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Contributors

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ST. AUSTELL URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL

ANNUAL REPORT

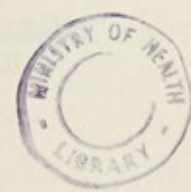
of the

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

for the

YEAR


1959



J.G.S. TURNER
Medical Officer of Health

Cornwall

13



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ST. AUSTELL URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL

PUBLIC HEALTH COMMITTEE
1959

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MR. H. M. ROWSE

Chairman of the Council

MR. J. H. PHILLIPS

Vice Chairman of the Council

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MR. H.C.WILLIAMS

MRS. D.JOYCE

MR. W.WINDLE

To the Chairman and Councillors of the Urban District of
St. Austell

Mr. Chairman, Lady and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to present the Annual Report on the health and sanitary circumstances of the District for the year 1959.

The vital records are satisfactory and for the second year in succession the infant mortality has been well below the national rate.

Apart from the continuing outbreak of measles there has been little notifiable disease.

I wish to record my thanks to Mr. Watts and his staff and to Mr. King and Mr. Mules, to all of whom I am indebted for parts of this report.

I wish also to thank members of the Public Health Committee for continued interest and support.

I have the honour to be,

Your obedient Servant,

J. G. S. Turner

Medical Officer of Health.

SUMMARY OF VITAL STATISTICS

Area (in acres)	...	...	...	...	18,379
Population	...	...	...	...	23,760
Number of Inhabited Houses	...	...	...	...	8,431
Rateable Value	...	...	...	...	£266,521
Product of Penny Rate	...	...	...	...	£1,060

<u>Live Births</u>	M	F	<u>Total</u>	<u>Rate 1,000 Population</u>	
				<u>St. Austell</u> <u>U.D.C.</u>	<u>England &</u> <u>Wales</u>
Legitimate	179	154	349	14.7	
Illegitimate	3	13			
Rate corrected for comparison with other areas				16.0	16.5
<u>Illegitimate births per cent of total live births</u>				4.5%	
<u>Still Births</u>				<u>Rate 1,000 Live & Still Births</u>	
Legitimate	4	4	8	22.4	20.7
Illegitimate	0	0			
<u>Total Live & Still Births</u>	186	171	357		
<u>Infant Deaths</u>					
Legitimate	2	2	4		
Illegitimate	0	0			
Rate per 1,000 total live births				11.45	22.0
Rate per 1,000 total legitimate births				12.0	-
Rate per 1,000 total illegitimate births				0.0	-
<u>Neo-natal rate</u>				<u>Rate 1,000 Live Births</u>	
Infant deaths under 1 week	2	2	4	11.45	15.8
<u>Early neo-natal rate</u>					
Infant deaths under 1 week	2	1	3	8.5	-
<u>Peri-natal rate</u>				<u>Rate 1,000 Live & Still Births</u>	
Still births & Deaths under 1 week	6	5	11	31.3	
<u>Maternal Mortality</u>	0	0	0	0.0	0.38
				<u>Rate 1,000 Population</u>	
<u>Deaths (All ages & causes)</u>	165	185	350	14.7	
Corrected for comparison with other areas				12.07	11.6

CAUSES OF DEATH

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

	Male	Female	Total
1. Tuberculosis-respiratory	2	0	2
2. Tuberculosis-other	1	1	2
3. Syphilitic Disease	1	0	1
4. Diphtheria	0	0	0
5. Whooping Cough	0	0	0
6. Meningococcal Infections	0	0	0
7. Acute Poliomyelitis	0	0	0
8. Measles	0	0	0
9. Other infective & parasitic diseases	0	0	0
10. Malignant neoplasm, Stomach	6	3	9
11. Malignant neoplasm, Lung, bronchus	5	0	5
12. Malignant neoplasm, breast	0	7	7
13. Malignant neoplasm, uterus	0	4	4
14. Other Malignant & lymphatic neoplasm	15	18	33
15. Leukaemia, Aleukaemia	0	0	0
16. Diabetes	2	0	2
17. Vascular lesions of nervous system	17	33	50
18. Coronary disease, angina	35	25	60
19. Hypertension with heart disease	4	5	9
20. Other heart disease	33	45	78
21. Other circulatory disease	1	4	5
22. Influenza	2	1	3
23. Pneumonia	3	3	6
24. Bronchitis	7	1	8
25. Other diseases of respiratory system	2	1	3
26. Ulcer of stomach & duodenum	2	3	5
27. Gastritis, Enteritis & Diarrhoea	2	1	3
28. Nephritis & Nephrosis	3	2	5
29. Hyperplasia of prostate	9	0	9
30. Pregnancy, Childbirth, abortion	0	0	0
31. Congenital malformations	1	3	4
32. Other defined & ill-defined diseases	10	21	31
33. Motor Vehicle Accidents	2	0	2
34. All other accidents	0	4	4
35. Suicide	0	0	0
36. Homicide & operations of war	0	0	0
All causes	165	185	350

Percentage contribution of principal causes of deaths

	St. Austell (1959)	Eng. & Wales (1958 figs)
Tuberculosis	1.1	0.9
Malignant disease	16.6	16.2
Vascular lesions of Central nervous system	14.3	14.5
Diseases of Circulatory system	42.9	37.5
" " Respiratory system	5.7	11.5
" " Digestive system	2.8	2.9
" " Genito urinary system	1.4	2.0
" " Accidents, violence, etc.	1.7	4.3

Apart from respiratory and genito urinary diseases where the local experience is very favourable, there is little difference from the national figures. There has been an apparent increase in the number of coronary deaths over the past ten years and this is a common finding throughout England. It is doubtful if this increase is as great as the figures indicate (a rise of 30%) as heart diseases in general show little increase and the presumption is that diagnosis is more precise.

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

<u>Age Group at death</u>	<u>Percentage dying in each age group</u>	
	<u>Males</u>	<u>Females</u>
0 - 1 year	1.2	1.1
1 - 59 years	15.7	13.6
60- 69 years	25.9	21.2
70- 79 years	34.3	35.3
80- 89 years	22.8	23.4
90- 99 years	0.0	5.4

Average age at death

Males	66.6 years
Females	69.4 years

CAUSES OF DEATH OF CHILDREN UNDER ONE YEAR OF AGE

Causes of Death

	<u>Ages in weeks</u>						<u>Total</u>
	<u>-1</u>	<u>-2</u>	<u>-3</u>	<u>-4</u>	<u>-5</u>	<u>-52</u>	
Congenital Heart	1	-	-	-	-	-	1
Prematurity	2	-	-	-	-	-	2
Infected Meningo-myclococle	-	1	-	-	-	-	1
	3	1	-	-	-	-	4

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 and Mevagissey. Par and Charlestown are ports dealing 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 - 23,760

NUMBER OF INHABITED HOUSES

According to the Rate Book, the number of inhabited houses in the district was 8,431, the rateable value being £266,521 which gives £1,060 for penny rate.

CLIMATE

Although the average rainfall was above the normal for the past 20 years, the summer was dry and warm; a thunderstorm on the 10th August being responsible for 4.39 in. of rain in one day.

<u>MONTH</u>	<u>RAINFALL 1959</u>	<u>MONTHLY AVERAGE FROM 1916 - 1950</u>
January	7.24	5.61
February	.61	4.08
March	6.20	3.53
April	4.30	2.93
May	1.56	3.06
June	1.11	2.04
July	2.21	3.39
August	6.54	3.56
September	.14	3.55
October	8.17	5.07
November	9.13	5.57
December	9.43	5.58
	<hr/> 56.66	<hr/> 47.97
Monthly Average	4.72	3.96
No. of Wct Days	184	-

SECTION B

GENERAL DIVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES

PUBLIC HEALTH OFFICERS OF THE LOCAL AUTHORITY

1. Medical Officer of Health

J. G. S. Turner, M.B., B.Sc., D.P.H. Area Health Office,
Moorland Road, St. Austell.
Telephone - St. Austell 2206.

2. Senior Public Health Inspector

C. H. Watts, C.R.San.I., Cert. Meat & Food Inspector.

3. Additional Public Health Inspectors

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

C. F. Quantrell, M.A.P.H.I., A.M.R.S.H.

LABORATORY FACILITIES

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

PROPHYLACTICS

Supplies of diphtheria, whooping cough and tetanus prophylactics are available in various combinations. Poliomyelitis vaccine became available in adequate amounts. Supplies are available to Medical Practitioners at the Area Health Office, St. Austell, on request.

AMBULANCE SERVICE

The control of this service has been passed to a Controller stationed in Truro. There is no change in the method of obtaining help and the service will maintain its high efficiency.

NURSING AND OTHER SERVICES IN THE HOME

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

(contd)

	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 as circumstances permit 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 and old people discharged from hospital are followed up until fit.

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. A mother's club has been established in St. Austell and has very successful meetings.

INFANT AND CHILD WELFARE

Clinics are held fortnightly at St. Austell and at Par. The attendances averaged 28.7 and 31.7 respectively. Emphasis is placed on health education.

DOMESTIC SERVICE

A total of 114 persons were helped of whom 18 were maternity cases. Many of the cases helped are old people who, without help, would be unable to stay in their own homes.

CARE OF OLD PEOPLE

The Old Peoples Welfare Association has continued to deliver pasties and in addition a meals on wheels service has been successfully started.

The chiropody service has continued and the demand has grown, but it is carried on under constant financial stress as the County have not yet come to a decision on the best method of providing the service and the Association are entirely dependent on voluntary contributions.

HOSPITALS

The only hospital in the area is the St. Austell and 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 treatment are sent to the Isolation Hospital at Truro. Cases of tuberculosis and other chest conditions are admitted to Tehidy where accommodation is now more than adequate.

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 & fifth Wednesday of each month.
Speech Therapy	Every Wednesday
E. N. T.	As required
Dental	Daily
Child Guidance	Second & fourth Wednesday of each month
Psychiatric	Tuesday afternoons
Family Planning	Fourth Friday evening & second Monday afternoon

(b) Clinics held at the Hospital :-

General Medical & Surgical	Daily
Orthopaedic	Monday-fore-noon
Veneral Diseases	Tuesday afternoons
Tuberculosis	Monday afternoon
Skin Clinic	Thursday mornings

SECTION C

SANITARY CONDITIONS OF THE DISTRICT

WATER

Consumer demands for water were adequately met in all parts of the district in spite of the dry summer although the supply to Mevagissey had to be restricted during the height of the season.

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 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 prohibited on drinking supplies, plastic or copper tubing being the standard materials used throughout the district.

Approximately 97% of the houses in the district have a piped supply and most have water indoors. During the year mains were extended at Carlyon Bay and a start made on laying the duplicate trunk main from Trethurgy to Mevagissey.

SEWERAGE AND SEWAGE DISPOSAL

Schemes have been prepared for Ruddlemoor and Mevagissey (Stage I of modernization). An intensive programme of new schemes and modernization have been approved, those for Tregrehan and Scredda prepared and Tregrehan approved by the Minister.

DISINFECTION

Disinfection has been carried out as required and a total of 7 houses were disinfected during the year.

RATS AND MICE DISTRIBUTION

This service was well maintained throughout the year. The work done was as follows :-

(a) Private Dwellings

438 treatments were carried out free of charge to the householder.

(b) Business Premises

310 treatments were carried out and the cost charged to the firms concerned. Most occupiers of these premises have agreements with the local Authority for regular treatments.

(c) Sewers

The biannual baiting of sewers was carried out in June and November. The sewers were found to be in a very satisfactory condition. These treatments were administered under the "Block Control" system as advised by the Ministry's Post Officer in the interests of economy.

(d) Refuse Disposal Works

These were regularly surveyed and treatments carried out as required.

PUBLIC CLEANSING

This activity is under the supervision of the Surveyor. A weekly 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 Mevagissey, Sawles Road, and Par and little or no nuisance is caused.

PUBLIC CONVENIENCES

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

SECTION D

HOUSING

Details of applicants are as follows :-

Number without separate houses	430
Number of Families with separate homes	
a) Living in unfit houses	80
b) Living in over occupied houses	130
	<u>640</u>

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 a major problem. Types required are as follows :-

1 Bedroom Type	150
2 Bedroom Type	396
3 Bedroom Type	94
	<u>640</u>

It is again emphasized that the housing shortage in the area is even greater than reflected in the Councils waiting list as owing to the rise in the cost of ~~now~~ 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 1,800 houses and development is still proceeding.

Details of house construction in the area during 1959 are as follows :-

Dwellings erected by the Council	42
Dwellings erected by Private Enterprise	77

97 houses are in the course of construction by the Council and 72 by Private Enterprise.

(N.B. Many families although not overcrowded in a statutory sense are living under unsatisfactory conditions in over occupied houses.)

SLUM CLEARANCE

During the year 68 persons, comprising 27 families, living in unfit houses were rehoused by the Council.

24 houses were represented to the Council as being unfit for human habitation and not repairable at reasonable expense and 5 Closing Orders and 5 Demolition Orders were made. 10 Undertakings not to use and 4 undertakings to make fit were accepted

The rehousing of families from unfit houses did not progress as well as I anticipated; in fact, only 30% of the dwellings allocated by the Council were let to Slum Clearance tenants. The Council's present policy is that 40% of municipal houses are allocated for occupants of Slum Clearance houses.

SECTION E
INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD

MILK

Constant supervision of the retail distribution of milk was maintained throughout the year.

Samples of milk were obtained regularly throughout the year from retailers and submitted for examination to the Public Health Laboratory, Royal Cornwall Infirmary, Truro.

These tests showed that the heat-treatment and cleanliness of milk consumed within the district continued to be maintained at a high standard.

MEAT

The daily visits by your inspectors to the licensed slaughterhouses within the district, for the purpose of meat inspection, continued throughout the year. In order to maintain a 100% meat inspection service, your inspectors found it necessary to work late evenings and Sundays.

A large percentage of the animals slaughtered was for export to other towns and to the London market.

As in previous years it is pleasing to note that the butchers in the Urban area are still eager to deal in the best grades of meat. Consequently the percentage of condemnations of unsound meat during the year was low.

The following table summarises the results of meat inspection,

	Cattle excluding Cows	Cows	Calves	Sheep and Lambs	Pigs
Number killed	2,149	423	82	7,902	12,786
Number inspected	2,149	423	82	7,902	12,786
All diseases except T.B. whole carcasses condemned	-	3	1	8	-
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	1,013		-	136	396
Percentage of number insp. affected with diseases other than T.B.	39.5%		1.2%	1.8%	3%
<u>T.B. Only.</u> Whole carcase condemned	5	-	-	-	1
Carcase of which some part or organ was condemned	24		-	-	215
Percentage of number insp. affected with T.B.	1.1%		-	-	1.6%

There were no cases of Cysticercus Bovis in the animals inspected during the year.

SECTION E (cont)

ICE-CREAM

Premises at which Ice-Cream is manufactured and retailed, received continued attention by the Health Inspectors during the year. Collection of samples was maintained during the season and these were submitted to the Methylene Blue Reduction Test at the Pathological Department, Royal Cornwall Infirmary, Truro, in accordance with the Ministry of Health Testing and Advisory Scheme.

The results of these tests are shown below :-

Grade	Total
1	35
2	5
3	0
4	0

SECTION F

PREVALANCE OF AND CONTROL OVER INFECTIONS AND OTHER DISEASES.

The following notifications of infectious diseases were received,

	<u>No. of Cases</u>	<u>Rate for 1,000 Population</u>		
		<u>St. Austell</u>		<u>England &</u>
		<u>U.D.</u>		<u>Wales</u>
		<u>1958</u>	<u>1959</u>	<u>1959</u>
Scarlet Fever	3	0.0	0.13	1.05
Whooping Cough	3	0.1	0.13	0.73
Poliomyelitis - paralytic	2	0.0	0.08	0.03
" non "	1	0.0	0.04	0.01
Measles	173	4.2	7.4	11.8
Some Dysentery	14	0.0	0.6	0.87
Pneumonia	6	0.2	0.3	0.59
Erysipelas	1	0.00	0.04	0.00
Rheumatic Fever	2	0.04	0.08	0.00
Acute Rheumatic Fever	1	0.00	0.04	0.00
Food Poisoning	12	0.64	0.56	0.22

The incidence of measles remained relatively high in spite of the previous years outbreak. Some dysentery was diagnosed for the first time for many years in one of the larger schools. With the active co-operation of the school staff the outbreak was limited and there was little spread.

There were two small outbreaks of food poisoning. One group was in a holiday caravan camp and was probably associated with infected milk. The other group occurred in a boarding house where general food hygiene was poor.

The first two cases of poliomyelitis occurred in brothers. No previous contact could be traced. The third case was traced to contact with the others. None of the persons concerned had been immunised.

DIPHTHERIA IMMUNISATION

The following table gives the immune state of the child population i.e. the number at 31st December, 1959 who had completed a course of immunisation at any time before that date. (i.e. At any time since 1/1/45)

Age at 31.12.59 i.e. Born in the year	Under 1 1959	1-4 1955-58	5-9 1950-54	10-14 1945-49	Total under 15 years
Last complete course of injections (whether primary or booster)					
(a) 1955-59	35	898	1,029	802	2,764
(b) 1954 or earlier	-	-	269	1,236	1,505
(c) Estimated mid-year child population	345	1,251	1,565	1,798	4,959
Immunity Index a/c x 100	10.1	71.8	65.8	53.3	55.8

The number of those protected in the 10-14 age group is too low for safety.

The opportunity is now taken when giving booster doses in the schools to introduce protection against tetanus.

POLIOMYELITIS

4523 persons in St. Austell have now completed their 3rd injection and in addition a considerable number have received either 1 or 2 injections.

SMALLPOX VACCINATION

A total of 145 primary vaccinations and 34 re-vaccinations were carried out during the year.

TUBERCULOSIS

The total number of cases on the register at the 31st December 1959 was as follows,,

	<u>Pulmonary</u>	<u>Non-Pulmonary</u>
Male	79	6
Female	56	17
Total	135	23

The table given below shows the age and sex distribution of new cases and of deaths during 1959,

Age Group	<u>New Cases</u>						<u>Deaths</u>					
	<u>Respiratory</u>		<u>Meninges</u>		<u>Other</u>		<u>Respiratory</u>		<u>Meninges</u>		<u>Other</u>	
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
0-4	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	7	-	-	-
5-14	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
15-24	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
25-44	1	3	-	-	-	-	1	1	-	-	-	-
45-64	4	1	-	-	-	-	2	-	-	-	-	-
Over 64	2	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-
Unknown	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Total	8	5	-	-	-	-	4	1	-	-	-	-

In addition to the above, movements in and out of the district were as follows,

	<u>Pulmonary</u>		<u>Non-Pulmonary</u>	
	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>
Transfers in	3	1	0	0
Transfers out	2	3	0	0
Recoveries	3	6	2	1

FACTORIES ACT, 1937

1. INSPECTIONS

Inspections for purposes of provisions as to health
(including inspections made by the Public Health Inspectors.)

<u>Premises</u>	<u>No. in Register</u>	<u>Inspections</u>	<u>Written Notices</u>	<u>Occupiers prosecuted</u>
(1) Factories in which sections 1,2,3,4 & 6 are to be in- forced by Local Authorities	33	33	-	-
(2) Factories not included in (1) in which section 7 is en- forced by the Local Authority	193	100	1	-
(3) Other premises in which Sect. 7 is enforced by Local Authority (excluding out- workers premises)	24	24	-	-
<u>Total</u>	250	157	1	-

2. CASES IN WHICH DEFECTS WERE FOUND

Particulars	Found	Remedied	Referred to H.M. Inspector	By H.M. Inspector	No. of cases in which pro- secution was instituted.
Want of Cleanliness (S.1)	-	-	-	-	-
Overcrowding (S.2)	-	-	-	-	-
Unreasonable temperature (S.3)	-	-	-	-	-
Inadequate ventilation (S.4)	-	-	-	-	-
Inadequate drainage of floors	-	-	-	-	-
Sanitary Conveniences					
(a) Insufficient	-	-	-	-	-
(b) Unsuitable or defective	1	-	-	1	-
(c) Not separate for sexes	-	-	-	-	-
Other offences against the Act (not including offences relating to outwork)	-	-	-	-	-

SENIOR PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTORS REPORT FOR THE YEAR 1959

To the Chairman and members of the St. Austell Urban District Council.

Mr. Chairman, Mrs. Joyce & Gentlemen,

I have the honour to present my twenty-second Annual Report for the year ending 31st December, 1959.

A total of 7,574 visits were made by your Inspectors during the year. The majority of these visits were made in carrying out their Statutory duties under the Public Health, Housing, Food and Drugs Acts and Regulations.

1. HOUSING

Visits to, and inspections of, houses including investigations upon complaint, have continued to occupy a great deal of time.

2. SLUM CLEARANCE PROGRAMME

During the year, 24 dwellings were represented as being unfit for human habitation and as a result 5 Demolition and 5 Closing Orders were made. 10 undertakings not to relet and 4 undertakings to make fit were accepted by the Council.

39 houses subject to Clearance Orders and 8 houses subject to Demolition Orders were demolished but only 63 persons comprising 26 families living in unfit houses while 69 families from the general housing list were rehoused by the Council.

This represents progress in the rehousing of people living in unfit houses but I feel that more could be done by the Council if 40% of Municipal dwellings, as is the present policy, were allocated to such tenants with a view to the slum clearance programme being truly completed at the close of the ten year period. We are now in the sixth year of such period.

CERTIFICATES OF DISREPAIR

Only 1 application for a Certificate of Disrepair was received and the Council decided to grant the Certificate, but the landlord gave an undertaking to remedy the disrepair and this was accepted.

2. MEAT INSPECTION

A very considerable amount of your inspectors time has been devoted to this important aspect of their work. In order to maintain 100% inspection of all carcasses and offal of animals slaughtered, it has been necessary, once again, to work during the evenings of each weekday and every Sunday throughout the year.

The Government policy on slaughter-houses seems to be one of moderate concentration which in turn will result in a more economic meat inspection service. I can only hope that legislation for controlling the hours of slaughtering will be introduced in the very near future.

During October 1959 the ownership of the Abattoir business at Tregonissey was taken over by the Fatstock Marketing Corporation (Western) Ltd., from the Plymouth & District Farmers Ltd., and the slaughterhouse licence was transferred accordingly.

The total of 23,260 animals slaughtered represents an increase of 1.7% over the preceeding year.

1,820 visits were paid to the slaughterhouses in the district when the following carcasses and offal were inspected :-

<u>BOVINE</u>		2,572
a)	Steers	1,552
b)	Heifers	509
c)	Cows	423
d)	Calves	82
e)	Bulls	6
<u>SHEEP</u>		7,902
<u>PIGS</u>		12,786
		<u>23,260</u>

The following table shows the comparison between 1957, 1958 and 1959.

	<u>1957</u>	<u>1958</u>	<u>1959</u>
<u>BOVINE</u>	2,131	2,554	2,572
a) Steers	1,360	1,525	1,552
b) Heifers	563	555	509
c) Cows	144	404	423
d) Calves	63	69	82
e) Bulls	1	1	6
<u>SHEEP</u>	4,766	4,354	7,902
<u>PIGS</u>	13,972	15,977	12,786
	<u>20,869</u>	<u>22,885</u>	<u>23,260</u>

As a result of these inspections the following were rejected as being unfit for human consumption :-

302 Bovine Livers	Distomatosis
39 Bovine Livers	Angiomatosis
362 Bovine Part Livers	Distomatosis
219 Bovine Part Livers	Cirrhosis
29 Bovine Heads & Tongues	Actinomycosis
16 Bovine Heads & Tongues	Tuberculosis
48 Sets of Bovine Lungs	Pneumonia
12 Bovine Hearts	Abscesses
7 Bovine Hearts	Tuberculosis
1 Bovine Kidney	Hydronephrosis
1 Bovine Spleen	Oedema
1 Bovine Diaphragm	Tuberculosis
210 Pigs Heads	Tuberculosis
111 Pigs Plucks	Fleurisy with adhesions
143 Pigs Livers	Milk Spot
90 Pigs Hearts	Pericarditis
46 Sets of Pig Lungs	Fleurisy
118 Sheep Livers	Distomatosis
17 Sheep Plucks	Strongylus Rufescens
4 Sows Heads	Tuberculosis
1 Set of Sheep Lungs	Pneumonia
1 Sows Heart	Pericarditis
1 Sows Kidney	Hydronephrosis
4 Sets of Sows Lungs	Fleurisy
1 Boar Head	Tuberculosis
4 Steer Carcasses & all offal	Generalised Tuberculosis
1 Heifer " " " "	Generalised Tuberculosis
3 Cow Carcasses & all offal	Fevered, Dropsical & Emaciated
7 Ewe Carcasses & all offal	Fevered, Dropsical & Emaciated
3 Sheep Carcasses & all offal	Fevered, Dropsical & Emaciated
1 Pig Carcase & all offal	Generalised Tuberculosis
1 Calf Carcase & all offal	Immaturity

3. THE SLAUGHTER OF ANIMALS ACT

There were 34 licensed slaughtermen on the register at the end of the year.

4. OTHER FOODS

Numerous routine visits were paid to wholesale and retail premises for the examination of foodstuffs and as a result the following were rejected as being unfit for human consumption:-

1,378 Tins of Fruit	}	Blown, Damaged and Leaking, Broken, Punctured and Decomposition.
842 Tins of Vegetables		
580 Tins of Meat		
224 Tins of Milk		
182 Tins of Fish		
75 Tins of Soup		
64 Tins of Jam		
45 Jars of Mixed Pickle		
37 Tins of Rice Pudding		
20 Tins of Orange Juice		
13 Tins of Beverage		

FISH INSPECTION

During the year 6,963 boxes of Pickled Pilchards were exported from Mevagissey. In addition, 2,385 lbs of Crayfish, 4,895 lbs of Crab, 1,237 lbs of Lobsters and 4,563 lbs of Crawfish were exported to France.

5. MILK

During the year 114 visits were made to the distributors and dairymens' premises throughout the district.

There are now 26 dealers retailing Tuberculin Tested Milk and 42 retailing pasteurised Milk.

Routine sampling was maintained and all samples were subjected to the appropriate tests at the County Pathological Department, Royal Cornwall Infirmary, Truro. The results of these samples show that of the 115 collected, 107 satisfied and 8 failed to satisfy the prescribed tests.

6. ICE-CREAM

A total of 40 samples of ice-cream were collected and submitted for bacteriological examination during the year. The results of these tests were as follows :-

Provisional Grade I	35
" " II	5
" " III	-
" " IV	-

Table for comparison with previous years.

	<u>Grade I</u>	<u>Grade II</u>	<u>Grade III</u>	<u>Grade IV</u>
1957	61.2%	33.3%	5.5%	0.0%
1958	63.6%	22.2%	11.1%	3.1%
1959	87.5%	12.5%	0.0%	0.0%

During the year 9 premises were registered for the sale of ice-cream making a total of 155 registered premises within the Urban District.

7. CAMPING SITES

There are 8 licensed sites in the area and 29 licences were issued for owners to station caravans on private sites.

The licensed camping sites were well maintained and controlled throughout the holiday season during the peak period i.e. July and August - of which an unprecedented influx of touring campers seemed to invade the Pentewan Valley and many of these could only find camping accommodation on the laybys and verges of the highway, and consequently using the adjoining field hedges and woodlands for disposal of waste refuse and thereby creating a nuisance.

In view of the public being encouraged nationally to adopt the camping way of holiday life the outlook appears to be becoming more alarming for coastal areas in particular and would point to the greatly increasing need for the provision of temporary sites to accommodate this touring type of camper by the local authorities of such areas.

It will be interesting to learn what amendments to the Law controlling camping sites and camping has been made when such legislation is brought into force later in the present year 1960.

8. PREVENTION OF DAMAGE BY PESTS ACT

The destruction of rats and mice has continued during the year but it is very noticeable that the rat population has been considerably reduced over the past few years. Survey work is still being carried out and complaints are dealt with as they are received. Thus a total of 925 visits were made by your operator as follows :-

310 visits to business premises
438 visits to private premises
161 visits to Local Authorities' premises
16 visits to farm premises

9. PRIVATE WATER SUPPLIES

Of the 221 samples submitted for examination during the year, 121 were satisfactory and 100 unsatisfactory.

Where the results were unsatisfactory, the consumers were advised to boil the water before using it for drinking purposes.

10. IMPROVEMENT GRANTS

Of the 52 applications for discretionary grants for the improvement of dwellings, 48 were approved, involving a total grant of £8,948 by the Council.

Of the 13 applications for Standard Grants, 12 were approved by the Council.

The Council is to be congratulated for encouraging house owners to improve their property with financial assistance. It is to be hoped that more owners will avail themselves to this opportunity.

11. STAFF

The Staff of Inspectors during the year consisted of myself, Mr.L.H.Sturtridge, Mr.C.F.Quantrell and Mr.J. Crowle, Pupil Assistant.

12. CONCLUSION

I would now take the opportunity of thanking members of the Council for their help and support given during the year, and also to Dr.Turner for his invaluable help and co-operation at all times. Also I would thank Mr. Saunders, Mr.King, my colleagues, Messrs.Sturtridge and Quantrell and all members of the staff for their loyal co-operation and support.

I have the honour to be

Your obedient servant

CHARLES H. WATTS

Senior Public Health Inspector.

Municipal Offices,
Truro Road,
ST. AUSTELL.

TABLE NO. 1.

SANITARY INSPECTION OF THE DISTRICTVISITS

	<u>1957</u>	<u>1958</u>	<u>1959</u>
Water Supply	140	67	261
Drainage	983	476	861
Stables and Piggeries	26	4	11
Fried Fish Shops	8	21	18
Tents, Vans and Sheds	126	114	169
Factories and Workshops	129	132	157
Theatres and places of entertainment	40	67	51
Licensed premises	14	0	8
Refuse Disposal	26	35	43
Rats and Mice destruction	96	70	51
Atmospheric Pollution	2	5	9
School Inspections	5	3	8
Shops Act	40	23	50
Miscellaneous sanitary visits	78	58	101
Appointments and Interviews	341	210	276
Petroleum Acts	84	144	211
Insect Tests	5	10	2
Verminous premises	116	35	81
Bakehouses	-	45	28
Public Health Act	445	385	544
Housing Act	900	511	944
Infectious Diseases	35	14	33

Inspection of Meat at :-

a) Slaughterhouses	1,346	1,474	1,847
b) Shops and Stalls	16	11	1
Butchers	-	150	166
Canteens	-	8	23
Dairies and Milk Distributors	57	59	114
Fishmongers and Poulterers	-	131	207
Food preparing premises	-	108	191
Grocers	-	164	304
Greengrocers and Fruiterers	-	186	249
Ice Cream Premises	131	83	77
Restaurants	102	62	36
Wholesalers	-	69	52

Sampling

a) Milk -	-	120	115
b) Ice Cream	-	99	40
c) Water	-	144	221
Food Shops	810	-	22

6,101	5,297	7,574
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TABLE NO.2.

PUBLIC HEALTH ACT, 1936

VERBAL, INFORMAL AND STATUTORY NOTICES

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

<u>Notices</u>	<u>No. Served</u>	<u>Complied with</u>	<u>Work done by Council in default</u>
Verbal	50	51	-
Informal	41	35	-
Statutory	-	-	-

TABLE NO. 3.

DRAINAGE, SANITARY CONVENIENCES AND MISCELLANEOUS

	<u>1957</u>	<u>1958</u>	<u>1959</u>
1. No. of Houses and premises re-drained	122	26	42
2. Repairs or amendments to existing drains	24	29	41
3. Drains or gullies unstopped and cleaned	45	36	50
4. Length in yards stoneware drains laid	1,119	698	525
5. Manholes provided	71	77	65
6. New manhole covers	64	80	66
7. Intercepting traps fixed	7	10	3
8. New gulley traps fixed	57	80	63
9. Soil pipes and vent shafts fixed	21	24	24
10. Soil pipes and vent shafts repaired	5	2	6
11. Water tests applied	8	19	11
12. Smoke tests applied	11	11	32
13. Length in yards iron drains laid	54	50	118
14. New W.C. accommodation provided	37	30	37
15. New W.C. apartments provided	15	31	48
16. New W.C. pedestals provided	30	33	38
17. W.C.'s cleansed and repaired	14	9	14
18. New flushing cisterns provided	39	28	41
19. Flushing cisterns repaired	4	8	10
20. Baths provided	26	35	34
21. Lavatory basins provided	25	40	41
22. Sinks provided	46	43	45
23. New Waste pipes provided	78	106	113
24. Existing waste-pipes trapped	22	12	2
25. Tail closets and/or middens abolished	6	12	4
26. Urinals provided	0	0	2
27. Septic tanks provided	9	7	5
28. Cesspools emptied	28	32	30