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Walton-le-Dale (England). Urban District Council.

Publication/Creation

1958

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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, 1958

WALTON-LE-DALE URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL.

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WALTON-LE DALE URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL

1958

Chairman of the Council

Councillor J. Spencer, J.P.

Chairman of Public Health Committee

Councillor W. Morgan

Vice-Chairman of Public Health Committee

Councillor F. A. Cooper

Members of the Council

Councillor Miss A. Birkenhead (from May)

*Councillor Mrs. J. Eccles

Councillor J. Gardner (from May)

Councillor T. Hewlett

Councillor Mrs. E. E. Hewlett

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Councillor Mrs. M. P. M. Parker, J.P.

*Councillor A. Sharples

Councillor R. Wignall

*Councillor Rev. A. Williams

*Members of Public Health Committee.

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

(Deputy Chief): J. R. Williams, M.R.S.H., M.A.P.H.I.

(Meat Inspector): F. Burgin, Cs.R.S.H.

PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT.
COUNCIL OFFICES,
BAMBER BRIDGE

REPORT OF THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

For the year ended 31st December, 1958

To the Chairman and Members of the Council

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have pleasure in presenting to you the Annual Report on the health and sanitary circumstances of the Urban District of Walton-le-Dale for the year 1958.

The number of live births registered in and belonging to the district during 1958 was 291 or 8 more than 1957. Of these, 202 were born in hospital and 89 were home confinements. The Birth Rate therefore was 17.8 per 1,000 estimated population, a slight increase over 1957. It is the highest rate recorded since 1947.

The Birth Rate for England and Wales for 1958 was 16.4.

The number of deaths in the district was 7 more than 1957 giving a death rate of 11.7 per 1,000 estimated population, the rate for the year 1957 was 11.4. The rate for England and Wales in 1958 was 11.7.

Deaths from malignant disease is similar to last year, 28 as against 27 in 1957.

The number of infants who died before reaching one year of age was 8 as against 5 the previous year. This gives an infantile mortality rate of 27.5 as against a national figure of 22.5. When dealing with comparatively small figures as we are such fluctuations are not unexpected.

There was one death associated with childbirth. There were no deaths from this cause during the previous year.

The estimated population of the Urban District continues to rise. The figure of 16,330 is an increase of 200 over 1957.

The number of notifications of Infectious Disease is well below the figure of 1957. 105 as against 209; Scarlet Fever accounted for 76 cases, 38 were reported in 1957. These numbers vary from year to year depending upon the disease cycle. No cases of Poliomyelitis occurred during the year, 3 were notified last year.

Matters relating to Public Health circumstances of the District are dealt with in the report and the report of the Chief Public Health Inspector. Improvements continue to be effected. The proposals for housing the aged are very advanced and it is hoped to complete the first scheme of 20 Bungalows during 1959.

The problem of Atmospheric Pollution is receiving more attention than in the past but it is disappointing to report that the Council have decided to postpone action on the setting up of a Smoke Control Area.

Towards the end of the year, a new Public Health Laboratory was opened in Preston. The Laboratory service is directed by the Medical Research Council for the Ministry of Health, and caters for every aspect of the public health work of a Local Authority related to the bacteriological and pathological examination of samples and specimens.

Finally, may I express my appreciation to the Officials, who as in past years, have appended their reports. To the Chairman and Members of the Council I wish to express my sincere thanks for their continued help and support.

My grateful thanks also to the Officers and Staff of the Council for their help and co-operation on all occasions.

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 $4\frac{1}{4}$ 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 1958

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	3.43	22	43.4	Calm 8, S. 6
February	6.45	25	59.4	E. 6, N.W. 5
March	1.58	14	137.8	E. 13, Calm 6
April	1.29	10	164.4	Calm 9, N.W. 6
May	4.77	19	174.7	Calm 9, S. 5
June	4.12	18	164.3	E. 9, Calm 8
July	3.22	19	164.0	Calm 7, W. 7
August	3.92	22	127.5	S. 10
September	5.73	18	117.2	E. 11, S. 7
October	3.50	21	73.6	Calm 8, S. 7, N.W. 7
November	2.02	15	38.6	Calm 18, S. 4
December	3.21	21	39.1	Calm 11, E. 5

A short summary of the weather of each month follows.

JANUARY was a little colder than average. The first part of the month was fairly warm. On the 21st, however, a cold spell started with snow and low temperature. The amount of snow was moderate but the temperature reached a very low minimum on the evening of the 22nd, the air minimum was then 8.1°F. and the ground 0°F. On that day there was also a negative depression of the wet bulb with a relative humidity of 102%. On the 25th a rapid thaw set in and by the morning of the 26th most of the snow had disappeared. Following this sharp cold spell there was a sudden rise of temperature and a very warm week, the maximum reaching 56°F. on the 27th with ground temperature in the forties. On two days during the month, that is on the 21st and 22nd, the maximum temperature for the day was below 32°F.

There were several days of fog, and thick fog was recorded on two days. Winds were mainly light and southerly. Visibility during the month varied from less than 22 yards to very good and excellent visibility.

Relative humidity as low as 63% and as high as 102% were recorded. The Moor Park pond was frozen on 10 days.

FEBRUARY is usually one of the driest months of the year in Preston. This year, however, it was extremely wet. The total rainfall amounted to 6.45 inches, that is 2½ times the usual amount for this month. It was the wettest February since records started in 1876, with 25 rain-days.

The average temperature for the month was 0.4°F. higher than normal. Most of the month was mild and wet, with cold nights. Snow fell on 6 days and on 4 days it covered the ground. On the 8th five inches of snow were measured, but the snow did not last long. Towards the end of the month conditions were very severe. The snow which began to fall in the morning of the 24th continued throughout the day and strong winds at night caused considerable drifting. At the observatory 2 ft. drifts were measured, while east of Preston conditions were very severe with several roads blocked by drifts. The snow was slow to disappear on account of drifts, but at the end of the month in Preston conditions were back to normal and the temperature had reached the lower forties.

The relative humidity for the month was lower than average. The Moor Park pond was frozen on 4 days. Winds were easterly light on the whole.

MARCH was a cold month. The average temperature for the month was 2.6°F. lower than normal.

The month started warm and wet, but towards the middle of the month there were several cold, dry and sunny days. Although the day temperature was about normal, the nights were colder. The mean temperature for the month was lower than for February. A feature of the month was the persistent, cold, easterly winds moderate in strength. Snow fell on 9 days, ground frost was recorded on 18 nights and air frost on 13 days. The precipitation for the month was 1.21 in. lower than average and the relative humidity too was lower than average. Visibility was mainly good with very little fog.

APRIL. The first two weeks of this month were cold and dry but sunny. The average temperature for the month was 1°F. below average, although the daily temperature was normal, the nights were mainly colder than average. Ground frost was recorded on 13 nights and air frost on 7 days, which is rather unusual for the time of the year in Preston. Snow in the form of snow showers fell on 3 days. The highest temperature of the month was reached on the last days when the maximum was 67°F. The cold, easterly winds of March continued until the middle of the month and so did the dry spell which started on March 30th and ended on April 15th. Then a change occurred; the winds became westerly and rain began to fall. The precipitation for the month was 0.79 in. below average and the relative humidity was lower than average too; indeed on two occasions the relative humidity was lower than 60%.

Throughout the month the ground was mainly dry. Barometric pressure was higher than average. Visibility was good and very little fog occurred during the month.

MAY was a wet and cold month. The total rainfall was 2.30 in. above normal, making it the wettest May since 1924. The average temperature of the month was also below average, and ground frost was recorded on 5 nights with temperature as low as 27°F.

The month started with a few days of dry and warm weather. The highest maximum of the month was reached on the 1st with a temperature of 73°F. Hail and thunderstorms occurred during this month. Winds were south westerly and light in force. Relative humidity was higher than average.

Although no fog was recorded during the month there was a considerable amount of mist and a little haze, and only once was abnormal visibility recorded.

JUNE was another cold and wet month. The total rainfall for the month was well above average, and the temperature was 2°F. below normal. Cloudy sky most of the month with very little sunshine repeated in a way the conditions of the previous month. Only towards the end of June did the day temperature reach the average values for this time of the year, but the nights were still cold.

Of the 18 rain-days recorded only one had less than 0.04 in. The highest temperature was 73°F. on the 29th. Winds were easterly and light. Visibility was rather poor during the month. Ground was flooded on 4 days. Thunderstorms and hail occurred on 2 occasions. Relative humidity was much higher than normal.

JULY too did not follow the normal pattern. This year it was a colder but a drier month than average. The precipitation for the month was 0.23 in. lower than average.

The first week of the month saw an improvement in the weather and the temperature began to rise to the low seventies. After the second week, however, the temperatures were again in the low sixties, and the month ended cool. The average temperature for the whole of the month was 0.9°F. lower than average. There were still cloudy skies and little sunshine, even during this month. Relative humidity was again well above average. The ground was flooded on 4 occasions. Winds were westerly light. The hottest day of the year was recorded during this month on the 19th when the maximum reached 75°F.

AUGUST although less wet than average, was still a wet month. On the other hand the temperature during this month was 0.4°F. higher than average.

The month started with a rain-spell which lasted from the 1st to the 15th. After this date the rainfall was less, although there were 22 rain-days in the month as compared with an average of 18. Cloudy sky and lack of sunshine were the characteristics of the month. The ground was flooded on 9 days. Thunder was heard on 5 occasions. Winds were southerly light. Relative humidity was still higher than average.

SEPTEMBER was a warm and very wet month. The total rainfall, 5.73 in., was 2.16 in. higher than average. It was during this month that the wettest day of the year was recorded. There were fewer rain-days in the month than in September, 1957, but the intensity of rainfall was double. The ground was flooded on 12 occasions. Stormy weather occurred during the last week of the month when we had thunder and gales. In spite of this amount of rain, the sky was not as clouded as in the last few months, indeed September was the month which had clearest skies.

The temperature for the month was 3.3°F. higher than average. Winds were easterly and moderate in force. As was to be expected the relative humidity was higher than average.

OCTOBER started as a wet month but it improved after the first half. The improvement was established by the 20th of the month. The total precipitation for October was less than average. The temperature was 2.3°F. higher than normal. The ground was flooded on 14 days, ground frost began to appear towards the middle of the month. Winds were light southerly. Several calm days were recorded this month. Fog occurred on 5 days.

NOVEMBER on the whole followed the usual pattern for this month. It will be remembered mainly for the number of foggy days and nights, its high barometric pressure and for the fact that it was the driest month since April. The total rainfall was 1.57 in. lower than average and the temperature for the whole of the month was only 0.2°F. lower than average. Winds were mainly light and variable, and we had 18 calm days in the month. During the month there were 16 days of fog at 0900 G.M.T. and of these 3 were classified as thick fog and 1 as dense fog.

The night temperatures were rather low and ground frost was recorded on 16 nights, but air frost was recorded only on 7 occasions. The ground after the first few days of the month became drier. The relative humidity was considerably higher than average, and the visibility of the month as a whole was rather poor.

DECEMBER was another month with rainfall less than average. The high barometric pressure of the previous month continued at the beginning of this one, giving rise to a considerable number of foggy days. Fog was observed on 12 days at 0900 G.M.T. The worst fog occurred on the night of December 2nd when visibility in Preston was less than 10 yds. The temperature for the month was a little below average. The Moor Park pond was frozen on 3 days. Winds were mostly light and easterly, but we also had 11 calm days. As in previous months the relative humidity was still higher than average. The month and the year ended with a few wet and warm days with day temperatures in the lower fifties and night temperatures in the lower forties.

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.

A report on the first 10 years' "dig" has now been published and it indicates that one of the gate houses to the original fort has been discovered.

Statistics

Area in Acres	4,761
Populations (census 1951)	14,610
Registrar General's estimate of population (mid 1958)	16,330
Number of inhabited houses (census 1951) ..	3,314
Number of inhabited houses (Rate Book 1958	5,511
Rateable Value	£156,888
Sum represented by a penny rate	£610

Vital Statistics

<i>Births</i>						M.	F.	Total	M.	F.	Total
Live Births—Legitimate						142	140	282			
Illegitimate						2	7	9			
									144	147	291
Still Births— Legitimate						3	3	6			
Illegitimate						—	—	—			
									3	3	6
Total Births									147	150	297

Birth Rate per 1,000 estimated population crude	17.8
Birth Rate per 1,000 estimated population adjusted	17.8
Still Birth Rate per 1,000 live and still births	20.2
Area Comparability Factor for Births	1.0

<i>Deaths</i>							M.	F.	Total
Total Deaths from all causes							101	90	191
							M.	F.	Total
Infantile Mortality—Legitimate							5	2	7
Illegitimate							1	—	1
							6	2	8
Neo Natal Mortality—Legitimate							4	2	6
Illegitimate							1	—	1
							5	2	7

Infantile Mortality rate per 1,000 live births total	27.5
Infantile Mortality rate per 1,000 live births Legitimate	24.8
Infantile Mortality rate per 1,000 live births Illegitimate	111.1
Neo Natal Mortality rate per 1,000 live births	24.1
Illegitimate live births as a percentage of live births	3.2
Maternal Mortality Rate per 1,000 live and still births	3.37
Death Rate per 1,000 estimated population Crude	11.7
Death Rate per 1,000 estimated population Adjusted	14.3
Area Comparability factor for deaths	1.22

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
Year 1957	17.5	11.4	0.06	1.8	Nil	18
Year 1958	17.8	11.7	0.06	1.71	3.37	27.5

Increase or decrease in 1958 compared to:—

A. 5 year average ...	+2.62	—0.29	—0.1	—0.17	+3.37	+5.7
B. Previous Year ...	+0.3	+0.3	Nil	—0.09	+3.37	+9.5
County of Lancs. for 1958	16.17	12.85	0.10	2.08	0.45	25.6
England & Wales for 1958	16.4	11.7	0.1	2.12	0.43	22.5

Table of Six Decades

Period	Per 1,000 Population		Phthisis Death Rate	Enteric Fever		Diphtheria		Scarlet Fever		Deaths from Diarrhoea	Infantile Mortality Rate
	Birth Rate	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

The statistics in regard to both births and deaths, have again been supplied by the Registrar General, through the County Health Department. The number of births and deaths referred to in this report are those registered during the calendar year, corrected for "inward" and "outward" transfer.

According to the Registrar General, the total live births registered in, or belonging to the District during the year 1958 was 291 (males 144 — females 147) 8 more than in the year 1957.

The live birth rate for the District, calculated on the estimated home population, corresponds to 17.8 per 1,000. The previous year the rate was 17.5. Area comparability factor for births supplied by the Registrar General is 1.00 leaving the adjusted birth rate the same as the crude—i.e. 17.8. The live birth rate for England and Wales for the year 1958 is 16.4.

Illegitimate live births belonging to the District and registered during 1958 numbered 9—three more than in the previous year.

The number of registered still-births assigned to the District during 1958 was 6, the same number as in 1957. The resultant rate for the district is 20.2 per 1,000 total births, compared with 21.6 for England and Wales.

Deaths

Deaths actually attributed to Walton-le-Dale Urban District for the year 1958, numbered 191 (males 101, females 90), 7 more than in the year 1957.

The death-rate for the Urban District, calculated on an estimated population of 16,330, is 11.7 per 1,000. The death-rate for the previous year was 11.4.

Analysis of Causes of Death, 1958

	Male	Female	Total
Tuberculosis—Respiratory	1	—	1
Non-Pulmonary	—	—	—
Syphilitic Diseases	—	—	—
Diphtheria	—	—	—
Whooping Cough	—	—	—
Meningococcal infections	—	—	—
Acute Poliomyelitis	—	—	—
Measles	—	—	—
Other Infective and Parasitic Diseases	—	1	1
Malignant Neoplasms—Stomach	2	3	5
Lungs and Bronchus	4	—	4
Breast	—	3	3
Uterus	—	3	3
Other	5	8	13
Leukaemia	—	—	—
Diabetes	1	3	4
Vascular Lesions of Nervous System	15	14	29
Angina, Coronary disease	25	10	35
Hypertension with heart disease	1	3	4
Other heart disease	13	14	27
Other circulatory disease	10	8	18
Influenza	—	—	—
Pneumonia	3	2	5
Bronchitis	7	6	13
Ulcer of Stomach and Duodenum	1	2	3
Gastritis, Enteritis and Diarrhoea	1	—	1
Nephritis and Nephrosis	2	1	3
Hyperplasia of prostate	2	—	2
Pregnancy, Childbirth	—	1	1
Congenital Malformations	1	—	1
Other defined and ill-defined diseases	6	5	11
Motor Vehicle accidents	—	1	1
All Other Accidents	1	—	1
Suicide	—	1	1
Homicide	—	1	1

Causes of Death

Diseases of the heart and blood vessels were again the dominant cause of death in both males and females. The total number of deaths from these causes were 84.

The number of deaths attributed to Angina, Coronary Disease was 35, six more than 1957.

Deaths from vascular lesions of the nervous system were two fewer than last year, 29 as against 31.

The number of deaths from cancer, all forms, was 28, one more than 1957. Deaths from cancer of the lung and bronchus total 4.

Deaths from pneumonia and bronchitis number 18, two more than 1957.

There were no deaths from Influenza as against 6 in 1957, there being no Influenza epidemic similar to the Asian type in 1957.

Infantile Mortality

The deaths of Infants under one year numbered 8 as compared with 5 in the previous year. This gives an infantile mortality rate of 27.5 per 1,000 live births, as compared with a rate of 18.0 in 1957. The Infantile Mortality Rate for England and Wales in 1958 was 22.5.

Seven of the deaths occurred within four weeks of birth and of the 7 four were due to Prematurity.

The causes of death of the 8 infants are given below:—

Age								Cause of deaths
2 hours	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	Prematurity
5 days	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	Prematurity
2 weeks	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	Prematurity
18 hours	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	Prematurity, Asphyxia, Atelactasis
2 months	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	Toxaemia due to acute Haemorrhagic Pneumonia
1 day	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	Atelactasis
10 minutes	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	Spina Bifida
3 weeks	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	Asphyxia

Maternal Mortality

There was one death during the year associated with childbirth.

Still Births

The still Birth Rate per 1,000 total births for England and Wales is 21.6 and for Walton-le-Dale 20.2.

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 1 year										25 years and over		65 years and over		age un-known	Total dths
		1 year	2 years	3 years	4 years	5 years	10 years	15 years	20 years	25 years	30 years	35 years	40 years	45 years	50 years		
Scarlet Fever	76	—	—	2	9	7	53	5	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Whooping Cough	1	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Measles	10	1	2	1	2	1	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Dysentery	3	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—

	Total	0 yrs. to 45 yrs.				
		0 yrs.	5 yrs.	15 yrs.	45 yrs.	65 & over
Acute Pneumonia (prim. and infl'zal)	4	—	—	1	3	—
Erysipelas	3	—	—	—	2	1
Tuberculosis Respiratory	7	—	—	2	5	—
Tuberculosis Other	1	—	—	—	1	—

There were only 105 notifications during the year, only half those of 1957.

The Scarlet Fever notifications were about the same but Measles were down to 10 as against 134 in the previous year.

It is pleasing to report the absence of Poliomyelitis cases during the year. There were 3 in 1957, all paralytic.

Three cases of suspected Undulant Fever were investigated during the year. In no case was a sample of milk found to be infected from a herd in this area. Liaison was maintained with adjoining Authorities concerning the milk supplies.

GENERAL PROVISIONS OF HEALTH SERVICES IN THE AREA

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

County Council Services in the Area

One midwife was employed wholetime in the district.

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

Ambulance Service

The ambulance service covering the area of the Urban District is now radio-controlled from the Ambulance Headquarters at Broughton, where requests for ambulance transport are directed. There is one ambulance based at the Ambulance Station in the Council Yard which works on a day-time basis only. At other times the needs of the area are covered by ambulances stationed in adjacent areas.

This station at Bamber Bridge is due to be entirely closed in 1959 when the new Station at Leyland is opened.

Domiciliary Nursing Service

Three nurses were employed in this district in 1958. 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 the 2nd and 4th 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 and District 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 Whoping 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			
4	8	...	8	—	...	201	2	...	—	—

Vaccination

Primary Vaccinations performed					Re-vaccinations
Under 1	Age in years				Total
139	1—	5—	15—	Total	12
	12	3	7	161	

Poliomyelitis Vaccination

Year of Birth	No.	Year of Birth	No.	Year of Birth	No.	Year of Birth	No.
1958	...	1953	78	1948	94	1943	58
1957	...	1952	86	1947	77	1942 & earlier	89
1956	...	1951	91	1946	164	Total 1,658	
1955	...	1950	69	1945	122		
1954	...	1949	80	1944	129		

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.

During the year 11 cases of Tuberculosis have been notified to the department. These consisted of 8 new cases and 3 "Transfers In."

Pulmonary:—

New Cases	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	7
Transfers In	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2

Non-Pulmonary:—

New Cases	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Transfers In	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1

Removed from the Register during the year were:—

Pulmonary:—

Recovered	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	—
Removed from District	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	5
Diagnosis not confirmed	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Died	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1

Non-Pulmonary:—

Recovered	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Removed from District	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	—
Diagnosis not confirmed	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	—
Died	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	—

On the Register at 31st December, 1958 were Pulmonary 51, Non Pulmonary 27, Combined Cases 2.

The Tuberculosis Register is periodically checked with the County Medical Officer of Health in order that the records of these cases are correctly recorded.

Milk and Milk Production

The Group Pathologist, Preston Royal Infirmary (Dr. A. A. Miller) examined most of the milk samples submitted, although Dr. Robertson took over this work when the new Public Health Laboratory service was opened. Out of 73 samples of raw milk submitted 14 were unsatisfactory for keeping quality. 29 samples of pasteurised milk and 2 samples of sterilised milk were submitted for examination, all were satisfactory.

The 14 unsatisfactory samples which did not pass the Methylene Blue Reduction Test were mostly from churns of raw and raw tuberculin tested milk delivered to the Milk Marketing Board. As the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries & Food are responsible for milk produced at farms, the results of these samples were forwarded to the Divisional Milk Officer, Government Buildings, Cop Lane, Penwortham who made an investigation of the farm concerned in each case.

It is interesting to note since the introduction of the Specified Area last year there have been fewer unsatisfactory milk samples.

One sample of raw milk taken at the Milk Marketing Board premises was found to be infected with tuberculosis. This milk was produced on a farm in an adjoining area and was referred to that Authority for attention.

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

It will be noted from the figures given in the sub-heading above on Milk and Milk Production that there was only one positive sample of Tuberculosis. The reduction of tuberculosis in milk supplies is due principally to the extension of the designated area scheme. This district forms part of one such area.

The reduction in the amount of tuberculosis in cattle generally throughout the country has shown a marked decrease over the past few years. It is anticipated that there will be practically complete eradication of bovine tuberculosis within the next 5 years.

Ice Cream

Producer retailers in the district remained at two as in the previous year. Retailers numbered 38, all selling wrapped products obtained from the large wholesale producers.

During the summer months sampling was carried out. It is pleasing to report that all samples gave satisfactory results.

Food & Drugs Act 1938-55

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

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

A total of 134 samples was obtained, consisting of 85 samples of milk and 49 others, comprising:

1 Tea	4 Tincture of Iodine
5 Flour Confectionery	2 Fresh fruit
2 Cream of tartar	3 Bread
1 Castor oil	1 Icing sugar
1 Sleeping tablets	2 Fish—canned
1 Salad dressing	1 Salt
2 Fruit curd	2 Pork sausage
2 Ice-cream	2 Margarine
2 Oatmeal	1 Beef sausage
2 Dried fruit	3 Gravy browning
2 Saccharin tablets	3 Butter
2 Epsom salts	2 Pickles

The samples were submitted to the County Analyst for analysis, and I give below details of those which were found to be adulterated or which otherwise gave rise to irregularity:—

<i>Type</i>	<i>Result of Analysis</i>	<i>Action taken</i>
Milk	Fat 2.80%, deficient 6.6% fat. Low in solids-not-fat.	Vendor notified
Milk	Fat 2.7%, deficient 10% fat.	Vendor notified
Milk	Fat 2.9%, deficient 3.3% fat. Low in solids-not-fat.	Vendor notified
Milk	Freezing point indicated the presence of 1.0% extraneous water.	Producer cautioned Further samples
Milk	Fat 2.85%, deficient 5% fat.	Vendor notified
Bread (part loaf)	Contained five fragments of plastic material weighing 16 mgms.	Bakers interviewed
Pork	Contained 65 parts per million sulphite preservative (expressed as sulphur dioxide) without declaration.	Vendor interviewed

Food Hygiene

Progress has been maintained in the administration of the Food Hygiene Regulations although the tempo of the inspections has not been as progressive as the previous year.

Many improvements are being effected at food shops and slowly the traders are complying with the structural alterations required by the Regulations.

Housing and Housing Conditions

During the year, 205 dwellings have been built, 46 by the Local Authority and 159 by private enterprise.

The Local Authority do not propose to continue house construction when the current schemes have been completed.

1. Inspection of dwelling-houses this year:—

(1) (a) Total number of dwelling-houses inspected formally or informally for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts)	810
(b) Number of inspections, formal or informal, made for the purpose	936
(2) Dwelling-houses unfit for human habitation and not capable at reasonable expense of being rendered fit:	
(a) Number found during year	Nil
(b) Total Number (or estimated number) existing at end of year	7
(3) Number of dwelling houses found during the year to be not in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation but capable of being rendered fit	258

2. Houses Demolished :—	Houses Demolished	Displaced during Year	
In Clearance Areas—		Persons	Families
(1) Houses unfit for human habitation	Nil	Nil	Nil
(2) Houses included by reason of bad arrangement, etc.	Nil	Nil	Nil
(3) Houses on land acquired under Section 43 (2), Housing Act, 1957	Nil	Nil	Nil
Not in Clearance Areas:			
(4) As a result of formal or informal procedure under Section 17 (1), Housing Act, 1957	5	9	3
(5) Local Authority owned houses certified unfit by the Medical Officer of Health	Nil	Nil	Nil
(6) Houses unfit for human habitation where action has been taken under local Acts	Nil	Nil	Nil
(7) Unfit houses included in Unfitness Orders	Nil	Nil	Nil

3. Unfit Houses Closed :—	Number		
(1) Under Sections 16(4), 17(1) and 35(1), Housing Act, 1957	9	25	8
(2) Under Sections 17 (3) and 26, Housing Act, 1957	Nil	Nil	Nil
(3) Parts of buildings closed under Section 18, Housing Act, 1957	1	—	—

4. Unfit Houses Made Fit and Houses in which Defects were remedied:—

	By Owner	By Local Authority
(1) After informal action by local authority	233	
(2) After formal notice under—		
(a) Public Health Acts	Nil	Nil
(b) Sections 9 and 16, Housing Act, 1957	Nil	Nil
(3) Under Section 24, Housing Act, 1957	Nil	Nil

5. Unfit Houses in Temporary Use (Housing Act, 1957):—
Position at end of year:

	No. of Houses (1)	No. of separate dwellings contained in column (1) (2)
(1) Retained for temporary accommodation—		
(a) Under Section 48	Nil	Nil
(b) Under Section 17(2)	Nil	Nil
(c) Under Section 46	Nil	Nil
(2) Licensed for temporary occupation under Sections 34 or 53	Nil	Nil

6. Purchase of Houses by Agreement:—

Houses in Clearance Areas other than those included in confirmed Clearance Orders or Compulsory Purchase Orders, purchased during the year ...

No. of Houses	No. of occupants of houses in column (1)
(1)	(2)
Nil	Nil

7. Housing Act, 1949, and Housing (Financial Provisions) Act, 1958—Improvement grants, etc.:—	Private bodies or individuals		Local Authority	
	Number of schemes	Number of dwelling-houses or other buildings affected	Number of schemes	Number of dwelling-houses or other buildings affected

Action during year:—

(a) Submitted by private individuals to local authority	17	17	Nil	Nil
(b) Approved by local authority	14	14	Nil	Nil
(c) Submitted by local authority to Ministry	—	—	Nil	Nil
(d) Finally approved by Ministry	—	—	Nil	Nil
(e) Work completed	7	7	Nil	Nil
(f) Additional separate dwellings included in (e) above	None			
(g) Any other action taken under the Acts ...	None			

Housing of the Aged

The scheme to build 16 Bungalows in Brindle Road adjoining the Council's Withy Trees Estate was finalized by the end of the year. Building of the bungalows is to be commenced early 1959. The County Council are subsidizing the welfare side of the services provided, which will include a full-time resident warden, communal laundry, and social centre, and a call bell system to enable help to be obtained by the occupant in an emergency. Many applications have been received from aged people in the district for accommodation in the bungalows and it may well be that the Council must consider a further scheme in another suitable part of the district at an early date.

It should be possible to report on the development of the first scheme next year.

Schools

It has not been possible to make a general survey similar to that carried out in 1956.

It is known, however, from some individual inspections that many improvements in the Sanitary and washing accommodation have been effected. The Walton-le-Dale County Secondary School opened in 1957, has relieved some of the pressure from the Church Schools, and no doubt when the new Roman Catholic Secondary School is opened this will further lighten the load on the surrounding Schools and at least reduce the numbers using the inadequate Sanitary accommodation.

Atmospheric Pollution

Some further progress has been made with industrial plants to reduce the visible pollution. A reduction in the smoke effluent has been noticeable and much spade work has been carried out by the Public Health Inspector which should show results within the next few years.

It is disappointing to report that the Council has not fully implemented the Clean Air Act by making preliminary proposals for a Smoke Control area. The domestic pollution is quite substantial and steps should be taken to mitigate it.

Water Supply

The chlorination plants at No. 1 and No. 2 intakes were installed and commenced to operate during the latter part of 1958. A satisfactory safeguard now exists to secure a continuous safe supply to the district.

The village of Walton-le-Dale is served by Preston Authority and the quality of this water has maintained a high bacterial standard throughout the year.

Factories

Factory inspections have been carried out at premises when visits were made for other purposes. Details will be found in the Public Health Inspector's Report.

It has not been necessary for me to visit any of these premises during the year.

New Legislation

Housing (Financial Provisions) Act, 1958.
 Landlord and Tenant (Temporary Provisions) Act, 1958.
 Litter Act, 1958.
 Local Government Act, 1958.
 New Towns Act, 1958.
 Physical Training and Recreation Act, 1958.
 Slaughter of Animals Act, 1958 (18/1/59).
 Slaughterhouses Act, 1958.
 Water Act, 1958.
 Milk (Special Designations) (Specified Areas) Order 1958.
 Milk (Special Designations) (Specified Areas) No. 2 Order, 1958.
 Public Health (Preservatives etc. in Food (Amendment) Regulations, 1958.
 Slaughter of Animals (Prevention of Cruelty) Regulations, 1958 (1/1/59).
 Slaughterhouses (Hygiene) Regulations, 1958 (1/1/59).
 Slaughterhouses (Meat Inspection Grant) Regulations, 1958.
 Clean Air Act (Appointed Day) Order, 1958.
 Dark Smoke (Permitted Periods) Regulations, 1958.
 Petroleum Spirit (Conveyance by Road) Regulations, 1958.

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 1958

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

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I am pleased once again to present to you my Annual Report.

In accordance with a request from the Ministry of Housing and Local Government, an attempt has been made to complete this report at an earlier date than in former years. In compiling the Medical Officer's and my own report, delay is encountered from the Registrar General, because vital statistics are received at a date which makes it difficult to produce the report earlier than the second half of the succeeding year. Likewise with figures and tables on Public Cleansing. The Council's financial year is March and April, and figures for a calendar year are not so easily available. By this time much of the information is out of date and its news value considerably lessened.

In the preamble to my report last year I noted the changing pattern of Local Health and environmental services. This change still continues, and each year sees progress made in one or more spheres of Public Health.

There are practically no houses in the district unfit for human habitation which cannot be made fit at a reasonable expense. The programme of slum clearance will be completed by 1960, and we are gradually seeing a big improvement made to existing houses by repair and reconditioning. There is very little overcrowding in the area and hardly any housing problems.

Food Hygiene still plays a main part in the activities of the department, although there has been less time spent on this than in 1957.

Atmospheric pollution from domestic and industrial premises gives rise for concern. The amount of aerial sewage is increasing. Road vehicles continue to pour out their poisonous fumes and whilst many warnings are sent out to owners of vehicles committing this offence, the authority for administering the law in these cases, however, remain very passive.

The control of visible pollution from premises must sooner or later be proceeded with. The sooner the better. Recorded pollution from the Council's instruments is far higher than average for an Urban area of its kind.

The amount of meat inspection was slightly less than the previous year. Some 9,862 beasts inspected as against 10,945 in 1957. The common bacillus of Tuberculosis has been found to be less than in former years, particularly in clean cattle. The Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food have played a major part in reducing this wasting disease amongst cattle, principally by their Attested Herd Scheme and Specified Areas. It is forecast that by 1965 Bovine Tuberculosis will have been completely eradicated.

Animal diseases generally are on the decline. This is reflected in the post mortem inspection. Liver fluke in cattle is still high particularly after a rainy season.

During the latter part of 1958 a survey was made of Sanitary Accommodation (pail and privy middens) at dwelling houses and farms.

It was pleasing too to find that there was less of each type than we had in our records. Most of the pails in use at dwellings are situated in unsewered areas and unless the areas are sewered or Septic tanks installed there is no chance of these being abolished.

A survey of Septic tanks and cesspools has also been made, details of which will be found under the section of Housing.

I have highlighted the principal activities of this department during the year. Other matters concerning the Health of the public such as milk, other foods, and general inspections, will be found in the body of the report.

To conclude, may I extend my thanks to the Chairman and Members of the Council, to the Chairman of the Public Health Committee, and members for their courtesy and encouragement. To the staff of the Health Department, Mr. J. R. Williams, Mr. F. Burgin and Mrs. A. Barrow, for their unfailing help and co-operation at all times, and for their continued loyalty throughout the year.

I remain,

Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your obedient servant.

G. N. CORBISHLEY.

1. Visits and Inspections made

Factories (specific)	43
Rodent Control	106
Atmospheric Pollution	82
Refuse Collection Service	116
Movable Dwellings	17
Miscellaneous	103

2. Housing

Houses inspected under Public Health and Housing Acts ...	420
Filthy and verminous premises	45

3. Infectious Diseases

Inquiries into cases of Infectious Disease	127
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4. Meat and Food Inspections

Slaughterhouses	449
Food Preparing Premises	89
Ice Cream	5
Milk (Bacteriological)	54
Miscellaneous Food Visits	5

A total of 1,684 premises were visited and 2,139 visits made.

Work of converting insanitary closets proceeded slowly during the year. Four pail and 12 waste water closets were converted.

Notices Served and Defects Discovered

Notices:

Informal	214
Formal	17
Informal complied with	190
Formal complied with	17
Notices served on dwellings	200
Notices served on premises other than dwellings	14

Summary of Defects:

Gutters	1
Roofs and rainwater pipes	5
Sinks and waste pipes	1
Floors	1
Windows and reveals	3
Plasterwork	4
W.C.s	2
Drains	213
Dampness	4
Dustbins	2
Accumulations of refuse	2
Housing of Animals	12
Miscellaneous	2

Total defects discovered	252
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Housing

Housing conditions in the district continue to be satisfactory and has even improved on last year's report. The number of totally unfit dwellings now remaining on the Council's Slum Clearance 5 year programme now number 6 out of a total of 81 previously scheduled in 1955.

There are rows of terraced houses owned by industrialists in the district for housing their employees which are reasonably fit and well maintained. They lack modern sanitary amenities but are structurally sound. The owners are reluctant to spend money on repairs and improvement although the rents will be increased and would prefer the houses to remain empty and then demolish when the whole terrace becomes vacant. The number of unoccupied dwellings is higher than last year, 80 as against 60 in 1957. Owners are not able to sell at their price possibly due to the large number of new houses being built in the area at a reasonable price, and to the satisfactory housing position.

Rent Act, 1957

The number of applications received for Certificates of Disrepair continued to be made and some 16 were dealt with. 3 Certificates of Disrepair were issued, in the other cases the repairs were carried out within the specified time. Many tenants who have received rent increase notices from their landlords have paid the increase and not taken advantage of the opportunity to get general repairs carried out, they do not wish to oppose the landlord for fear of reprisals. Where the owners have agreed to carry out the repairs listed in the tenants Form G, difficulty has been experienced in obtaining a Contractor, and many of these firms are reluctant to work on general repairs, when there is so much new work available which is cleaner and more profitable.

Movable Dwellings

With the completion of the Preston Bye-pass in December the caravans dotted at various parts of the district adjoining the motorway, occupied by foremen and others engaged on the road construction, disappeared.

Only one person made application to stay permanently in the district. This was granted for a period of 6 months only. There are only 8 individual caravans in the district which are licensed for periods not exceeding 12 months.

An owner of a plot of land adjoining a house in Cuerdale Lane made application for planning permission to establish a permanent site. The result of the application had not been received at the end of the year. One other application was refused by the Ministry after a local Inquiry.

Sanitary Accommodation

From the date of the retirement of my predecessor in 1952 the figures reported for the numbers of water closets, waste water, and pail closets have been arrived at by adding and deducting as necessary the conversions each year from the previous year's total. The opinion was held that these figures may have been incorrect and a survey was conducted to find out the true position.

The survey was to determine the number of premises not served by the public sewer system, the number of septic tanks and the number of pail closets. With the available staff it is not practicable to check upon the recorded number of waste water closets, which remains at 95.

Survey has shown that 43 premises use pail closets, and that 52 pail closets exist.

		<i>Premises</i>	<i>Pails</i>
Domestic	... ..	23	23
Farms	... ..	19	19
Industrial	... ..	1	10

Premises which have water closets, and private tank disposal systems number 104. A scheme has been instituted for the emptying of private tanks on request or advice from the Department. The Gully Emptying Vehicle of the Highways Department is utilised for this purpose.

No privy middens have been found on the survey.

Thirty-eight dry ashpits are confined to farm premises. Although the location of all of them is not known, further survey will reveal them.

With the exception of the industrialist noted above, all firms have public sewer facilities available.

Drainage

The free service to owners and occupiers of premises for clearing choked drains and testing and surveying drainage systems was maintained throughout the year. Choked drains are cleared on request and some 213 requests were made. This entailed 300 visits.

The amount of new drainage work smoke tested has been quite substantial. The drainage system of all new premises including some 110 dwellings were tested in this way and a line diagram made in each case and filed for future reference.

Co-operation from house builders has been particularly noticeable and all requests for testing were carried out within 24 hours.

Rodent Control

The control of properties and land infested with rats and mice continued and was developed during the year.

The introduction in April of a small van has greatly increased the survey work, particularly at farms and watercourses with the result that more treatments have been carried out as a result of survey and few complaints have been received.

The subsidy received from the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food for half the cost of treating private dwellings will cease at the end of March, 1959. The Council will still continue with the full scheme and be responsible for treating dwellings free of charge. The Ministry notified us of the cessation of Farm Contracts as from December, 1958. This service carried out for farms and similar holdings worked quite admirably and as a result of the termination will place additional work on the Local Authority service.

TABLE OF VISITS

	TYPE OF PROPERTY		
	Non-agricultural		Agricultural
	Dwelling houses	All Other	
(a) Number of properties in district ...	5511	334	100
(b) Number of properties inspected ..	661	42	59
(c) Total inspections carried out (incl. re-inspections) ...	Not available		
(d) Number of properties inspected which were found to be infested by:			
Rats—major ...	2	1	—
minor ...	51	35	8
Mice—major ...	—	—	—
minor ...	10	—	—
(e) Number of infested properties treated	61	38	8
(f) Total treatments carried out (incl. re-treatments) ...	61	44	8
(g) Number of "Block" control schemes carried out ...		Nil	

Clean Air

On a national basis the interest in removing pollution from the air which we are breathing has been maintained. At the local level interest in the removal of air pollution is in many areas moribund, particularly so with reference to domestic pollution.

The Local Authority Officers cannot make full use of the Act without active support from the elected representatives. Without it, pollution remains.

Two interesting films on Atmospheric Pollution were shown to the Council towards the end of the year, one depicting the efforts of the Electricity Board to minimise pollution and the second film from the North Western Gas Board showing how pollution can be minimised by the use of gas.

It was also arranged that these films should be shown to the public at some suitable place when it could be arranged.

Measurement of Pollution

Recording instruments have been kept in operation throughout the year, this has entailed daily attention and little spectacular has resulted. However it is only on the basis of daily recording of unbiased data, that a correct assessment of the pattern of pollution may be determined. The monthly figures are shown below.

Month	Smoke			SO ₂		
	Min.	Max.	Mean	Min.	Max.	Mean
January	3.7	146.7	33.5	2.9	26.3	10.4
February	5.5	44.7	19.6	2.7	15.8	5.6
March	4.4	48.7	18.5	2.2	9.6	4.8
April	4.8	33.1	16.1	1.7	9.0	4.6
May	6.0	25.3	11.1	1.2	6.4	6.0
June	5.6	22.1	10.7	0.6	14.1	2.5
July	2.3	17.6	7.0	0.6	6.1	1.7
August	3.2	20.5	8.0	0.4	8.0	2.5
September	6.3	19.7	11.3	1.4	7.4	3.2
October	3.3	29.2	12.6	0.6	13.7	3.1
November	14.9	53.0	26.8	2.9	18.9	7.8
December	8.7	59.5	21.8	2.2	25.0	7.5

Smoke = P.P. 100M.

SO₂ = Milligrams per 100 cubic metres.

Pollution from Road Vehicles

Efforts have been maintained throughout the year to reduce as far as practicable pollution from this source. As work of this nature is not a duty the Department has been able to proceed without adverse criticism. The owners of offending vehicles have in all noted cases been written to. It appears, as previous experience had shown, that the owners of vehicles are unaware that their vehicles are causing offence. Attention to defects has been promised in all cases.

MEAT AND FOOD

Slaughterhouses

When de-control of meat supplies came into force in 1954, the Government envisaged that by 1960 moderate concentration of slaughtering would be an accomplished fact. This is far from being so. Moderate concentration has ceased to exist and the end of the six year period is in sight. A "Freedom to develop" period will soon be in being allowing either retailers or wholesalers to develop a slaughterhouse subject to condition of planning, hygiene, etc.

The two slaughterhouses in this district continued to operate satisfactorily although they are far from complying with the new standards recently published by the Government.

Carcases and offal inspected and condemned in whole or in part

	Excluding Cows	Cows	Calves	Sheep & Lambs	Pigs
Number killed	5,890	3,972	4	5,129	1
Number inspected	5,890	3,972	4	5,129	1
<i>All diseases except Tuberculosis and Cysticerci</i>					
Whole carcases condemned ..	6	33	3	16	1
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned ..	1,482	2,563	3	896	1
Percentage of the number inspected affected with disease other than tubercu- losis and cysticerci ...	25.16	64.52	75	17.46	100.0
<i>Tuberculosis only:</i>					
Whole carcases condemned ..	13	41	—	—	—
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned ..	240	847	—	—	—
Percentage of the number inspected affected with tuberculosis	4.07	21.32	—	—	—
<i>Cysticercosis</i>					
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned ..	30	4	—	—	—
Carcases submitted to treat- ment by refrigeration ...	30	4	—	—	—
Generalised and totally con- demned	—	—	—	—	—

The overall number of cattle slaughtered in the district has decreased during the year but the proportion of clean cattle has continued to rise reflecting the high quality of animals now being slaughtered for human consumption. Disease incidence other than Tuberculosis and Cysticercus Bovis has remained at the level of previous years. Tuberculosis in clean cattle has declined steeply from 7% to 4% although in cows it has tended to rise, probably due to the slaughter of reactors and the implementation of the Specified Areas Milk Scheme. Cysticercus Bovis has shown an increase from 26 to 34 cases.

Milk

During 1958, 101 samples of milk were submitted to the Public Health Laboratory, Preston. 74 raw milks and 29 heat treated. 16 of the raw samples gave unsatisfactory results, 5 of these were produced in the district. All the 29 heat treated milks were found to be satisfactory.

Raw Milks

Samples taken from Producers in the District.							Samples taken from Producers outside the District.						
Year	No. taken		Satisfactory		T.B. present		No. taken		Satisfactory		T.B. present		
	No.	%	No.	%			No.	%	No.	%			
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	
1957	37	...	28	75.0	...	0	33	...	23	70.0	...	3	
1958	21	...	16	76.0	...	0	53	...	42	79.0	...	1	

Pasteurised Milks

Year	Number Taken	Number Efficiently Heat Treated	%
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
1956	38	35	92.4
1957	28	28	100
1958	29	29	100

Tuberculosis in Milk

One sample of milk, produced outside the area and delivered to the Milk Marketing Board premises was found to be affected with tuberculosis. This case was notified to the appropriate authorities for action.

Ice Cream

There are only two premises in the district making and retailing their own ice cream, all the other retailers obtain their supplies from such well-known firms as Walls and Lyons, etc. The bacteriological standard is high, the 13 samples obtained were all found to be satisfactory.

Other Foods

The following shows the amount of food requiring rejection, being unfit for human consumption.

	lbs.	ozs.
Sausage	70	—
Lard	7	—
Tongue	66	—
Brawn	8	—
Boiled Ham	18	—
Beef (at Butchers' Shops)	172	—

Food Hygiene

Fewer visits were made to shop and other premises during the year regarding the application of the Food Hygiene Regulations. Nevertheless much progress has been made by individual retailers in the protection of food and many structural alterations have been carried out. The improvements effected have been to a higher standard than that normally required for food premises. This is all to the good and as each trader sees improvements made to his neighbour's shops he will strive to improve even on his neighbour's high standard.

Three new food shops were opened during the year. The proprietor in each case asked for and was given advice prior to the work being commenced.

Infectious Disease

The number of cases of Infectious Disease reported by Medical Practitioners was less than 1957. Scarlet Fever cases were all visited and where requested terminal disinfection was carried out.

Some 127 visits were made in connection with infectious disease principally concerned with Scarlet Fever.

Disinfection

Disinfection after infectious disease is on the decrease principally due to the diminishing virulence particularly of the cases of Scarlet Fever and also that it is not now considered necessary to fumigate as there is little likelihood of infection being passed from articles of clothing, etc. to other persons.

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

Beds fumigated	70	Articles of bedding fumigated	580
Books fumigated	178	Premises fumigated	48

Verminous Premises

Premises affected with cockroaches, bugs and fleas in this district are in the minority and treatment is carried out on request.

Isolated cases of bug infestations were reported and a small number of houses treated for cockroach infestation. These infestations are not severe and are easily controllable with Gammexane powder.

Public Cleansing

House and Trade Refuse Collection and Disposal

It is the duty of a Local Authority to remove the domestic refuse regularly from dwellings and this has been maintained on a weekly basis throughout the year, except for one part of the Higher Walton district which receives an 8 day collection. It is anticipated that with the development of the district and the large number of new houses being built some extension of the service will have to be considered.

The replacement of two of the 10 year old vehicles with those of a larger type will help to overcome the problem, by reducing the number of visits to the disposal centre. The distances walked to collect and empty one dustbin on the new dwellings is on the increase. Houses are sited in most cases some 20 to 25 yards from the roadway and where cul de sacs are constructed on housing estates without vehicular access then the distance becomes unrealistic.

In order to overcome part of this problem special bin carrying trolleys were introduced during the year, one on each vehicle. They proved an advantage in many cases and were on the whole appreciated by the workmen.

Few staff changes occurred and the amount of sickness amongst the men was less than in 1957.

The salvage of waste paper, ferrous and non ferrous metals continued apace and the tonnage collected was similar to last year. The figures shown in the following tables are based on the Council's financial year and not on a calendar year. This saves time in working out proportions of an annual return and is more up to date than if a figure at the end of the year was stated.

Salvage

The total amount received for salvage is similar to last year.

Gross Expenditure	£14,360
Gross Income	£3,128
Net Expenditure	£11,140
Population	16,330
Houses Scavenged	5,511
Wages of Drivers at December, 1958	£9 11 10 per week
Wages of Collectors at December, 1958	£9 4 2 per week

Comparative Cost of House Refuse Collection for the Years 1924, 1944, 1954 & 1958

Year	1924	1944	1954	1958
No. of Houses Scavenged	2,828	4,126	4,885	5,511
Gross Cost of Service	£2,205	£4,402	£10,373	£14,360
Salvage and other credits	Nil	£1,586	£2,256	£3,128
Nett cost of Service	£2,205	£2,815	£8,116	£11,140

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

	Tons	Cwts.	Qrs.	lbs.	£	s.	d.
Paper	267	9	2	—	2,541	1	3
Textiles	13	1	1	14	179	8	10
Non-Ferrous Metals	2	9	2	6	204	17	0
Cast Iron	7	11	3	—	55	3	7
Light Iron	1	2	3	—	1	14	2
Use of Tip					39	4	0
Totals	292	14	3	20	£3,021	8	10

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
1957	...	...	...	292	14	2	5	...	2,999	1	4
1958	...	...	...	292	14	3	20	...	3,021	8	10

ENGINEER AND SURVEYOR'S REPORT

This brief Report covers the period 1st January, 1958, to 31st December, 1958.

1. Highways

Authorised expenditure over the last 5 years.					
Classification	1958	1957	1956	1955	1954
Class I (3.07 miles)	£8,004 (£2,620/mile)	£5,109 (£1,665/mile)	£3,678 (£1,195/mile)	£7,469 (£2,435/mile)	£3,228
Class II (2.22 miles)	£2,107 (£950/mile)	£5,612 (£2,530/mile)	£3,742 (£1,685/mile)	£3,191 (£1,440/mile)	£3,231
Class III (2.39 miles)	£2,889 (£1,210/mile)	£2,279 (£952/mile)	£4,580 (£1,915/mile)	£1,258 (£527/mile)	£1,041*
Unclassified (17.14 miles) ...	£17,454 (£1,019/mile)	£5,383 (£326/mile)	£8,642 (£580/mile)	£10,135** (£685/mile)	£6,315
Totals ...	£30,454	£18,383	£20,642	£22,053	£13,815

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

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

The increased allotment for Class I roads enabled a further section of A.675 at Houghton to be resurfaced.

With the increased funds available for unclassified roads, as promised last year, a start was made on widening the extremely bad bends in Bank Head Lane near its junction with Brindle Road, and with resurfacing.

Discussions were begun with the Ministry of Transport concerning their contribution to the cost of repairs to district roads damaged by motorway contractors' traffic.

The year saw the completion and opening of the Preston Bye-pass Motorway, and even in the few winter days to the end of the period under review, its value in relieving traffic on Station Road was noticeable.

The scheme for the Birmingham/Preston Special Road which continues the Motorway southward, was approved.

2. Street Lighting

No additions were made to Group "A" lighting during the year. (All Trunk, Class I and Class II roads—except Cuerdale Lane—are now lighted to Group "A" standard).

The Council's policy of lighting private streets and building estates to group "B" standard as the streets were made up was continued.

3. Private Streets

Schemes were prepared under the Private Street Works Act 1892 for 12 streets:—Kingsway, Sergeant Street, Smith Street, Tyne Street, Hodson Street, Co-operative Street, Duke Street, Cranborne Street, St. Aidan's Road, Prince's Road, Queen's Road and a Passage off Alma Row.

The making up of 13 streets was completed:—Victoria Street, Sephton Street, Houghton Street, Bridge Road, The Crescent, Southlands Avenue, Havelock Road, Winery Lane, Ellen Street, Kingsway, Smith Street, Sergeant Street and Tyne Street.

At the time of writing (June, 1959) there are 37 unmade private streets (excluding back passages) on which no action has been taken by the Council:—

All Saints Ward	4	Scheme being prepared for 1 street.
Central Ward	6	
South Ward	12	
St. Leonard's Ward	12	
West Ward	3	

In addition to the adoption of completed private streets, three streets:— St. Mary's Avenue (part), St. Mary's Close (part) and Brindle Close—were adopted under the terms of Agreements made with the developers under s.146 of the Public Health Act, 1875.

4. Sewerage and Surface Water Drainage.

Bank Head Lane crosses, on high embankments, several streams, and during the year the retaining wall to one of them—Bank Head Brook—collapsed damaging the highway and a water main. Repair work was carried out by extending the culvert and forming an extensive embankment to replace the original unjointed, unsafe stone retaining wall.

A scheme was prepared and approved by the Council (to be carried out next year) for connecting septic tanks at Todd Lane North to the sewer in the road.

As after the Todd Lane scheme is completed, there will remain comparatively few septic tanks for which sewerage facilities are unlikely to be provided, the Council decided to empty septic tanks, using the newly acquired gulley emptier, without charge to the owners of the tanks.

5. Sewage Disposal

Towards the end of the period under review, the Ministry gave Notice of intention to hold an Inquiry into the Council's application for borrowing powers to finance reconstruction of the sewage disposal works.

A scheme to provide shower baths, lockers and a mess room at the sewage disposal works was approved.

6. Flooding

The only cases of flooding known were in Alma Row, Gregson Lane. The roadway was flooded following heavy rain washing various debris into the culvert under Alma Row.

Sewage entered two houses following a partial blockage in a sewer.

7. Council Housing

At the beginning of the period 46 houses and flats were under construction, compared with 44 at the beginning of the previous year.

During the period all 46 of the above dwellings were completed and occupied.

The schemes for 16 aged persons bungalows and a community block with Warden's flat at Brindle Road, and 4 single bedroom bungalows at Moon Street were approved by the Ministry and work was begun in December in Brindle Road.

The scheme for the improvement of 2, Montgomery Street (which was bought last year by the Council) was completed.

During the year 18 applications were received for improvement grants to private houses.

8. Playing Fields

The toilet block at the Holme Playing Field was completed.

There are now toilets at the Holme, King Georges Field and Gregson Lane Playing Field. The only Council owned Playing Field without toilets is the field at St. Cuthbert's Road.

King George's Field, Higher Walton, has a wooden pavilion, Gregson Lane field has a pavilion owned by a private sports club, but the other fields have no changing facilities.

9. Staff

For the first time in 12 years, there were no staff changes in my Department during the year.

10. Plans and Planning

During the year 344 applications relating to 515 permanent buildings and 105 temporary buildings were dealt with under the Council's byelaws and 168 applications were dealt with under Planning legislation.

11. Transport and Plant

The gulley emptying machine was delivered in March.

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

Vehicle	Date registered	Miles	Petrol gallons	m.p.g.	Remarks
Fordson Thames	1955	12,871	1,227	10.43	
Fordson Van	1959	12,751	425	30.1	
Fordson Thames	1956	14,317	1,261	11.37	
Bedford Sweeper	1957	8,662	1,228	7.05	
Karrier Gulley Emptier	1958	2,607	822	3.18	From 1st April only
Totals		51,208	4,963	—	

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

1. Sources of Water

Thirlmere and Haweswater—Manchester Corporation.

Rivers Ribble and Hodder and Longridge Fell—Preston Corporation.

The Council's own wells at School Lane and Brindle have not been used for over 23 years.

2. Quality of Water

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

Thirlmere water has lime added at the strainer well in the lake and is chlorinated at Kendal. This water is again chlorinated by the Council before distribution, at both intake houses where the Council draws from the aqueducts at Houghton.

Preston water is chlorinated at Grimsargh, and will shortly be passed through micro-strainers when the construction of those at Grimsargh is completed.

3. Area of Supply

Supplies are given to certain consumers at Houghton and Brindle and a bulk supply was provided to part of the parish of Cuerden up to November, all within the Chorley R.D.

All premises (except 3 farms with private supplies) in the Urban District are supplied with mains water.

The estimated total population supplied was 17,000.

4. Quantity Supplied

Manchester Corporation:—				1958 gallons		1957 gallons
No. 1 Meter House	...	...	...	103,657,000	...	106,309,000
No. 2 Meter House	...	...	...	205,080,000	...	189,964,000
Preston Corporation	...	...	...	50,888,000	...	50,947,000
Total Supply				359,625,000	...	347,220,000
Less bulk supply to Cuerden				3,114,000	...	3,509,000
Total Consumption in U.D. and parts of Houghton and Brindle				356,511,000	...	343,711,000

Note. Water retained in the service reservoirs at Brindle and Gough Lane has been disregarded in the above table, as the total storage capacity when full is only 980,000 gallons, or about 23½ hours consumption.

5. Consumption

	1958	per head day gallons	1957	per head day gallons
Total Consumption ...	356,511,000	59.2	343,711,000	57.07
Metered consumption ...	173,582,000	28.8	147,550,000	24.5
"Domestic" Consumption ...	182,929,000	30.4	196,161,000	32.57

Note. Domestic consumption includes all un-metered uses of water including fire fighting, building water, mains flushing, sewer flushing, street sweeping and losses due to bursts.

Total water consumption continues to show an increase.

Private building continued at a high rate and consequently much water was used on building sites. As the houses were occupied—mainly by new residents coming to the district—consumption increased further.

The issue of planning consents for new buildings suggests that the consumption of water will continue to increase for several years, due to the increase in population of the district. The continuing provision of baths in houses not so equipped, will also increase the consumption of water.

6. Distribution

1. WATERMAIN NETWORK.

The network was extended by the laying of the following mains:—

- 83 yds. 6" main in Marlborough Drive.
- 200 yds. 4" main in Norfolk Road.
- 177 yds. 4" main in Renshaw Drive.
- 75 yds. 4" main in Lydrick Avenue.
- 137 yds. 4" main in Kingsway.
- 77 yds. 3" main in St. Mary's Close.
- 167 yds. 3" main in St. Jude's Avenue.
- 80 yds. 3" main in Browndedge Close.
- 210 yds. 3" main in Stephendale Avenue.
- 64 yds. 3" main in Prince's Road.

The following renewals were carried out:—

- 127 yds. 3" main in Mayfield Avenue.
- 57 yds. 3" main in Rosemeade Avenue.

The following mains were laid in connection with the Motorway:—

- 215 yds. 6" main in Cottage Lane.
- 487 yds. 4" main in Brindle Road.
- 33 yds. 3" main in Brown Lane.

2. WATER METERS.

There are now about 450 meters in the district.

3. FIRE HYDRANTS.

The liaison with the County Fire Department, whereby all main extensions are submitted for that Department to indicate hydrant positions, was continued. The L.C.C. paid for all hydrants fixed in the chosen positions.

All hydrants were inspected regularly by the L.C.C. and necessary repairs carried out by this Council at the L.C.C.'s expense.

4. WASTE PREVENTION.

The Council employs two Inspectors who regularly inspect all house fittings and replace necessary washers without charge, and also report leaks and bursts on service pipes and mains.

The following table shows the work carried out by the Inspectors:—

	1958	1957	1956
Visits to premises by Inspectors	4,398	3,293	1,892
Taps re-washed	2,415	1,320	881
Cistern valves re-washed	478	374	260
Burst services discovered	443	311	477
Fractured mains repaired	27	18	20

The period under review is the second full year during which two Inspectors have been employed. The figures in the table illustrate clearly the value of the improved inspectors service.

The figures for bursts discovered show very little change as these are usually seen and reported, but the number of dripping taps repaired shows a dramatic increase. Dripping taps are a cause of considerable waste of water, particularly at night when pressures are high.

7. Reservoirs

The two reservoirs at Gough Lane and Brindle needed no extensive works during the year.

These reservoirs are fed in series from No. 1 connection to Thirlmere aqueducts, and operate more as balancing tanks than service reservoirs. They are seldom more than $\frac{1}{2}$ to $\frac{2}{3}$ full during daytime, except during the local holidays when industrial demand for water falls very considerably.

8. Water Treatment

The chlorinators at No. 1 and No. 2 meter houses were brought into service.

No. 1 chlorinator gives a fixed dose of chlorine as it feeds a main with an almost constant flow into the reservoirs of about 12500 gallons per hour.

No. 2 chlorinator is fitted with an automatic chlorine regulator as the main it feeds is connected direct from the aqueduct to the Council's main network. The flow at this connection varies with demand from about 14,000 to 30,000 gallons per hour.

9. Regrouping

Following discussions with adjoining Authorities, the Draft of the Preston and District Water Board Order was issued by the Ministry.

The Board will comprise Preston County Borough, the Urban Districts of Fulwood, Leyland, Longridge and Walton-le-Dale, the Rural District of Preston and parts of West Lancashire Rural District.

The Board will take over on 1st October, 1959.

STANLEY RACE,

A.M.I.C.E., M.I.Mun.E., A.M.I.W.E.,

Engineer and Surveyor.

