

[Report 1961] / Medical Officer of Health, Weymouth & Melcombe Regis Borough.

Contributors

Weymouth and Melcombe Regis (England). Borough Council.

Publication/Creation

1961

Persistent URL

<https://wellcomecollection.org/works/a9u954sm>

License and attribution

You have permission to make copies of this work under a Creative Commons, Attribution license.

This licence permits unrestricted use, distribution, and reproduction in any medium, provided the original author and source are credited. See the Legal Code for further information.

Image source should be attributed as specified in the full catalogue record. If no source is given the image should be attributed to Wellcome Collection.



Wellcome Collection
183 Euston Road
London NW1 2BE UK
T +44 (0)20 7611 8722
E library@wellcomecollection.org
<https://wellcomecollection.org>



ANNUAL REPORT

on the

HEALTH AND SANITARY
CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE
BOROUGH OF WEYMOUTH
AND MELCOMBE REGIS FOR
THE YEAR 1961



E. J. GORDON WALLACE, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.



BOROUGH OF
WEYMOUTH & MELCOMBE REGIS

*With the Compliments
of the
Medical Officer of Health*

HEALTH CENTRE,
WESTHAM ROAD,
WEYMOUTH

Telephone: Wey. 1645




ANNUAL REPORT

on the

Health and Sanitary Circumstances
of the Borough of Weymouth and
Melcombe Regis for the year 1961

E. J. GORDON WALLACE, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.
Medical Officer of Health



Digitized by the Internet Archive
in 2018 with funding from
Wellcome Library

<https://archive.org/details/b30268667>

TABLE OF CONTENTS

	<i>Page</i>
Introduction	7
Statistics	8
Infectious Diseases	12
Infestation	13
Notifiable Diseases	14
Food Poisoning	16
Pet Animals Act, 1951	16
National Assistance Act, 1948	17
Water Supply	17
Sewerage and Sewage Disposal	19
Housing	23
Mosquito and Midge Control	27
Caravans and Camping Sites	28
Food Hygiene	30
Ice Cream	32
Milk Supplies	32
Food Supplies	33
Noise Abatement Act, 1960	36
Clean Air Act, 1956	37
Rodent Control	38
Legal Proceedings under Public Health Act, 1936	39
Public Conveniences	39
Statistics of Sanitary Administration	43
Meteorological Report	47

PUBLIC HEALTH COMMITTEE



THE MAYOR (Alderman W. E. WARD, J.P.)

Alderman A. BILES, O.B.E., J.P. (*Chairman*)

Alderman E. W. PRIDDLE (*Vice-Chairman*)

Alderman W. A. FORY

Councillor G. A. HUTCHINGS

Ald. Mrs. I. A. LEGH

Councillor C. F. LINNITT, J.P.
B.SC

Alderman J. MERRIKIN

Councillor J. PACKWOOD

Ald. Mrs. C. WOOTTON, M.A.

Councillor F. D. ROWLAND

Councillor A. D. W. BILES

Councillor Mrs. F. G. THOMAS

STAFF — PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT

★ ★ ★

Medical Officer of Health :

E. J. GORDON WALLACE, M.B., CH.B., D.P.H.
Health Centre, Westham Road, Weymouth. Tel.: Weymouth 1645

Deputy Medical Officer of Health :

CHARLOTTE A. G. WARD, M.B., B.S., M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P.

Chief Public Health Inspector :

†*‡ H. HANDSCOMB, M.A.P.H.I.

District Public Health Inspectors :

†* R. G. S. NEWBOULD

†* A. L. HARRIS, M.A.P.H.I.

Assistant :

Mr. A. R. SMITH

† Certificate of the Royal Sanitary Institute and Sanitary Inspectors
Joint Board

* Meat and Food Inspectors Certificate of the Royal Sanitary Institute

‡ Smoke Inspectors Certificate of the Royal Sanitary Institute

Clerical Staff :

Mr. F. H. HOUSE

Mrs. L. MABB

HEALTH CENTRE,
WESTHAM ROAD,
WEYMOUTH
July, 1962

*To: His Worship the Mayor, Aldermen and Councillors of the
Borough of Weymouth and Melcombe Regis*

MR. MAYOR, LADIES AND GENTLEMEN,

I have the honour to submit for your information and consideration my Report for the year 1961 on the Health and Sanitary Circumstances of the Borough.

Once again it was a quiet year from the epidemiological point of view. 419 cases of measles were notified, the great majority of which occurred during the second and third quarters of the year. For the fourth successive year there was no poliomyelitis.

This was the first year in which the Caravan Sites and Control of Development Act, 1960 was in full operation. The Public Health Inspectors and Officers of the Town Planning Department had numerous meetings with the owners of the large caravan sites in the Borough and I am happy to report that the fullest co-operation was evident all round. Considerable progress, too, was made in the provision of main drainage facilities for the caravan sites in the Preston area.

This report gives details of the many duties carried out by the Public Health Inspectors under the able and energetic direction of Mr. H. Handscomb, Chief Public Health Inspector, to whom I am again most grateful for his help in compiling this Report.

I am happy to record my appreciation of the co-operation in the work of the Department afforded by my professional colleagues in practice in the Borough.

In conclusion, I wish to thank the members of the Town Council for their kindness and consideration and in particular, the Chairman and Members of the Health Committee for their support. I am also most grateful to my fellow officials and the Health Department Staff for their unfailing assistance throughout the year.

I have the honour to be,

Your obedient servant,

E. J. GORDON WALLACE,
Medical Officer of Health.

STATISTICS

Area (in acres) excluding 331 acres of tidal water	7,017
Mid-year Home Population (estimated by the Registrar General)	40,620
Estimated Number of Inhabited Houses (31st March, 1962)	12,500
Rateable Value (31st March, 1962)	£643.692
Sum represented by a Penny Rate (1961-62)	£2,612

CHIEF INDUSTRIES & EXTENT OF UNEMPLOYMENT

I am indebted to Mr. J. Mathews, Manager of the Weymouth Employment Exchange, for the following information:—

Registered Wholly Unemployed Persons

	1959			1960			1961		
	<i>Men</i>	<i>Women</i>	<i>Total</i>	<i>Men</i>	<i>Women</i>	<i>Total</i>	<i>Men</i>	<i>Women</i>	<i>Total</i>
March	259	146	405	158	110	268	156	62	218
June	174	55	229	102	36	138	67	19	86
September	212	32	244	97	25	122	94	14	108
December	276	96	372	154	88	242	181	83	264

The main industries in this area are:—

- Building and Civil Engineering
- Nationalised Industries
- Local and National Government Services
- Scientific Research
- Engineering
- Distributive
- Hotel and Catering
- Transport
- Docks, Shipping and Ship Repairing
- Railways
- Laundries
- Breweries
- Bakeries
- Television and Radio Equipment Manufacture
- Motor Vehicle Repair
- Agriculture

EXTRACTS FROM VITAL STATISTICS OF BOROUGH SUPPLIED BY THE REGISTRAR GENERAL FOR 1961

Total Births : 696

Birth Rate per 1,000 estimated population : 17.13

Comparability Factor : 1.00

Standardised Birth Rate : 17.13

Live Births : 678

		<i>Males</i>	<i>Females</i>	<i>Total</i>
Legitimate	...	336	314	650
Illegitimate	...	8	20	28
Total	...	<u>344</u>	<u>334</u>	<u>678</u>

Live Birth Rate per 1,000 estimated population : 16.69

Illegitimate Live Births per cent. of total live births : 4.13

Stillbirths : 18

		<i>Males</i>	<i>Females</i>	<i>Total</i>
Legitimate	...	5	13	18
Illegitimate	...	—	—	—
Total	...	<u>5</u>	<u>13</u>	<u>18</u>

Stillbirth rate per 1,000 (live and still) births : 25.86

Deaths : 555 Males : 261 Females : 294

Death rate per 1,000 estimated population : 13.66

Comparability Factor : 0.95

Standardised Death Rate : 12.97

Deaths of Infants under 1 Year of Age :

		<i>Males</i>	<i>Females</i>	<i>Total</i>
Legitimate	...	10	6	16
Illegitimate	...	—	1	1
Total	...	<u>10</u>	<u>7</u>	<u>17</u>

Deaths of Infants under 4 Weeks of Age :

		<i>Males</i>	<i>Females</i>	<i>Total</i>
Legitimate	...	6	3	9
Illegitimate	...	—	—	—
		—	—	—
Total	...	6	3	9
		—	—	—

Deaths of Infants under 1 Week of Age :

		<i>Males</i>	<i>Females</i>	<i>Total</i>
Legitimate	...	5	3	8
Illegitimate	...	—	—	—
		—	—	—
Total	...	5	3	8
		—	—	—

Infant Mortality Rates :

All Infants per 1,000 live births	...	...	...	...	25.07
Legitimate infants per 1,000 legitimate live births	...			...	24.61
Illegitimate infants per 1,000 illegitimate live births	...			...	35.71
Neo-Natal Mortality Rate	...	...	...	...	13.27
Early Neo-Natal Mortality Rate	...	...	...	...	11.79
Perinatal Mortality Rate	...	...	...	...	37.35
Deaths from Puerperal causes	...	...	...	...	—
Maternal Mortality Rate	...	...	...	...	—

TOTAL DEATHS, 1961 (Registrar General's Official Returns)

All Causes : 555. Males : 261. Females : 294

<i>Cause of Death</i>	<i>Males</i>	<i>Females</i>
1. Tuberculosis—Respiratory	1	1
2. Tuberculosis—Other	—	—
3. Syphilitic Disease	—	2
4. Diphtheria	—	—
5. Whooping Cough	—	—
6. Meningococcal Infections	—	—
7. Acute Poliomyelitis	—	—
8. Measles	—	1
9. Other Infective and parasitic diseases	—	—
10. Malignant neoplasm, stomach	5	7
11. Malignant neoplasm, lung bronchus ...	15	2
12. Malignant neoplasm, breast	—	7
13. Malignant neoplasm, uterus	—	8
14. Other malignant and lymphatic neoplasms	20	31
15. Leukaemia, aleukaemia	—	—
16. Diabetes	3	7
17. Vascular lesions of nervous system ...	35	54
18. Coronary disease, angina	63	48
19. Hypertension with heart disease	3	11
20. Other heart disease	27	42
21. Other circulatory disease	5	8
22. Influenza	3	4
23. Pneumonia	12	17
24. Bronchitis	20	9
25. Other diseases of respiratory system ...	3	3
26. Ulcer of stomach and duodenum	3	1
27. Gastritis, enteritis and diarrhoea	2	3
28. Nephritis and nephrosis	4	—
29. Hyperplasia of prostate	5	—
30. Pregnancy, childbirth, abortion	—	—
31. Congenital malformations	4	4
32. Other defined and ill-defined diseases	19	18
33. Motor vehicle accidents	3	—
34. All other accidents	5	5
35. Suicide	1	1
36. Homicide and operations of war	—	—
TOTAL	261	294

COMMENTS ON THE VITAL STATISTICS

Birth Rate

The standardised birth rate of 17.13 was slightly lower than that of the previous year.

Live births exceeded the number of deaths by 123.

Deaths

The total number of deaths was 555—261 males and 294 females, giving a crude death rate of 13.66 per thousand population. By applying the comparability factor, the standardised

death rate is found to be 12.97. (The Comparability Factor is worked out for each district by the Registrar General. Its object is to level out differences in the age and sex constitution of the population of the various districts and has been adjusted specifically to take account of the presence of any residential institution in the area. When the local crude death rate is multiplied by the appropriate area comparability factor it is comparable with the crude rate for England and Wales or with the corresponding adjusted rate for any other area).

Poliomyelitis Vaccination

This is the responsibility of the Dorset County Council as Local Health Authority.

During 1961, a further 1,757 persons were given the initial protection of two injections of Salk vaccine and it is estimated that 70% of those in the 16—40 year age group resident in the South Dorset Area have now been given protection.

Immunisation against Diphtheria

Of children examined at Routine School Medical Inspections during 1961, 98% were found to have been protected against Diphtheria.

The following table is taken from School Medical Inspection returns :

<i>Year</i>	<i>Percentage of children examined who were fully protected</i>			
1947	98.8
1953	97.17
1955	96.42
1958	98.6
1959	99.2
1960	96.3
1961	98.0

Superannuation

During the year 27 persons were medically examined as to their fitness for inclusion in the Council's Superannuation Scheme.

Laboratory Facilities

The County Laboratory at Dorchester, under the direction of Dr. T. V. Cooper, and the separate Public Health Laboratory there, under Dr. G. H. Tee, have given every possible assistance in the work of the Health Department and their ready co-operation at all times has been very much appreciated.

INFESTATION

Scabies and Head Infestation

The tables which follow show that the incidence of Scabies and head-lice remains low.

It will be remembered that Scabies is a notifiable disease in the Borough.

Scabies

<i>Year</i>	<i>Total No notified</i>	<i>No. Notified by Practitioner</i>	<i>No. Notified by Public Health Dept.</i>	<i>Total Number of Treatments (incl. contacts)</i>
1944	598	124	474	1882
1945	275	72	203	1078
1946	198	63	135	992
1947	80	32	48	599
1948	71	23	48	241
1949	26	6	20	67
1950	30	7	23	54
1951	9	3	6	15
1952	16	6	10	25
1953	19	3	16	31
1954	11	2	9	18
1955	6	2	4	10
1956	3	3	—	4
1957	6	1	5	6
1958	6	6	—	7
1959	22	22	—	28
1960	10	10	—	34
1961	2	2	—	4

Head Infestation

<i>Year</i>	<i>Number of Infested Persons</i>	<i>Adult</i>	<i>School</i>	<i>Under 5</i>	<i>Total No. of Treatments</i>
1944	594	148	411	35	894
1945	305	87	283	35	405
1946	310	117	203	40	461
1947	164	40	96	28	304
1948	143	19	110	14	266
1949	106	13	80	13	197
1950	109	20	71	18	173
1951	99	11	78	10	184
1952	70	6	60	4	83
1953	53	4	47	2	57
1954	24	1	21	2	36
1955	35	1	32	2	53
1956	52	5	43	4	56
1957	28	—	28	—	32
1958	29	3	26	—	36
1959	46	2	43	1	53
1960	84	11	61	12	175
1961	47	7	36	4	79

Notifiable Diseases, other than Tuberculosis, during 1961

[illegible][illegible]

Notifications and Deaths from Tuberculosis, 1948-1961

<i>Year</i>	<i>Non-Pulmonary</i>		<i>Pulmonary</i>	
	<i>Notifications</i>	<i>Deaths</i>	<i>Notifications</i>	<i>Deaths</i>
1948	6	—	27	12
1949	18	2	35	7
1950	4	1	30	12
1951	3	—	31	6
1952	1	—	28	4
1953	12	1	37	10
1954	4	1	24	3
1955	4	—	26	1
1956	5	—	25	3
1957	3	1	20	4
1958	—	—	22	1
1959	—	1	19	1
1960	2	—	17	1
1961	1	—	18	2

Verminous Persons

As it is desirable that arrangements for dealing with verminous persons should be carried out with a minimum of delay, the Town Council in June, 1953, delegated their powers and duties under Section 85 of the Public Health Act, 1936, including the institution of legal proceedings, to a special committee consisting of the Chairman, Vice-Chairman and one other member of the Health Committee.

It was not necessary to take any statutory action in connection with verminous persons during the year. .

Verminous Premises

Verminous premises are treated with liquid and powder insecticides and, where necessary, articles of clothing and bedding are treated in the Department's steam disinfectant plant.

Facilities are available at the Health Centre for personal cleansing and as far as possible the treatment of persons, their clothing and premises, is carried out simultaneously.

The number of houses disinfested during 1961 shows a slight decrease on the previous year. All infestations were minor in character and were generally eliminated after one thorough treatment.

For many years it has been the Council's policy to carry out disinfestation free of charge when occupiers call on the Department for advice. I am quite certain that this policy has been justified as the number of infestations occurring in a Borough of this size is comparatively small.

The number of houses disinfested was 27 and the types of infestation were as follows :

Bed Bugs	...	...	...	1
Fleas	...	...	...	18
Flies	...	...	...	4
Cockroaches or Beetles	...			4
				<hr/> 27 <hr/>

Disinfector Station

The Health Department's Manlove and Alliott steam disinfector plant was modernised in 1960 and worked satisfactorily throughout 1961.

During the year 719 articles were treated as compared with 144 for the previous year. This number includes a large consignment of blankets received from a holiday centre for routine disinfection.

Food Poisoning

I am pleased to report that no outbreaks of food poisoning occurred during the year and only three single cases were reported and investigated. Samples of faeces were available in two cases and Salmonella (Menston) was found to be the causative organism.

Humane Killer for Cats and Dogs

The Department has the use of apparatus supplied by the Royal Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals for the humane disposal of small animals.

I must once again thank the Society for their continued co-operation with the Health Department in connection with this work.

During the year 145 animals were dealt with.

Pet Animals Act, 1951

The total number of inspections of Pet Shops carried out by Public Health Inspectors under the Pet Animals Act, 1951, was 10. Three applications for renewal of licences to keep Pet Shops were received during the year. Licences were granted in each case subject to appropriate conditions relating to the humane treatment of animals.

Mortuary

The Town Mortuary in Commercial Road was not used during the year and all post-mortem examinations were carried out at the Weymouth and District Hospital where more satisfactory facilities are available.

I consider that it is still necessary to retain the Town Mortuary for use in any special emergencies which might arise.

National Assistance Act, 1948—Section 47

Under this Act the National Assistance (Amendment) Act, 1951, the Town Council is empowered to take steps to secure the removal to suitable accommodation of persons in need of care and attention.

During the year eight cases were dealt with and I am glad to say that it was not necessary to take any statutory action. All eight cases were provided with regular home help but two of the old people became so feeble that they had to be removed to hospital before the end of the year. All these old people were visited regularly by the Health Visitors and Public Health Inspectors.

Once again I am pleased to report that the Dorset County Council's Home Help Service proved of tremendous value throughout the year. Almost all old people wish to remain in their own homes and, in many cases, without the Home Help Service it would not be possible. In this connection I would like to pay a special tribute to the excellent work of Mrs. M. C. Brawley, the Home Help Organiser, who maintains close liaison with the staff of the Public Health Department.

The majority of routine visits to old people are made by the Health Visitors but the Public Health Inspectors made 35 visits in cases where action might have become necessary under the provisions of the Act. All cases dealt with by the Health Department were, of course, kept under periodic review.

At the end of the year the Town Council had 94 Old Persons' Bungalows and plans had been made for building 46 more as follows :-

Radipole House Site	...	...	...	20
Camp Road	...	...	...	4
(Building in progress during 1961)				
Leamington Road	...	...	...	3
(Building in progress during 1961)				
Downclose Estate	...	...	...	19
(Building in progress during 1961)				

There were approximately 100 applicants for Old Persons' Bungalows on the registers of the Housing Department at the end of the year.

WATER SUPPLY

The water supply in the Borough is provided by Weymouth Waterworks Company. The main source of supply comes from Empool and Sutton Poyntz. The water is fairly hard as will be seen from the Chemical Analysis printed below.

Both quality and quantity of the supply were satisfactorily maintained throughout the year and no outbreaks of illness which could be attributed to water have occurred. The supply continues to be very good for drinking and domestic purposes and shows a high degree of purity.

I am pleased to report that once again the usual close co-operation was maintained with the Engineer and Manager of the Weymouth Waterworks Company, Mr. S. E. Barrett, A.M.Inst.C.E., and the exchange of sample results between the Health Department and the Company continued during 1961.

SUMMARY OF BACTERIOLOGICAL SAMPLES

<i>Total Samples Taken</i>	<i>Satisfactory</i>	<i>Unsatisfactory</i>	<i>Suspicious</i>
34	34	—	—

CHEMICAL ANALYSIS

Samples taken on 29th October, 1960

Physical Examination :	<i>Empool</i>	<i>Sutton Poyntz</i>
Colour	None	None
Appearance	Clear	Clear
Taste and Smell	Normal	Normal
General Chemical Examination:		
Reaction	pH 7.3	pH 7.5
Free Carbon Dioxide	<i>Parts per million</i>	
as CO ²	33	20
Ammoniacal Nitrogen as N	Less than 0.01	Less than 0.01
Albuminoid Nitrogen as N	0.01	0.02
Nitrous Nitrogen as N	Absent	Absent
Nitric Nitrogen as N ...	4	4.3
Hardness as CaCO ³ ...		
Temporary	213	173
Permanent	44	38
(Calc. for Mineral Analysis)		
Permanganate figure		
(4 hrs. @ 80° F) as C	0.03	0.32
Alkalinity as CaCO ³ ...	213	173
Total Solids	356	304
Calcium as CA	98	81
Magnesium as Mg	3	2
Sodium Na	12	11
Potassium K	1	0.5
Carbonate CO ³	128	104
Sulphate SO ⁴	8	24
Nitrate NO ³	18	19
Chloride Cl	21	10
Iron	Not detected : Not detected :	
	Less than 0.01 Less than 0.01	

WATER STANDPIPES

All houses in the Borough are supplied with water from the Waterworks Company's mains. There are no houses in the Borough supplied by water standpipes.

PUBLIC SWIMMING BATHS

There are three private swimming baths within the Borough but no public swimming baths. Two of these are open-air baths in the grounds of Broadwey Secondary Modern School and All Saints' School, Wyke Regis. They are for the exclusive use of children attending the schools. Periodic sampling of the water is carried out by the Health Department of Dorset County Council.

The third swimming bath is in the grounds of a large hotel. This is also an open-air bath and was built in 1960. Five samples of the swimming bath water were taken by the Health Department and were found to be satisfactory. The bath has its own continuous filtration and chlorination plant of the most modern design.

SEWERAGE AND SEWAGE DISPOSAL

1. Visit by Engineering Inspector, Ministry of Housing & Local Government

In November, Mr. R. F. Caple, an Engineering Inspector of the Ministry of Housing and Local Government, came to Weymouth to obtain up-to-date information regarding the Corporation's sewerage and sewage disposal system.

After full inquiry into all aspects of the Borough's sewerage system and drainage problems the Inspector toured the district with the Borough Engineer and saw, among other things, the places where special drainage difficulties are arising. The Inspector was particularly interested in the areas where surcharging of the sewers is causing trouble and made a special point of visiting the houses in Mayfield Close and Radipole Lane where overflowing cesspools have created serious public health problems during the summer months.

2. Preston Drainage Scheme

The Preston drainage scheme was completed during 1957 and I am pleased to report that by the end of 1961 a total of 522 houses in the Preston drainage area have been connected to the sewer. During the year 11 pre-war houses served by cesspools were redrained to the sewer.

I have mentioned in my earlier reports the arrangements made by the Corporation for the separation of surface water from the soil drainage system whereby owners are reimbursed for the additional cost of this work when carrying out redrainage of their houses. Surface water separation was necessary in only 3 of the 11 cases during 1961. The separation of surface water from soil drainage systems is essential for keeping to a minimum the volume of storm water which has to be pumped from the Weymouth Pumping Station—particularly during times of heavy rainfall.

Throughout the year a considerable amount of housing development was taking place in the Preston area and all new properties being built within the drainage area have been connected to the new sewer.

3. Jordan Valley Drainage Scheme

In my report for 1960 I mentioned that the Jordan Valley Scheme had been approved in principle and the first part of the work was carried out during the summer season of that year. Work on the second stage was resumed in October, 1961, but had not been completed by the end of the year.

When this sewer is completed it will be possible for the large caravan sites in Preston to install modern sanitary facilities, shower baths, wash basins and laundries.

In a later paragraph dealing with caravan and camping sites I refer to the Caravan Sites and Control of Development Act, 1960, which came into operation on the 1st September, 1960. This new Act requires all caravan sites to be provided with a high standard of sanitary accommodation, etc., and by the end of the year the Department had completed negotiations with the majority of licensees and agreed camp drainage schemes which it is hoped will be completed in time for the summer season of 1962.

It is expected that shortly after the completion of the Jordan Valley drainage scheme a large hotel, two cafes, a small number of houses and two public conveniences in the Bowleaze Cove area will be redrained to the sewer. These premises are at present served by septic tanks or cesspools.

4. Surcharging of Sewers

Complaints have been received for a number of years with regard to the surcharging of sewers in the following areas :-

Lanehouse Rocks Road
Roman Road
Coronation Crescent

The Meadows, Radipole
The Rectory, Radipole
Marsh Road
Weston Road
Springfield, Broadway
Littlemead, Broadway

This problem was before the Town Council on several occasions during 1961 and the Borough Engineer was asked to draw up schemes for relieving the sewers and to assess the order of priority in which remedial works should be carried out. No works to remedy surcharging were carried out during 1961.

5. Drainage of Houses in Mayfield Close and Radipole Lane

In my reports for the past four years I have mentioned difficulties which have arisen in this area where houses have cesspools overflowing to streams.

The Corporation's scheme to sewer the area, which required the co-operation of the owners, could not be carried out in 1957 as only seven owners agreed and twenty-three did not reply.

Conditions in this area continued to be unsatisfactory and serious public health nuisances occur each year. All cesspools serving these houses have overflows which discharge to streams and serious pollution of these streams occurs—particularly during the summer months.

A meeting took place in 1959 between the owners and representatives of the Corporation when it was agreed that renewed efforts should be made to carry out a drainage scheme. Unfortunately a number of owners would not co-operate in the scheme which eventually had to be abandoned.

When the Engineering Inspector of the Ministry of Housing and Local Government came to Weymouth in November he made special inquiry into conditions in the Mayfield Close and Radipole Lane area and visited the site. The Inspector was informed of the difficulties which the Corporation had encountered and it is understood that he may give the Corporation some advice or direction on how best to deal with this problem.

6. Drainage of Nos. 2, 4 and 6 Benville Road

These three houses are the only ones in a large built-up area not connected to the main sewer. They have separate cesspools and all three cesspools overflow into the stream at the rear of Benville Road.

In 1959 a further report on this problem was made to the Health Committee and it was agreed that an approach should be

made to the owners to see whether they would be prepared to co-operate in a drainage scheme prepared by the Town Council.

During the year final agreement was reached with all the owners but at the end of the year work had not been commenced.

7. Drainage of 72 - 86 Camp Road (even numbers)

These houses have cesspool drainage. No sewer is available and considerable difficulty has been experienced, particularly during the winter months when nuisances have arisen from overflowing cesspools.

The Corporation has been in negotiation with the War Department for a considerable time in connection with a scheme for the drainage of these houses in conjunction with Wyke Regis Bridging Camp but no agreement was reached by the end of 1961. The Council then decided to ask Dorchester Rural District Council if it had any proposals with regard to the development of land in the adjoining rural district as this might affect the Corporation's drainage proposals for these few houses.

By the end of the year the matter had not been finalised but there is no doubt that nuisances which arise very frequently when the cesspools overflow are a danger to public health and this problem continues to be one of urgency.

8. Drainage of Properties at Nottingham

Towards the end of 1959 I made a comprehensive report to the Health Committee on the drainage of houses in Nottingham Village. Main drainage is not available to the majority of these houses and the matter was referred to the Street and Works Committee for consideration. The Street and Works Committee agreed that main drainage was highly desirable but, owing to the pressure of other works could not proceed with sewerage the whole area at that time.

9. Conversion to Main Drainage

In the second paragraph of this section I have mentioned the work carried out by the Department in dealing with the connection of new and existing houses to the Preston sewer.

There are still, of course, a number of houses not connected to the sewer, not only in the Preston area but in other parts of the Borough which have been sewerage for many years. When opportunities arise efforts are still made to persuade owners of such houses to redrain to existing sewers. During 1961, 11 cesspools and 5 pail closets were abolished—generally as a result of redrainage to the sewer in the Preston area.

10. Drainage—Supervision and Testing

During the year the supervision of new drainage works together with the work of redrainage previously mentioned, accounted for a very large proportion of the Department's time. It will be seen on reference to the statistics at the end of this report that 3,225 visits were made in connection with drainage works as compared with 2,886 visits for the previous year. This figure is increasing annually and is accounted for by the extensive building development being carried out in the Borough during 1961.

SANITARY ACCOMMODATION IN BOROUGH

Total number of houses in the Borough	...	...	12,358
Number of properties not connected to sewer	...	...	493
Number of properties with cesspools	...	...	370
Number of cesspools	...	...	332
Number of properties with pail closets	...	...	105
Number of properties with other forms of drainage			18

Particulars of Conversion from Conservancy to Main Drainage System during 1961

Number of premises converted	...	...	...	19
Number of cesspools abolished	...	...	...	11
Number of pail closets abolished	...	...	...	5
Number of privies abolished	...	...	...	—
Number of private pumping stations abolished	...	...	...	—
Number of septic tanks abolished	...	...	...	—

HOUSING

Unfit Houses

Good progress was made in dealing with unfit houses and details of this work are contained in the following paragraphs.

There are now no large Clearance Areas to be dealt with in the Borough, but as can be seen from this report, a number of individual unfit houses come to the notice of the Department every year and are dealt with under the provisions of Part II of the Housing Act, 1957.

Action taken during the year was as follows :-

1. Closing Orders—Housing Act, 1957, Sections 17 & 18

The following houses were represented as unfit for habitation and Closing Orders were made :-

2 The Retreat, Broadwey
3 The Retreat, Broadwey
59 Wardcliffe Road
61 Wardcliffe Road
63 Wardcliffe Road
3 Spring Lane
106 Portland Road, Wyke Regis
10, Hope Street

Closing orders were also made in respect of the following properties which were represented as unfit for habitation during 1960 :-

Part of 29 St. Thomas Street
5 Caroline Place
Part of 'The Hut' Nottingham House, Nottingham Lane
60 Dorchester Road
62 Dorchester Road

2. Houses Demolished

The following houses were demolished during the year :-

10, 12 New Street (Subject to Demolition Orders made during 1960)
1—4 Quebec Place (Subject to a Clearance Order made during 1958)
1 Union Cottages (Subject to a Closing Order made during 1959)
15A High Street (Subject to an Undertaking not to use for human habitation made during 1939)
Part of 59—60 St. Mary Street (Subject to a Closing Order made during 1913)

3. Houses made fit following action under Section 16, Housing Act, 1957 and Closing Orders determined or Undertakings carried out

26 Love Lane
23 Trinity Street
14 High Street, Wyke Regis
1 & 2 Spring Cottages, Upwey (converted into one dwelling)
12 High Street, Wyke Regis

4. Unfit Houses represented under Section 16, Housing Act, 1957, but action not completed by end of 1961

72 Camp Road, Wyke Regis
28 Hope Street
688 Dorchester Road

5. Houses made fit after Informal or Statutory Action

Fifty-nine houses were made fit during the year following service of Informal or Statutory Notices.

Position as at 31st December, 1961

HOUSING ACT, 1957

<i>Premises</i>	<i>Still occupied as dwellings</i>	<i>Used as Store or work-places</i>	<i>Vacant</i>	<i>Total</i>
Houses subject to Demolition or Clearance Orders not yet demolished	1	6	6	13
Parts of Buildings subject to Closing Orders	—	3	7	10
Houses subject to Closing Orders	12	3	22	37
Houses subject to Undertaking not to re-let for human habitation	—	2	5	7

OVERCROWDING

One serious case of overcrowding was brought to my notice in October. A widow with four sons moved into a small cottage and then took as a sub-tenant a mother and her nine children. The permitted number for the house was $6\frac{1}{2}$ and there was a total of 15 persons (total equivalent adults 12) in occupation.

I made a report to the Health Committee in October and the tenant and owner were requested to abate the overcrowding without delay. The sub-tenant found alternative accommodation in November and so abated the overcrowding.

REGISTERED COMMON LODGING HOUSES

There are no Registered Common Lodging Houses in the Borough.

RENT ACT, 1957

Certificates of Disrepair

Applications were received for Certificates of Disrepair during the year as follows:—

Number of applications for Certificates of Disrepair	1
Number of decisions not to issue Certificates ...	—
Number of decisions to issue Certificates :	
(a) in respect of some but not all defects ...	—
(b) in respect of all defects ...	—
Number of undertakings given by landlords under paragraph 5 of the First Schedule ...	1
Number of undertakings refused by local authority under provisions of paragraph 5 of the First Schedule	—
Number of Certificates issued ...	—
Applications by landlords to local authority for cancellation of certificates ...	1
Objections by tenants to cancellation of Certificates	—
Decision by local authority to cancel in spite of tenants' objections ...	—
Certificates cancelled by local authority ...	—

House Purchase and Housing Act, 1959 and Housing Act, 1961

The Health Department co-operated with the Borough Engineer's Department in dealing with applications for Improvement Grants and a considerable number of older houses are now being brought up to modern standards by means of Standard and Discretionary Grants.

During the year 240 visits were made by the Public Health Inspectors in connection with applications for Standard and Discretionary Grants.

Applications for re-housing

In 1961 the Department devoted more than the usual amount of time to dealing with claims by housing applicants for priority recommendations on grounds of overcrowding or ill-health.

During the year 257 visits were made in connection with these applications as compared with 206 for the previous year.

Applications came mainly from young couples with one or two children and such families were usually found to be living in rooms with their "in-laws." The Housing Allocation Sub-Committee has a rule that applicants must be registered with the Council for a minimum period of 18 months before they can be considered for rehousing and many applications dealt with during the year could not be considered as they did not comply with this requirement.

Very few new houses became available during 1961 and most applicants on the approved list had to wait from twelve to

eighteen months before they could be offered alternative accommodation by the Council.

The Health Department continued to work in close co-operation with the Borough Treasurer who is responsible for administration in connection with houses owned by the Town Council. Each applicant who calls at the Health Department is given a sympathetic hearing, a report is prepared following a home visit, and a departmental discussion is held to assess the real need in each case.

The Chief Public Health Inspector attends each meeting of the Housing Allocation Sub-Committee to present the Department's views on applications which claim special consideration on the grounds of ill-health or overcrowding.

MOSQUITO AND MIDGE CONTROL

(1) Radipole Lake

In previous years sea water was introduced into Radipole Lake to reduce the breeding of the *Chironomus* midge. In 1961 it was once again not possible to do this as it would have interfered with the work of reed cutting which was taking place in the lake during the early part of the year. The Department made a number of check inspections of the water on the eastern and western borders of the lake and at no time was there any evidence of widespread mosquito breeding.

No complaints were received with regard to the prevalence of the *Chironomus* midge in the area of the lake but midges were to be seen in fairly large numbers during the height of the summer season.

I hope it will be possible to introduce sea water into the lake during the early part of 1962.

(2) Lodmoor

Controlled tipping continued throughout the year and this operation reduced the area of marshy ground in which mosquitoes are able to breed. No major drainage works were carried out on Lodmoor but regular maintenance of the Greenhill Sluice kept the water level in Lodmoor to an absolute minimum.

Throughout the year tipping was concentrated in the marshy area bounded by Dale, Beaumont and Coombe Avenues which still appears to be the main mosquito breeding area on Lodmoor. It may be many years before this area of the marsh is drained and filled but it appears that the works already being carried out have shown some slight reduction in the mosquito nuisance in this area.

Once again I must give a reminder that mosquito breeding on a reducing scale will continue on Lodmoor for many years and the Corporation's policy of control by drainage and land reclamation is the only solution to this problem. No temporary control measures can be carried out satisfactorily on this area of marshy land and it will be many years before mosquitoes are entirely eliminated.

CARAVAN AND CAMPING SITES

In my last report I referred to the Caravan Sites and Control of Development Act, 1960, which came into operation on the 29th August, 1960. Unfortunately licences under the new Act could not be issued until 31st July, 1961, but applicants had been informed in November, 1960, of the Council's probable requirements when licences were issued under the new legislation. A set of conditions based on the Model Standards issued by the Ministry of Housing and Local Government was drawn up and applied to all licences issued within the Borough. Under these new conditions the Town Council required, among other things, that sites should be provided with a modern drainage system connected to the Council's sewer. The requirements also covered the provision of roads and footpaths, hard standings, fire fighting appliances, adequate water supply, drainage and washing facilities, satisfactory methods of refuse disposal, adequate car parking and recreational space. All applications for licences were in respect of holiday sites only and no licences were granted for residential caravan sites, i.e., for sites to be used throughout the year.

The recommendation in the Model Standards with regard to density on holiday sites is that caravans should not exceed 25 to the acre and the Town Council decided to allow the maximum density on all sites. The density permitted by licences issued earlier under Section 269 of the Public Health Act, 1936, had varied—up to 1950, 29 to the acre had been allowed and after that date the Council fixed the maximum density at 20 to the acre for subsequent licences.

The new licences specified dates by which various works must be completed. On sites where the main sewer is already available the Town Council required that all works should be completed by the 1st June, 1962. On other sites, where the main sewer was not then available, the completion date was fixed for the 15th March, 1963. As all sites are for seasonal occupation only the period of use was laid down as from the 15th March to the 15th October in each year.

Five licensees entered Appeals against the Council's conditions and all five Appeals were still outstanding at the end of the year.

Throughout the year the Health Department and Town Planning Department were in frequent touch with licensees in connection with their schemes to comply with the new conditions of licence. It will be appreciated that schemes for the large camps in the Preston area are of some magnitude but by the end of the year agreement had been reached between the licensees and both Departments of the Corporation and, in one or two cases, works had already started.

Prior to the coming into operation of the Caravan Sites and Control of Development Act, the Town Council had agreed to provide a sewer in the Jordan Valley so that all camps could be provided with main drainage and modern sanitation.

The first phase of the scheme was carried out in 1960 and this allowed one large camp to provide main drainage in readiness for the summer season of 1960. The second phase started on the 1st October, 1961, and by the end of the year the gravity and pumping sewers had been laid and the pumping station in Bowleaze Cove was nearing completion. It is expected that the scheme will be completed in time for all the Preston camps to be connected to the new sewer before the commencement of the 1962 camping season.

Although negotiations with licensees occupied a considerable portion of the Department's time for the latter half of the year it was still possible to carry out 299 inspections of caravan sites. 1961 was very much a transitional period between the 1936 Public Health Act and the new Caravan Sites and Control of Development Act, 1960, and many licensees did not fully understand the position. It is to be hoped, however, that matters will be straightened out before the commencement of the 1962 summer season and, no doubt, the new facilities to be provided on caravan sites to comply with the new Act will be appreciated by the many thousands of caravanners who visit the town.

11 licences were issued under the Caravan Sites and Control of Development Act, 1960, which permit the holiday use of 2,294 caravans within the Borough.

In September I made a report to the Health Committee on the use of cars, vans and caravans for overnight sleeping on Corporation-owned car parks. I had made a similar report the previous year on the increasing use of such vehicles on Corporation-owned car parks. On August Bank Holiday, 1961, it was found that 33 vehicles, as well as 1 caravan and 1 tent, had been used for overnight sleeping in one Corporation car park. No sanitary facilities are provided on this car park and there is no doubt that the mis-use of the land resulted in serious public health nuisances arising. The Health Committee was

very concerned to hear of this increasing problem and decided to inquire into the possibility of making Byelaws to prevent the mis-use of the Corporation-owned car parks in this manner.

FOOD HYGIENE

Food Hygiene (General) Regulations, 1960

The greater part of the Department's duties in connection with the Food Hygiene (General) Regulations, 1960, was carried out during the summer season. The total number of inspections made of food premises, stalls and vehicles in 1961 was 712 which, though slightly less than the previous year, provides a good indication of the extent of the Department's interest in food premises and food hygiene generally.

Although the catering industry as a whole is extremely busy during the summer months there was once again maximum co-operation from owners and employees alike and the work of the Department was facilitated by this happy state of affairs.

It was necessary, however, to serve 41 Informal Notices in respect of contraventions of the Food Hygiene Regulations but this is not a great number when compared with the number of inspections carried out by the Public Health Inspectors during the year. The Notices were in respect of 87 quite minor items but a few had not been remedied by the end of the year.

I am pleased to say that the standard of food hygiene in the Borough is quite good and the majority of contraventions were, as usual, almost entirely due to the human element. It was once again noticeable that food premises which deal primarily with summer trade were forced to employ seasonal labour which in the majority of cases is quite inexperienced and sometimes wholly unsatisfactory.

A number of food premises were re-constructed during the year and very frequently the Department's recommendations were acted upon by owners of the premises concerned.

Food Hygiene—Educational Activity

No special educational activities were carried out during the year.

There is no Clean Food Guild in operation in the Borough.

In November the Health Committee considered the Food Hygiene Code of Practice issued jointly by the Ministers of Health and Agriculture, Fisheries and Food in connection with Poultry Dressing and Packing.

Copies of the leaflet were sent to all persons concerned in the poultry trade within the Borough.

The Health Department provided a stand at an Exhibition organised by Weymouth, Portland and Dorset County Branches of Nalگو in co-operation with Weymouth Borough and Dorset County Council.

This exhibition—featuring ‘Local Government in Weymouth’—was held at Weymouth Pavilion from the 18th to the 22nd February, 1961. Part of the stand illustrated duties under the Food Hygiene Regulations and photographs showing the high standard of food hygiene in a number of local food premises were on display. Posters dealing with food hygiene were also displayed and from the interest shown by members of the visiting public it was generally agreed that the Exhibition had been very useful in creating new interest in this important subject.

FOOD AND DRUGS ACT, 1955—SECTIONS 16 - 19 REGISTRATION OF PREMISES FOR THE PREPARATION OF POTTED, ETC., FOODS

The registration of premises for the preparation of potted, etc., foods was dealt with under Section 102 of the Weymouth & Melcombe Regis Corporation Act, 1935. Under this Act no provision was made for the refusal of applications—the only offence was the failure to register with the local authority. This procedure had obvious disadvantages and the Health Committee decided to make application to the Minister of Health for a Declaration that Section 16(1) of the Food and Drugs Act, 1955, should be adopted in place of Section 102 of the Weymouth and Melcombe Regis Corporation Act, 1935. The Minister granted the application and made the Weymouth and Melcombe Regis (Food) Declaration, 1961, which came into operation on the 1st September, 1961.

Disposal of Condemned Food

All unsound food is disposed of by burial at the Corporation's Controlled Tip.

Details of Food Premises in the Borough :

Number of licensed premises	...	...	...	...	103
Number of off-licences	...	...	...	...	18
Number of registered clubs	...	...	...	...	28
Number of chemists' shops	...	...	...	...	19
Number of butchers' shops	...	...	...	...	36
Number of bakers' shops	...	...	...	...	23
Number of fishmongers' shops	...	...	...	...	17
Number of grocers' shops	...	...	...	...	126
Number of bakehouses	...	...	...	...	16
Number of other food premises	...	...	...	...	225

Registered Premises :

Number of premises registered for manufacture of preserved foods	32
Number of premises registered as fried fish shops	13
Number of premises registered for manufacture or sale of ice-cream	220

ICE-CREAM

The number of inspections made of premises where ice-cream was manufactured, stored or on sale to the public was 197. The number of ice-cream samples taken was 103 and 96% of these were satisfactory. Adverse samples were followed up at once by visits to the premises concerned and subsequent samples proved satisfactory in each case.

At the end of the year 220 premises were registered for the storage and sale of ice-cream in the Borough. This number includes five premises where ice-cream is manufactured.

Ice-cream (Heat Treatment) Regulations, 1959

These Regulations came into force during 1959 and required that ingredients used in the manufacture of ice-cream should be pasteurised by one of the three specified methods of sterilisation and then kept at a low temperature until the freezing process has begun.

During the year visits were made to the five premises in the Borough where ice-cream is manufactured and I am pleased to record that all five premises maintained a very good standard of hygiene.

Ice-Cream Sampling

No. of Samples	Methylene Blue Test		1	Grades			Void
	Passed	Failed		2	3	4	
103	99	4	80	19	4	—	—

Summary of Results

Grade 1 and 2	...	...	96.12% satisfactory
Grade 3 and 4	...	...	3.88 %unsatisfactory

MILK SUPPLIES

The responsibility for registration of dairy farms and farmers and the supervision of milk production at farms remained with the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food, except insofar as the Regulations relate to diseases communicable to man.

Under the Milk (Special Designation) (Specified Areas) Order, 1954, which came into operation on the 1st April, 1954, no undesignated milk may be sold within the Borough.

The Milk (Special Designations) Regulations, 1960, came into operation on 1st October, 1960. As from this date the issue of all dealers' licences, until then carried out by the Corporation, became the responsibility of the Food and Drugs Authority for the area. These new Regulations thus transferred responsibility for the issue of dealers' licences from the Town Council to Dorset County Council.

The designations of milk which may be sold in Weymouth are :-

Tuberculin Tested
Tuberculin Tested Pasteurised
Pasteurised
Sterilised

At the end of the year entries on the Department's Register were as follows :-

Distributors of milk with premises within the Borough	89
Distributors of milk with premises outside the Borough but retailing within the Borough	2
Dairy farms distributing from within the Borough ...	3
Premises registered as Dairies	7

FOOD SUPPLIES

(1) Meat Inspection

The number of animals slaughtered in the Borough during 1960 was approximately the same as for the previous year. The majority of home killed meat for Weymouth comes from slaughterhouses in the Borough of Dorchester and the area of the Dorchester Rural District Council.

Weymouth—Slaughterhouse/Bacon Factory

This slaughterhouse/bacon factory is licensed annually and slaughtering is carried out on one day each week. Every animal slaughtered on these premises during the year was inspected. The number of visits to the slaughterhouse during 1961 was 71.

Animals Slaughtered

<i>Cows</i>	<i>Other Cattle</i>	<i>Sheep</i>	<i>Calves</i>	<i>Pigs</i>	<i>TOTAL</i>
Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	1333	1333

Carcases Inspected and Condemned

Number killed	...	...	...	...	1333
Number inspected	...	...	...	...	1333

All Diseases except Tuberculosis

Whole carcasses condemned	...	...	...	1
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	...	...	...	137
Percentage of number inspected affected with disease other than tuberculosis	...	...	...	10.35%

Tuberculosis only

Whole carcasses condemned	...	...	...	—
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	...	...	...	32
Percentage of number inspected affected with tuberculosis	...	...	...	2.40%

Meat condemned at Slaughterhouse/Bacon Factory

<i>Disease</i>				<i>Weight (lbs.)</i>
Tuberculosis	...	...	...	424
Pleurisy and Pericarditis	...	...	...	113
Inflammation	...	...	...	58
Cirrhosis	...	...	...	124
Abscesses	...	...	...	24
Bruising	...	...	...	1
Fracture	...	...	...	6
Parasites	...	...	...	21
Fatty Infiltration	...	...	...	2
Natural Death	...	...	...	182

Summary

				<i>Weight (lbs.)</i>
Tuberculosis	...	...	...	424
Other Diseases	...	...	...	531

Total weight condemned — 8 cwts., 2 qtrs., 1 lb.
Number of visits made to slaughterhouse — 71

Cysticercus Bovis

Carcases infested with localised cysticercus bovis must be placed in cold storage at a temperature not exceeding 20 degrees Fahrenheit for a period of not less than three weeks, or at a temperature not exceeding 14 degrees Fahrenheit for a period of not less than two weeks.

Although no cattle were slaughtered in the Borough, the cold store owned by Messrs. Cosens and Co. Ltd., in West Street, Weymouth, is used by slaughterhouses outside the Borough for the refrigeration of infested carcasses.

In 1961, 16 carcasses were sent to the cold store. The figures for the previous four years were as follows:—

1957	...	...	...	16
1958	...	...	...	23
1959	...	...	...	13
1960	...	...	...	12

My thanks are due to Messrs. Cosens and Co. Ltd., for their co-operation in dealing with such carcasses and for ensuring that

the recommendations of the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food are rigorously carried out.

Licensing of Slaughtermen

During the year four applications for renewal of licences were received. All were granted subject to the conditions laid down in the Slaughter of Animals Act, 1958.

Slaughterhouses Act, 1958—Slaughterhouse Reports

Last year I mentioned that under Section 3 of the Slaughterhouses Act, 1958, the local authority had been required to submit a report on the slaughterhouse facilities in its area to the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food by the 2nd November, 1960.

The Minister appointed the 1st January, 1962, as the date by which slaughterhouses in the Town Council's area were required to comply with the new regulations as to construction and hygiene. During the year works were commenced at the one slaughterhouse in the Borough to bring it up to the required standard.

(2) OTHER FOODSTUFFS CONDEMNED

Canned Goods

Meat Products	...	...	...	...	...	327 tins
Fish	...	...	...	...	...	13 tins
Milk	...	...	...	...	...	18 tins
Fruit	...	...	...	...	...	324 tins
Vegetables	...	...	...	...	...	27 tins
Macaroni	...	...	...	...	...	15 tins
Soup	...	...	...	...	...	5 tins
Marmalade	...	...	...	...	...	1 tin
Sweet Corn	...	...	...	...	...	3 tins

Meat

Beef	...	...	...	...	...	680 lbs. and 1 fore quarter
Lamb	...	...	...	...	...	68 lbs.
Pork	...	...	...	...	...	3099 lbs.
Ham	...	...	...	...	...	8 lbs.
Bacon	...	...	...	...	...	19 lbs.
Sausages	...	...	...	...	...	104 lbs.
Mutton	...	...	...	...	...	59½ lbs.
Veal Meats	...	...	...	...	...	321 lbs.
Rabbits	...	...	...	...	...	30 lbs.
Frozen Offal	...	...	...	...	...	73 lbs.
Chickens	...	...	...	...	...	37 lbs.
Bath Chaps	...	...	...	...	...	7½ lbs.
Beef Skinless Sausages	...	...	...	...	...	5 lbs.
Other Meat	...	...	...	...	...	107 lbs.

Fish

...	5 stones, 10 lbs., 2 boxes
-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	----------------------------

Other Foods

Apples	...	...	...	...	...	10 cases
Jam	...	...	...	...	...	131 jars
Sugar	...	...	...	...	...	21 lbs.
Greengroceries	...	...	...	...	...	354 lbs.
Coconut Mallows	...	...	...	...	...	65 lbs.
Salad Cream	...	...	...	...	...	2 jars
Cheese and Ham	...	...	...	...	...	1 carton
Tomato Ketchup	...	...	...	...	...	1 bottle

AGRICULTURE (SAFETY, HEALTH AND WELFARE PROVISIONS) ACT, 1956

During 1960 a survey of all the agricultural holdings in the Borough was carried out and, where necessary, occupiers of holdings without sanitary accommodation were requested to make such provision in order to comply with the requirements of the Act.

No special action was taken under this Act during 1961.

NOISE ABATEMENT ACT, 1960

This Act came into operation on the 27th November, 1960. It provides that noise or vibration which would amount to a nuisance at common law now becomes a statutory nuisance to be dealt with under the procedure provided in Part III of the Public Health Act, 1936.

Under this procedure local authorities are able to require the abatement of noise or vibration nuisances by the service of abatement notices on the persons causing the nuisance or on the owners or occupiers of the premises on which they arise. If a notice is not complied with it can be enforced by proceedings in a Magistrates' Court.

Apart from action by a local authority, three or more occupiers of land or premises who are aggrieved by a noise or vibration nuisance may make a complaint to a Magistrate.

The Act does not apply to noise or vibration caused by aircraft, which are subject to other statutory controls, nor to noise or vibration caused by statutory undertakers in the exercise of their powers. In the case of noise or vibration caused in the course of a trade or business, it is a defence in any proceedings to show that the best practicable means have been used for preventing it and counteracting its effect.

The Act also prohibits the use of loudspeakers in streets between 9 p.m. and 8 a.m. and at any other time for advertising any trade, business or entertainment with certain exceptions for the sale of perishable foodstuffs. The penalty for the operation of

a loudspeaker in contravention of the Act is a fine not exceeding £10.

1961 was the first full year of operation for this Act and 34 visits were made following complaints regarding alleged noise nuisances of many kinds. In a number of cases informal action by the Department resulted in the abatement of noise nuisances and in every case co-operation was obtained to reduce alleged noise nuisances to an absolute minimum.

CLEAN AIR ACT, 1956

Every year since this Act came into operation I have reported that the problem of smoke abatement has received continuous attention from the Health Department and the Town Council, through the Health Committee, has taken a particularly keen interest in this work.

During 1961 matters relating to the Clean Air Act were under discussion at every meeting of the Health Committee. Early in the year a considerable number of complaints was received regarding smoke from locomotives and these complaints were taken up with the Railway Authorities. In July, the Health Committee expressed its concern to the Town Council that smoke nuisances from railway locomotives were still arising, but in this instance, the Clean Air Act was of very little use in enabling the local authority to take action to remedy such nuisances. Information was subsequently received from the Railway Authorities that coal supplies had been unsatisfactory but matters had then been put right. Later observations confirmed that smoke emission from locomotives had been noticeably reduced.

Further complaints were received during the year regarding one particular oil burning installation in the Westham area which continued to be the subject of frequent reports to the Health Committee. Towards the end of the year the firm stated that they intended to renew the oil burner during the winter months and it is hoped that this will put an end to smoke nuisances which have occurred from time to time over a number of years.

During the year 163 visits were made in connection with the duties under the Clean Air Act as compared with 83 visits for the previous year. The Department usually receives the fullest co-operation from local industries when complaints of smoke nuisances are brought to their attention.

Up to the present time the Town Council has not thought it necessary to make any Smoke Control Areas but I have no doubt that they would do so should they ever consider such action necessary.

The Town Council continued its membership of the National Society for Clean Air during 1961.

RODENT CONTROL

Two rodent operators are employed in the Department and statistics relating to their work are given below.

The number of complaints dealt with during the year was 837 which shows a very large increase on the number for the previous year—676. Although this appears to be a considerable number for a Borough of this size there were very few instances of major infestations by rats or mice. The large number of complaints seems to indicate that the service is very widely known and residents are very quick to take advantage of it and enlist the assistance of the Health Department as soon as the first signs of infestation appear.

Infestation of private houses and most business premises are dealt with free of charge but on business premises where infestations of rats are a probable hazard annual contracts are undertaken by the Department.

It was not necessary to take any statutory action under the Prevention of Damage by Pests Act during the year. Statistics relating to the work carried out by the Rodent Operators are as follows :-

Number of complaints received re rats and mice	...	...	837
Number of premises visited for Survey	...	...	984
Number of premises given first treatment	...	...	815
Number of premises given second treatment	...	...	53
Number of premises given third treatment	...	...	10
Number of premises given routine treatment	...	...	36
Number of premises given re-infestation treatment	...	...	13
Number of visits made (Survey and Treatment)	...	...	4,886
Number of pre-baits laid	...	...	3,580
Number of pre-baits taken	...	...	2,035
Number of poison baits laid	...	...	3,225
Number of poison baits taken	...	...	1,201

Control of Rats in Sewers

During 1960 it was possible to carry out only one sewer treatment as both rodent operators were away on a number of occasions owing to illness.

It appeared that the temporary lapse in sewer treatments accounted for an increase in the rate of surface infestation and this problem was discussed with Mr. R. J. Clark, Regional Pests Officer of the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food, who gave valuable advice on the treatment of sewers with fluoracetamide. A report was subsequently made to the Health Committee and some additional expenditure was authorised for the carrying out of two special fluoracetamide treatments of the

sewers. This work was carried out under the guidance of Mr. R. J. Clark and, at the end of the year, there was an indication that these two treatments had reduced the rate of rat infestation in the sewers.

Many sewers in the older parts of the Borough are old and defective and afford good harbourage and escape for rats. For this reason it is essential that routine sewer treatments should be continued. This work, although expensive in time and money, is still absolutely necessary for the effective control of rats.

LEGAL PROCEEDINGS

I am pleased to report that it was not necessary to institute any legal proceedings during 1961.

PUBLIC CONVENIENCES

The supervision of public conveniences continued to be the responsibility of the Health Department.

There are 51 public conveniences under the control of the Department and I am pleased to say that all were maintained to a good standard throughout the year.

A few complaints were received regarding the unsatisfactory conditions of conveniences where full-time attendants are not employed but in every case the trouble was caused by mis-use or vandalism.

One maintenance workman is employed in the Department for dealing with day-to-day maintenance and repairs of buildings and fittings. Urgent repairs were carried out with minimum delay and, during the winter months, much of his time was devoted to the redecoration of the buildings.

In my report for the previous year I mentioned that the Health, Entertainments and Watch Committees had considered the provisions of a public convenience in Lodmoor Car Park. Difficulties arose during 1960 which prevented building from commencing during that year. During 1961 these difficulties were resolved and the scheme was put out to tender.

Unfortunately the successful tenderer went into liquidation towards the end of the year and fresh tenders had to be invited.

During the year the Borough Engineer reported that the Conveniences on Nothe Walk showed serious settlement and it appeared that major works would be required after trial holes had been dug and the nature of the subsidence had been fully investigated. At the December meeting of the Health Committee the Borough Engineer reported that it was difficult to ascertain the exact cost of stabilising the soil in this area and suggested that the cost could be in the region of £800 to £1,000.

He also advised that it would not be wise to re-build on the same site and suggested that new public conveniences be built nearer to the Nothe Fort. The Borough Engineer was then asked to submit an estimate for the cost of building new public conveniences on a site nearer to the Nothe Fort but it appears unlikely that new conveniences can be provided in time for the summer season of 1962.

In December I reported to the Health Committee that a letter had been received from the Ministry of Housing and Local Government to the effect that turnstiles were regarded as unsatisfactory means of access to public conveniences. Local Authorities were asked not to install turnstiles in new public conveniences and to remove all existing turnstiles as soon as possible. Entrance and exit turnstiles are installed in three ladies' conveniences in the Borough—

- (1) the main conveniences for ladies on the Esplanade ;
- (2) the ladies' convenience in the Westham Coach Park ; and
- (3) the ladies' convenience at Brunswick Terrace.

Removal of these turnstiles will involve the Town Council in considerable expenditure and the Borough Engineer was asked to submit details of the cost of their removal and replacement by coin locks.

Free Hand Washing Facilities at Public Conveniences

The facilities for free hand washing in public conveniences where attendants are employed was continued throughout 1961. This scheme was started in 1955 and has worked very successfully. In view of the limited size of the wash and brush-up rooms in the conveniences on the sea front it was not possible to operate the scheme during the months of July, August and September.

Wilful Damage

Every year I have to report considerable wilful damage which occurs in public conveniences and wilful damage was perhaps on an even larger scale during 1961 than in previous years. Considerable expenditure was again incurred in making good damage to buildings and fittings but I am pleased to say that the culprits were caught on one or two occasions.

It is essential that we should have the co-operation of the general public in dealing with this problem and it continues to be the responsibility of each one of us to try to stop this damage and save unwarranted waste of public money.

Supervision of Public Conveniences

Once again I have to report that a considerable amount of time was devoted by the Department to the supervision of public conveniences. Very few complaints were received and, once again, they referred to conveniences where attendants are not employed.

Difficulty was experienced in the recruitment of seasonal attendants for the summer months. All our public convenience attendants, both permanent and seasonal, carried out their duties conscientiously—often under very trying conditions.

The volume of work continued to increase and a record number of inspections—2,457—was made by the Health Department staff.

SUMMARY OF INSPECTIONS CARRIED OUT

<i>Reason for Inspection</i>	<i>No. of premises visited</i>	<i>Number of visits including re-visits</i>	<i>Nuisances or defects found</i>	<i>Nuisances or defects remedied</i>
Premises under Public Health Act and Housing Act ...	237	947	372	453
Drainage Works Only :				
(a) New Buildings	452	2198	—	—
(b) Existing Buildings	109	1027	49	66
Camping Sites, Vans, Tents ...	16	299	11	11
Food Premises ...	403	712	87	89
Dairies and Milk Shops	49	42	—	—
Factories Act ...	81	194	3	3
Shops Act ...	115	157	—	1—
Public Conveniences	51	2457	—	—

Number of complaints received — 318

OTHER VISITS

Rehousing applications ...	257
Housing Act, 1957—Section 16 ...	415
Housing Act, 1957—Section 42 ...	39
Housing Act, 1957—Sections 76, 78, 81 ...	10
Improvement and Standard Grants ...	240
Rent Act, 1957 ...	24
Offensive trade and marine store premises ...	23
Clean Air Act, 1956 ...	163

Mosquito and Midge Breeding Grounds	...	...	...	19
Licensed Premises (Public Houses and Bars)	...	...	...	23
Rodent Control visits by Public Health Inspectors	...	...	...	311
National Assistance Act, 1948—Section 47	...	...	...	35
Controlled Tip	...	...	...	41
Mortuary	...	...	...	33
Pet Animals Act	...	...	...	10
Ditches—Littlemoor Road Area	...	...	...	45
Outworkers' Premises	...	...	...	41
Caravan and Camping Sites	...	...	...	299
Places of Entertainment	...	...	...	10
Pet Meat Shops	...	...	...	2
Verminous Premises	...	...	...	6
Food Poisoning Enquiries	...	...	...	10
Water Supplies (complaints)	...	...	...	8
Leakage of petrol into sewer	...	...	...	22
Nuisance from Pigeons	...	...	...	5
Infectious Diseases	...	...	...	1
Miscellaneous	...	...	...	832

A brief summary of some of the more important defects remedied is given below :-

Roof repairs	...	...	...	...	20
Eaves guttering and rainwater pipes renewed, repaired or cleansed	...	...	...	...	22
Walls rendered, repaired or pointed	...	...	...	...	38
Plasterwork renewed or repaired	...	...	...	...	58
Windows renewed or repaired	...	...	...	...	63
Handrails provided to staircases	...	...	...	...	3
Grates renewed or repaired	...	...	...	...	14
Floors renewed or repaired	...	...	...	...	37
Doors renewed or repaired	...	...	...	...	24
Chimneys repaired	...	...	...	...	9
Dampness remedied	...	...	...	...	94
Drains renewed, repaired or cleared	...	...	...	...	71
Sanitary conveniences renewed or repaired	...	...	...	...	18
Sinks provided or renewed	...	...	...	...	5
Waste pipes renewed or repaired	...	...	...	...	11
Soil pipes, ventilating shafts renewed or repaired	...	...	...	...	3
Foodstores provided	...	...	...	...	6
Staircases repaired	...	...	...	...	5
Yard surfaces renewed or repaired	...	...	...	...	8
Sewage purification plant repaired	...	...	...	...	1
Dustbins provided	...	...	...	...	9
Noxious deposits removed	...	...	...	...	17
Miscellaneous items attended to	...	...	...	...	11

SUMMARY OF NOTICES SERVED

		NOTICES			
		Served		Complied	
		Informal	Statutory	Informal	Statutory
Public Health Act, 1936 :					
House Defects	...	47	1	53	2
Drainage	...	28	—	36	—
Other Defects	...	22	—	19	—
Factories Act, 1937	...	3	—	3	—
Food & Drugs Act, 1938	...	41	—	45	—
Prevention of Damage by					
Pests Act, 1949	...	13	—	17	—
Shops Act, 1950	...	—	—	1	—
Milk Regulations, 1949-59	...	—	—	—	—
Clean Air Act, 1956	...	1	—	2	—

INFECTIOUS DISEASES AND FOOD POISONING

Visits made in connection with infectious diseases	...	1
Visits made in connection with food poisoning	...	10

DISINFECTION AND DISINFESTATION

Number of houses treated for disinfection (infectious diseases)	...	...	...	...	...	—
Number of rooms involved	...	...	...	...	...	—
Number of houses treated for disinfestation	...	...	...	...	...	34
Number of articles of bedding, etc., disinfected	...	...	...	...	...	719
Number of articles destroyed	...	...	...	...	...	—

FACTORIES ACT, 1937

Survey of action during year

(1) Inspection for purposes of provisions as to health

Premises	Number on Register	Inspections	Written Notices	Occupiers Prosecuted
(a) Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4 & 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities	20	13	—	—
(b) Factories not included in (a) above in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority	130	151	3	—
(c) Other premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding Outworkers Premises)	50	29	—	—
TOTAL	200	193	3	—

(2) Cases in which defects were found

<i>Particulars</i>	<i>No. of Cases in which Defects were found</i>				<i>No. of cases in which prosecutions were instituted</i>	
	<i>Found</i>	<i>Remedied</i>	<i>To H.M. Inspector</i>	<i>By H.M. Inspec.</i>		
Want of cleanliness ...	—	—	—	—	—	—
Overcrowding ...	—	—	—	—	—	—
Unreasonable temperature	—	—	—	—	—	—
Inadequate ventilation	—	—	—	—	—	—
Ineffective drainage of floors ...	—	—	—	—	—	—
Sanitary Conveniences :						
(a) Insufficient ...	—	—	—	—	—	—
(b) Unsuitable or defective ...	3	3	—	1	—	—
(c) Not separate for sexes ...	—	—	—	—	—	—
Other offences against the Act (not including offences relating to outworkers) ...	—	—	—	—	—	—
TOTAL ...	3	3	—	1	—	—

(3) Outworkers

(a) Number of lists received from employers ...	2
(b) Number of employees concerned ...	—
(c) Number of outworkers involved ...	2
(d) Number of outworkers living outside the Borough ...	—
(e) Number of lists received from outside Authorities ...	7
(f) Number of outworkers involved ...	23

(4) Total inspections for all purposes (including outworkers)

<i>No. of Premises visited</i>	<i>No. of visits including re-visits</i>	<i>Defects found</i>	<i>Defects remedied</i>
81	194	3	3

DEALERS IN OLD METALS

Nine dealers in old metal are registered by the Council under the Public Health (Amendment) Act, 1907. 17 visits have been made by the Public Health Inspectors during the year.

OFFENSIVE TRADES

There are three rag and bone dealers' premises in the Borough, two of which were established prior to the operation of the Public Health Act, 1936. The third was established in 1948 and is subject to the consent of the Town Council being obtained annually. Eight visits have been made by the Public Health Inspectors during the year.



**BOROUGH OF WEYMOUTH AND
MELCOMBE REGIS**



**METEOROLOGICAL
DEPARTMENT**

*Summary for the
Year 1961*



Lat. 50° 36' 20" N. Long. 2° 26' 50" W.
21 feet above Sea Level



J. N. HAMBLY, M.B.E.,
Lt.Cdr. R.N. (Ret.)
Borough Meteorologist

**Meteorological Station
Weymouth**

THE UNIVERSITY OF CHICAGO

THE UNIVERSITY OF CHICAGO
THE UNIVERSITY OF CHICAGO

Remarks

GENERAL

A fairly satisfactory year ended with a very cold spell during the last week of December.

A slight fall of snow was registered on the 31st December when most of the country was covered by ice and snow.

The temperature was well above the average for five months and well below for one month.

RAINFALL

Rainfall was slightly below the average.

Only once did the rainfall reach one inch in a day and that was on 29th January.

March was the driest month with 0.11 inches and January the wettest with 5.08 inches.

SUNSHINE

The amount of sunshine, 1835.8 hours, was above the average of 1772.3 hours and 1.1 hours more than last year.

TEMPERATURE

A little above the average 51.8° —the highest recorded being 79° and the lowest 24° .

METEOROLOGICAL ABSTRACT

	1956	1957	1958	1959	1960	1961
Highest Shade Temperature (° Fah.)	78	84	75	84	81	79
Lowest Shade Temperature (° Fah.)	17	23	22	25	23	24
Mean Maximum Temperature (° Fah.)	56.8	58.7	57.1	59.9	55.9	58.7
Mean Minimum Temperature (° Fah.)	44.6	47.1	46.1	47.5	46.5	47.1
Mean Temperature (° Fah.)	50.7	52.9	51.6	53.7	51.2	52.9
Total Rainfall (inches)	27.61	31.80	32.62	30.29	47.99	28.87
Hours of Bright Sunshine	1879.4	1851.3	1607.7	2083.1	1834.7	1835.8
Number of Days with Sunshine	307	295	291	304	304	303
Greatest daily amount of sunshine (hours)	14.9	15.1	14.3	15.1	14.8	14.9
Highest Barometer Reading (inches)	30.731	30.741	30.72	30.92	30.83	30.70
Lowest Barometer Reading (inches)	29.232	29.090	28.74	28.87	29.12	29.05

PRESSURE (Inches) 9.00 a.m. G.M.T.

Barometer Readings at 0900 hours G.M.T., corrected for Temperature and Altitude

1961 Month	Mean Inches	Highest Inches	Date	Lowest Inches	Date	Humidity Relative %
January	...	29.93	30.66	14th	29.05	3rd ... 86.0
February	...	30.16	30.67	19th	29.37	2nd ... 89.0
March	...	30.29	30.69	8th	30.07	30th ... 82.1
April	...	29.85	30.16	9th	29.41	23rd ... 86.9
May	...	30.12	30.58	10th	29.71	30th ... 79.4
June	...	30.14	30.44	28th	29.75	1st ... 84.4
July	...	30.13	30.44	3rd	29.46	12th ... 71.3
August	...	30.14	30.41	31st	29.68	8th ... 80.0
September	...	30.03	30.36	25th	29.64	28th ... 82.8
October	...	29.99	30.46	13th	29.29	7th ... 81.1
November	...	29.97	30.37	1st	29.39	8th ... 84.1
December	...	29.96	30.70	19th	29.10	30th ... 88.6
Mean	...	30.06	30.70	19th Dec.	29.05	3rd Jan ... 82.9

THE WINDS

Observed daily at 0900 G.M.T. to 8 points of the Compass

Month	N.	DIRECTION							W.	N.W.	Calm
		N.E.	E.	S.E.	S.	S.W.	W.	N.W.			
January	...	4	3	1	3	7	4	3	5		
February	...	2	2	3	3	8	7	1	2		
March	...	0	2	1	2	5	8	1	8		
April	...	3	4	2	7	7	2	1	0		
May	...	7	7	2	1	7	1	2	3		
June	...	4	2	1	3	4	8	4	2		
July	...	6	1	0	2	4	8	3	3		
August	...	2	1	1	0	12	7	4	2		
September	...	3	3	1	8	4	4	3	4		
October	...	2	0	3	4	12	2	2	3		
November	...	7	1	1	0	3	4	1	5		
December	...	8	4	3	1	6	1	2	3		
Year	...	48	30	19	34	79	56	27	40		

BRIGHT SUNSHINE

1961	Month	Actual Sunshine (Hours)	Percentage of Average	Greatest Daily Amount (Hours)	Date	Number of Days with Sunshine Recorded	Sunless Days	Cloud Amount 1—8 9 a.m.	
	January	...	49.9	79	5.9	14th	19	12	5.9
	February	...	64.4	82	8.3	9th	16	12	6.4
	March	...	165.0	116	10.5	27th	29	2	4.3
	April	...	136.1	76	13.5	24th	25	5	6.1
	May	...	260.1	123	13.7	14th	30	1	5.2
	June	...	271.7	116	14.9	27th	28	2	4.9
	July	...	251.1	110	14.1	4th	31	0	5.0
	August	...	193.6	91	13.3	17th	29	2	6.0
	September	...	149.2	92	11.5	9th	28	2	5.4
	October	...	146.1	103	9.5	12th	29	2	5.2
	November	...	66.3	94	8.7	3rd	19	11	5.9
	December	...	72.3	130	7.2	2nd	20	11	5.2
	Year	...	1835.8	101	14.9	27th June	303	62	5.4

RAINFALL

1961	Total Fall Inches	Percentage of Average	Days of 0.01 inches or more	Wet Days of 0.04 inches or more	Greatest fall in 24 hours	Date	Rainless Days
January	... 5.06	159	18	15	1.00	29th	13
February	... 2.76	119	15	11	0.65	27th	13
March	... 0.11	5	1	1	0.11	31st	30
April	... 3.75	208	17	15	0.88	25th	13
May	... 1.14	58	7	5	0.39	4th	24
June	... 0.75	52	6	3	0.46	12th	24
July	... 0.98	50	5	4	0.30	27th	26
August	... 1.39	52	12	6	0.60	10th	19
September	... 2.47	106	15	11	0.51	12th	15
October	... 4.52	131	19	15	0.78	22nd	12
November	... 2.08	80	14	9	0.72	9th	16
December	... 3.86	113	16	15	0.65	29th	15
Year	... 28.87	94.4	145	110	1.00	29th Jan	220

TEMPERATURE OF THE AIR (Fah.)

1961 Month	9 a.m. Mean	Max. Mean	Min. Mean	Max & Min. Mean	Difference from Average	Highest	Date	Lowest	Date
January	42.4	47.3	38.1	42.7	0.0	52	28th	28	12th
February	47.0	50.6	43.6	47.1	+2.5	55	9th	37	19th
March	48.0	55.1	40.2	47.6	+1.6	61	26th	30	20th
April	52.6	57.4	48.0	52.7	+2.3	63	29th	43	28th
May	56.7	62.3	46.7	54.5	+0.4	70	24th	37	28th
June	60.9	67.1	51.6	59.3	-0.1	72	30th	46	1st
July	63.6	69.4	55.2	62.3	+0.1	77	1st	47	5th
August	63.6	68.6	56.5	62.5	+2.3	79	30th	49	7th
September	61.9	67.1	56.1	61.6	+3.5	76	18th	44	26th
October	56.1	60.8	50.6	55.7	+3.6	67	10th	36	30th
November	46.7	51.4	42.1	46.7	+0.3	59	1st	29	24th
December	40.3	47.0	36.6	41.8	-2.3	56	12th	24	28th/29th
Year	53.2	58.7	47.1	52.9	+1.1	79	30th Aug.	24	28th/29th Dec.

WEYMOUTH SUNSHINE HOURS RECORD SINCE 1895

<i>Year</i>	<i>Hours</i>	<i>Year</i>	<i>Hours</i>	<i>Year</i>	<i>Hours</i>	<i>Year</i>	<i>Hours</i>
1895 ...	1953.7	1912 ...	1582.4	1929 ...	2024.1	1946 ...	1648.2
1896 ...	1904.0	1913 ...	1583.7	1930 ...	1803.7	1947 ...	1626.2
1897 ...	1827.5	1914 ...	1826.8	1931 ...	1582.8	1948 ...	1877.5
1898 ...	1828.4	1915 ...	1729.8	1932 ...	1554.4	1949 ...	2055.3
1899 ...	2030.2	1916 ...	1677.5	1933 ...	1987.3	1950 ...	1820.6
1900 ...	1624.7	1917 ...	1653.5	1934 ...	1807.0	1951 ...	1828.3
1901 ...	1675.9	1918 ...	1804.9	1935 ...	1706.2	1952 ...	1895.5
1902 ...	1421.4	1919 ...	1803.5	1936 ...	1549.3	1953 ...	1916.5
1903 ...	1554.0	1920 ...	1523.4	1937 ...	1628.5	1954 ...	1711.0
1904 ...	1675.6	1921 ...	1934.6	1938 ...	1646.6	1955 ...	2009.4
1905 ...	1706.9	1922 ...	1748.0	1939 ...	1786.4	1956 ...	1855.4
1906 ...	1908.3	1923 ...	1695.6	1940 ...	1883.3	1957 ...	1851.2
1907 ...	1784.1	1924 ...	1687.6	1941 ...	1669.0	1958 ...	1607.7
1908 ...	1875.9	1925 ...	1710.1	1942 ...	1663.0	1959 ...	2083.1
1909 ...	1938.3	1926 ...	1554.4	1943 ...	1769.0	1960 ...	1834.7
1910 ...	1693.7	1927 ...	1692.7	1944 ...	1741.1	1961 ...	1835.8
1911 ...	2090.9	1928 ...	1898.9	1945 ...	1564.9		

Greatest amount of Sunshine in one year : 2090.9 in 1911

Least amount of Sunshine in one year : 1421.4 in 1902



