Your obedient Servant,

J.G.S. TURNER

Medical Officer of Health.

SUMMARY OF VITAL STATISTICS

Area (in acres)	...	...	...	...	18,379
Population	...	...	...	...	23,480
Number of Inhabited houses	...	...	...	...	7,563
Rateable Value	...	...	...	...	£127,940
Product of a Penny Rate					£508

					<u>Rate per 1,000 Population</u>	
					St. Austell,	England and Wales
<u>LIVE BIRTHS</u>	Male	Female	Total			
Legitimate	161	139	305	}	13.0	
Illegitimate	2	3				
For comparison with other areas rate corrected for age and sex distribution.					14.3	15.5
<u>STILL BIRTHS</u>						
Legitimate	3	6	9	}	0.12	0.35
Illegitimate	-	-				
<u>DEATHS</u>	144	172	316		13.5	
For comparison with other areas rate corrected for age and sex distribution.					10.5	11.4
					<u>Rate per 1,000 total Births</u>	
<u>MATERNAL DEATHS</u>		Nil			0.0	0.76
<u>INFANT MORTALITY</u> (Deaths under 1 yr of age)						
Legitimate	3	6	10	}	32.8	26.8
Illegitimate	0	1				
<u>DEATHS under 2 yrs from ENTERITIS & DIARRHOEA</u>	0	1	1		3.3	1.1

CAUSES OF DEATH

The following is an abbreviated list of the causes of death of persons of all ages :-

	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>	<u>Total</u>
1. Tuberculosis - respiratory	3	3	6
2. Tuberculosis - other	0	0	0
3. Syphilitic Disease	0	2	2
4. Diphtheria	0	0	0
5. Whooping Cough	0	0	0
6. Meningococcal	0	0	0
7. Acute Poliomyelitis	0	0	0
8. Measles	0	0	0
9. Other infective and Parasitic diseases	0	0	0
10. Malignant neoplasm, stomach	3	5	8
11. Malignant neoplasm, lung, bronchus	6	1	7
12. Malignant neoplasm, breast	0	8	8
13. Malignant neoplasm, uterus	0	7	7
14. Other malignant and lymphatic neoplasms	16	19	35
15. Leukaemia, Aleukaemia	1	1	2
16. Diabetes	0	2	2
17. Vascular Lesions of the Nervous System	15	27	42
18. Coronary disease, angina	30	13	43
19. Hypertension with heart disease	2	1	3
20. Other heart disease	21	41	62
21. Other circulatory disease	7	4	11
22. Influenza	1	0	1
23. Pneumonia	2	3	5
24. Bronchitis	4	4	8
25. Other diseases of respiratory system	3	1	4
26. Ulcer of stomach and duodenum	3	1	4
27. Gastritis, Enteritis and Diarrhoea	0	1	1
28. Nephritis and Nephrosis	6	2	8
29. Hyperplasia of prostate	2	0	2
30. Pregnancy, childbirth, abortion	0	0	0
31. Congenital malformations	0	1	1
32. Other defined and ill-defined diseases	11	19	30
33. Motor Vehicle Accidents	2	0	2
34. All other accidents	3	5	8
35. Suicide	1	0	1
36. Homicide and operations of war	2	1	3
All causes	144	172	316

The following short table gives the percentage distribution of deaths in various age groups :-

Age group at death	Percentage dying in each age group	
	Males	Females
0 - 1	2.1	4.1
1 - 59	19.5	14.5
60 - 69	27.7	15.7
70 - 79	29.8	33.1
80 - 89	18.1	25.0
90 and over	2.8	7.6

CAUSES OF DEATH OF CHILDREN UNDER ONE YEAR OF AGE

Causes of Death	Ages in Weeks					Total
	-1	-2	-3	-4	5-52	
1. Prematurity	5	-	-	-	-	5
2. Congenital Heart Disease	-	-	-	-	1	1
3. Gastro-Enteritis	-	-	-	-	1	1
4. Pneumococcal Meningitis	-	-	-	-	1	1
5. Broncho pneumonia & Prematurity	-	1	-	-	-	1
6. Congenital Defect	1	-	-	-	-	1
	6	1	0	0	3	10

More than half of these deaths were preventable.

SECTION A

NATURAL AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS

AREA - (In acres) 18,379. The district is mixed Urban and Rural, the main aggregations of population being in St. Austell town, Par, St. Blazey, Tywardreath and Mevagissey. Par and Charlestown are ports dealing mainly with the china clay trade, while Mevagissey deals with the fishing trade. The whole area is popular as a seaside resort and the population is greatly increased during the summer months.

POPULATION - 23,480.

NUMBER OF INHABITED HOUSES - According to the Rate Book, the number of inhabited houses in the district was 7,563 the rateable value being £127,940 which gives £508 for a penny rate.

CLIMATIC CONDITIONS - The year was cooler and the rainfall much below the average. The following table supplied by the Engineer gives the rainfall as recorded in St. Austell:-

<u>MONTH</u>	<u>1953</u>	<u>MONTHLY AVERAGE FOR LAST 41 YEARS</u>
January	1.43	5.22
February	2.01	3.92
March	1.10	3.56
April	3.04	2.51
May	4.12	3.49
June	2.55	2.34
July	4.27	3.06
August	2.06	3.84
September	4.10	3.88
October	2.78	4.41
November	3.03	5.46
December	1.58	5.42
<u>TOTAL</u>	32.07	47.2
Monthly Average	2.67	3.94
No. of wet days	171	205

SECTION B

GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES

PUBLIC HEALTH OFFICERS OF THE LOCAL AUTHORITY

1. Medical Officer of Health

Dr. J.G.S. Turner, M.B., B.Sc., D.P.H.

2. Senior Sanitary Inspector, Petroleum & Shops Inspector

C.H. Watts, M.S.I.A., Cert. R.S.I. Cert. Meat & Food Inspector.

3. Additional Sanitary Inspector

L.H. Sturtridge, M.R.San.I., M.S.I.A., M.R.I.P.H.H., Cert. Meat & Food Inspector.

LABORATORY FACILITIES - These are available at the Royal Cornwall Infirmary where all material for investigation is sent.

DIPHTHERIA PROPHYLAXIS - In addition to the usual diphtheria prophylactic a supply of whooping cough vaccine, both alone and in combination with that for diphtheria is available. Supplies are available to Medical Practitioners at the Area Health Office, St. Austell, on request.

AMBULANCE SERVICE - There is a main centre in St. Austell with an establishment of three ambulances and three utilicons. In addition St. Johns and the Red Cross Societies maintain ambulances at St. Blazey and St. Austell and these are available in emergencies. The work of the service for the whole of N.1V area in 1953 is summarised as follows :-

	<u>Patients</u>	<u>Miles</u>
County Ambulances	4,148	58,672
Voluntary Ambulances	455	15,516
Utilicons	10,926	102,622
Hospital Car Service	2,727	25,831

Thanks are due to the Commandant, Officers and Members of the British Red Cross Society and to the Superintendent, Officers and Members of the St. Blazey Division of the St. Johns Ambulance Brigade for continued co-operation and assistance in manning both County and Voluntary vehicles at night and at weekends. Thanks are due also to Mrs. Batchelor, Organiser of the Hospital Car Service and to the many ladies and gentlemen who provide transport on request.

NURSING AND OTHER SERVICES IN THE HOME

These have worked well in spite of shortage of Staff. The establishment was as follows :-

	District Nurse Midwife Health Visitor	Health Visitor (Full time)	General Nurse & Midwife	TOTAL
Mevagissey	1	-	-	1
St. Blazey & Tywardreath	3	-	-	3
St. Austell & Treverbyn	2	3	3	8

All nurses have now been trained in gas/air Analgesia and as circumstances permit they are sent for further training or for practical post-certificate courses.

Domiciliary Midwifery

Approximately 60% of all births occur at home and provided the home conditions are good and that difficulties are unlikely to arise, this is the best place.

Care and After Care

Children discharged from hospital are followed up until fit. Four cases of tuberculosis were given help by funds provided by the County Council.

Ante and Post-Natal Care

An ante-natal clinic was held weekly at Moorland Road by a Specialist Obstetrician. In addition a weekly clinic was held by midwives. Relaxation classes have been established at Par and in St. Austell.

Infant Welfare

Clinics are held fortnightly at St. Austell and at Par. The attendances averaged 32.0 and 41.6 respectively. Instruction in health education is given at St. Austell Clinic with reasonably good results.

Domestic Help Service

A total of 87 persons were helped of whom 18 were Maternity cases. There is a growing demand for this service. Much can be done by this service to help old persons and near problem families and so keep them out of Institutions.

Hospitals

The only hospital in the area is the St. Austell & District Hospital which deals with general medical and surgical cases. Cases requiring further examination and special treatment are sent to the Royal Cornwall Infirmary, Truro. Maternity cases go to Redruth and Infectious Diseases requiring isolation or special treatment are sent to the Isolation Division Hospital at Truro. A few of the more infective cases of tuberculosis are sent to Tehidy but accommodation is very limited.

TREATMENT CENTRES AND CLINICS

(a) Clinics held at Moorland Road are as follows :-

Ante-Natal & Gynaecology	Every Monday
Orthopaedic	Every Tuesday
Child Welfare	First, third and fifth Wednesday each month.
Speech Therapy	Every Wednesday.
E.N.T.	As required.
Dental	Daily.
Child Guidance	Second and Fourth Wednesday each month.
Psychiatric	Tuesday afternoons.
Skin Clinic	Thursday mornings.
Family Planning	Second Monday afternoon and Fourth Friday evening.

(b) Clinics held at the Hospital :-

General Medical & Surgical	Daily.
Orthopaedic	Monday - forenoon
Venereal Diseases	Tuesday - afternoon.
Tuberculosis	Monday - afternoon.

SECTION C

SANITARY CONDITIONS OF THE DISTRICT

WATER

Consumer demands for water were not adequately met in all parts of the district. As a result of the small rainfall during the winter months it was necessary to restrict the hours of supply in most areas for the summer months.

Bacteriological examinations have been made regularly on both the raw and treated water from all sources. Traces of contamination have been found at one or two of the sources, but not on the distributing system, indicating that methods of chlorination are satisfactory.

The water supply in the district is soft and the high silica content provides a natural check on plumbo-solvency. Lead pipes are not used on drinking supplies, galvanised iron or copper tubing being the standard materials used throughout the district. Several complaints have been received about the action of the water on copper. It was considered that no danger to health would arise.

Approximately 97% of the houses in the district have a piped supply and most have water indoors. No stand pipes are now maintained by the Council. During the year the mains in Fore Street, St. Blazey, and Moorland Road were relaid, and at Crimis extended.

SEWERAGE AND SEWAGE DISPOSAL

There were no extensive changes to the sewerage system in the Urban District, except in Par and St. Blazey where the first stage of the scheme has been commenced to renew most of the system; build a new sewage works and two pumping stations.

DISINFECTION

Disinfection has been carried out as required.

RATS AND MICE DESTRUCTION

Rodent control services continued throughout the year. The rodent operators were provided with a motor van.

As in former years the work carried out was arranged in four sections as follows :-

- (a) Private Dwellings - 579 weekly treatments were carried out. Private dwellings are treated free of charge. The Local Authority bears 50% of the cost and the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries the other 50%.

- SECTION D
HOUSING
- (b) Business Premises - 327 weekly treatments were carried out. The occupiers of this class of premises are responsible for the anti-rodent work carried out.
- (c) Sewers - In accordance with the Ministry's advice a proportion of manholes were baited according to experience. The results of the work are as follows :-

12th Maintenance 158 manholes baited and takes recorded - 46

13th Maintenance 189 manholes baited and takes recorded - 74

- (d) Refuse and Disposal Works - The Local Authority premises received regular attention throughout the year. Twelve treatments were given to refuse disposal works and three treatments to sewage disposal works. In addition regular baiting treatments continued to be given to the sewage leats at St. Blazey and to the several river courses within the Urban area which are liable to harbour rats.
- (e) Par Beach - It was found necessary to give four disinfection treatments around the Camping Sites and Beach Huts during the year.

PUBLIC CLEANSING

This department is under the supervision of the Surveyor. A weekly house refuse collection is in operation throughout the Urban District but in certain very congested areas in Mevagissey, where there is no storage accommodation, collections are made thrice weekly. Refuse is disposed of at tips at Menagwins, Par and Mevagissey.

PUBLIC CONVENIENCES

The Urban area is moderately well served with conveniences which are supervised by the Surveyor's department. A twice daily cleansing service is maintained in the town area and at Par and Mevagissey.

The conveniences at Pentewan have been completed.

SECTION D

HOUSING

Despite the considerable housing progress which has been made by the Council during the past year the shortage of houses still remains a major problem and the waiting list for accommodation continues to increase.

Details of applicants are as follows :-

Number without separate houses (including numerous cases of overcrowding)	890
Number of families with separate homes	
(a) Living in unfit houses	60
(b) Living in overcrowded houses	250
	<hr/>
	1,200
	<hr/>

Applications from young people without separate homes heavily outweigh all other applications and overcrowding through the occupation of reasonably fit houses by two or more families is still a major problem.

Types required are as follows :-

1 bedroom type	40
2 bedroom type	860
3 bedroom type	300

The housing shortage in the area is even greater than reflected in the Council's waiting list as owing to the rise in the cost of new houses and the consequential high rentals, many people prefer to remain in unsatisfactory cottages where, however, the rent is controlled and indeed in many instances abnormally low.

The Council owns 1,351 houses and development is still proceeding on three major sites including one site which will be extended by the inclusion of other adjacent land ideally suitable for building purposes.

Details of house construction in the area during 1953 is as follows :-

Dwellings erected by the Council	129
Dwellings erected by Private Enterprise	32
119 houses are in course of construction by the Council and 28 by private enterprise.	

SECTION E

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD

MILK

The distribution of the retail milk supply was kept under constant supervision.

During the year all Distributors and Producer Retailers delivering milk within the Urban area of St. Austell complied with Article 29 of the Milk & Dairies Regulations, 1949. All milk is now delivered to the consumers premises in sealed containers after being bottled and sealed on the Distributors registered premises.

Sampling for submission to cleanliness tests was carried out during the year by your Inspectorate Staff. These tests were carried out by the County Pathological Department, Royal Cornwall Infirmary, Truro, the results showing that a good standard of cleanliness is maintained by those handling milk in this Urban area.

MEAT AND OTHER FOODS

Meat inspection duties were mainly carried out at the centralised slaughtering premises situated at Tregonissey Road. These premises are held and operated by the Ministry of Food and maintained by them. During the year the Ministry of Works supplied and fixed additional hanging equipment to facilitate cooking and inspection of animal carcasses and offals but did not see their way, possibly for financial reasons, to provide the necessary additional room to be used for isolating diseased carcass meat.

Visits to other food traders, catering establishments, manufacturers and storage premises were made regularly throughout the year. There are still a few unsatisfactory catering establishments which need to be improved. Details of foodstuffs condemned as unfit for human consumption are contained in the Sanitary Inspector's report appended herewith.

ICE CREAM

Manufacturers and retailers premises were supervised by the Sanitary Inspectors. The results shown below indicate considerable improvement over previous years :-

<u>Grade</u>	<u>Hot Mix</u>	<u>Cold Mix</u>	<u>Total</u>
1	45	4	49
2	3	0	3
3	1	0	1
4	0	0	0

SECTION F

PREVALENCE OF AND CONTROL OVER INFECTIOUS
AND OTHER DISEASES

The following notifications of infectious diseases were received :-

Disease	Number of Cases	Rate per 1,000 population		
		St. Austell Urban District	1953	England and Wales 1953
Whooping Cough	114	0.17	4.86	3.58
Measles	298	1.66	12.70	12.36
Scarlet Fever	2	0.94	0.06	1.39
Diphtheria	1	0.00	0.03	0.01
Poliomyelitis (paralytic)	1	0.04	0.03	0.07
Poliomyelitis (Non-paralytic)	1	0.00	0.03	0.04
Pneumonia	1	0.04	0.03	0.84

The case of diphtheria was picked up accidentally by a dentist who was carrying out facio-maxillary surgery. A specimen of discharge revealed *C. diphtheriae*. No symptoms and no illness attributable to *C. diphtheriae* were noted and the bacillus rapidly disappeared. A sister of the above who had had her tonsils removed in the recent past was found to have some palatal paralysis which was probably due to an undiagnosed diphtheritic infection. All contacts proved to be negative. The brother was said to have had some immunisation many years previously. The sister had not been immunised.

It was not possible to trace the source of either case of poliomyelitis.

DIPHTHERIA IMMUNISATION

The following table gives the state of immunisation of the child population :-

Number of children at 31st December, 1953, who had completed a course of immunisation at any time before that date, (i.e. at any time since 1st January, 1939).

Age at 31.12.53 i.e. born in year	Under 1 1953	1 - 4 1952-49	5 - 9 1948-44	10 - 14 1943-39	Total under 15 years
Last complete course of injections (whether primary or booster).					
1949 - 1953	43	838	1,242	468	2,591
1948 or earlier	-	-	417	322	739
Estimated mid-year child population	320	1,290	1,600	1,400	4,610
Immunity Index	13.4	65.0	77.7	26.0	56.3

During the year the following immunisations were carried out :-

Primary

Diphtheria only	203
Diphtheria and Whooping Cough	149
Whooping Cough only	4

Booster

Diphtheria only	417
Diphtheria and Whooping Cough	16

The figures show no improvement in the immune state of the child population. It was hoped that the offer of whooping cough vaccine would have resulted in a much more satisfactory response in those under 1 year.

VACCINATION

A total of 128 primary vaccinations and 20 re-vaccinations were carried out during the year. The immune state of the population is low.

TUBERCULOSIS

The total number of cases on the register at 31st December, 1953, was as follows :-

	<u>Pulmonary</u>	<u>Non-Pulmonary</u>
Male	63	9
Female	55	17

There has been little change over the past five years. The following table gives the age and sex distribution of recently notified cases and of deaths of notified cases for the year 1953 :-

Age Group	<u>New Cases</u>				<u>Deaths</u>			
	<u>Pulmonary</u>		<u>Non-Pulmonary</u>		<u>Pulmonary</u>		<u>Non-Pulmonary</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>
Under 1 yr.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
1 - 4	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
5 - 9	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
10 - 19	3	3	-	1	-	-	-	-
20 - 24	2	1	-	1	-	1	-	-
25 - 34	-	4	-	-	-	-	-	-
35 - 44	1	1	-	-	-	1	-	-
45 - 54	2	4	-	-	-	1	-	-
55 and over	4	1	-	-	3	-	-	-
Total	12	14	-	2	3	3	-	-

In addition to the above, movements in and out of the area were as follows :-

	<u>Pulmonary</u>		<u>Non-Pulmonary</u>	
	<u>M</u>	<u>F</u>	<u>M</u>	<u>F</u>
Transfers-in	3	3	1	1
Transfers-out	6	1	-	-
Recoveries	7	6	2	1

A concerted effort is now being made throughout the County to deal with the Tuberculosis problem. The health aspect calls for improved housing facilities as it has been shown that

without proper segregation of infectious patients the immediate contacts of these patients are many times more liable to contract infection than the general public. Considerable priority should be given to re-housing families where there is a danger of infection to children. The scheme also provides for the protection of susceptible contacts by offering B.C.G. vaccination. 37 persons, mainly small children, were vaccinated during 1953.

FACTORIES ACT, 1937

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

Premises	No. in Register	Inspections	Written Notices	Occupiers Prosecuted
(i) Factories in which Sections 1,2,3,4 and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities	18	26	-	-
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority	192	215	-	-
(iii) Other premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding outworkers' premises).	72	65	-	-
<u>T O T A L</u>	282	306	-	-

2. CASES IN WHICH DEFECTS WERE FOUND

Particulars	Number of Cases in which defects were found.				No. of cases in which prosecutions were instituted.
	Found	Remedied	Referred to H.M. Inspector	by H.M. Inspector	
Want of cleanliness (S.1)	3	3	-	-	-
Overcrowding (S.2)	1	1	-	-	-
Unreasonable temperature (S.3)	-	-	-	-	-
Inadequate Ventilation (S.4)	-	-	-	-	-
Inadequate drainage of floors (S.6)	-	-	-	-	-
Sanitary Conveniences (S.7) (a) Insufficient	-	-	-	-	-
(b) Unsuitable or defective	1	1	-	-	-
(c) Not separate for sexes	2	2	-	-	-
Other offences against the Act (not including offences relating to Outwork)	1	1	-	-	-
<u>T O T A L</u>	8	8	-	-	-

SENIOR SANITARY INSPECTOR'S REPORT FOR THE
YEAR 1953

To the Chairman & Members of the St. Austell Urban District Council

Mr. Chairman, Mrs. Joyce & Gentlemen,

I have the honour to present my sixteenth Annual Report for the year ending 31st December, 1953.

In perusing the Report it will be seen that an increasing amount of work was carried out by the increasing number of visits paid to various premises in the administration of public health duties in the field of environmental sanitation and hygiene. Thus a total of 4,301 visits were paid by your Public Health Inspectors in the discharge of their duties being an increase of 409 visits on the previous year.

The year was not noted for any changes in public health law but it is advisable to say that Local Authorities are to expect several new public health statutes to come into force in the later part of this present year 1954, viz: the new Housing and Rents Act, The Food and Drugs Amendment Act and The Slaughterhouse Act which will add important and increasing responsibilities upon Local Authorities in the administration of the same.

The principal items of the Report are set out in classified order as follows :-

1. HOUSING

The activities in connection with housing repair works carried out under the Housing & Public Health Acts are detailed in Table No. 4 Housing - appended at the end of the Report.

Housing repair work was carried out by way of either verbal or informal notices being served on the owners concerned. It was found necessary to serve only four statutory notices during the year all of which were complied with.

It was not found possible to resume housing activities under "Slum Clearance" owing to the still 'lingering' shortage of good and suitable housing accommodation within the Urban area.

An increasing number of occupied cottages contained in the several confirmed Slum Clearance Areas are now structurally dangerous and excessively damp and should be demolished.

2. MEAT INSPECTION

As in previous years much time has been devoted to this very important side of public health work at the abattoir situated at Tregonissey, and which is still under the control of the Ministry of Food. A 100% inspection was made of all animal carcasses slaughtered by the Urban and Rural District Councils' Meat Inspectors who continued to work under a rota system for weekly periods of inspection duties. During the peak period of slaughtering these duties necessitated working late evenings and weekends. Throughout the year a total of 10,169 animal carcasses were slaughtered, this being an increase of 1,424 on the previous year.

The carcasses, meat and offals continued to be allocated to the retailers through the Wholesale Meat Suppliers Association whose allocation centre still remains at the Market House, Market Street, St. Austell. The meat and offals being conveyed by a transport contractor in fully equipped metal lined motor transports.

During the year it still remained for the Ministry of Works to complete the proposed necessary improvements at the abattoir as submitted to the Ministry of Food (Livestock Division) by the Urban Council in the year 1950 to facilitate meat inspection duties.

Butchers Shop premises and their delivery vehicles continued to receive regular attention throughout the year.

The following tables show in detail the number of animals slaughtered during the year and the condemnations made for various causes, viz :-

BOVINE 3,273

(a) Bullocks	1,815
(b) Cows	541
(c) Bulls	31
(d) Calves	886

SHEEP 5,189

PIGS 1,707

TOTAL 10,169

Meat Condemned

As a result of the inspections made during the year, the following carcasses and organs were condemned as unfit for human consumption :-

B O V I N E

P I G S

S H E E P

	Carcases	Heads	Lungs	Hearts	Pt. Livers	Livers	Stomachs	Udders	Carcases	Heads	Flucks	Livers	Carcases	Heads	Flucks	Livers	Stomachs
STRONGYLUS RUFESCENS															27	4	
SEPTICAEMIA									2				1				
TUBERCULOSIS	21	114	178	7		24	8		3	79	9						
CIRRHOSIS					215	201					2					4	
CAVERNOUS ANGIOMA						103											
DISTOMATOSIS					488	20									7	73	
ABSCESSSES		1		1		7			1		5		2	2	3	14	
PERIDARDITIS				3					1		1		3		2		
FEVER, DROPSY & EMACIATION	9								2				15	1	1		
ACTINOMYCOSIS		20															
FATTY INFILTRATION						3										7	
METRITIS	1												1				
OEDEMA											4					5	
PNEUMONIA			2	2					2				1		5		
PLEURISY				1							1						
COENURUS CEREBRALIS														3			
UNFIT, BRUISING & INJURY	1						1						1				
INFLAMMATION	3						11				2		4		1		1
CHOLAEMIA	1																

W = Whole
rest are in lbs.

	Forequarter Beef	Hindquarter Beef	Veal	Flank Beef	Pork	Pig Legs	Forequarter Lamb	Hindquarter Lamb	Leg of Lamb	Mutton
TUBERCULOSIS	8W 50	2W								
DROPSY				52						
INJURY & BRUISING	24	636	21	58	107	1W 25	1W 70	2W	1W 46	219
ABSCESSSES			18							
INFLAMMATION							14			50
PERITONITIS		170		66	12					

3. SLAUGHTER OF ANIMALS ACT 1933

There were 20 licenced slaughtermen on the register at the end of the end of the year.

4. OTHER FOODS

Numerous visits were paid to food storage premises and food shops etc., during 1953 and large consignments of foodstuffs were inspected.

As a result of these inspections, the following items were condemned as unfit for human consumption and were disposed of, viz :-

1,034	tins of Meat	Blown and decomposition.
1,590	tins of Fruit	Blown and leaking.
242	tins of Vegetables	Blown.
136	tins of Fish	Blown and decomposition.
270	tins of Soup	Blown, punctured and leaking.
374	tins of Milk	Blown and leaking.
36	tins of Jam	Punctured and leaking.
51	lbs of Cheese	Moulds and mites.

109	lbs of Sausages	Decomposition
2	lbs of Jellied Veal	Decomposition
30	lbs of Ham	Decomposition
16	lbs of Rough Pastry	Damp and mouldy
$\frac{1}{4}$	lb of Butter	Rancid
2	cartons of Chocolate spread	Damp
123	lbs of Raisins	Fermentation
30	Puddings	Mouldy
11	Cooked Faggots	Decomposition
56	lbs of Coconut Ice	Damp and rancid
5	lbs of Ox-tongue	Decomposition
42	Pastries	Decomposition
1	lb of Bacon	Decomposition
6	Cakes	Damp and mouldy
1	lb of Hogs Pudding	Decomposition
29	lbs of Pressed Beef	Decomposition
2	Chicken	Decomposition
5	tins of Cocoa	Broken and fouled
22	jars of Mustard	Broken and fouled
10	jars of Salad Dressing	Broken and fouled
1	Churn of Milk	Soured
2cwt. 1qtr	of Rice	Damp and musty

Food Catering & Storage Premises

A total of 882 visits were made to the various Food Storage and Preparing premises within the area.

Food preparing rooms and restaurant kitchens continued to receive attention upon inspection as to standards of cleanliness being maintained both in regard to the rooms and all equipment and food containers.

Much more attention will be required to be given in the future to all food catering and storage premises under the new legislation to be enforced by local authorities later in the present year 1954.

One unsatisfactory and ill equipped snack bar room situated in the town area and used chiefly by workmen was voluntarily closed by the proprietor at the end of the year.

Fish Inspection

During the year 174 half casks and 6,946 quarter casks of pickled Pilchards were exported from Mevagissey together with 3,508 lbs of Crawfish, 142 lbs of Lobsters and 600 lbs of Crab.

In addition numerous visits were

paid to fishmongers premises inspecting consignments of fish exposed for sale for human consumption and as a result the following were condemned :-

3 stone of Meagrims	}	Decomposition
3 stone of Red Fillet		
13 stone of Cod Fillet		
2 stone of Bloaters		
6 stone of Ling Fillet		
3 stone of Lemon Sole		

5. MILK

During the year a total of 57 visits were made to the eleven milk "Distributors" dairies situated within the Urban area.

There is still no plant set up in the Urban area by which Pasteurised or Sterilised milk can be produced. Thus Pasteurised milk was still distributed over the greater part of the area in bottles by both the St. Austell and St. Blazey Co-operative Societies; the milk being pasteurised and bottled at the Penryn Milk Factory of the Co-operative Wholesale Society and despatched daily to St. Austell.

Increasing supplies of heat treated milk continued to be received by other milk Distributors for retail sale from the Dried Milk Products Factory, Lostwithiel, and bottled pasteurised from Dawes Creameries, Saltash.

Pasteurised milk continued to be supplied to the several Council Schools by retailers who held "Dealers Licences" to use the special designation "Pasteurised" granted by the Local Authority.

Milk Licences were issued as follows :-

Dealers Licences for Pasteurised Milk	4
Supplementary Licence for Pasteurised Milk	1
Dealers Licences for Tuberculin Tested Milk	3
Supplementary Licences for Tuberculin Tested Milk	2

(a) Icecream (Heat Treatment) Regulations

A total of 53 samples of icecream were collected during the year and submitted to the Public Health Laboratories, Royal Cornwall Infirmary, Truro, for bacteriological examination by the

Methylene Blue Tests. The results of these examinations were reported as follows :-

Provisional Grade 1	-	49 samples
"	"	2 - 3 samples
"	"	3 - 1 sample
"	"	4 - 0 samples

The above total number of samples collected shows an increase on the number collected in the previous year. The following table of percentages further prove that a higher standard of bacteriological cleanliness is being obtained each year since 1949 in ice-cream consumed within the Urban area :-

	<u>Grade 1</u>	<u>Grade 2</u>	<u>Grade 3</u>	<u>Grade 4</u>
1949	27%	31.5%	17%	24.5%
1950	38%	30.0%	15.5%	16.5%
1951	69.5%	17.4%	13.1%	0.0%
1952	71.1%	20%	8.9%	0.0%
1953	92.5%	5.6%	1.9%	0.0%

During the year 11 applicants' premises were registered upon which to retail ice-cream after such premises were made to conform to the requirements of Section 13 of the Food & Drugs Act. Thus at the end of the year there was a total of 122 registered premises within the Urban district, five of which were manufacturing premises.

Frequent visits were paid to manufacturers and retailers premises involving a total of 136 visits. The manufacturers premises were found to be generally well maintained and it is still encouraging to record that practically all the retailers deal only in the pre-packed commodity, with the exception of cafes, restaurants and on the motor vehicles of a large local manufacturing firm.

6. FACTORIES ACT

A total of 306 visits were made to Factory premises during the year when sanitary inspections were made under Parts 1 and V111 of the Act dealing with Health (General Provisions) and Homework. Communication was received from F.M. Inspector of Factories in accordance with Section V111 (3) of the Act, informing the Local Authority of one new factory and changes of occupation of 12 factory premises within the area. Of these changes one business passed to new Management, three took up new or additional kinds of light industrial work and the remaining eight factories were deleted from the Factories list.

7. CAMPING SITES

The number of licensed camping sites situated in the Urban area is four, viz :-

- "The Winnick", Pentewan Beach.
- Cheesewarne Farm, Mevagissey.
- Duporth Holiday Camp, Charlestown.
- Par Beach Site (Owned and controlled by the Local Authority.)

These four sites are situated immediately on the seaboard and each site is fully provided with modern sanitary conveniences, water carriage drainage systems and main chlorinated water supplies.

Proposals for laying a new waste refuse surface water drainage system was planned for the Winnick site, Pentewan, at the end of the camping season.

Each of these camping sites was again fully patronised during the Summer season and the usual overflow experienced of campers who could not gain admission to the site at Pentewan and thus invaded the adjoining fields during August.

One or two undesirable tent encampments appeared again on unfenced land in the East Central Area. The occupants being of the "romany" type living under unsatisfactory conditions without water supply or sanitation, but it is encouraging to find that these tent dwellers now express their desire to be properly housed in Council houses so as to give their children the advantage of being reared up in a better environment of living conditions.

8. RIVERS & STREAMS

The rivers and streams in the Urban District continue to be liable to pollution by the entrance into same of house drainages and night soil, and the wilful depositing of house refuse at various points into the White River.

The sewage leats at St. Blazey are regularly cleaned out by the Council.

Rodent control measures continued to be taken against rat infestation along the banks of the sewage leats and St. Austell White Rivers.

9. ERADICATION OF BED BUGS AND OTHER VERMIN

There was no case of bed bug

infestation during the year.

Reports were received of other types of vermin infestation of premises, chiefly fleas. Investigations were carried out in each case and those cases confirmed were readily treated with liquid insecticide solutions containing an approved percentage of D.D.T. base and the pests eradicated. Consequently a total of 97 visits were paid to such premises being an increase of 30 on the previous year.

10. PREVENTION OF DAMAGE BY PESTS ACT

Much work was done throughout the year in the destruction of rats and mice under the provisions of the above Act. Thus the rodent operators paid :-

1,962	visits to business premises
3,474	visits to private premises
396	visits to Local Authorities premises
<u>TOTAL</u>	<u>5,832</u>

In addition the 12th and 13th Sewer treatments were carried out in the months of March and August respectively. According to the results obtained it would appear that the sewers were not badly infested. Also a total of 88 farm land premises were surveyed during the year and a number of complaints investigated at various premises.

The Council's refuse tips and sewage works sited in various parts of the Urban area received regular baiting treatments during the year.

11. INFECTIOUS DISEASES

A total of 44 visits were made in connection with the prevention of infectious disease. Each notified case was investigated and the necessary disinfection of premises, bedding etc., carried out. A total of 23 rooms were disinfected.

12. PRIVATE WATER SUPPLIES

During the year a total of 12 samples were collected and submitted to the Royal Cornwall Infirmary, Truro, for bacteriological examination and 6 samples were submitted for chemical analysis. All samples were taken from private sources at :-

Bacteriological Examination

Wheal Jacob, Higher Biscovillack, St. Austell	- 1 sample
Dairy Farm, Pentewan, St. Austell	- 1 sample
Nansladron Farm Cottage, St. Austell	- 2 samples
Public Pump, London Apprentice, St. Austell	- 1 sample
Pump, Little Corrugate, Par	- 1 sample
86, Bodmin Road, St. Austell	- 1 sample
The Lodge, Carthew, St. Austell	- 1 sample
House, Carbean, Stenalees, St. Austell	- 1 sample
Bungalow, Molinnis, Bugle	- 1 sample
Stream, Porthpean Beach, St. Austell	- 2 samples

Chemical Analysis

"Conusg", Vicarage Rd, Tywardreath (copper content)	- 2 samples
Stream, Porthpean Beach, St. Austell	- 2 samples
Dairy Farm Pentewan, St. Austell	- 1 sample
Wheal Jacob, Higher Biscovillack, St. Austell	- 1 sample

Samples have been collected weekly throughout the year from the Council's main supplies by the Water Superintendent and submitted to Dr. Hooking, Royal Cornwall Infirmary, Truro, for bacteriol examination.

13. SCHOOLS

The County Education Authority's schools within the Urban area have been found to be well maintained. Upon inspection due regard has been had to the more obsolete type of sanitary accommodation still prevailing at a few of the more isolated country schools. It is now pleasing to report that arrangements are being made to modernise some of those out of date sanitary systems during the present year 1954.

14. STAFF

The staff of Inspectors throughout the year consisted of myself, Mr. L.H. Sturtridge and the Pupil Assistant Sanitary Inspector, M. Jacob, who has rendered valuable assistance his work being much appreciated.

15. CONCLUSION

I would now avail myself of the opportunity of expressing my thanks to the members of the Council

for their help and support at all times, to Dr. Turner,
 Mr. Saunders, Mr. King and Mr. Sturtridge and all members of
 the Staff for their help and co-operation throughout the year.

I have the honour to be
 Your obedient Servant,

C.H. WATTS

Senior Sanitary Inspector.

TABLE NO. 1

SANITARY INSPECTION OF THE DISTRICT

Housing visits	...	...	...	...	...	146
Re-inspections	...	...	...	...	...	607
Drainage Visits	...	...	...	...	...	665
Slaughterhouse Visits	...	...	...	...	...	415
Food Shops	...	...	...	...	...	716
Food Preparing Premises	...	...	...	...	...	166
Shops Act	...	...	...	...	...	88
Dairies and Cowsheds	...	...	...	...	...	66
Factories and Workshops	...	...	...	...	...	207
Water Supplies	...	...	...	...	...	80
Infectious Disease	...	...	...	...	...	44
Verminous Premises	...	...	...	...	...	139
Rats and Mice Destruction	...	...	...	...	...	143
Tents Vans and Sheds	...	...	...	...	...	111
Refuse Disposal	...	...	...	...	...	66
Stables and Figgeries	...	...	...	...	...	19
Petroleum and Carbide	...	...	...	...	...	76
Smoke Observations	...	...	...	...	...	11
Theatres & Places of Entertainments	...	...	...	...	...	27
Ice Cream Premises	...	...	...	...	...	65
School Inspections	...	...	...	...	...	5
Building Licences	...	...	...	...	...	-
Special Visits re-complaints	...	...	...	...	...	345
Poultry House inspections	...	...	...	...	...	1

4,208

TABLE NO. 2

VERBAL STATUTORY AND INFORMAL NOTICES

The following table shows the action taken to secure the abatement of nuisances and the renewal of conditions dangerous and injurious to health :-

<u>Notices</u>	<u>No. Served</u>	<u>Complied with</u>	<u>Work done by the Council in default</u>
Verbal	56	37	NIL
Informal	112	93	NIL
Statutory	4	4	NIL

STATUTORY NOTICES SERVED DURING THE YEAR

Public Health Act, 1936, Section 93	2
Housing Act, 1936, Section 168	2