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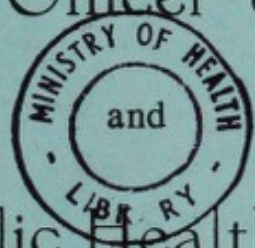
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Sunderland Rural District

ANNUAL REPORT

of the

Medical Officer of Health

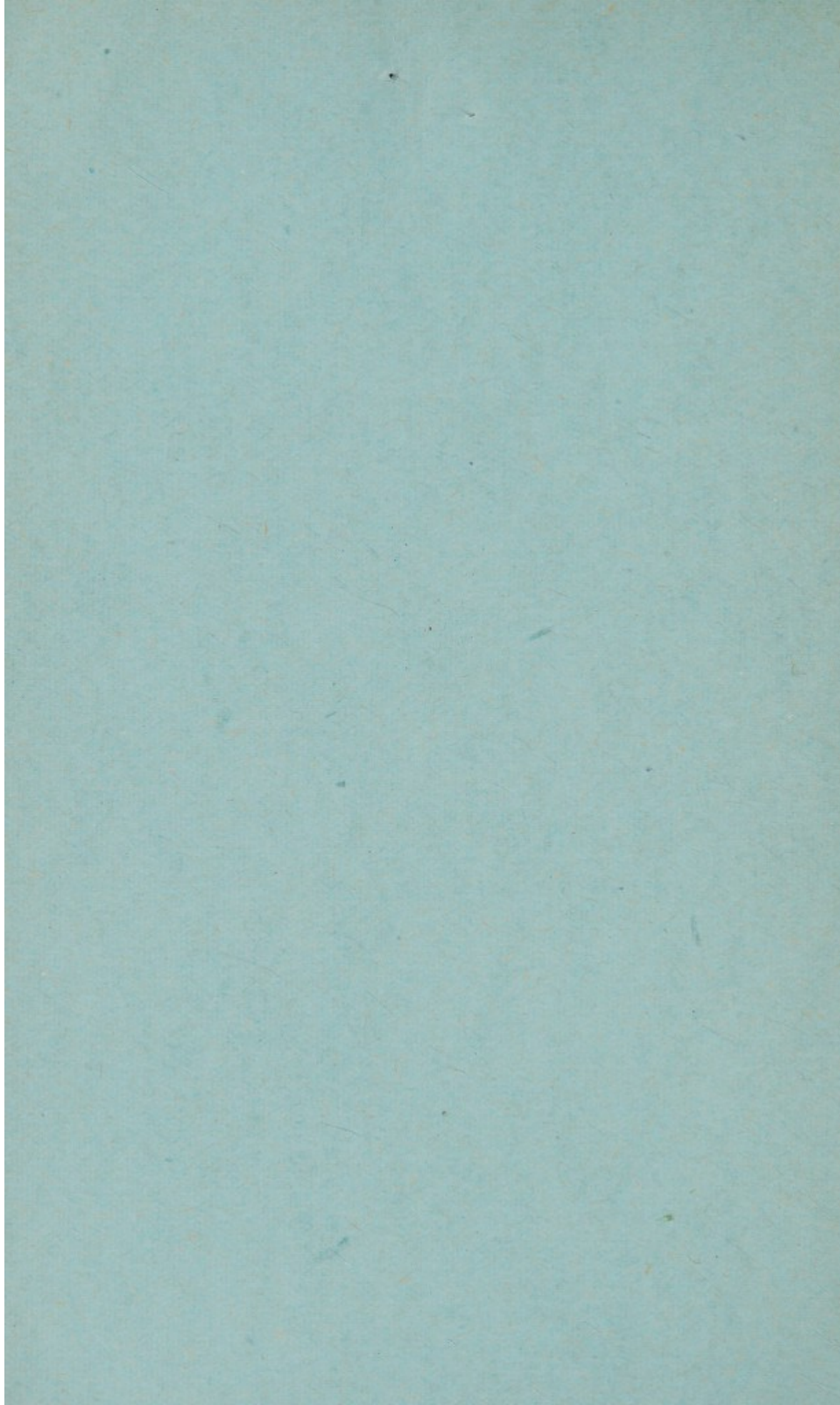


Chief Public Health Inspector

FOR THE YEAR 1956

R. C. F. SMITH, M.D., B.S., D.P.H., F.R.I.P.H.
Medical Officer of Health.

M. B. H. CHURCHILL, M.A.P.H.I.
Chief Public Health Inspector.



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ANNUAL REPORT



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and

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SUNDERLAND
RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL
1956

Chairman :

Councillor W. MULLANEY, J.P.

Vice-Chairman :

Councillor GEO. C. PARK, J.P.

Coun. Mrs. I. Beaney	Coun. Mrs. P. Nicholson
„ W. P. Bewick	„ G. E. B. Perfremment
„ S. Comb	„ W. Sharratt
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„ J. Cummings	„ Mrs. E. W. Thomp-
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„ T. J. Markham	

CHAIRMAN OF THE HEALTH COMMITTEE

Councillor H. MILLER

HEALTH DEPARTMENT

Council Offices,
1, The Esplanade,
Sunderland.

Officials :

Medical Officer of Health :

R. C. F. Smith, M.D., B.S., D.P.H.

Chief Public Health Inspector :

M. B. H. Churchill, M.A.P.H.I.

Additional Public Health Inspector :

W. Woods, M.A.P.H.I.

Clerk to the Health Department :

Miss W. M. Young.

Junior Clerk :

Miss M. R. Wilkinson.

**To the Chairman and Members of the
Sunderland Rural District Council.**

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I hereby submit my sixteenth Annual Report on the Health and Sanitary conditions of your district, together with the report of the Chief Public Health Inspector, Mr. M. B. H. Churchill.

The following are the main features of the vital statistics. The estimated population of 26,280 shows an increase of 340 over the previous year. The increase of births over deaths was 87; the Live Birth Rate was 20.2 per thousand of the estimated population and the Still-Birth Rate was 0.38 per thousand. There were 51 more deaths this year than last year. The vast majority of deaths were people over the age of 65. Deaths from Cancer were 75, Coronary Thrombosis and Angina, 77—a decrease of 34 over the previous year; but 'strokes' again showed an increase—100 cases this year as against 73 in 1955.

The general health of the district's population during 1956 was of a reasonably high standard; no serious outbreaks of infectious disease occurred.

Posters were distributed throughout the district to remind the population of the importance of immunisation against Diphtheria. Tuberculosis posters were also displayed, stressing the importance of early diagnosis. During the year, 26 cases of Tuberculosis were notified as compared to 55 cases in 1955.

Old Age Pensioners Survey.

During October, the beginning of a survey of 1,000 Old Age Pensioners was commenced; only those living

by themselves and who were in apparent good health were questioned for this purpose. It is expected that this work will take about six months.

I wish to acknowledge with gratitude the support received from Members of the Council at all times during the past year.

REGINALD C. F. SMITH,
Medical Officer of Health.

Health Department,
August, 1957.

STATISTICS

Area (in acres)	6,645
Registrar-General's estimate of resident population, mid-1956	26,280
Number of inhabited houses at 31st December, 1956	8,373
Rateable Value	£206,594
Sum represented by penny rate	£802

Births and Birth Rate.

The nett number of births in the district was 531.

The sex and legitimacy classification is shown thus :—

LIVE BIRTHS :

	M.	F.	Total.
Legitimate	271	253	) 531
Illegitimate	2	5	) 7

The birth-rate per thousand of the estimated population is 20.2, an increase over the previous year.

The Comparability Factor, issued in order to determine a more accurate birth-rate, is for the year 1956 0.95; therefore, the Corrected Birth-Rate calculated therefrom is 19.2.

STILL BIRTHS :

	M.	F.	Total.
Legitimate	2	7	) 9
Illegitimate	—	1	) 10

During the year there were 10 still-births in the district. The Still-Birth Rate of the population is 0.38 per thousand, an increase over the figure recorded in 1955, viz.: 7 still-births, which gave a mortality rate of 0.27 per thousand total population.

Deaths and Death Rate.

The total number of deaths in the district during 1956 (corrected for inward and outward transfers, and including deaths from all causes and at all ages) was 444, viz.,

222 males and 222 females. The recorded death-rate being 16.9 per thousand of the estimated population.

The Comparability Factor for deaths is 0.80 and the Corrected Death-Rate calculated therefrom is 13.5 per thousand of the estimated population.

The following Table shows the variation in the birth and death-rates and estimated population during the preceding four years as compared with 1956 :—

Year.	Population.	Birth Rate.	Death Rate.
Sunderland R.D.			
1952	25,660	18.3 _a	11.4 _a
1953	25,770	19.3 _a	14.6 _a
1954	26,000	18.7 _a	16.2 _a
1955	25,940	17.4 _a	15.1 _a
1956	26,280	19.2 _a	13.5 _a

a—Corrected Birth and Death Rates.

Infantile Mortality.

Nine children died during 1956 before attaining the age of one year, five of these under four weeks of age.

	M.	F.	Total.
Legitimate	5	4)	9
Illegitimate	—	—)	

The death-rate for infants under one year is shown according to the number of live births and legitimacy:—

Death Rate for all infants per thousand live births is 16.9.

The deaths were due to Birth Injuries, Bronchitis and Pneumonia.

Causes of Death in the Sunderland Rural District during 1956.

The following Table shows in detail the number of deaths, male and female, and the causes of death in the district during the year. Compared with the Table for the preceding year, an increase of deaths due to vascular lesions of the nervous system, coronary disease, cancer and bronchitis is recorded.

Cause of Death.	Male.	Female.	Total.
Tuberculosis (respiratory) ...	2	1	3
„ (non-respiratory)	—	—	—
Meningococcal Infections...	1	—	1
Other infective and parasitic diseases	—	2	2
Cancer	39	36	75
Leukaemia	—	1	1
Diabetes	—	2	2
Vascular lesions of nervous system	41	59	100
Coronary Disease, Angina	37	40	77
Hypertension with heart disease	—	3	3
Other heart disease ...	20	12	32
Other circulatory disease ..	7	9	16
Pneumonia	10	11	21
Bronchitis	19	6	25
Other diseases of respiratory system	6	2	8
Ulcer of Stomach and Duodenum	2	2	4
Nephritis and Nephrosis ...	7	—	7
Hyperplasia of Prostate ...	5	—	5
Pregnancy, childbirth and abortion	—	1	1
Other defined and ill-defined diseases	17	21	38
Accidents—Motor Vehicle	1	—	1
Accidents—All other ...	8	12	20
Suicide	—	2	2
Totals ...	222	222	444

Ambulance Facilities.

The ambulance service is operated under the direction of the Durham County Council. All telephone calls or other messages in respect to the service of an ambulance are now directed to East Herrington 3137, which is the ambulance station at Devon Street, New Herrington, covering the parishes of Ryhope, Silksworth and Tunstall, Ford, Offerton and the Herringtons, or Hebburn 32157, which is the ambulance station at 1, St. John's Avenue, Hebburn, covering the parish of Hylton.

Laboratory Facilities.

Bacteriological examination of sputa, faeces and throat swabs are now undertaken by the Public Health Laboratory at the Infectious Diseases Hospital, Hylton Road, Sunderland, which is under the direction of P. B. Crone, M.D., Dip., Bact. According to reports received by the Medical Officer of Health, the following specimens were submitted for examination :—

Bacteriological Examinations for the year 1956 :—

For Organisms of the Enteric, Dysentery and Food Poisoning Groups.

Positive	2	Negative	7
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Bacteriological Examination of Milk for Brucella Abortus Organisms.

Positive	24	Negative	27
--------------	-----	----	--------------	-----	----

PREVALENCE OF, AND CONTROL OVER INFECTIOUS AND OTHER DISEASES

During the year, 209 cases of infectious disease, including all forms of Tuberculosis, were notified as compared with 396 cases for the previous year and 575 cases in 1954.

Scarlet Fever.

The notification of this disease amounted to 11 cases,

an increase over last year's figure which was 5 cases. The disease was a very mild type and caused no anxiety.

Diphtheria.

There were no notifications of Diphtheria throughout the year 1956.

Poliomyelitis.

Two cases of Acute Poliomyelitis, both of the paralytic type, were notified in the area during the year.

Measles.

Cases of Measles notified in 1956 amounted to 69, a decrease of 131 cases over the preceding year. Measles is a disease which shows periodic increase, cycles every three or five years. Very few children escape infection.

The appended Table sets out in detail the notifications of infectious disease during the year 1956 together with the ages at which the disease occurred and the incidence in each of the respective parishes; the number of cases treated at infectious diseases hospitals is also shown.

TUBERCULOSIS

Age Periods.	NEW CASES.				DEATHS.			
	Pulmonary		Non- Pulmonary		Pulmonary		Non- Pulmonary	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
0 - 1 yr.	...	1	...	..	...	...	...	...
1 - 4 yrs.	...	1	...	..	...	1	...	...
5 - 9 "	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	..
10 - 14 "	...	1	...	1	...	...	...	...
15 - 24 "	3	3	...	...	...	...	...	...
25 - 34 "	1	1	...	...	...	...	...	...
35 - 44 "	...	1	1	...	...	...	...	...
45 - 64 "	10	...	...	...	1	...	...	...
65 & over	2	..	...	...	1	...	...	...
Totals ...	16	9	1	1	2	1	...	...

It has not been necessary to take any action under the Public Health (Prevention of Tuberculosis) Regulations 1925, in relation to persons suffering from Pulmonary Tuberculosis employed in the milk trade.

No action has been taken under Section 72 of the Public Health Act 1936, which relates to the compulsory removal to hospital of persons suffering from Tuberculosis.

Central Kitchens.

The Education Authority's central kitchens have again been supervised throughout the year. Only occasionally was it necessary to make recommendations with regard to the interior decoration, etc.

Disinfection of Premises.

Disinfection of premises and bedding has been carried out by your staff on the removal of cases of infectious disease, and on the termination of the period of isolation if the patient was isolated at home. Disinfections were

also carried out at houses where the death or removal of a person suffering from Tuberculosis had occurred.

WATER SUPPLIES

As before, the district was supplied by the Sunderland and South Shields Water Board. Bacteriological examinations were carried out by the owners; the examinations being necessary in case any water-borne disease had been brought into the district.

At the Herringtons a small number of houses are still supplied by the National Coal Board from their pumping station situated in Silksworth Lane. This supply was satisfactory.

At Offerton, the supply is taken from a well situated in a field to the north-west of the village. The water is lifted from the well by a pump which is driven by a windmill, and the water is stored in iron storage tanks situated near Offerton Hall. From thence it is led to the various houses in the village. This supply was satisfactory.

The only area (apart from some scattered farms) not provided with a piped water supply is that of Offerton.

THE FOLLOWING TABLE SHOWS THE NOTIFICATION OF INFECTIOUS DISEASE DURING THE YEAR 1956, TOGETHER WITH THE AGES AT WHICH THE DISEASE OCCURRED AND THE INCIDENCE IN EACH OF THE RESPECTIVE PARISHES.

Infectious Disease.	NUMBER OF CASES NOTIFIED											PARISHES						Total cases removed to Hospital.			
	At all Ages.	0 - 1 year	1 - 2 years	2 - 3 years	3 - 4 years	4 - 5 years	5 - 9 years	10 - 14 years	15 - 24 years	25 - 34 years	35 - 44 years	45 - 64 years	65 and over	Ford	Herringtons	Hylton	Offerton		Ryhope	Silksworth	Tunstall
Pulmonary Tuberculosis	24	1	...	...	...	1	1	1	6	2	1	2	1	1	2	...	...	13	...	8	14
Non-Pulmonary Tuberculosis	2	...	...	...	...	...	1	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	1	1
Scarlet Fever	11	...	...	1	...	...	6	1	2	...	...	...	2	...	...	...	9	...	...	...	...
Whooping Cough	71	5	9	12	11	14	17	1	1	...	...	...	...	...	10	...	51	...	10	4	...
Measles	69	1	2	2	3	6	46	6	2	1	...	...	...	...	66	...	...	...	2	...	...
Pneumonia	23	3	...	...	2	...	1	...	3	1	7	4	...	...	3	...	8	3	9	...	...
Puerperal Pyrexia	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	...	...	...	2	...	...	...	2	...	1	1	...
Dysentery	4	1	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	1	1	...	...	...	...	...	2	1	...	...	2
Acute Poliomyelitis	2	...	1	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	2
Enteric Fever	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...
TOTALS	209	11	12	16	17	21	72	10	15	7	5	17	6	8	1	81	87	5	32	23	...

**CHIEF PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR'S
ANNUAL REPORT**

**PUBLIC CLEANSING — COLLECTION AND
DISPOSAL OF HOUSE REFUSE**

Refuse Collection.

Regular collections of house refuse were again maintained during the year, although it must be admitted that the service was somewhat strained upon occasions due principally to the loss of man-hours arising from sickness among the refuse collectors. The number of days lost due to sickness during the year were 461.

There were some isolated complaints of non-collection of refuse but there was no general complaint at any time during the year, and the frequency of collection was never less than once weekly.

Six vehicles, comprising four Karrier Bantams (7 cub. yd. capacity) and two Bedfords (7 cub. yd. capacity) were again regularly employed in carrying out the work, and the refuse collection staff consisted of six drivers and seventeen loaders.

During the year 619,301 dustbins holding 13,378 tons of refuse were dealt with; this represents a weekly collection and disposal of approximately 257 tons.

The annual cost of refuse collection work for the financial year ending 31st March 1957 was £12,419, which is equivalent to 18s. 6d. per ton of refuse collected.

Refuse Disposal.

The refuse from the parishes of Ryhope, Silksworth and Tunstall (representing approximately 75% of the district's refuse) was disposed of at the old Burdon

Street site, which is situated in a central part of Ryhope. The work on this tip is progressing most satisfactorily, and an area approximately 120 yards square is almost completed. It is assumed that the Council will develop this portion into football fields, a much needed want in the parish of Ryhope.

During the year 10,034 tons of refuse were deposited on this tip by means of "controlled tipping"; the remainder of the refuse collected in the district was disposed of by a modified form of control.

The Ryhope refuse tip is now controlled with the assistance of a Fordson Major Tractor (with diesel engine) fitted with Rotaped Tracks, purchased at a total cost of £1,061. In my opinion, this Council should be complimented upon the enterprise they have shown in this matter; there is now an efficient control of the refuse tip resulting in considerably increased consolidation of the refuse, a minimum of time lost by the vehicles when tipping and there is less manual effort required from the man working on the refuse tip.

The cost of disposal amounted to £2,346, the equivalent of £3s. 6d. per ton.

Cost Statement 1956-57

Item	Particulars 1	Collection 2	Disposal 3	Totals 4	Percentage of total gross expenditure 5
	REVENUE ACCOUNT (note (a))	£	£	£	
1	GROSS EXPENDITURE :				
	(i) Labour (note (b))	7,491	1,671	9,162	62.05
	(ii) Transport (note (c))	4,701	615	5,316	36.00
	(iii) Plant, equipment, land and buildings (note (d))	212	60	272	1.84
	(iv) Other items (note (e))	15	—	15	0.10
	(v) Total gross expenditure	12,419	2,346	14,765	100
2	GROSS INCOME (note (f))		1,536	1,536	—
3	NET COST	12,419	810	13,229	—
4	Capital expenditure met from revenue (included above) (note (g))	—	—	—	—
	UNIT COSTS (note (h))				
5	Gross cost per ton, labour only	s d 11 2	s d 2 6	s d 13 8	
6	Gross cost per ton, transport only	7 0	1 0	8 0	
7	Net cost (all expenditure) per ton	18 6	1 3	19 9	
8	Net cost per 1,000 population	£ 473	£ 30	£ 503	
9	Net cost per 1,000 premises	1,460	95	1,555	

Operational Statistics.

10.	Area (statute acres)—land and inland water	6,645 acres	
11.	Population at 30th June, 1956 (Registrar General's estimate)	26,280 persons	
12.	Total refuse collected (tons) (estimated weight)	13,378 tons	
13.	Weight (cwts.) per 1,000 population per day (365 days to year)	28 cwts.	
14.	Number of premises from which refuse is collected	8,504 premises	
15.	Premises from which collections are made at least once weekly	100% of total	
16.	Average haul, single journey, to final disposal point (including..... miles by secondary transport)	1 mile	
17.	Kerbside collection expressed as estimated percentage of total collection	NIL	
18.	Total refuse disposed of	13,378 tons	
19.	Methods of disposal (Salvage excluded) :		
	(a) Crude tipping	—%	
	(b) Controlled tipping	99.16%	
	(c) Direct incineration	—%	
	(d) Separation and incineration .....	.84%
	(e) Other methods (state nature)	—%	
		100%	
20.	Salvage—Analysis of income and tonnage :		
		Income (Included in Item 2). £	
		Tonnage Collected (Included in Item 12). Tons	
	(a) Raw Kitchen Waste (note (a)) ...	—	—
	(b) Scrap Metal	—	—
	(c) Waste Paper	1,536	180½
	(d) Other Salvage	—	—
	(e) Totals	1,536	180½
21.	Trade Refuse :		
	(a) Income	NIL.	
	(b) Tonnage	NIL.	
22.	Remarks :		

Salvage.

Into the early months of the year, waste paper collections increased considerably as a result of canvassing, local advertisement and propaganda, plus the efforts put into the collections by the refuse collectors. By the month of June, however, correspondence from the Mills made it clear that the demand for waste paper no longer existed, and pointed out that local authorities would have to accept a restricted quota until such time as there was an improvement in the waste paper situation. For the July/December periods (six months) the quantity of waste paper to be consigned by this Council could not exceed 70 tons.

In spite of this set-back, the total weight of waste paper collected during 1956 was almost 50 tons in excess of the amount collected in 1955.

The bonus scheme is operative and the total amount of bonus paid to the collectors up to the end of March, 1957, was £172 3s. 5d.

The following table shows the amount of waste paper collected each month and the corresponding revenue received.

Waste Paper Collections, 1956

Month	Quantity in			£	s.	d.
	Tons	Cwts.	Qrs.			
January	18	11	0	170	13	3
February	19	18	2	186	1	0
March	18	13	3	172	11	3
April	18	4	0	162	1	6
May	22	10	2	197	2	9
June	10	13	0	89	8	1
July	27	15	0	239	14	2
August	14	13	2	121	9	3
September	11	8	1	97	19	10
October	11	7	0	97	6	3
November	14	1	3	118	5	5
December	9	10	0	81	9	6
Total Amount ...	197	6	1	£1734	2	3

Sanitary Inspection of the Area.

The appended summary "TABLE A" sets out the number and the nature of inspections made as to nuisances and sanitary defects, contravention of Bye-laws, etc., during the year, together with the number of notices served to remedy such defects.

It will be seen from the summary that the bulk of the notices served were of an informal character and include letters and verbal intimations.

Closet Accommodation.

During the year 21 privies were demolished at Ryhope following upon the vacation of the corresponding dwelling houses.

The total number of privies existing in the district at the end of the year was 73 as detailed herewith.

District in which situated.	No. of existing Privies.	In probable Clearance Areas, or Conversions otherwise not likely.	Possible Conversions
RYHOPE—			
Miscellaneous	6	5	1
SILKSWORTH—			
Farms Cottages	18	16	2
Village School	4	4	—
Hall Lodge and Cottages	9	9	—
HERRINGTON—			
Farms and Cottages ...	3	1	2
OFFERTON & COXGREEN—			
Farms and Cottages ...	11	11	—
Miscellaneous	9	9	—
HYLTON—			
Farms and Cottages ...	13	13	—
TOTAL	73	63	5

Complaints Received.

During the year 1956, 1,069 complaints or requests were received and attended to relating to matters briefly summarised as follows :—

Verminous and dirty premises	...	44
Choked drains	... ..	39
Water supply (defective fittings)	...	2
Defective drains	... ..	2
Drain tests	... ..	396
Defective waste pipes	... ..	4
Defective W.C.s, privies, etc.	... ..	12
Defective dustbins	... ..	290
General housing defects	... ..	92
Overcrowding	... ..	1
Rodent infestation (including mice)	...	99
Offensive smells	... ..	12
Requests to remove refuse	... ..	7
Houses and bedding to disinfect	...	19
Offensive accumulations	... ..	2
Requests to inspect food	... ..	28
Drain inspections	... ..	19
Miscellaneous	... ..	2
		Total ... 1,069

TABLE A—SUMMARY—PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR'S
ANNUAL REPORT.
INSPECTIONS AND NOTICES SERVED 1956.

	No. of inspections during the year.	No. of defects or contraventions of Byelaws.	No. of Informal Notices served.	Defects remedied thereafter.	No. of Statutory Notices served.	Defects remedied thereafter.	Legal Proceedings.
HOUSING—							
Structural Defects	692	76	76	44	32	32	..
Defective Food-store		9	9	5	4	4	..
Dampness		35	35	15	20	20	..
Overcrowding		1	..	..	..	..	..
NUISANCES—							
Dirty or verminous premises	54	43	43	43	..	..	..
Choked drains	346	346	346	344	2	2	..
Various	3	2	2	2	..	..	..
Offensive Accumulations	11	7	7	7	..	..	..
WATER SUPPLY—							
Insufficient (defective fittings)	6	4	4	4	..	..	..
Unsatisfactory	1	1	1	1	..	..	..
DRAINAGE—							
Insufficient	3	2	2	2	..	..	..
Defective	5	4	4	..	4	4	..
New drains testing, etc.	396						..
New drains provided	6703 yds. of 4in. drain 21 yds. of 6in. drain						
SANITARY							
CONVENIENCES—							
Insufficient	20	16	16	10	6	6	..
Insanitary ashpits, and dustbins	341	341	341	291	23	23	..
New W.C. basins	8	6	6	2	4	4	..
Shops and Stores	205	43	43	22	..	..	..
Dairies & Milkshops	10	2	2	2	..	..	..
Slaughterhouses	119	19	19	19	..	..	..
Offensive Trades	16	3	3	3	..	..	..
Fruit Store	56	34	13	27	..	..	..
Food Manufacturing Premises	142	37	19	27	..	..	..
Bakehouses	53	12	10	10	..	..	..
Snack Bars	4	2	2	2	..	..	..
Rat Infestations	176	95	95	95	..	..	..
Factories	11	3	3	3	..	..	..
Fried Fish Shops	35	11	11	11	..	..	..
Ice-cream Premises	8	2	2	2	..	..	..
Wet Fish Shops	31	..	..	..	..	..	..
	2753	1128	1087	993	95	95	—

The following summary shows the main type of work done or improvements effected as the result of inspections made and subsequent action taken :—

SUMMARY OF WORKS EFFECTED, 1956

Housing Defects.

Repairs to roofs and spouts	32
„ walls and pointing	8
„ chimneys, firegrates and ovens ...	9
„ windows and sash cords	9
„ floors, doors, stairs and woodwork	24
„ wash-houses, coppers and furnaces	1
„ wall and ceiling plaster	22
„ yards and outhouses	1
„ food stores	8
Dampness remedied	32

Nuisances.

Dirty and verminous premises cleansed and disinfested	43
Obstructed drains cleared	
Accumulations removed	1

Water Supply.

Burst pipes and defective taps repaired ...	4
Separate internal supplies provided	1

Drainage.

Wash-up sinks provided	1
Defective drains repaired	2
Sink waste pipes repaired	4
Yards paved or repaired	3

Sanitary Conveniences.

Privy ashpits abolished... ..	21
Water closets provided	7
Water closets repaired	15
Dustbins provided	302
Privies repaired	1

Public Conveniences.

Routine inspections have been made during the year to all public conveniences in the district, with a view to ascertaining the existence of nuisances which may arise

from time to time. The conveniences are thoroughly cleansed each day (including Sundays) by workmen on the staff of the Health Department.

Factories.

The following tables in the form required by the Home Office show the inspections made to factories with mechanical power, factories without mechanical power, and other premises, together with defects found and remedied during the year.

1. INSPECTION FOR PURPOSES OF PROVISIONS AS TO HEALTH.

PREMISES (1)	NUMBER OF		
	<i>Inspections</i> (2)	<i>Written Notices</i> (3)	<i>Occupiers Prosecuted</i> (4)
FACTORIES with mechanical power	3	1	—
FACTORIES without mechanical power	8	2	—
OTHER PREMISES under the Act including works buildings and engineering construction but not including outworkers premises ...	—	—	—
TOTAL	11	3	—

2. DEFECTS FOUND.

PARTICULARS (1)	NUMBER OF DEFECTS			Number of defects in respect of which prosecutions were instituted. (5)
	Found (2)	Remedied (3)	Referred to H.M. Inspector (4)	
Want of Cleanliness (S.1)	—	—	—	—
Overcrowding (S.2) ...	—	—	—	—
Unreasonable Temperature (S.3)	—	—	—	—
Inadequate Ventilation (S.4)	—	—	—	—
Ineffective drainage of floors (S.6)	—	—	—	—
Sanitary Conveniences (S.7)	—	—	—	—
Insufficient	—	—	—	—
Unsuitable or Defective	3	3	—	—
Not separate for sexes	—	—	—	—
Other Offences	—	—	—	—
TOTAL	3	3	—	—

Smoke Abatement.

During the year no complaints were received in the department, neither was any action necessary relating to the above matter.

Up to the end of the year 1956 no action of note was taken under the Clean Air Act, 1956.

Swimming Baths.

There are no such baths in the area, either public or privately owned.

Eradication of Bed Bugs.

During the year one complaint only was received in respect to bed-bug infestation; this was from a tenant of a Council house.

Drainage.

A considerable amount of work has again been incurred in the Health Department during the year as a result of the Council's building programme.

The various housing schemes in progress throughout the district have claimed the time of the inspectors as soon as the respective drainage systems became ready for inspection and testing. In addition to this, much time is devoted to the arrangement, inspection and testing of drains attached to private houses.

All main and branch drains were tested by means of the "Water Test" in order to ensure that they were sound and watertight.

During the year, 6,703 yards of 4 in. drain and 21 yards of 6 in. drain were tested, involving some 396 visits.

Rodent Control.

During the year two treatments were again undertaken and completed on each set of sewers in the district. Several treatments on each of the three refuse tips in the area were also undertaken and it is pleasing to be able to report that none of the three tips bear the mark of a major infestation.

Surveys have been made at various intervals to determine what degree of infestation exists particularly in the vicinity of business premises, and where such premises were infested, treatments were carried out and a charge sufficient to cover normal expenses was made against the owner of the premises.

Infestations in dwelling-houses are dealt with free of charge.

The whole work throughout the year was effected by a trained rodent operative and the methods used were those prescribed by the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food (Rodent Division).

The following table indicates the number of premises in the area, the number and types of infestation, and the number of premises dealt with in 1956.

TYPE OF PROPERTY.

	NON-AGRICULTURAL				(5) Agri- cultural
	(1) Local Authority	(2) Dwelling Houses (inc. C'ncil Houses)	(3) All other (inc. Business Premises)	(4) Total of Cols. (1, (2) & (3)	
1. Number of properties in Local Authority's area. ..	12	8373	131	8516	33
2. Number of properties inspected as a result of:—					
(a) Notification ..	5	68	22	95	—
(b) Survey ..	—	—	81	81	—
(c) Otherwise ..	—	—	—	—	—
3. Total Inspections ..	5	68	103	176	—
4. Number of properties inspected found to be infested by:—					
(a) Rats, Major ..	—	—	—	—	—
Minor ..	5	31	13	49	—
(b) Mice, Major ..	—	—	—	—	—
Minor ..	—	37	9	46	—
5. Number of infested properties treated by the Local Authority.	5	68	22	95	—

Housing.

During the year 1956, considerable progress was made in the task of dealing with unfit houses in the district. All the unfit houses in the Parishes of Ford and Ryhope were dealt with during the year and, as a result, 14 Clearance Orders were made comprising 149 houses and 183 families. In addition, 22 houses containing 30 families were dealt with either under Section 11, Housing Act, 1936, or Section 10, Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act, 1953.

The above 171 unfit houses, dealt with in a little over twelve months, represents 42 per cent of the total number of unfit houses in the whole district, therefore the progress made in this branch of the work speaks for itself.

Slum Clearance work inevitably brings with it a tremendous amount of technical, administrative and clerical work. The technical detailed inspections, which provide information for the composition of the clearance areas, were responsible for some 502 visits, and those of us who are responsible for the administration know full well the vast amount of clerical work involved not only in the making of the Clearance Orders but also after receiving confirmation of the Orders from the Ministry. In this respect I would particularly like to pay tribute to the chief clerk of the department and the junior clerk for the work they accomplished, much of which had to be done outside their normal working hours.

The following list shows in statistical form the Clearance Areas dealt with during the year 1956 :—

Parish.	CLEARANCE ORDERS			No. of Houses	No. of Families	No. of Persons	Confirmed
	No.	Name.	Description				
			<i>Nos.</i>				
Ford.	39	Stewart Terrace.	1-4	4	6	15	Yes
..	40	Hastings Square.	1-6	6	6	16	Yes
..	41	Union Street.	1-5	5	8	25	Yes
..	41a	Union Street.	7-10	5	4	11	Yes
..	42	Frederick St. & Church St.	1-5 & 18-20	7	11	30	Yes
..	43	Albion Street.	25-27 & 34-40	10	13	29	Yes
Ryhope.	44	Gibson Terr. & Taylor St.	1-18 & 1-16	34	34	95	Yes
..	45	Oxclose.	1-5	5	5	13	Yes
..	46	Ryhope Street South and Davison's Yard.	91-93 & 1-6	9	12	28	Yes
..	47	South View.	1-16	16	23	60	Yes
..	48	Hollicar Terrace.	1-25	25	28	77	Yes
..	49	Cliff Road.	6-9 & 1-3 Bk.	8	10	31	Yes
..	49a	Cliff Road.	10-12 & 1-12 Davi- son's Cott.	5	7	23	Yes
..	50	Dene Terrace.	1-10	10	16	47	Yes
		TOTALS	...	149	183	500	

In addition to the Clearance Areas, the following is a list of unfit houses which have been dealt with under Section 11 of the Housing Act, 1936, and Section 10 of the Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act, 1953 :—

Section 11, Housing Act, 1936 :—

Parish of Ford.

- 2 Ferryboat Row, South Hylton.
- 4 Ferryboat Row, ..
- 5 Ferryboat Row, ..
- 10 Ferryboat Row, ..
- 2 The Gill ..
- 4 The Gill, ..
- 5 The Gill, ..
- 10 Albion Street, ..
- Ferryboat House, ..

Section 10, Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act, 1953 :—

Parish of Ford.

5 Cambria Street, South Hylton.
Rose Cottage View, ..

Parish of Ryhope.

73 Ryhope Street South, Ryhope.
73½ Ryhope Street South, ..
74 Ryhope Street South, ..
80 Ryhope Street South, ..
82 Ryhope Street South, ..
94 Ryhope Street South, ..
95 Ryhope Street South, ..
23 The Village, ..
Church Ward, ..

Parish of Silksworth.

1 Old Silksworth Cottages, Silksworth.
2 Old Silksworth Cottages, Silksworth.

Housing Act, 1949 (Amended by the Housing Repairs and Rents Act, 1954).

In addition to the above work undertaken to dispose of unfit houses in the district, 14 applications, under Section 20 of the above Act, were received from owner-occupiers asking for a grant towards the cost involved in effecting the desired improvement of their dwelling-houses. The Council allow grants of fifty per cent of the cost of improvement with a maximum grant of £150.

Housing Repairs and Rents Act, 1954.

During the year one application was received for a Certificate of Disrepair under the above Act. The Council duly authorised the issue of the certificate.

Houses erected during the year :—

	With State Assistance.	Unaided.	Total
(a) By Local Authority ...	248	—)	
(b) By other Bodies or Persons ...	—	9)	257

1. Inspection of Dwelling-houses during the year.

(1) (a) Total number of dwelling-houses inspected for Housing defects (under the Public Health or Housing Acts) 813

(b) Number of inspections made for the purpose	...	...	...	...	1,422
(2) (a) Number of dwelling-houses (included under sub-head (1) above) which were inspected and recorded under the Housing Consolidated Regulations, 1925	...	...	...	...	Nil.
(b) Number of inspections made for the purpose	...	...	...	...	Nil.
(3) (a) Number of dwelling-houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation	...	...	...	...	111
(4) (a) Number of dwelling-houses (exclusive of those referred to under the preceding sub-head) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation	...	...	...	...	702
2. Remedy of Defects without service of Formal Notices.					
Number of defective dwelling-houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or its Officers	...	...	...	...	718
3. Action under Statutory Powers.					
(a) Proceedings under Sections 9, 10 and 16 of the Housing Act, 1936:—					
(1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which informal notices were served requiring repairs	...	...	...	...	Nil.
(2) Number of dwelling-houses which were rendered fit after service of formal notices:—					
(a) By owners	...	...	...	Nil.)
(b) By Local Authority in default of Owners	...	...	...	Nil.	) Nil.
(b) Proceedings under Public Health Acts.					
(1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied	...	...	...	...	95

(2) Number of dwelling-houses in which defects were remedied after the service of formal notices:—	
(a) By Owners	95)
(b) By Local Authority in default of Owners ... ..	) 95
	Nil.)
(c) Proceedings under Section 11 and 13 of the Housing Act, 1936:—	
(1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made	15
(2) Number of dwelling-houses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders	Nil.
(d) Proceedings under the Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1953 :—	
(1) Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were made ...	14
(2) Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were determined, the tenement or rooms having been rendered fit	Nil.

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD

The Inspection and supervision of the usual commodities of food intended for human consumption has again received the keen attention of the Department during the year. A fair proportion of the normal available time is devoted to this very important branch of the work.

It involves the inspection of all meat, both home-killed and imported, the inspection of all doubtful canned foods offered for sale, the supervision of the manufacture and sale of ice-cream, supervising the premises occupied by milk distributors and the inspection of all premises in which foods are manufactured or stored for the purpose of sale.

Milk Supply.

It still remains the responsibility of local authorities to see that all milk, in their respective districts, is distributed in a hygienic manner.

All retailers in the area now deliver milk in stoppered bottles only.

The following number were on the register of licensed dealers at the end of 1956:—

Number licensed to retail	Pasteurised Milk	.....	20
“ “ “	Pasteurised Tuberculin Tested Milk	....	14
“ “ “	Tuberculin Tested Milk		9
“ “ “	Sterilised Milk	.....	49
Number of Supplementary Licences issued			..... 16

Ice-Cream.

There are only three premises within the Council's area where this commodity of food is manufactured for sale, but there are 25 other premises registered as being satisfactory for the storage and sale only of ice-cream.

All premises are visited regularly in order to ascertain that the ice-cream is manufactured, stored and sold under hygienic conditions, and that all utensils are sterilised and kept free from contamination.

It would be erroneous and even fatal to assume that when all the "food premises" in the district have been put in an excellent structural condition, and provided with all the necessary modern facilities, equipment and utensils, we can sit back with a satisfied complacency. There must always remain the necessary and important task of regular routine visits to ensure that all "food handlers" throughout the district make use of the facilities and equipment provided, in such a manner as to maintain a high standard of food hygiene.

INSPECTION OF MEAT

The usual inspection of all carcasses was again maintained during the year, on the principle that the essence of efficient meat inspection, in the matter of ensuring a safe meat supply to the public, is that it should be regular and carried out as a matter of routine.

The return to private slaughtering has considerably reduced the large proportion of time it was necessary to devote to this work during the period of Government control.

The reason is that most of the butchers are buying in carcase meat instead of purchasing the animals and having them slaughtered. All animals slaughtered in the district are inspected before being exposed for sale, and no carcasses or organs are allowed to leave the slaughterhouse without examination.

During the year no evidence of "Cysticercus Bovis" was found to be present in any of the carcasses examined.

The total number of animals slaughtered during the year 1956 was 1,196, and a total of 119 visits were made to the slaughterhouse for this purpose.

The total number of animals slaughtered and inspected is set out below :—

MONTH	Cattle Exclu- ding Cows	Cows.	Calves	Sheep and Lambs	Pigs	Totals
January	2	3	1	31	29	66
February	8	1	—	70	96	175
March	7	2	—	24	83	116
April	1	—	2	5	33	41
May	5	2	—	2	63	72
June	5	2	—	1	43	51
July	12	9	—	2	136	159
August	8	2	—	21	57	88
September	8	—	—	24	28	60
October	5	2	—	22	56	85
November	8	1	—	24	71	104
December	16	4	—	24	135	179
TOTALS	85	28	3	250	830	1,196

The number of animals slaughtered and inspected during the year 1956 is shown herewith.

	Cattle Exclu- ding Cows	Cows	Calves	Sheep and Lambs	Pigs
Number killed if known ...	85	28	3	250	830
Number inspected	85	28	3	250	830
ALL DISEASES EXCEPT TUBERCULOSIS					
Whole carcasses condemned	...	...	...	...	1
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	28	7	...	...	13
Percentage of the number inspected affected with diseases other than Tuberculosis.	32.9%	25%	...	...	1.68%
TUBERCULOSIS					
Whole carcasses condemned	...	...	...	...	...
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	12	2	...	...	8
Percentage of the number inspected affected with Tuberculosis	14.1%	7.14%	...	...	.96%

The amount of meat and offals condemned and destroyed, all of which was surrendered voluntarily, is shown as follows :—

Tuberculosis.

Bovine Heads	3	Pig Heads	7
.. Lungs	8	.. Lungs	1
.. Livers	1		

Other Diseases.

1 Pig Carcase (Lymphatic Leukaemia)	10 stones
Leg of Pork (Traumatism)	1 Stone
Bovine Livers (Cirrhosis)	8
.. Half-Livers (Flukes)	23
.. Livers (Abscesses)	4
.. Head (Actinomycosis)	1
Pig Livers (Cirrhosis)	5
.. Lungs (Pleurisy)	6
.. Livers (Hepatitis)	2

Total weight of home-killed meat and offals condemned on account of Tuberculosis and Other Diseased or Unsound Conditions :—

Pork	11 Stones	Pork Offals	10 Stones
Beef	—	Beef Offals	34 Stones
	<hr/>		<hr/>
	11 Stones		44 Stones
	<hr/>		<hr/>

Total — 55 Stones.

Inspection of Other Foods.

The following foodstuffs, on inspection, were found to be unfit for human consumption and were voluntarily surrendered and destroyed :—

255 tins	Tomatoes	219 tins	Peas
10 "	Peaches	3 "	Shoulder Ham
106 "	Evaporated Milk	1 "	Chicken Soup
2 "	Steak	5 "	Brisket Beef
5 "	Beans	1 "	Plums
11 "	Tongue	5 "	Fruit Salad
15 "	Pork Luncheon Meat	2 "	Oxtail Soup
15 "	Pork in Juice	1 "	Pork Sausage
4 "	Danish Pork	1 "	Crawfish
7 "	Minced Beef Loaf	42 "	Pears
4 "	Chopped Pork	85 "	Corned Beef
2 "	Beans in Tomato	145 "	Condensed Milk
99 "	Pineapple	30 "	Oranges
1 "	Raspberries	1 "	Loganberries
12 "	Apricots	8 "	Grapefruit
1 "	Jellied Veal	3 "	Strawberries
3 "	Cooked Ham	7 "	Rice Pudding
17 "	Crab	5 "	Baked Beans
1 "	Cream	4 "	Salmon
1 "	Scotch Broth	2 "	Sardines
5 "	Beans & Pork Sausage	5 "	Butter Beans
1 "	Carrots	3 "	Veg. Soup
1 "	Mixed Veg.	3 "	Whole Chicken
2 "	Pigs Tongues	1 "	Tuna Fish
2 "	Pork & Tongue	1 "	Stuffed Pork Roll
2 "	Casserole	2 "	Chicken Fillets
2 "	Cherries	1 "	Blackberries
1 "	Soup	1 "	Canned Mutton
28 lbs.	Lard	30 lbs.	Date
2 tins	Gammon Ham	6 tins	Golden Syrup

The following is a list of foodstuffs which were inspected and rejected as being unfit for human consumption, resulting from water spoilage due to the recent outbreak of fire in the Grocery Department of the

Castletown Branch of the Ryhope and Silksworth
Industrial and Provident Society Limited :—

267 lbs. Tea	4 pkts. Puffed Wheat
2508 „ Sugar	66 „ Breakfast Oats
31 „ Icing	112 „ Weetabix
27½ „ Butter	7 „ Shreddies
9 „ Lard	26 „ Shredded Wheat
9½ „ Margarine	12 „ Farieys Rusks
5 „ Cooking Fat	183 „ Cornilakes
13½ „ Cheese	58 „ Kelloggs Allbran
63 „ Bacon	29 „ Rice Crispies
17 „ Shoulder Ham	697 „ Cereal
4 „ Ham	3 „ Energen Rolls
5½ „ Corned Beef	319 „ Flour
11 „ Tongue	22 „ Cocoanut
11½ „ Whole Almonds	5 „ Farinoca
21 „ Ground Almonds	3 „ Instant Whip
13 „ Glace Cherries	58 „ Master Mix
5 „ Rice	9 „ Cornflour
8 „ Sultanas	15 „ Creamola
60 „ Raisins	5 „ Ground Cinnamon
56 „ Butter Beans	25 „ Currants
13 „ Split Peas	53 „ Cake Mixture
64 „ Apples	4 „ Salt
39 „ Tomatoes	36 „ Table Jellies
½ „ Mushrooms	64 „ Lemon Pie Filling
12 „ Lemons	1 jar Marmalade
6 „ Pomegranates	1 „ Jam
72 „ Oranges	8 „ Lemon Curd
5 „ Fig Bars	2 tins Mulligatawny Soup
2 heads Celery	71 Harlequin Xmas Puddings
72½ lbs. Biscuits	11 Xmas Stockings
63 Yo-Yo Biscuits	152 Chocolate Wafers
59 Westons Waggon Wheels	213 Marshmallows
44 pkts. Cadbury's Choc. Biscuits	85 Cocoanut Snowballs
26 pkts. Assorted Biscuits	37 Small Cakes
40 Buns	12 Pies
10 Pasties	15 Sausage Rolls
5 Teacakes	6 Tarts
6756 American Teacakes	28 Loaves Bread
51 Angel Sponge Cakes	4 Cherry Fruit Cakes
3 Russian Cakes	2 Battenburgs
3 Date & Walnut Cakes	1 Chelsea Bun
103 Xmas Rock	77 pkts. Munchy Peanuts
184 2-oz. Slabs Chocolate	58 Slabs Chocolate (¼ lb.)
177 bars Chocolate (1d.)	71 Bars Chocolate (3d.)
33 Selection Boxes	44 boxes Pastilles
48 boxes Chocolates (½ lb.)	34 boxes Chocolates (¼ lb.)
28 pkts. Cadbury's Roses	4 lbs. Rum Truffles
12 tubes „ Choc. Drops	1 pkt. Bournville Naps
45 Lime Mallow Delight	18 slabs Laurel Toffee
11 Fruit Dishes (Sweets)	3 pkts. Sweets
10 Swiss Rolls	10 pkts. Nut Assortment

Offensive Trades.

The only offensive trade carried on in the area is that of tripe boiling.

The premises upon which this trade is performed are under the control of the Ryhope & Silksworth Industrial and Provident Society Ltd., and are attached to their slaughterhouse.

The regular inspection of the premises has been maintained during the year, involving 16 visits.

I remain,

Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

MATTHEW B. H. CHURCHILL,

Chief Public Health Inspector.

