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WALTON-LE-DALE URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL

REPORT

OF THE

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

and of the

CHIEF PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR

for the Year ending 31st December, 1956

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for the

Year ending 31st December, 1956

Frank Coupe & Co. Ltd., Walton-le-Dale.

WALTON-LE DALE URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL

1956

PUBLIC HEALTH & GENERAL PURPOSES COMMITTEE

Chairman

Councillor W. Morgan

Vice-Chairman

Councillor Mrs. B. Williams (retired May)
Councillor F. A. Cooper (from May)

Members

Councillor J. C. Airey
Councillor Mrs. J. Eccles (from May)
Councillor T. Hewlett
Councillor Mrs. E. E. Hewlett
Councillor Averell Kidd
Councillor W. McLaughlin
Councillor J. Miller
Councillor Mrs. M. P. M. Parker, J.P.
Councillor R. Prescott (retired May)
Councillor A. Sharples
Councillor F. S. Simpson (retired May)
Councillor J. Spencer
Councillor R. Wignall (from May)
Councillor Rev. A. Williams (from May)

PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT STAFF

Medical Officer of Health: Dr. J. Walker, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H., L.D.S., D.P.D.

Other Appointments: Divisional Medical Officer of Health, Lancs. C.C. No. 4 Division;
and Medical Officer of Health to the Borough of Chorley, the Urban Districts
of Adlington, Longridge, Withnell, Fulwood and Leyland and the Rural Districts
of Preston and Chorley.

Chief Public Health Inspector

and Cleansing Superintendent: G. N. Corbishley, M.R.S.H., M.A.P.H.I.

Additional Public Health Inspectors: J. R. Williams, M.R.S.H., M.A.P.H.I.
F. Burgin, Cs. R.S.H.

PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT,
COUNCIL OFFICES,
BAMBER BRIDGE

REPORT OF THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

For the Year ending 31st December, 1956

To the Chairman and Members of the Council of the Urban District of Walton-le-Dale

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have pleasure in presenting the Annual Report on the health and sanitary circumstances of the Urban District of Walton-le-Dale for the year ended 31st December, 1956.

The report follows similar lines to those of previous years, giving facts and figures on Vital Statistics and a broad picture of environmental conditions during the past twelve months.

In connection with Vital Statistics there is an increased Birth Rate accompanied by a smaller increase in the Death Rate, the total number of births is 241 against 221 and the total number of deaths 188 against 172.

Six infants died before reaching one year of age as compared with five the previous year.

The Infantile Mortality Rate of 25 is slightly higher than the figure of 23.8 for England and Wales.

There was, unfortunately, one death attributable to child birth—the first since 1949.

It is pleasing to be able to report that no deaths attributable to tuberculosis occurred during the year. This is the first occasion in which no deaths from this cause have been recorded. Deaths from cancer show a considerable increase—34 against 24.

There was a marked increase in the number of notifications of infectious diseases, 503 as compared with 115. The increase was mainly due to an outbreak of measles.

The estimated population of the Urban District continues to rise, the figure of 15,780 (mid 1956) is an increase of 420 over 1955.

Matters relating to the sanitary circumstances of the District are dealt with in the Report. Much attention during the year was devoted to the implementation of the Food Hygiene Regulations, with encouraging results. The sanitary arrangements and washing facilities in several of the Schools in the District are far from satisfactory. Under such conditions hygienic habits cannot be developed and enteric infections can readily spread.

I am very grateful to the officials who as in past years have appended their reports. In conclusion I wish to express my sincere thanks to the Chairman and Members of the Council for their support and encouragement. My thanks are also due to the Officers of the Council for their ready co-operation whenever required.

I have the honour to be

Your obedient servant,

J. WALKER,

Medical Officer of Health.

Physical Characteristics of the Area

The shape of the district is roughly that of a quadrangle with the longer sides from East to West of $4\frac{1}{2}$ miles and the shorter North to South of 3 miles. There is a pronounced slope in the area from South East to North West, falling from 300 feet above sea level to 20 feet above mean sea level.

Part of the northern boundary of the district is formed by the River Ribble for a distance of some two miles, and it is tidal in almost all that stretch. The River Darwen flows through a valley in the northern part of the area and joins the Ribble towards the north western boundary of the district.

Each of these rivers has given rise to extensive flooding in the lower lying parts of the district in times of heavy rains. The risk of flooding is accentuated by a West wind with a high tide level.

Geologically the area is based on Triassic Sandstone upon which are placed a layer of lower boulder clay, a layer of drift sand and finally a layer of upper boulder clay. The rock base forms an inclined plane which dips downwards from the East towards the sea. Outcrops of this rock are found in the beds of the rivers Ribble and Darwen. In the boulder clay layers stones of varying sizes are found. Most of these are of Lakeland origin brought down by the movement of ice or by its melting. In the Drift Sand layer there are deposits of gravel. Usually the layers of Glacial Drift fill the valleys, the hill tops being free of drift.

The thickness of the layers varies considerably in different parts of the district, and the three layers may reach 100 feet, but in most parts of the district the Upper Boulder layer approximates 10 feet, the Drift Sand 9 feet and the Lower Boulder layer from 2 feet upwards.

The two rivers form a flat tongue of land near their junction and the alluvial deposits provide a rich soil which is utilised for market gardening. This land has, unfortunately, been flooded on many occasions to the great detriment of the stock in the gardens.

Meteorological Conditions in 1956

The information contained in this section of my report has been provided, as in previous years, by Dr. V. Barocas of the Jeremiah Horrocks Observatory by permission of Mr. W. R. Tuson, Chief Education Officer, Preston, and the table of Sunshine hours by the Meteorological Station at Esprick.

Weather Summary

| Month | Rainfall Inches | No. of Rain Days | Sunshine Hours | Prevailing Wind Days |
|------------------|--------------------|---------------------|-------------------|----------------------------|
| January | 4.17 | 26 | 50.5 | S.W. 5.8, S. 4.7, S.E. 4.6 |
| February | 0.46 | 13 | 46.5 | E. 4.6, W. 4.3, S.W. 4.1 |
| March | 1.23 | 12 | 144.1 | E. 5.6, W. 4.9 |
| April | 1.69 | 14 | 177.3 | E. 5.3, N.W. 5.2, W. 4.7 |
| May | 2.00 | 16 | 230.3 | E. 6.3, N.W. 4.6, W. 4.5 |
| June | 1.73 | 18 | 192.1 | W. 6.2, N.W. 6.1, S.W. 4.9 |
| July | 4.63 | 19 | 158.8 | W. 8.0, N.W. 6.4, S.W. 5.8 |
| August | 12.39 | 24 | 154.9 | W. 7.2, S.W. 6.0, N.W. 5.2 |
| September | 3.56 | 17 | 114.2 | S.W. 5.5, W. 5.3, N.W. 4.7 |
| October | 2.84 | 15 | 129.3 | S.W. 5.4, W. 4.7, N.W. 3.8 |
| November | 1.74 | 12 | 5.75 | S.W. 5.5, S. 4.4, E. 4.3 |
| December | 3.70 | 28 | 14.6 | S. 5.5, S.W. 5.7, S.E. 4.4 |

In the year 1956, Preston had a dry Spring and a very wet and cool Summer. It has been an unusually thundery year which resulted in rather localised heavy rain. Indeed, reports from stations very near to Preston, show a considerable difference on the total rainfall for the month of August. The rainfall measured at our station during this month, was 12.39 inches. This was the highest total

ever recorded in Preston for any one month since records started in 1876. As the average rainfall for the month of August in Preston is 4.11 inches it means that in the year 1956 we had three times the average for that month. In spite of this wet month, the total for the year, 40.14 inches was not very high being only 2.62 inches higher than average. This was due to the fact that seven months of the year had a rainfall which was well below average.

Winter and Spring were dry, while Summer was very wet. The rainfall for the Spring was 13.5% of the total rain for the year, while the Summer months contributed 51.3% of the total rainfall. Indeed, the Summer was the wettest ever recorded and even wetter than the one in 1954 when the rainfall was 17.84 inches, representing 33% of the total rainfall for that year.

In 1956 no droughts or dry spells were recorded in Preston. Two rain spells occurred from January 17th to January 31st and from December 3rd to December 18th. The number of rain-days was 214, an increase of 17 days on the average for the year. Only on 37 days was the ground flooded as compared with 30 days in the dry year of 1955, and with 132 days in 1954.

The driest month of the year was February. The total rainfall, 0.46 inch, was 2.0 inches less than average. February 1956 was the driest February since 1934.

The wettest day of the year was August 1st, when 1.26 inches of rain fell.

The average temperature of the year was 0.9°F. below average. The months of June, July and August were colder than average. The temperature for August, for instance, was 4.6°F lower than the average temperature for this month. On the other hand, the months of March, September and December were warmer than average.

February was once more the coldest month of the year and was 6.6°F colder than average. For three days, on February 1st, 2nd and 23rd, the maximum temperature was below freezing, and the lowest maximum temperature recorded during the month was 27.8°F. The lowest minimum temperature of the year, 14.2°F., was recorded on February 2nd.

July, as usual, was the warmest month of the year, although in 1956 it was 1.1°F cooler than average. The highest maximum temperature of the year, 74.8°F. was, however, reached on June 11th.

Ground frost occurred on 99 nights as compared with 114 nights in 1955. The lowest ground temperature recorded was 8.1°F. on February 2nd. Air frost was recorded on 61 days as against 88 days in 1955.

Winds were stronger than last year and we had 11 gales as compared with three in 1955. No serious damage was, however, reported in the town.

The barometric pressure during the year was generally high.

Social Conditions and Amenities of the Area

The main portions of the district are closely associated with industry, but part is entirely residential. The chief industries are cotton manufacture, especially weaving, engineering, corn milling, market gardening and dairy farming.

There are thirteen churches in the area, a number have attached Sunday Schools covering the various aspects of religion. Many church halls are associated with these churches where in the winter months, social functions are held.

The clubs in the district are political, religious and non-sectarian; some are connected with sport. Games such as billiards, snooker, darts, dominoes, etc., are played in the clubs. Additionally, a tennis club, a table tennis club, and a cricket club are sited in the district.

The district is fortunate in having a number of playing fields, some of which are owned and controlled by the Local Authority and others by the sports organisations from churches and clubs. Good use is made of these, for the usual seasonal sports. Some of the playing fields are now equipped with a children's play section.

The local Archeological Society has made excavations, particularly in the area close to the junction of the Rivers Darwen and Ribble, where it is considered that there was, in the period of Roman occupation, a landing place for Roman shipping. The existence of a fort is suspected, its boundaries have not been fully traced. Many interesting relics, pottery, metals, portions of urns, etc., have been found there and are now displayed in the Council Offices and also in the Library in Station Road.

Owing to difficulties of having sites for "digs" made available on the highly productive market gardens, preliminary work has been done in searching for the roads leading to the camp site.

There are four branches of the County Council Library sited in different parts of the area.

Statistics

| | | | | | | | | |
|---|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|----------|
| Area in Acres | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 4,761 |
| Population (census 1951) | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 14,610 |
| Registrar General's estimate of population (mid 1956) | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 15,780 |
| Number of inhabited houses (census 1951) | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 3,314 |
| Number of inhabited houses (Rate Book 1955) | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 5,190 |
| Rateable Value | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | £138,717 |
| Sum represented by a penny rate | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | £570 |

Vital Statistics

| <i>Births</i> | | | | | | | Male | Female | Total |
|---|--|--|--|--|--|--|-------|---------|-------|
| Live Births—Legitimate | | | | | | | 129 | 106 | 235 |
| Illegitimate | | | | | | | 4 | 2 | 6 |
| | | | | | | | 133 | 108 | 241 |
| Still Births— Legitimate | | | | | | | 3 | 5 | 8 |
| Illegitimate | | | | | | | — | — | — |
| | | | | | | | 3 | 5 | 8 |
| Birth Rate per 1,000 Estimated Population (mid 1956) crude | | | | | | | ... | ... | 15.3 |
| Birth Rate per 1,000 Estimated Population (mid 1956) adjusted | | | | | | | ... | ... | 15.9 |
| Registrar General's comparability factor for births | | | | | | | ... | ... | 1.04 |
| <i>Deaths</i> | | | | | | | Male | Female | Total |
| Neo-natal (Infants under 4 weeks of age) | | | | | | | | | |
| Legitimate | | | | | | | 1 | 3 | 4 |
| Illegitimate | | | | | | | — | — | — |
| | | | | | | | 1 | 3 | 4 |
| Infantile Mortality (Infants under 1 year of age) | | | | | | | | | |
| Legitimate | | | | | | | 3 | 3 | 6 |
| Illegitimate | | | | | | | — | — | — |
| | | | | | | | 3 | 3 | 6 |
| | | | | | | | Males | Females | Total |
| Total Deaths | | | | | | | 107 | 81 | 188 |
| Death Rate per 1,000 estimated population (mid 1956) Crude | | | | | | | ... | ... | 11.9 |
| Death Rate per 1,000 estimated population (mid 1956) Adjusted | | | | | | | ... | ... | 13.6 |
| Registrar General's comparability factor for Deaths | | | | | | | ... | ... | 1.15 |
| <i>Mortality Rates</i> | | | | | | | | | |
| Neonatal per 1,000 live births | | | | | | | ... | ... | 17 |
| Infantile per 1,000 live birth | | | | | | | ... | ... | 25 |
| Maternal per 1,000 total births | | | | | | | ... | ... | 4.02 |
| Cancer per 1,000 population | | | | | | | ... | ... | 2.09 |
| Pulmonary Tuberculosis per 1,000 population | | | | | | | ... | ... | nil |

Comparative Table

| | Birth Rate | Crude Death Rate | Per 1,000 of Population Death Rate from Pulmonary Tuberculosis | Death Rate from Cancer | Maternal Mortality Rate Per 1,000 Live and Still Births | Infantile Mortality Rate |
|--|------------|------------------|--|------------------------|---|--------------------------|
| <i>Walton-le-Dale</i> | | | | | | |
| Mean of 5 years 1950-54 | 15.18 | 11.99 | 0.16 | 1.88 | Nil | 22.8 |
| Year 1955 ... | 14.4 | 11.2 | 0.06 | 1.63 | Nil | 23 |
| Year 1956 ... | 15.3 | 11.9 | Nil | 2.09 | 4.02 | 25 |
| Increase or decrease in 1956 compared to:— | | | | | | |
| A. 5 year average ... | + 0.12 | — 0.09 | — 0.16 | + 0.21 | + 4.02 | + 2.2 |
| B. Previous Year ... | + 0.9 | + 0.7 | — 0.06 | + 0.46 | + 4.02 | + 2.0 |
| County of Lancs. for 1956 | 15.24 | 12.72 | 0.11 | 2.09 | 0.58 | 27 |
| England & Wales for 1956 | 15.7 | 11.7 | 0.11 | 2.08 | 0.56 | 23.8 |

Analysis of Causes of Death, 1956

| | Male | Female | Total |
|--|------|--------|-------|
| Tuberculosis, Respiratory ... | — | — | — |
| Non Pulmonary Tuberculosis ... | — | — | — |
| Syphilitic Disease ... | — | — | — |
| Meningococcal Infection ... | — | — | — |
| Influenza ... | — | — | — |
| Other Infective and Parasitic infections ... | 1 | 1 | 2 |
| Malignant Neoplasms (all sites) ... | 22 | 12 | 34 |
| Leukaemia ... | 1 | 1 | 2 |
| Diabetes ... | 1 | 2 | 3 |
| Poliomyelitis ... | — | — | — |
| Vascular lesions of Nervous System ... | 15 | 12 | 27 |
| Angina ... | 26 | 9 | 35 |
| Hypertension with Heart Disease ... | 2 | 1 | 3 |
| Other heart disease ... | 12 | 16 | 28 |
| Other Circulatory Diseases ... | 4 | 3 | 7 |
| Pneumonia ... | 5 | 2 | 7 |
| Bronchitis ... | 7 | 7 | 14 |
| Other Respiratory Disease ... | — | — | — |
| Stomach Ulcers ... | 1 | 1 | 2 |
| Gastritis and Enteritis ... | — | 1 | 1 |
| Nephritis and Nephrosis ... | 1 | — | 1 |
| Hyperplasia of Prostate ... | 1 | — | 1 |
| Congenital Malformations ... | 1 | 1 | 1 |
| Other ill-defined Diseases ... | 6 | 9 | 15 |
| Childbirth ... | — | 1 | 1 |
| Accidents ... | 1 | 2 | 3 |
| Suicide ... | 1 | 1 | 2 |

The table given below shows some interesting figures of comparison over the last 60 years.

Table of Six Decades

| Period | Per 1,000 Population | | | Enteric Fever | | Diphtheria | | Scarlet Fever | | Deaths from Diarrhoea | Infantile Mortality Rate |
|---------------|----------------------|------------|---------------------|---------------|--------|------------|--------|---------------|--------|-----------------------|--------------------------|
| | Birth Rate | Death Rate | Phthisis Death Rate | Cases | Deaths | Cases | Deaths | Cases | Deaths | | |
| Ten Years | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 1891-1900 ... | 30.8 | 18.9 | 1.25 | 133 | 27 | 46 | 16 | 211 | 15 | 122 | 188 |
| 1901-1910 ... | 26.3 | 14.7 | 0.95 | 116 | 21 | 98 | 15 | 291 | 16 | 58 | 128 |
| 1911-1920 ... | 18.7 | 13.7 | 0.91 | 54 | 5 | 166 | 16 | 565 | 11 | 46 | 107 |
| 1921-1930 ... | 16.0 | 12.0 | 0.72 | 7 | 0 | 66 | 5 | 310 | 0 | 11 | 64 |
| 1931-1940 ... | 14.0 | 12.7 | 0.44 | 5 | 2 | 47 | 3 | 414 | 0 | 5 | 56 |
| 1941-1950 ... | 16.5 | 12.28 | 0.33 | 0 | 0 | 27 | 1 | 280 | 0 | 6 | 42 |

BIRTHS. From the fore-going tables it will be seen that the number of live births attributed to the District during 1956 was 241 or 20 more than in the previous year.

This gives a birth rate of 15.3 per 1,000 estimated population. Last year the rate was 14.4. The adjusted birth rate using the comparability factor supplied by the Registrar-General is 15.9. The live birth rate for England and Wales for the year 1956 was 15.7.

DEATHS. The number of deaths actually belonging to the District for the year 1956 numbered 188 or 16 more than for the previous year. The death rate for the district calculated on the estimated population of 15,780 is 11.7 per 1,000.

The Registrar General has supplied a comparability factor for adjusting local death rates. This factor takes into account the varying population constitution including sex and age distribution, to make every district comparable from the mortality point of view, with the crude death-rate of the country as a whole, or with similar adjusted death-rates for other areas. The adjusted death-rate using the comparability factor is 13.6 per 1,000 as against the previous year's adjusted figure of 11.9. The death rate for the whole of England and Wales in 1956 was 11.7.

Causes of Death

HEART DISEASE. The number of deaths from heart disease increased by 13 from 53 in 1955 to 66 in 1956.

VASCULAR LESIONS OF THE NERVOUS SYSTEM. Deaths from this cause increased from 22 to 27.

CANCER. A marked over-all increase is to be noted. Males from 8 in 1955 to 22 in 1956. Female deaths decreased from 16 to 12. On analysis the crude deaths show that the increase is due to ill-defined malignant neo-plasms.

Deaths from Cancer of the lung numbered 7 in 1956 as compared with 5 in 1955.

BROCHITIS AND PNEUMONIA. The number of deaths from this disease were similar to last year.

TUBERCULOSIS. It is pleasing to be able to report that no deaths from any form of Tuberculosis occurred during the year. This is the first occasion on which a nil return is recorded.

INFANTILE MORTALITY. The deaths of infants under one year of age numbered 6 as compared with 5 in the previous year. The mortality rate calculated per 1,000 live births was 25 as compared with a rate of 23 in 1955. The infant death-rate per the whole of England and Wales for 1956 was 23.8.

NEO-NATAL MORTALITY—(deaths of infants under 4 weeks of age). Of the 6 deaths of infants 4 died before the end of 4 weeks. The following table gives the causes of the infantile and neo-natal deaths.

| <i>Infantile Deaths</i> | | | | <i>Neo-Natal Deaths</i> | | | |
|--------------------------|-----|---|--|-------------------------|-----|-----|---|
| Congenital Heart Disease | ... | 1 | | Prematurity | ... | ... | 3 |
| Toxic Myocarditis | ... | 1 | | Asphyxia | ... | ... | 1 |

MATERNAL MORTALITY. Maternal Mortality has increased for the year under review from nil to 4.02 but in absolute figures this represents 1 death due to childbirth. It is the first death since 1949 from 1,635 total births.

STILL BIRTHS. The rate for England and Wales is 23 and for Walton-le-Dale 32.

For Maternity cases accommodation was available in maternity blocks or beds at Preston Royal Infirmary, Chorley Hospital and Eaves Lane, Chorley.

ST. JOSEPH'S HOSPITAL, MOUNT STREET, PRESTON is outside the scheme of the National Health service. It provides beds for Medical, Surgical, Maternity and Special cases. It is fully equipped with X-ray and other diagnostic equipment.

The Prevalence and Control of Infectious Diseases

The hospital to which patients were admitted was:—

Deepdale Infectious Diseases Hospital, Preston.

The table below gives details of notifications for the year under review.

Notifiable Diseases

| Notifiable Diseases | Total cases at all ages | Under 15 years | | | | | | | | | | 65 years and over | | Total known deaths |
|------------------------------|-------------------------|----------------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|------------|-----------|----------|-------------------|-------------------|-------------------|----------|--------------------|
| | | 1 year | 1 year | 2 years | 3 years | 4 years | 5 years | 10 years | 15 years | 25 years and over | 45 years and over | 65 years and over | age un- | |
| Scarlet Fever ... | 37 | — | — | 2 | 2 | 2 | 20 | 8 | 2 | 1 | — | — | — | — |
| Whooping Cough ... | 61 | 5 | 5 | 6 | 4 | 9 | 29 | 3 | — | — | — | — | — | — |
| Measles ... | 358 | 9 | 20 | 39 | 33 | 53 | 196 | 4 | 2 | 1 | — | — | 1 | — |
| Dysentery ... | 35 | — | — | 3 | 2 | 5 | 16 | — | 1 | 8 | — | — | — | — |
| Meningococcal Infection ... | 2 | 1 | 1 | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — |
| Acute Pneumonia ... | 2 | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | 2 | — | — | 2 |
| Erysipelas ... | 1 | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | 1 | — | — | — |
| Tuberculosis Respiratory ... | 6 | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | 3 | 3 | — | — | — | — |
| Other ... | 1 | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | 1 | — | — | — | — | — |
| TOTALS ... | 503 | 15 | 26 | 50 | 41 | 69 | 261 | 15 | 9 | 13 | 3 | 0 | 1 | 2 |

The total of 503 notifications in 1956 compares with 115 in 1955. The main increase was due to an outbreak of measles towards the end of the year—358 cases as compared with 69 the previous year. Scarlet Fever notifications (37) compare with the figure of 20 for 1955.

The 35 cases of Dysentery notified were due to an outbreak of "Sonne" type affecting mostly the Lostock Hall area.

There were again no cases of diphtheria or poliomyelitis notified during the year.

GENERAL PROVISIONS OF HEALTH SERVICES IN THE AREA

Certifying Factory Surgeon ... Dr. Logan, Leven House, Bamber Bridge.

County Council Services in the Area

One midwife was employed wholtime in the district.

Mrs. Dobbie, Chorley Road, Bamber Bridge. Telephone: 85280.

Ambulance Service

One ambulance and one sitting case car are at present sited in an ambulance station in the Council yard. The vehicles cover an area of the Urban District and portions of surrounding districts.

Domiciliary Nursing Service

Three nurses were employed in this district in 1956. They carried out the important duties of nursing in the homes of the patients.

Ante-Natal Clinic

Meetings were held fortnightly at the School Clinic, Brindle Road. A specialist (Mr. Robson) from Preston Royal Infirmary attended at each meeting in addition to the County Health Visitors and local Midwives.

Routine inspections and examinations were made and patients were advised or given minor treatment where necessary. Any further treatment necessitated transference to Preston Royal Infirmary or Sharoe Green Maternity Hospital. The majority of the babies were born in hospital.

Post natally, mothers also attended for advice or treatment.

Dental Treatment was given by the School Dentist.

Child Welfare Centres

There are three in the district, one at the School Clinic, Brindle Road, one at the Methodist Sunday School at Lostock Hall, and one at Gregson Lane. The Brindle Road Child Welfare Centre met weekly on Thursday afternoons, the Lostock Hall Child Welfare Centre fortnightly on Monday afternoons, and the Gregson Lane Child Welfare Centre the first and third Monday in the month, during the afternoon.

Home Help Service

Home Helps are employed in Walton-le-Dale and district, and help a variety of cases including confinements, sickness, old age and infirmity, and Tuberculosis cases. Night helps are also employed where needed.

School Medical Service

Medical and hygiene inspections are carried out at the School Clinic, Brindle Road, Bamber Bridge. Clinic sessions are held for a variety of treatments including minor ailments, dental care and ophthalmic conditions. The County Council make special provisions for residential schooling for various categories of handicapped children such as the blind, partially sighted, deaf and dumb, epileptics, delicate and backward.

Convalescent Care

In suitable cases arrangements are made for the admission of patients to convalescent homes.

Welfare Service

Residential homes are provided to accommodate elderly and infirm persons who have no longer anyone to adequately care for them. Handicapped persons are also assisted.

Hospitals

The hospitals administered by the Preston and District Hospitals Management Committee were available for patients from this district. They were:—

- (1) Preston Royal Infirmary.
- (2) Sharoe Green Hospital.
- (3) Chorley Hospital.
- (4) Eaves Lane Hospital, Chorley.

There were annexes, belonging to this group of hospitals for Continuation, Convalescent, or Specialised treatment. One of these—Lostock Hall Convalescent Home—is situated in this district.

All the hospitals were extensively used, for out-patient as well as in-patient treatment, by persons from this area, though the extent of this use was not known, as figures of attendances or lists of diseases were not available nor supplied by the hospitals. It would, therefore, be impossible to give even an appropriate estimate of the amount of illness or disability for which these hospitals cater.

Sufferers from Malignant Diseases received specialised treatment at the special unit at Preston Royal Infirmary staffed by personnel from the Christie Hospital, Manchester. Radium X-ray, Isotope and operative treatment were available.

Venereal Diseases were treated at a specialised clinic at Preston Royal Infirmary.

Immunisations and Vaccination

| Immunised against Diphtheria only | | Immunised against Diphtheria & Whooping Cough | | Immunised against Diphtheria/Whooping Cough & Tetanus combined | | Immunised against Whooping Cough only | | | | |
|--------------------------------------|-----------------------------|---|-----------------------------|--|-----------------------------|--|-----------------------------|-----|---|---|
| Total under 5 years | Total aged 5-14 years | Total under 5 years | Total aged 5-14 years | Total under 5 years | Total aged 5-14 years | Total under 5 years | Total aged 5-14 years | | | |
| 24 | 22 | ... | 41 | 7 | ... | 143 | — | ... | 6 | — |

Vaccination

| Primary Vaccinations performed | | | | | Re-vaccinations |
|--------------------------------|----|----|-----|-------|-----------------|
| Age in years | | | | | |
| Under 1 | 1— | 5— | 15— | Total | Total |
| 102 | 7 | 7 | 10 | 126 | 27 |

Tuberculosis

The County Council supply the dispensaries and the Health Visitor Staff, whilst the Regional Hospital Board supply the Medical staff. The Dispensary for this area was at Walton's Parade, Preston.

Inspections, examinations, X-ray, light treatment, and general medical treatment were given at this dispensary.

The individual cards used in this district for the last few years were continued and proved most useful.

On the register at the end of the year were 56 cases of Pulmonary Tuberculosis and 32 cases of Non-pulmonary Tuberculosis compared with 50 and 32 respectively in 1955.

Notified during the year were 9 cases of Respiratory Tuberculosis and 1 of the Non-Respiratory types.

Milk and Milk Production

During the year the district was declared a "specified area" which means that only Tuberculin Tested, Pasteurised and Sterilised milks may be sold. This will ensure a tubercle free consumers' milk. As a result there have been a decrease of producer/retailers and an increase of purveyors obtaining supplies from Milk Marketing Board.

The Group Pathologist, Preston Royal Infirmary (Dr. A. A. Miller) examined all the milk samples submitted. 82 samples of raw milk were submitted and of these 24 were unsatisfactory for keeping qualities and 20 were contaminated by B. Coli. In addition 38 heat treated milks were examined, 3 of which had been insufficiently treated.

Milk in Schools Scheme

All the schools in the area received supplies of milk on each day the schools were open. All the milk supplied was heat treated. Samples of the milk submitted to test proved to be free from Tubercle Bacilli.

Tuberculosis Order, 1938

All samples of raw milk submitted to the Group Pathologist, Preston Royal Infirmary were examined for B. Tuberculosis, these samples, 82 in number all gave negative results.

No action was necessary under the Milk & Dairies Regulations, 1949.

Ice Cream

The standard of purity of this commodity is still very satisfactory. This is accounted for by the predominant number of retailers who obtain their ice cream from large wholesalers whose product is delivered in hygienic wrappings and sold to the public without coming in contact with any contaminant. All the 10 samples of ice cream were Grade I and of the 7 ice lollies submitted for bacteriological examination all were satisfactory except one, this was Grade II. There are 39 retailers and 2 producer retailers in the district.

Food & Drugs Act 1938-54

The County Council is the Food and Drug authority in this area. Samples were taken by the County Sampling Officer Mr. A. Kewley, assisted by Mr. Williams.

The County Medical Officer of Health has supplied the following figures:—

A total of 109 samples was obtained, consisting of 68 samples of milk and 41 samples other than milk, comprising:—

| | |
|-------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| 3 Flour | 1 Tea |
| 2 Condensed milk (skimmed) | 2 Ice cream |
| 1 Orange | 1 Travel sickness tablets |
| 3 Apples | 1 White pepper |
| 2 Jam | 1 Mixed, ground spice |
| 2 Coffee | 1 Ground ginger |
| 2 Castor oil | 1 Pork sausages |
| 1 Ammoniated mercury ointment | 2 Lard |
| 2 Flour confectionery | 2 Blancmange powder |
| 1 Beef sausages | 3 Condensed milk (full cream) |
| 1 Syrup | 1 Cornflour |
| 4 Table jellies | |

The samples were submitted for analysis to the County Analyst, who reports that, with the exception of the following, all proved genuine:—

| <i>Sample No.</i> | <i>Type</i> | <i>Result of Analysis</i> | <i>Action taken</i> |
|-------------------|-------------|---|--|
| N.4957 | Apples | Contained 4.5 parts per million lead and 1.2 parts per million arsenic. | Importers, Port Health Authority and Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food notified. |
| N.4993 | Apples | Contained 5.6 parts per million lead and 1.4 parts per million arsenic. | Vendor notified. |
| N.5309 | Milk | Deficient 6.6% fat, low in solids-not-fat. | Vendor notified. |
| N.5359 | Milk | Deficient 1.6% fat. | Vendor notified. |

Housing and Housing Conditions

The number of new dwellings erected in the district in 1956 was 188, 6 houses and 52 flats by the Council and 130 by other bodies or persons.

The number of applicants on the housing list was approximately 200, a decrease on that of the previous year.

In hand at the end of the year were 46 houses, 8 bungalows, and 24 flats, and in contemplation 6 houses.

Of the 200 housing applicants 33 reside out of the district. An analysis of the remaining 167 shows that 74 lack separate homes and that 13 are overcrowded.

SCHOOLS REPORT

Arising out of the presentation of my Annual Report for 1955 the Council considered the unsatisfactory condition of the Schools and recommended that a joint report be prepared by myself and the Chief Public Health Inspector for presentation to the Committee.

This report, a copy of which is set out below, has been fully discussed in the Council and as a result the Divisional Executive Committee have taken steps to deal with most of the unsatisfactory conditions referred to.

A careful survey has been carried out of all the 12 schools in the district with the object of ascertaining the existing sanitary conditions. The Headmaster or Headmistress of each school has been seen and there has been a detailed inspection of the present facilities.

Looking at the picture as a whole these facilities are only fair.

In three schools the accommodation has been brought up to a reasonable standard, at one other improvements are contemplated some time in the future. In two other cases work is to be commenced during the next 12 months on the provision of sanitary blocks and classrooms.

The worst school in the district is St. Aidan's. Insufficient and unsatisfactory sanitary and washing facilities exist.

St. Patrick's, Walton-le-Dale, and Bamber Bridge Methodist schools have recently had new sanitary blocks completed. These are satisfactory with the exception of insufficient washing facilities at each school and lack of sanitary accommodation for the female staff at Bamber Bridge Methodist. This latter item is receiving attention.

St. Saviour's, Bamber Bridge, have recently installed 4 wash-hand basins with hot and cold water laid on.

A table and summary of the present position at each school is appended for the Committee's information.

It will be noted that in most cases there are insufficient sanitary conveniences and hand washing facilities.

It is necessary in order to prevent the spread of infectious disease, particularly a bowel infection, amongst children, that sufficient facilities exist for preventing or reducing the spread and that these facilities are kept in a hygienic condition.

J. WALKER,
Medical Officer of Health

G. N. CORBISHLEY,
Chief Public Health Inspector.

7th January, 1957

REPORT ON SCHOOL INSPECTION, 1956

| | |
|--|--|
| St. Mary's Infants Bamber Bridge | (1) Satisfactory. Accommodation only recently provided. |
| St. Mary's Boys Bamber Bridge | Insufficient sanitary accommodation (4 for 230) trough type only, unsatisfactory. No wash hand basin for staff and only 2 for 250 children, cold water only. New sanitary block to be built to this School 1957. This should provide reasonable standard. |
| St. Mary's Infants Bamber Bridge | (2) Insufficient facilities for hand washing. No hot water. Sanitary conveniences not separate for sexes. |
| St. Mary's Girls Bamber Bridge | Insufficient sanitary accommodation (6 for 180) and wash hand basins (2 for 180). No hot water. Yard paving poor. |
| St. Gerard's Lostock Hall | Insufficient sanitary accommodation (for boys and infant boys 3 for 79). No washing facilities for staff and insufficient for children. No hot water, Structure of sanitary conveniences dilapidated. No proper urinal accommodation. |
| St. Saviour's Bamber Bridge | Satisfactory, recently improved. Alteration required to urinal. |
| St. Patrick's Higher Walton | Satisfactory, recently improved. |
| Bamber Bidge Methodist | Satisfactory, 1 toilet for mixed staff, work of providing additional toilet in hands of County Architect. |
| St. Aidan's Bamber Bridge | No wash hand basins for staff. Children. Insufficient sanitary accommodation (boys 3 for 125) (girls 3 for 115). Insufficient wash hand basins for children. Poor condition of part of yard surface. Conveniences dirty and dilapidated, floor surface cracked and foul. |
| All Saints' Higher Walton | Insufficient wash hand basins for staff and children. No hot water. |
| Manybrooks Infants R.C. School Higher Walton | Sanitary accommodation not separate for sexes. No flush to urinal, not screened. Yard surfaces unsatisfactory. Insufficient hand washing facilities. |

| | |
|---------------------------------|---|
| St. Leonard's Walton-le-Dale | Insufficient sanitary accommodation (boys 3 for 133) (girls 5 for 127). No wash hand basin for staff and insufficient for children. Poor yard surface. New sanitary block to be built within 12 months. |
| County School Lostock Hall | Insufficient sanitary accommodation for children (boys 10 for 254) (girls 8 for 264). Insufficient wash hand basins for children. No hot water. |

Atmospheric Pollution

The Clean Air Act is now on the statute book, the object of the Act is to make provision for abating the pollution of the air. Over the past few years there has been within the district a decrease in visible pollution from the industrialists, although the invisible pollution remains. It is anticipated that with the powers and duties contained in the new act an attempt will be made to reduce visible pollution from sources other than industrial.

Fifty-two observations were carried out of industrial chimneys and as a result many visits were made, discussions have been held with a view to improvements and mechanisation. As a result a number of firms are contemplating improvements within the next year or two.

New Legislation

Agriculture (Safety Health and Welfare Provisions) Act, 1956.

Milk Special Designation (Specified Areas) Order, 1956.

Food Hygiene (Amendment) (No. 1) Regulations, 1956.

Food Hygiene (Amendment) (No. 2) Regulations, 1956.

Clean Air Act.

Smoke Control (Authorised Fuels) Order, 1956.

Clean Air Act (appointed day) Order, 1956.

Sanitary Inspectors (Change of Designation) Act, 1956.

Slum Clearance (Compensation) Act, 1956.

Reports Appended

1. Report of the Chief Public Health Inspector.
2. Report of the Engineer and Surveyor
3. Report on Water Supply.

REPORT OF THE CHIEF PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR for the Year 1956

To the Chairman and Members of the Walton-le-Dale Urban District Council

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

It is with pleasure that I submit to you the following Annual Report for 1956.

In preparing a report such as this it is sometimes difficult to decide how much detail of a Public Health Inspector's work should be included. There are so many items which come under the heading of Environmental Health that it would be impossible to include them all. However, all the important aspects of the year's work are given in the following pages.

I would like to comment on three outstanding phases concerning Milk, Food Hygiene, and Meat Inspection.

On April 10th the Milk Special Designations Specified Area Order, 1956 came into operation. In simple language this means that all milk sold retail in this district (which is in a larger area including Preston) shall be either Tuberculin Tested, Tuberculin Tested Pasteurised, Pasteurised or Sterilised. This is a big step forward and should ensure Tubercle free milk being consumed by all.

Food Hygiene has been the "centre of attraction" all through the year. The Public are becoming hygiene conscious and the shopkeepers are endeavouring to see that the public get food displayed, properly protected and sold to them with the minimum of handling. There are some slackers however as figures show in the report.

Meat Inspection was given the same undivided attention as in previous years. The increased kill meant increased inspection of this important food. The food standard of animals is improving and the amount of unsound meat slightly decreasing in some respects.

PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR is the new title now used in place of Sanitary Inspector. It will be many years before the public will come to use the new title fully. Titles or tags like habits die hard.

In concluding my preamble to the report may I once again thank members of the Council for their co-operation and help. To the staff of the Health Department, Mr. J. R. Williams, Mr. F. Burgin and Mrs. A. Barrow, for their unfailing help and attention to all tasks entrusted to them.

I remain,

Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,

G. N. CORBISHLEY.

1. Visits and Inspections made

| | | | | | | | |
|------------------------------|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|
| Factories (specific) ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 18 |
| Rodent Control ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 21 |
| Atmospheric Pollution ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 52 |
| Refuse Collection ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 36 |
| Refuse Disposal ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 117 |
| Shops (specific) ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 143 |
| Tents, Vans, Sheds, etc. ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 24 |
| Miscellaneous ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 364 |

2. Housing

| | |
|---|-----|
| Houses inspected under Public Health and Housing Acts ... | 204 |
| Filthy and verminous premises ... | 26 |

3. Infectious Diseases

| | |
|--|-----|
| Inquiries into cases of Infectious Disease ... | 265 |
|--|-----|

4. Meat and Food Inspections

| | | | | | | | | |
|---------------------------|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|
| Slaughterhouses | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 316 |
| Food Preparing Premises | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 26 |
| Ice Cream | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 2 |
| Milk (Bacteriological) | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 28 |
| Miscellaneous Food Visits | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 38 |

A total of 1,681 premises were visited and 3,041 visits made.

Closet Conversions and Sanitary Accommodation

Work of converting insanitary closets proceeded slowly during the year. Seven Pail and 11 Waste Water Closets were converted. The position at the year end was:—

| | | | | | | | |
|---------------------|-----|-----|-------|---------------|-----|-----|----|
| Water Closets | ... | ... | 5,100 | Pail Closets | ... | ... | 94 |
| Waste Water Closets | ... | ... | 117 | Privy Closets | ... | ... | 2 |

There is a reluctance on the part of Contractors to tender for closet conversions. Whether it is that the work is so fetid or whether it is not sufficiently lucrative I do not know, but only two tenders were received after advertising and it took some six months for the work to be commenced.

There are over 200 pail and waste water closets yet to convert to the fresh water type. Gradually these are being dealt with at the rate of nearly 20 a year. There are, however, a number of pails at farms and other dwellings in the outlying districts where it is impracticable to convert due to the absence, within a reasonable distance, of a sewer.

Improved portable type closets of the Elsan pattern are gradually taking the place of the foul and insanitary pail and "bog".

Notices Served and Defects Remedied

Notices Served

177 Informal
3 Formal

| | | | | | | | |
|-------------------------------------|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|
| Informal Notices complied with | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 138 |
| Formal Notices complied with | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 3 |
| Notices served on Houses | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 110 |
| Notices served on other than houses | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 67 |

Summary of repaired defects

| | | | | | | | |
|---------------------------|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|
| Gutters | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 3 |
| Roofs and rainwater pipes | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 40 |
| Sinks and waste pipes | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 28 |
| Fireplaces repaired | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 2 |
| Floors repaired | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 3 |
| Windows and reveals | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 62 |
| Plasterwork | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 3 |
| W.C.s | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 10 |
| House walls repointed | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 5 |
| Drains repaired or relaid | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 121 |
| Yard walls rebuilt | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 28 |
| Dampness | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 7 |
| Miscellaneous | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 7 |

| | | | | | | | |
|------------------------|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|
| Total defects remedied | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 319 |
|------------------------|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|

Housing

The five year plan for dealing with unfit dwellings was well under way during 1956.

By the end of the year half of the 81 unfit dwellings had been dealt with either by clearance or individual effort.

There were however, a few of the houses repaired by the owners outside the "reasonable expense" figure and these houses now are worthy of being called houses once again.

The problem of re-housing the occupants proceeded smoothly and uneventful. It was not necessary to fumigate any of the tenants' property except in one case and then only as a precaution against suspected fleas.

It is anticipated that the greater majority of the 40 remaining houses will have been dealt with before the end of 1958.

The task of repair and improvement to 900 houses classified as "C" properties was commenced. The owner of 40 houses, having been given a list of repairs necessary to bring the houses up to a standard of fitness, commenced by re-pointing the whole of the houses, making good any defective roofs and renewing on a large scale front and rear window frames. This work is still proceeding with satisfaction.

The Rent Act of 1957 should greatly assist owners of property to bring their houses up to a reasonable standard and it will tend to ease the work of the Public Health Inspector in asking for repairs to be carried out.

Moveable Dwellings

Applications for occupation of moveable dwellings in the district were still received during the year. The number of this type of dwelling, now becoming popular as a permanent home on wheels is causing us some concern as we have no licensed caravan site in this district to which we can direct these applicants. Where an applicant asks to bring a luxury type of caravan in the district and can site it where water supply and sanitation adjoining are satisfactory, then it is difficult for a Council to turn an application down. Constant visits have to be paid to these caravans in order to see the occupants observing cleanliness and hygiene and this does involve an Inspector in a lot of time.

It is anticipated that a suitable site may be licensed within the next 12 months where these caravans can be properly sited and full control undertaken.

Drainage

As in previous years the Department maintained its service to owners and occupiers of property for clearing choked drains when requested. Some 150 visits were made for this purpose which included the clearing of 121 drains. New drainage work also received attention and some 25 new branch drains were inspected and colour tested during the year. An increased number of existing drainage installations to premises were smoke tested with a view to ascertaining any defects existing.

Rodent Control

This service has been considerably developed during the year, there are now two men employed part time on this work, one of whom is only learning the methods of treatment but nevertheless an increasing number of premises have been treated, both business and private dwellings.

There is an increase in the rodent population of the district and it is thought that with the re-organisation of the sewerage system there is additional breeding taking place in those parts of the sewers which do not now become surcharged during periods of heavy rain. Prior to this scheme being commenced there were practically no rats in the sewers based upon the pre-baits at the manhole benchings but a survey carried out towards the end of the year revealed the presence of large numbers of these rodents.

There has been a consequent increase in complaints and it is thought that the mode of entry is by defective private drains. These are gradually being attended to.

Some 84 dwellinghouses were treated and some 38 business premises. A total of 590 visits were made by the operators and in addition the Public Health Inspections number 21.

Clean Air

Certain provisions of the Clean Air Act came into force on December 31st. These give Local Authorities new powers and duties for the prevention of air pollution concerning new furnaces, height of chimneys, smoke control areas, pollution from colliery spoilbanks and the making of building byelaws.

Existing furnaces do not yet come under the new Act but efforts are already being made in this district by industrialists to improve their boiler plants and unofficially comply with the Ringlemen II shade regarding smoke emission in order that they will be all set when the operative provisions of the Act apply. Since the beginning of the year two further plants have been changed to oil firing. A vast improvement in the smoke effluent has been noticed.

The existing central heating boiler at the Council Offices, now coke fired, will be changed to oil firing by the end of next year. This is being installed as an economy measure rather than an effort to improve the atmosphere. There is more visible pollution likely with oil than with coke.

Some smoke observations have been taken and visits made to industrial plants, advice has been freely given.

Smoke Control Areas are likely to be discussed by the Council during 1957.

MEAT AND FOOD

Carcases and offal inspected and condemned in whole or in part

| | Cattle Excluding Cows | | | Cows | | | Calves | | | Sheep & Lambs | | | Pigs | | |
|--|-----------------------------|-----|-----|-------|-----|-----|--------|-----|-----|---------------------|-----|-----|------|-----|-----|
| Number killed (if known) ... | 3,205 | ... | ... | 5,127 | ... | ... | 39 | ... | ... | 4,164 | ... | ... | 797 | ... | ... |
| Number inspected ... | 3,205 | ... | ... | 5,127 | ... | ... | 39 | ... | ... | 4,164 | ... | ... | 797 | ... | ... |
| <i>All diseases except</i> | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| <i>Tuberculosis and Cysticerci</i> | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Whole carcases condemned . | 7 | ... | ... | 27 | ... | ... | 2 | ... | ... | 6 | ... | ... | 4 | ... | ... |
| Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned . | 520 | ... | ... | 2,606 | ... | ... | — | ... | ... | 163 | ... | ... | 57 | ... | ... |
| Percentage of the number inspected affected with disease other than tubercu- losis and cysticerci ... | 16.44 | ... | ... | 51.3 | ... | ... | 2.1 | ... | ... | 4.1 | ... | ... | 7.6 | ... | ... |
| <i>Tuberculosis only:</i> | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Whole carcases condemned . | 6 | ... | ... | 47 | ... | ... | 1 | ... | ... | Nil | ... | ... | 1 | ... | ... |
| Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned . | 181 | ... | ... | 1,581 | ... | ... | 7 | ... | ... | Nil | ... | ... | 34 | ... | ... |
| Percentage of the number inspected affected with tuberculosis ... | 5.83 | ... | ... | 31.7 | ... | ... | 20.2 | ... | ... | Nil | ... | ... | 4.3 | ... | ... |
| <i>Cysticercosis</i> | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned . | 14 | ... | ... | 1 | ... | ... | — | ... | ... | — | ... | ... | — | ... | ... |
| Carcases submitted to treat- ment by refrigeration ... | 14 | ... | ... | 1 | ... | ... | — | ... | ... | — | ... | ... | — | ... | ... |
| Generalised and totally con- demned ... | Nil | ... | ... | Nil | ... | ... | Nil | ... | ... | Nil | ... | ... | Nil | ... | ... |

If the figures in the above table are compared with last year's report a number of interesting facts may be observed.

Total animals slaughtered increased from 10,876 to 13,322, the increase is almost confined to Bovines which increased from 6,022 to 8,332.

The slaughter of clean cattle increased from 543 to 3,205 but cows decreased from 5,479 to 5,127. This reduction in cows slaughtered may be due to the public demanding a better quality joint or a reflection from the large number slaughtered on decontrol reducing the comparative value of clean cattle to cows.

Bovine Tuberculosis, in the year under review decreased slightly in cows but considerably in clean cattle. The comparative figures for clean cattle may be unreliable because of the wide difference in the numbers slaughtered.

Incidence of Cysticercosis varied little, in 1955, 4 cases were found in 6,022 cattle and in 1956, 15 cases from 8,332 cattle. Absolute figures in this case are misleading, most cases of *Cysticercus Bovis* occur in clean cattle, 1955, 2 cases from 543 animals and 1956, 14 cases from 3,205.

Rejections for "other diseases" in Bovines have increased due to the high rate of parasitical liver infection (Distomatosis). In sheep, the incidence of distomatosis has decreased. The apparent contradictions may be due to the relative ages of the animals slaughtered or the type of pasture on which they have been reared.

Milk

During 1956, 120 samples of milk were submitted to the Pathologist, at Preston Royal Infirmary, 82 raw milks and 38 heat treated. Of the 82 raw milks, 63 were Tuberculin Tested and 19 undesignated.

21 raw samples gave unsatisfactory results, 9 of these were produced in the district.

Of the 38 heat treated milks, 3 were insufficiently heat treated.

21 of the pasteurised samples were obtained at the Milk Marketing Board.

Raw Milks

| Samples taken from Producers in the District. | | | | | | | Samples taken from Producers outside the District. | | | | | | |
|---|-----------|--------------|-------|---------|--|----|--|--------------|---|---------|--|--|--|
| Year | No. taken | Satisfactory | | T.B. | | | No. taken | Satisfactory | | T.B. | | | |
| | | No. | % | present | | | No. | No. | % | present | | | |
| 1945 | 37 | 21 | 59.5 | 0 | | 54 | 13 | 25.0 | | 5 | | | |
| 1946 | 45 | 30 | 66.7 | 1 | | 41 | 15 | 36.5 | | 4 | | | |
| 1947 | 61 | 41 | 66.7 | 3 | | 55 | 26 | 47.2 | | 3 | | | |
| 1948 | 95 | 65 | 68.5 | 5 | | 88 | 40 | 45.4 | | 4 | | | |
| 1949 | 100 | 85 | 85.0 | 1 | | 53 | 26 | 49.0 | | 3 | | | |
| 1950 | 70 | 53 | 75.8 | 1 | | 69 | 29 | 39.3 | | 3 | | | |
| 1951 | 69 | 53 | 67.0 | 3 | | 76 | 31 | 40.7 | | 3 | | | |
| 1952 | 64 | 52 | 81.25 | 3 | | 46 | 29 | 63.0 | | 1 | | | |
| 1953 | 64 | 48 | 75.0 | 0 | | 43 | 25 | 58.0 | | 1 | | | |
| 1954 | 24 | 23 | 95.8 | 0 | | 30 | 25 | 83.3 | | 1 | | | |
| 1955 | 44 | 42 | 95.5 | 0 | | 41 | 21 | 51.2 | | 0 | | | |
| 1956 | 40 | 31 | 77.0 | 0 | | 42 | 30 | 71.5 | | 0 | | | |

Pasteurised Milks

| Year | Number Taken | Number Efficiently Heat Treated | % |
|-------|--------------|---------------------------------|------|
| 1945 | 13 | 13 | 100 |
| 1946 | 14 | 14 | 100 |
| 1947 | 12 | 12 | 100 |
| 1948 | 14 | 14 | 100 |
| 1949 | 15 | 15 | 100 |
| 1950 | 21 | 21 | 100 |
| 1951 | 27 | 27 | 100 |
| 1952 | 36 | 34 | 94.5 |
| 1953 | 23 | 21 | 91.3 |
| 1954 | 17 | 17 | 100 |
| 1955 | 12 | 12 | 100 |
| Total | 204 | 200 | 97 |
| 1956 | 38 | 35 | 92.4 |

Tuberculosis in Milk

For the fourth year in succession no positive samples of milk have been reported by the Pathologist, Group Laboratories, Preston Royal Infirmary. It would appear that with the gradual elimination of cows suffering from Bovine Tuberculosis, particularly infection of the udder, and the increase of the Tuberculin Tested herds, the number of positive samples is decreasing to a very low figure.

Ice Cream

The premises producing and retailing Ice Cream were all visited during the year; all these premises are now registered under the Food and Drugs Act; there are 38 retailers, two of which are also producers.

Routine sampling was continued, 17 samples being submitted to bacteriological examination, the results being as follows:—

| | Number | Grade I | Grade II | Grade II | Grade IV |
|-------------------------|-----------|-----------|----------|----------|----------|
| Wrapped Ice Cream | 2 | 2 | — | — | — |
| Loose Ice Cream | 8 | 8 | — | — | — |
| Ice Lollie | 7 | 6 | 1 | — | — |
| | <u>17</u> | <u>16</u> | <u>1</u> | <u>—</u> | <u>—</u> |

Other Foods

An unusual amount of food required examination during the year. The two items marked A and B on the table were special investigations, full details are given.

| Type of Food | | | | Amount Inspected | | Amount rejected |
|-------------------|-----|-----|-----|------------------|-----|-----------------|
| | | | | items | | lbs. |
| A | ... | ... | ... | 6,000 | ... | 4,095 |
| B | ... | ... | ... | 270 | ... | 174 |
| Tinned Meat | ... | ... | ... | 111 | ... | 814 |
| Tinned Vegetables | ... | ... | ... | 15 | ... | 15 |
| Processed Meat | ... | ... | ... | 7 | ... | 203 |
| Carcase Meat | ... | ... | ... | 3 | ... | 201 |
| Tinned Milk | ... | ... | ... | 52 | ... | 39 |
| | | | | <u>6,458</u> | ... | <u>5,541</u> |

Item A. On a routine visit a food shop was found to be in a most unsatisfactory condition. The whole of the stock was examined and most of it rejected as unfit. Subsequently the shop was closed. Details of the amount rejected are given below.

| Food | lbs. | Food | lbs. |
|-------------------|-------|-----------------------|------|
| Salt ... | 40 | Christmas Pudding ... | 12 |
| Luncheon Meat ... | 16 | Currants ... | 14 |
| No labels ... | 1,241 | Cocoa ... | 3 |
| Chocolate ... | 21 | Tea ... | 11 |
| Jam ... | 98 | Barley ... | 8 |
| Sugar ... | 66 | Shrimp Paste ... | 4½ |
| Soup ... | 535 | Toffee ... | 174 |
| Veg. Soup ... | 90 | Biscuits ... | 400 |
| Steak Pudding ... | 33 | Sauce ... | 65 |
| Baked Beans ... | 50 | Patent Medicine ... | 56 |
| Tinned Fish ... | 56 | Lard ... | 78 |
| Tinned Peas ... | 361 | Margarine ... | 98 |
| Tinned Milk ... | 48 | Cooking Fat ... | 56 |
| Tinned Fruit ... | 356 | Nuts ... | 4 |

- Item B. Consisted of a consignment of evaporated milk held at the Ministry Buffer Depot, Lostock Hall. The stock was being sent to another depot for storage. When received at Lostock Hall it was old stock from a buffer depot.

Food Hygiene

Another piece of legislation in the form of Food Hygiene Regulations added yet another important and onerous duty to the work of the Public Health Inspector. A total of 230 premises are concerned in some way or another with the storage, handling, sale or preparation of food. Some 50 of these premises have been visited and details of these regulations explained to the Manager or occupier. A list of requirements was sent to the occupier for his attention. Of the 11 butchers' shops all but one are complying with the regulations. Some have gone further than the minimum and spent considerable sums on elaborate tiling and decoration; also the provision of window fridges.

Infectious Disease

Cases of Infectious Disease were visited and enquiries made when the notification was sent in within a reasonable time from onset. Delay in notification is particularly evident with Scarlet Fever.

The 35 cases of Sonne Dysentery required a large number of visits for the collection and delivery of specimens to Preston Royal Infirmary.

Disinfection

Houses in which patients suffering from notifiable diseases had been removed to hospital were disinfected as soon as practicable after removal. In cases of Scarlet Fever nursed at home terminal disinfection was carried out.

The summary shows the number of premises and articles dealt with:—

| | | | |
|-----------------------|----|--------------------------|-----|
| Beds fumigated | 48 | Premises fumigated | 28 |
| Books fumigated | 62 | Clothing fumigated | 539 |

A total of 263 visits were paid in connection with notifiable diseases.

Verminous Premises

I am quite satisfied that the standard of cleanliness in this district is high. There are no serious infestations of the more common vermin such as bugs, fleas and cockroaches. We have, during the year, had more indication of cockroach infestations but these are reasonably well controlled by the use of Gammexene Powder, and it is interesting to note that where infestations occur in dwellinghouses we invariably find that solid floors laid on filled up boiler house ash and clinker are the principal centres of infestation. This would appear to be due to the larvae being brought in with the clinkers from factory boiler houses and then hatched under ideal conditions, i.e., warmth and dampness, particularly round fireplaces.

Control is effected by means of insecticides and it has not yet been necessary to either lift any solid floors or remove any fireplaces.

Public Cleansing

House and Trade Refuse Collection and Disposal

Some minor difficulties were encountered during the year in maintaining a regular collection service of the domestic and trade waste. The employment of sufficient suitable labour causes some concern and will continue to do so whilst labour is so scarce and far better paid "jobs" are to be had elsewhere. We are fortunate in having a "hard core" of sound men who know their job and carry it out without grumble. There is also the floating element of about three or four who couldn't care less whether the work is done or not and cause endless trouble in many small ways. The sickness rate amongst this type is high, and they take an unfair advantage of the Local Authorities sickness benefit scheme.

The cost of the service has undoubtedly risen during the past 10 years. There have been additional men employed since 1947 and a fourth vehicle brought into service, the net costs have risen from £2,800 in 1944 to £9,172 in 1956. Some 900 additional houses have been built during the same period.

The receipts from salvage have also increased from £1,685 to £2,790.

These costs are comparable with costs in urban districts of a similar size to ours and the same difficulties are encountered.

The new extension to the controlled tip is now in full operation. Nearly 5 years of continuous tipping is beginning to change the contour of the valley. Soil stripping and drainage were continued towards the end of the year.

Salvage

We are able to dispose of the whole output of waste paper and cardboard whilst most other Local Authorities are on a monthly quota, due to their being an increase of supply over demand at the Paper Mills. We are also fortunate in receiving a far higher price than other Authorities which is reflected in the high salvage receipts.

| | £ | s. | d. |
|--|--------|----|------------|
| Gross Expenditure | 11,963 | 8 | 11 |
| Gross Income | 2,790 | 10 | 3 |
| Net Expenditure | 9,172 | 18 | 8 |
| Population | 15,780 | | |
| Houses Scavenged | 5,190 | | |
| Wages of Drivers at December, 1956 | £8 | 15 | 4 per week |
| Wages of Collectors at December, 1956 | £8 | 7 | 8 per week |

Comparative Cost of House Refuse Collection for the Years 1924, 1944 and 1954

| Year | 1924 | 1944 | 1954 |
|----------------------------------|--------|--------|---------|
| No. of Houses Scavenged | 2,828 | 4,126 | 4,885 |
| Gross Cost of Service | £2,205 | £4,402 | £10,373 |
| Salvage and other credits | Nil | £1,586 | £2,256 |
| Nett cost of Service | £2,205 | £2,815 | £8,116 |

Wages of house refuse collectors and motor drivers

| | 1924 | 1944 | 1954 |
|--------------------------|-------------|------------|-------------|
| Collectors weekly | £2 0s. 0d. | £3 6s. 9d. | £7 3s. 0d. |
| Drivers weekly | £2 16s. 0d. | £4 0s. 0d. | £7 13s. 0d. |

Collections and Sales of Salvage

The following table shows the tonnage and materials sold and the amounts received for salvage during the year.

| | Tons | Cwts. | Qrs. | lbs. | £ | s. | d. |
|----------------------------|------|-------|------|------|--------|----|----|
| Paper | 211 | 19 | 3 | — | 2,013 | 16 | 7 |
| Cast Iron | 9 | 1 | 3 | — | 60 | 13 | 0 |
| Use of Tip | ... | ... | ... | ... | 13 | 12 | 0 |
| Textiles | 9 | 6 | 2 | 23 | 209 | 9 | 4 |
| Non-Ferrous Metal | 1 | 5 | 3 | 26 | 181 | 19 | 6 |
| Ferrous Metal | 5 | 18 | 3 | — | 25 | 5 | 1 |
| Kitchen Waste | 2 | 16 | 2 | — | 11 | 4 | 1 |
| Miscellaneous items | ... | ... | ... | ... | 275 | 0 | 0 |
| Totals | 240 | 9 | 1 | 21 | £2,790 | 19 | 7 |

The Council commenced the collection of salvage in May, 1940. The following table shows the tonnage sold and the amounts received each year by the sales of salvaged materials:—

| Year | | | | Tons | Cwts. | qrs. | lbs. | | £ | s. | d. |
|------|-----|-----|-----|------|-------|------|------|-----|-------|----|----|
| 1940 | ... | ... | ... | 129 | 3 | 3 | 18 | ... | 426 | 18 | 4 |
| 1941 | ... | ... | ... | 194 | 7 | 3 | 0 | ... | 828 | 10 | 8 |
| 1942 | ... | ... | ... | 280 | 5 | 1 | 5 | ... | 1,148 | 5 | 1 |
| 1943 | ... | ... | ... | 376 | 4 | 1 | 16 | ... | 1,424 | 18 | 0 |
| 1944 | ... | ... | ... | 463 | 6 | 2 | 0 | ... | 1,576 | 17 | 8 |
| 1945 | ... | ... | ... | 491 | 9 | 1 | 11 | ... | 1,607 | 19 | 9 |
| 1946 | ... | ... | ... | 335 | 1 | 2 | 24 | ... | 1,360 | 0 | 7 |
| 1947 | ... | ... | ... | 398 | 19 | 1 | 15 | ... | 1,685 | 19 | 1 |
| 1948 | ... | ... | ... | 510 | 0 | 2 | 0 | ... | 2,211 | 15 | 7 |
| 1949 | ... | ... | ... | 490 | 18 | 3 | 24 | ... | 2,343 | 13 | 8 |
| 1950 | ... | ... | ... | 412 | 7 | 0 | 7 | ... | 2,108 | 15 | 7 |
| 1951 | ... | ... | ... | 385 | 12 | 3 | 26 | ... | 3,787 | 4 | 9 |
| 1952 | ... | ... | ... | 388 | 18 | 1 | 1 | ... | 2,521 | 13 | 2 |
| 1953 | ... | ... | ... | 382 | 9 | 0 | 19 | ... | 2,331 | 13 | 1 |
| 1954 | ... | ... | ... | 282 | 6 | 3 | 21 | ... | 2,256 | 16 | 3 |
| 1955 | ... | ... | ... | 280 | 16 | 3 | 16 | ... | 2,693 | 11 | 9 |
| 1956 | ... | ... | ... | 240 | 9 | 1 | 21 | ... | 2,790 | 19 | 7 |

ENGINEER AND SURVEYOR'S REPORT

This brief report covers the period 1st January, 1956 to 31st December, 1956.

1. Highways

The money allotted for maintenance of Class I and Unclassified roads was reduced—an unfortunate decision with the continuing rise in cost of work. The increased money allotted for Class III roads was to enable the next section of Hennel Lane improvement to proceed.

The diversion of Cottage Lane, needed for the construction in the near future of the bye-pass road to link the Preston Bypass with the Longton Bye-pass, was approved.

A procedure was set up to enable roads over railway bridges to be taken over—and properly maintained—by the Highways Authority. No progress was made with the Transport Commission concerning actual take-over of the Todd Lane South bridge surface.

It is pleasing to be able to record that the Council placed an order for a Mechanical Street Sweeper, it now being realised that to keep the District's roads clean was no longer a job for six men with orderly carts.

| Authorised expenditure over the last 5 years. | | | | | |
|---|-------------------------|--------------------------|---------|---------|---------|
| Classification | 1956 | 1955 | 1954 | 1953 | 1952 |
| Class I (3.07 miles) | £3,678 (£1,195/mile) | £7,469 (£2,435/mile) | £3,228 | £1,145 | £1,950 |
| Class II (2.22 miles) | £3,742 (£1,685/mile) | £3,191 (£1,440/mile) | £3,231 | £1,150 | £1,330 |
| Class III (2.39 miles) | £4,580 (£1,915/mile) | £1,258 (£527/mile) | £1,041* | £4,445 | £1,370 |
| Unclassified (14.91 miles) | £8,642 (£580/mile) | £10,135** (£685/mile) | £6,315 | £8,612 | £7,910 |
| Totals ... | £20,642 | £22,053 | £13,815 | £15,362 | £12,560 |

* Plus £3,900 for a Major Improvement Scheme at Hennel Lane.

** Plus £2,300 loan scheme for Gregson Lane improvement at the Housing Estate.

2. Street Lighting

Schemes were prepared, authorised and work commenced in the lighting to Group "A" standard of A.675 and B.5257, a total of 4.44 miles at an estimated cost of £10,300.

The policy of lighting to Group "B" standard, all Private Streets as they were made up, and private and Council building estates, was continued.

3. Private Streets

Schemes were prepared and approved, and notices served under the Private Street Works Act, 1892, for 10 streets:—Lindley Street, Ellen Street, Aspden Street (two lengths), Green Drive, Lourdes Avenue, Dean Street, Lords Avenue, Clayton Street, and a Passage off St. Mary's Road.

The making up of 9 streets was completed: — Teven Street, Oakland Street, Bridge Street (Higher Walton), Lords Avenue Passages (2), Lindley Street, Ellen Street, Lourdes Avenue, and Dean Street.

Work was in progress at the end of the year on 6 streets:—Aspden Street (two lengths), Green Drive, Lords Avenue, Clayton Street, and a Passage off St. Mary's Road.

Certain repair works were carried out at Lark Hill, Higher Walton under the provisions of the Public Health Acts (Amendment) Act, 1907.

There are now (July, 1957) some 53 unmade private streets (excluding back passages) within the Urban District:—

| | | | |
|------------------------|-----|----|--|
| All Saints' Ward ... | ... | 4 | No proposals at present to make up any of these streets. |
| Central Ward ... | ... | 8 | |
| South Ward ... | ... | 18 | One street to be made up. |
| St. Leonard's Ward ... | ... | 14 | Schemes being prepared for 2 streets. |
| West Ward ... | ... | 9 | Schemes prepared for 5 streets. |

4. Sewerage

Work on the main sewerage scheme continued and was brought almost to completion. With the completion of the Lostock View pumping station—almost the only remaining part of the scheme—sewage from Lostock Hall will be received at the pumping station and passed to the main sewer, thus enabling the septic tanks and filter draining to the River Lostock to be dispensed with.

All the remaining septic tanks in Hennel Lane, except two, were connected to the sewer laid last year.

The scheme for connecting Higher Walton Mill to the sewer was completed and the septic tanks at the Mill were abandoned.

5. Surface Water Drainage

Because of staff shortage in my Department, no further progress was made with the survey of surface water drainage in the Urban District.

The scheme already prepared for improving surface water drainage at Coupe Green, Hoghton, was carried out.

The drainage required in the Brown Lane area in connection with the Preston Bye-pass Motorway was completed by the Ministry's contractors and a scheme was prepared to relieve Brown Lane surface water sewer by connecting to the motorway drainage.

6. Sewage Disposal

The scheme for reconstructing the sewage disposal works which was submitted to the Ministry last year appears to have remained in the Ministry's files and no action whatever appears to have been taken by the Ministry.

The Lancashire River Board continued to complain about the quality of the effluent from the out-of-date and overloaded disposal works.

All that could be done by way of maintenance to keep the effluent as good as possible, was done at the works.

A little further progress was made towards removing the unaccepted and improper discharge from the Gas Works, from the sewers.

One Trade Effluent Notice was served on the Council for reception of a very small quantity—80 gallons per day—of effluent from Preston Paper Co. Ltd. at Winery Lane.

Messrs. F. A. Gatty & Co. Ltd. made a preliminary approach enquiring terms upon which the effluent from their dye works at Higher Walton might be received into the sewers.

7. Housing

At the beginning of the year 58 houses and flats were under construction compared with 63 at the beginning of the previous year. Tenders had been accepted for a further 56 houses, flats and bungalows.

Ministry approval was given during the year to 86 dwellings:—

- 44 houses and 4 bungalows—Bull-run farm site;
- 8 flats and 4 bungalows—Ash Grove;
- 8 flats and 2 houses—Laburnum Avenue;
- 8 flats—Havelock Terrace;
- 8 houses—Gregson Lane.

During the year 10 houses and 48 flats were occupied and at the end of the year 42 dwellings were under construction.

Tenders were accepted for Roads and Sewers required at Bull-run farm site, and this work (except surfacing) was completed.

Road and sewer work required at Ash Grove and Laburnum Avenue was authorised to be carried out by labour of my Department.

12 additional lock-up garages (6 at Ellen Street and 6 at Hennel Lane estate) were built. The total number of lock-up garages on housing estates is now 36—12 at Withy Trees estate, 12 at Ellen Street, 6 at Meanygate and 6 at Hennel Lane estate.

During the year 10 applications for Improvement Grants were received and grants approved.

8. Flooding

The anti-flood works designed by the River Board and jointly provided, were completed. No flooding occurred during 1956.

9. Playing Fields

Work was commenced and substantially completed at St. Cuthbert's Road Playing Field. The scheme, on land given to the Council for use in perpetuity for recreation, included draining, levelling, sowing and fencing, and will provide one full-size Football Pitch.

A scheme for the erection of Toilets and levelling to provide a Football Pitch at The Holme was prepared, and a grant of £194 on the contract price of £645 was offered by the Ministry.

The Conveniences at Gregson Lane Playing Field, which were commenced by the former Gregson Lane Sports Club, were taken over and completed by the Council.

A scheme was approved for installing electric lighting in the Pavilion at Higher Walton King George's Field.

Two "Play Streets" were approved and the appropriate signs erected.

10. Staff

There were difficulties of unfilled appointments in my Office during the year—the 4th consecutive year of such difficulties—and the Council decided to amend the technical establishment. Extended salary grades were introduced for the Deputy Engineer and Surveyor and for two Assistants. An additional Assistant was authorised, but the appointment had not been filled at the end of the year.

The duties of my Department continue to grow as the Urban District grows, and additional responsibilities are given to me by the Council, and it is difficult in a comparatively small Authority to attract and retain suitable staff in view of the growing competition from larger Authorities, Industry and Public Utilities for the diminishing supply of engineering and surveying assistants.

11. Plans and Planning

During the year 228 applications relating to 282 permanent buildings and 85 temporary buildings were dealt with under the Council's Byelaws and 150 applications were dealt with under Town and Country Planning Acts and Regulations.

12. Transport and Plant

The Morris Van (ex water department) was scrapped and replaced with a 2½-3 ton Ford Thames tipping waggon.

An order was placed, following demonstrations of various types, for a Bedford Lacre Street Sweeping Machine.

Mileage and petrol consumption of the Department's vehicles was:—

| Vehicle | Date registered | Miles | Petrol gallons | m.p.g. | Remarks |
|--------------------------|-----------------|--------|----------------|--------|----------|
| Karrier Bantam | 1949 | 13,233 | 1,311 | 10.1 | — |
| Ford Thames | 1955 | 15,464 | 1,520 | 10.25 | — |
| Fordson Van 5 cwt. | 1955 | 14,991 | 522 | 28.7 | — |
| Dodge Tower Waggon | 1936 | 5,930 | 552 | 10.75 | — |
| Morris Parcel Van | 1946 | 7,400 | 425 | 17.43 | 7 months |
| Ford Thames | 1956 | 716 | 87 | 8.24 | 3 weeks |
| Totals | | 57,734 | 4,417 | | |

STANLEY RACE,

A.M.I.C.E., M.I.Mun.E., M.Inst.H.E., A.M.I.W.E.
Engineer and Surveyor.

WALTON-LE-DALE URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL

ANNUAL REPORT ON WATER SUPPLY

for year ending 31st December, 1956

1. Sources of Water

Thirlmere and Haweswater (Manchester Corporation)
Rivers Ribble and Hodder, and Longridge Fell (Preston Corporation).

2. Quality of Water

| | <i>Preston Water</i> | <i>Manchester Water</i> |
|--------------------------|----------------------|-------------------------|
| Permanent hardness | 42 parts/million | 5 to 10 parts/million |
| Temporary hardness | Nil | 11 to 15 parts/million |
| Total hardness | 42 parts/million | 18 parts/million |
| pH value | 7.1 | 7.5 |

Manchester water is chlorinated near the source and Preston water is chlorinated at Grimsargh service reservoir.

3. Area of Supply

In addition to supplying the Urban District supplies are afforded to certain consumers in Hoghton and Brindle whose premises adjoin the No. 1 intake main, and a bulk supply is provided to part of the Parish of Cuerden.

The estimated population supplied is 15, 990.

4. Quantity Supplied

| Manchester Corporation:— | 1956 | 1955 |
|-----------------------------|-------------|-------------|
| No. 1 Meter House | gallons | gallons |
| No. 2 Meter House | 110,030,000 | 109,864,000 |
| Preston Corporation | 179,033,000 | 147,678,000 |
| | 31,461,000 | 54,776,000 |
| Total Supply | | |
| Bulk Supply—Cuerden | 320,524,000 | 312,318,000 |
| | 2,789,000 | 2,768,000 |
| Total consumption | | |
| (U.D., Hoghton and Brindle) | 317,735,000 | 309,550,000 |

Note. The service reservoirs at Brindle and Gough Lane hold a total of 980,000 gallons when full, and as this is such a small fraction of the consumption (about 27 hours supply) the quantity contained in them has been ignored in the calculations above.

5. Consumption

| | 1956 | 1955 |
|------------------------------|--------------------|--------------------|
| Total Consumption | 317,735,000 (54.7) | 309,550,000 (55.7) |
| Metered Consumption | 141,697,000 (24.4) | 134,397,000 (24.5) |
| "Domestic Consumption" | 176,038,000 (30.3) | 175,153,000 (31.2) |

Notes. 1. Figures in brackets are "per head per day" figures.

2. Domestic consumption includes all un-metered supplies, such as water used for building, fire fighting, main flushing and losses through bursts.

Total water consumption continues to increase. There are several reasons for this, amongst which are:—

1. The increase in population of the Urban District. It should be noted that a more accurate population figure has been used this year in calculating the daily per head consumptions. This explains the apparent reduction in the per head per day figures.
2. The continuing house building in the district — all new houses having modern sanitary appliances and baths.
3. The increase in industrial and other metered supplies.

6. Distribution

1. WATERMAIN NETWORK.

The network has been extended during the year by the laying of the following mains:—

- 110 yds. 3" The Crescent, Lostock Hall;
- 100 yds. 3" Victoria Street, Lostock Hall;
- 80 yds. 3" Brindle Close;
- 220 yds. 3" Alexandra Road;
- 316 yards 3" Bull-run Housing Estate;
- 134 yds. 4" Bull-run Housing Estate;
- 75 yds. 3" Ash Grove;
- 130 yds. 3" Gregson Lane Housing Estate;
- 70 yds. 3" Green Drive.

Replacement mains were also laid as follows:—

- 75 yds. 3" Lourdes Avenue;
- 110 yds. 6" Browndedge Lane and Browndedge Road;
- 70 yds. 3" Lindley Street.
- 145 yds. 3" Aspden Street;
- 75 yds. 3" Victoria Street, Lostock Hall;
- 400 yds. 3" Brown Lane (Motorway diversion).

A schedule and map was prepared shewing the age of the various mains to enable a programme of reconditioning or renewal to be prepared. Authority was given to replace 1,435 yds. 3" main in Cuerdale Lane and Gregson Lane with 4" asbestos cement pipes as the first stage of this programme.

2. WATER METERS.

There are now approx. 438 meters in use in the area supplied. Since last year's report it has been decided that cattle troughs shall be charged a fixed sum for water as the charges did not reimburse the cost of meter reading and maintenance.

3. FIRE HYDRANTS.

Fire hydrants are provided on new and replacement mains in positions selected by the Lancashire County Fire Service, and paid for by that Authority.

The Fire Service regularly inspects all hydrants and issues orders for any maintenance work needed.

4. WASTE PREVENTION.

The re-washing of taps is a service provided by the Council without extra charge. In September an additional Inspector was appointed, his duty being to carry out a routine inspection of all premises and to replace defective washers as necessary. This service will be continuous.

The following work was carried out during the year:—

| | |
|---------------|--|
| 1,892 (1,167) | visits to premises on inspection: |
| 881 (755) | taps re-washed; |
| 260 (245) | cistern valves re-washed; |
| 477 (245) | burst services reported and/or repaired; |
| 20 (32) | fractures of mains repaired. |

A great many of the burst services were caused by the operations of the Council's sewerage Contractors who were using mechanical excavators. With this means of excavation—the only sensible method of excavating extensive works—damage is inevitable to services which cross the trenches.

Certain districts, where the main network was suitable, were fitted with district meters and a portable recorder was purchased in order to provide further checks on consumption and possible waste.

5. CROSS FEEDS.

The supply to Gregson Lane and Hoghton was considerably improved by cross connecting the 8" main in Hoghton Lane to the 6" main in Bells Lane. This latter 6" main now feeds from the 8" main at Pippin Street across the district to the 8" main in Hoghton Lane.

The 3" main in Kellet Lane was connected to the 6" main in Brindle Road, giving an improved supply in Kellet Lane and Brindle Road, between Kellet Lane and the Hospital Inn.

Several more cross feeds need to be provided so as to improve the supply and minimise inconvenience from main shut-downs following bursts.

7. Reservoirs

The Undertaking has two covered service reservoirs—a brick reservoir at Brindle and a reinforced concrete reservoir at Gough Lane—which hold respectively 285,000 and 695,000 gallons when full.

Both reservoirs were isolated and emptied and cleaned for inspection. Brindle reservoir will very shortly need lining with cement as the pointing is deteriorating and the brickwork needs protecting. Gough Lane reservoir was found to be in excellent condition.

Gough Lane reservoir was fitted with a float valve inlet to prevent overflowing to waste, and a reflux valve was fitted to the outlet to prevent any overflow from back-flow at night.

Both reservoirs were sterilized before being put back into service.

8. Storage

The latest Manchester Corporation Act has a clause empowering Manchester to require reservoirs to be provided to equalise the draw over 24 hours from their aqueducts.

As there is no reservoir on the No. 2 connection, unless the consumption through this connection can be made reasonably constant over 24 hours, there is a risk that Manchester might use their powers and require the construction of a reservoir. Such a reservoir would have to hold about 1½ million gallons and would necessitate the laying of an additional main from Hoghton to Bamber Bridge as the initial aqueduct pressure would be lost from the distribution network.

With this equalisation of consumption in mind, a preliminary approach was made to three industrial consumers (who together take approx. 1/3rd of the whole supply from Manchester) with the object of having them draw their water at night and provide their own storage for daytime use.

9. Water Treatment

Following doubtful quality discovered for a short period from pathologists' reports, it was recommended to and accepted by the Council that automatic chlorination plant should be installed in the two meter houses on the Thirlmere aqueduct. Schemes were prepared for submission to the Ministry for approval for loan.

10. Control and Management

This report covers the first full year of control by the Engineer and Surveyor. Appreciable progress has been made in bringing the Undertaking up to a good standard of efficiency despite severe pressure of other work on the very small technical staff.

STANLEY RACE,

A.M.I.C.E., M.I.Mun.E., A.M.I.W.E.,
Engineer and Surveyor.

With the completion of the project, the project manager will be responsible for the final review and approval of the project. The project manager will also be responsible for the final report and the final presentation of the project.

5. Water Treatment

The water treatment process is a critical part of the project. It involves the removal of impurities and contaminants from the water. The project manager will be responsible for the design and implementation of the water treatment process. The project manager will also be responsible for the final review and approval of the project.

10. Control and Management

The project will be controlled and managed by the project manager. The project manager will be responsible for the design and implementation of the project. The project manager will also be responsible for the final review and approval of the project.

STANLEY DACE

AMICE MIMAS AMIN

Engineer and Surveyor

