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BOROUGH OF WORKINGTON



ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

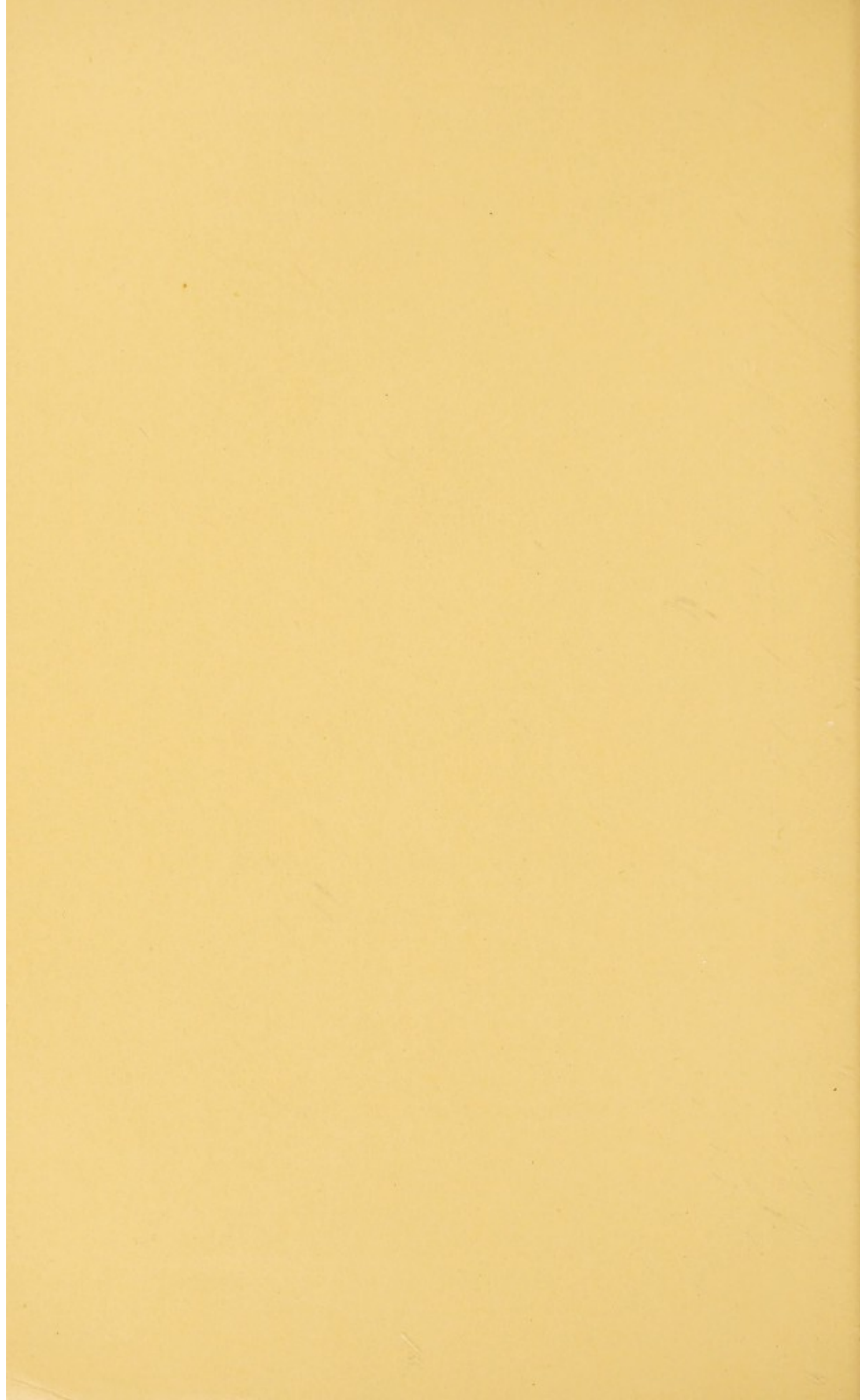
For the Year 1958

BY

J. L. HUNTER

M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.

Medical Officer of Health



BOROUGH OF WORKINGTON

PUBLIC HEALTH COMMITTEE



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PUBLIC HEALTH COMMITTEE

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ALDERMAN Mrs. M. A. SMITH.

Vice-Chairman:

COUNCILLOR D. VICKERS.

THE MAYOR, Councillor I. M. BANNER-MENDUS
(Died September, 1958).

COUNCILLOR J. ASKEW
(from October, 1958).

Councillor E. BARRACLOUGH.

„ J. F. BIGGINS.

„ T. J. GLENDINNING.

„ E. GRAHAM.

„ T. MITCHELL.

„ Mrs. B. O. McKEATING.

„ H. H. McMANUS.

„ Mrs. A. B. THOMAS.

„ A. YOUNG.

Staff of the Public Health Department

JAMES L. HUNTER,
M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H. ... Medical Officer of Health.

R. E. FLETCHER,
M.B., Ch.B. ... Deputy Medical Officer of Health.

§*RICHARD JAMES ... Chief Public Health Inspector.

*CHARLES E. PEARSON ... Assistant Public Health Inspector.

†J. HODGSON ... General Assistant (appointed
June, 1958).

Mrs. E. D. BRAYTON ... Chief Clerk.

Miss N. MENHAMS ... Junior Clerk.

* Certificate of R.S.I. and Sanitary Inspectors' Joint Board.

§ Certificate of Meat and Other Foods (R.S.I.).

† City and Guilds Finalist. Registered Plumber.

TOWN HALL,
WORKINGTON.

12th August, 1959.

TO THE WORSHIPFUL THE MAYOR,
THE ALDERMEN AND COUNCILLORS OF THE
BOROUGH OF WORKINGTON.

Your Worship, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I beg to submit my Annual Report as your Medical Officer of Health for the year 1958. The report is prepared in accordance with the Ministry of Health Circular 22/58. The Ministry has asked for more details in the matter of Vital Statistics, and these are given, but generally the report follows the pattern of recent years.

Reference to the reports of past medical officers of the borough shows time and again preoccupation with the incidence, isolation and environmental prevention of infectious disease. Some reports are loaded with descriptions of particular epidemics. Since 1935 the emphasis in prevention of disease has been on the increasing number of procedures aimed at the protection of the community from prevalent scourges. Diphtheria, typhoid, tetanus, yellow fever have all stimulated the production of a suitable vaccine or other specific derivative. Smallpox vaccination had, of course, been established long before. More recently a satisfactory vaccine has been produced to protect infants against whooping-cough: this one is now available in the clinics. The cry for a vaccine against poliomyelitis would appear to have been answered by the Salk vaccine.

It is unfortunate that these measures involve the infant in a long series of injections, but to date it has not been possible to combine the different products without the added risk (a very slight risk) of a provocative attack of paralytic poliomyelitis. Perhaps too much is made of the upset produced by inoculations. Most infants pass through the series with very little disquiet, especially where the mother is happy and stable.

A possible simplification in the case of poliomyelitis protection may be the replacement of the vaccine given as an injection by a live vaccine taken by the mouth. Large trials of this type of vaccine are in being in different parts of the world.

The response to registration for inoculation against poliomyelitis was good in the younger age group so that by the end of the year approximately 80 per cent. of children under 15 had been given two injections. A third dose was offered late in the year in order to afford a fuller measure of protection.

The vital statistics for the year were generally satisfactory. The birth and death rates varied very little from those of 1957. The percentage of total deaths due to cancer, and the mortality rate per 1,000, decreased slightly. Deaths from cancer of the lung numbered 9 as compared to 16 in 1957. There were five deaths from tuberculosis—reflected in an increase in the mortality rate. Three of these cases were over 60 years of age: in one an operation probably hastened death and in another a non-notified lesion dating from early childhood appears to have been the ultimate cause of death. The infantile mortality rate was also disappointing. Sixteen of the 19 deaths occurred in the first month (neo-natal period) and in only one would there appear to have been any likelihood of survival (the cause of death was broncho-pneumonia). The fifteen deaths from accident and misadventure included two from motor car accidents and two regrettable deaths in children—one from burns and one caused by swallowing poisonous tablets.

The Registrar-General's estimate of population shows only a slight increase of 10 residents in the borough.

Section A of the report gives details of all relevant vital statistics.

No new houses were built by the authority during the year so that the needs of families requiring to move out of substandard property against which were demolition orders had to be met from re-lets of council owned houses. The decision to build fifty houses for slum clearance was however made.

A big advance in the distribution of water supply was made by the completion and coming into use of the new three-million gallon reservoir at Stainburn. The intermittent bursts of reddish (ferrous) discolouration of the water at various points in the town still cause complaint. The ultimate solution of the problem will probably be the replacement of old pipes. Generally, however, the samples taken from the tap show a high standard of purity both from the bacteriological and chemical aspects.

After many months of working at one short of establishment in Public Health Inspectors, and after the failure to fill the appointment by repeated advertisement, it was decided to fill the vacancy by the appointment of a Lay Public Health Inspector. This took effect on June, 1958. Despite this shortage the main elements in sanitary work were maintained by Mr. James and his assistants. My grateful thanks are due to them and the clerical staff.

I am also indebted to the Public Health Committee for their consideration and support during the year. I wish also to thank Dr. W. H. P. Minto for his kindness in making available information and figures in regard to matters which are primarily those of the Local Health Authority. Finally I wish to thank those general practitioners who have given me information on conditions outside notifiable disease.

I am,

Mr. Mayor, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,

J. L. HUNTER,

Medical Officer of Health.

SECTION A.

SOCIAL AND STATISTICAL CONDITIONS OF THE AREA

1.—General.

(a) The even level of employment which has obtained for some years was disturbed by a recession in the steel trade during 1958.

Active consideration was given by the council to the matter of building houses for slum clearance. It was decided to seek authority for the erection of fifty houses towards this end. Continued representation of individual unfit house and the subsequent action therefrom effected a further decrease in existing substandard property.

There is also an increasing awareness of the need to deal with certain areas in the town left in a state of untidiness or dereliction as a result of slum clearance and the abandonment of industrial undertakings.

(b) Town statistics.

Area in acres	5,644
Population (Registrar-General's Estimate of Residents—mid-year, 1958)	29,210
Number of inhabited houses according to the rate-books at the end of 1958	9,115
Rateable Value	£286,225
Sum represented by a Penny Rate	£1,110

2.—Vital Statistics.

Births.

<i>Live Births.</i>	<i>Males.</i>	<i>Females.</i>	<i>Total.</i>
Legitimate	270	256	526
Illegitimate	9	9	18
Total	279	265	544

Illegitimate live births expressed as a percentage of total live births	3.3
Live birth-rate per 1,000 population	18.6
Adjusted birth-rate	18.0

<i>Still Births.</i>	<i>Males.</i>	<i>Females.</i>	<i>Total.</i>
Legitimate	2	7	9
Illegitimate	—	1	1
Total	2	8	10

Total Live and Still-births	554
Still Birth Rate per 1,000 Live and Still-births	18.1

Deaths.

	<i>Males.</i>	<i>Females.</i>	<i>Total.</i>
Deaths (all ages)	197	155	352
Crude Death Rate per 1,000 population ...			12.0
Adjusted Death Rate			14.3
Deaths from individual causes:—			
Tuberculosis			5
Cancer			57
Leukaemia			3
Accidents, etc.			15
Deaths of Infants under one year of age			19
(Legitimate 18, Illegitimate 1).			
Infant Mortality Rate per 1,000 Live Births			
—total			34.9
—legitimate			34.2
—illegitimate			55.6
Neonatal mortality per 1,000 live births ...			29.4
Maternal deaths (including abortion)			Nil
Maternal mortality rate per 1,000 live and still-births			Nil

**3.—Notes and Comparisons on Vital Statistics.
Births.**

<i>Live Birth Rates:—</i>	1958.	1957.
Workington (Crude)	18.6	18.3
Workington (Adjusted)	18.0	17.8
Urban Districts of Cumberland	18.0	18.8
Rural Districts of Cumberland	17.4	17.3
County of Cumberland	17.6	17.9
England and Wales	16.4	16.1

There is little deviation from the rates of 1957.

Deaths

<i>Death Rates:—</i>	1958.	1957.
Workington (Crude)	12.0	11.7
Workington (Adjusted)	14.3	13.9
Urban Districts of Cumberland	12.6	12.2
Rural Districts of Cumberland	11.8	12.1
County of Cumberland	12.1	12.1
England and Wales	11.7	11.5

The adjusted death-rate for 1958 was 0.4 higher than that for 1957: it was again also higher than the national figure. There was only one death attributed to Influenza as against 6 in 1957.

The chief causes of death were:—

Diseases of heart and circulation	184 (52.3%)
Cancer	57 (16.2%)
Bronchitis and pneumonia	15 (4.5%)
Accidents, suicide, etc.	15 (4.5%)

There were no maternal deaths. There were five deaths from Tuberculosis including one case of abdominal tuberculosis contracted in infancy (the person dying at the age of 67 years). The death-rate per 1,000 population from Tuberculosis was 0.17 as compared to 0.10 in 1957 and 0.06 in 1956.

Nineteen deaths in infants under 1 year of age produced an infantile mortality rate of 34.9—a fair increase on the figure of 1957 which stood at 26.2 (fourteen deaths).

The following tables, I and II show (a) the age at death of all cases, and (b) the cause of death:—

TABLE I
The Age of Death of Workington Residents—1958.

Age Groups	Under 1 yr.	1—2	2—3	3—4	4—5	5—10	10—15	15—20	20—25	25—35	35—45	45—55	55—65	65—75	75 & Over	Total
Males	9	1					1	1	2	4	4	13	47	59	56	197
Females	10					2		1		4	5	12	21	42	58	155
Total	19	1				2	1	2	2	8	9	25	68	101	114	352

TABLE 2

Registrar-General's Table of Deaths.
Workington M.B.—1958.

<i>Cause of Death.</i>	<i>Males.</i>	<i>Females.</i>	<i>Total.</i>
Tuberculosis, respiratory	3	1	4
Tuberculosis, other	—	1	1
Other infective disease	—	1	1
Cancer, stomach	5	1	6
Cancer, lung	8	1	9
Cancer, breast	—	7	7
Cancer, uterus	—	2	2
Cancer, other	14	19	33
Leukaemia	1	2	3
Diabetes	2	2	4
Vascular lesion of nervous system	32	31	63
Coronary disease, angina	49	19	68
Hypertension with heart disease	4	1	5
Other heart disease	21	23	44
Other circulatory disease	2	2	4
Influenza	—	1	1
Pneumonia	4	5	9
Bronchitis	5	3	8
Other respiratory diseases	4	2	6
Ulcer of stomach and duodenum	4	1	5
Gastritis, etc.	1	1	2
Nephritis and nephrosis	1	—	1
Congenital malformations	1	1	2
Other diseases	28	21	49
Motor vehicle accidents	2	1	3
All other accidents	6	6	12
Total (all causes)	197	155	352

4.—Infantile Deaths

Nineteen deaths occurred among children under one year of age, giving an Infantile Mortality Rate for 1958 of 34.9—8.7 higher than in 1957. Fourteen of the deaths fell within the first week of life—5 being due to prematurity, and 4 to pulmonary atelectasis (inability of the lungs to expand). Two further cases (of congenital defect) died before the age of two weeks. Of the three cases that survived the neo-natal period (i.e., four weeks from birth) two died of bronchitis or pneumonia and one of asphyxia. Three cases only died at home—one of asphyxia at one day of age, one of asphyxia due to the inhalation of vomit at two months, and the third of bronchitis and inhalation of vomit at three months of age. The larger proportion of deaths in hospital reflects anticipated difficulties at confinement.

The tables below show (a) the figures of Infantile Mortality in Workington and for England and Wales since 1911, in average quinquennial periods to 1955 and thereafter in single years to date; and (b) the distribution by age and cause of the nineteen deaths which occurred in 1958.

(a) Average Annual Infantile Mortality.

(i.e. Deaths of Infants under 1 year per 1,000 Registered Live Births).

<i>Period.</i>	<i>Workington M.B.</i>	<i>England and Wales.</i>
1911—1915	135	110
1916—1920	113	90
1921—1925	102	76
1926—1930	76	68
1931—1935	70	62
1936—1940	63	55
1941—1945	52	50
1946—1950	41	36
1951—1955	29	27
1955	35.3	25.5
1956	26.7	23.8
1957	26.2	23.0
1958	34.9	22.5

**(b) Infantile Deaths (Workington M.B.)
shown by Ages and Cause of Death, 1958.**

Causes of Death	Age in Weeks				Age in Months						Total Deaths
	1	1—2	2—3	3—4	1 Month	1—2	2—3	3—6	6—9	9—12	
Prematurity	5	—	—	—	5	—	—	—	—	—	5
Asphyxia	1	—	—	—	1	—	1	—	—	—	2
Pulm. Atelectasis	4	—	—	—	4	—	—	—	—	—	4
Congenital Defect	1	2	—	—	3	—	1	—	—	—	3
Cerebral haemorrhage and injury at birth	2	—	—	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	2
Bronchitis and pneumonia	1	—	—	—	1	1	—	1	—	—	3
	14	2	—	—	16	1	1	1	—	—	19

SECTION B.

GENERAL PROVISIONS OF THE HEALTH SERVICES IN THE AREA.

(a) Staff.

The medical staff of the Local District Authority and the constitution of the Public Health Committee are given on pages 3 and 4 of this report. The establishment of the Public Health Department (which also carries out the function of Refuse Collection and Disposal as well as its statutory duties) includes a Senior and two Assistant Public Health Inspectors. It was not possible to recruit a qualified assistant inspector to fill a vacancy by advertisement. The Committee decided to appoint a Lay Inspector.

(b) Laboratory Services.

Diagnostic help for specimens of pathological material, elucidation of the type of contaminant, infestation or foreign body in foodstuffs, and the examination of water samples (chemical and bacteriological) is rendered by the Carlisle Laboratory of the Public Health Laboratory Service. The department is much indebted to Dr. D. G. Davies, the director of the laboratory.

Twenty samples of the town's water supply were submitted for chemical analysis and bacteriological examination during the year.

(c) Local Health Authority Services

The Cumberland County Council is the authority responsible for the School and Child Welfare Services, the Ambulance and Sitting-case Car Service, the Home Nursing and Midwifery Services, and the Home Help Services.

In relation to Workington (and the surrounding area) the following clinical sessions are held in Park Lane Clinic, Workington:—

Child Welfare—Tuesdays and Wednesdays at 2 p.m.

Diphtheria Immunisation—Wednesdays at 2 p.m.

School Clinic—daily at 9 a.m. A school doctor is in attendance on Tuesdays.

Midwives' Ante-natal Clinics—these are arranged by the Midwives.

Orthopaedic and After-care Orthopaedic sessions are held periodically, by appointment.

Orthoptic Clinic—on reference by eye specialist and by appointment.

Speech Therapy—by appointment on Mondays.

The individual preventive procedures now carried out in the School and Child Welfare Clinics (and in Schools) are

- (i) vaccination against Smallpox.
- (ii) inoculation against Diphtheria.
- (iii) vaccination against Whooping Cough.
- (iv) vaccination against Poliomyelitis.

These four procedures are also undertaken by general practitioners: in addition the Local Health Authority maintain a scheme for

- (v) vaccination (B.C.G. of 13-14 year old school children against Tuberculosis. B.C.G. vaccination of *contacts* of cases of disease is the responsibility of the Chest Physicians of the Regional Hospital Board.

Provision for the educational treatment of children suffering from handicapping conditions is made by the Local Health Authority either within the County (e.g. ascertainment and treatment of deafness, speech defect and educational subnormality), or without (e.g. by the placing of individual children in special schools in such special categories as the deaf, blind and epileptic).

Guidance in the use of hearing aids and in the teaching of the deaf (while still at home) will be greatly facilitated by the recent appointment of a peripatetic teacher of the deaf.

The district medical officer acts as Chairman to a sub-committee which deals with problems relating to children neglected in their own homes.

(d) National Assistance Acts.

No legal proceedings were taken during the year under the provisions of these acts. A number of old people were visited in their homes by the Public Health Inspectors and by the Medical Officer in company of the local Assistant Superintendent Nursing Officer. This latter method of approach to old people living under difficult conditions serves a most useful purpose and is of particular value when the old person concerned is a woman.

(e) Services of Regional Hospital Board.

These are as outlined in the report for 1957.

(f) Port Health.

The Medical Officer of the Borough is also Medical Officer to the Port Health Authority. The recession in the steel trade was reflected in a smaller tonnage entering the port. No case of infectious disease was associated with the port during the year. There was, however, a slight increase in the incidence of venereal disease among crews.

SECTION C.**SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA.**

The Chief Public Health Inspector, Mr. R. James, gives a detailed report on matters relating to sanitary conditions in the appendix to this report. Certain items of general public health interest are however taken up in this section. The Borough Surveyor and Water Engineer, Mr. N. Murray, has again kindly given certain information which is incorporated in the sub-sections below.

1. Housing.

No houses were erected by the Local Authority during the year. Thirty-four houses were built by private enterprise. Of 32 representations of individual houses unfit for human habitation demolition orders were confirmed in 29, two closing orders were made and 1 undertaking by the owner to make the house fit was accepted.

2. Water Supply

The water supply of the town is Crummock Lake into which flow the waters of Loweswater and Buttermere lakes. The water is chlorinated at Lorton, near the source, and an addition of lime is made. The mains supply Cockermouth Urban District Council and parts of Cockermouth Rural District Council en route to the main reservoir at Stainburn. Here a new 3-million gallon reservoir was completed and taken into use early in the year.

Thirteen samples for bacteriological and six for chemical examination were carried out during the year. The results were uniformly good. The water was also tested for fluorine content: the finding being 0.01 part per million.

A typical report on the bacteriological and chemical examination of the water supply is here reproduced:—

Chemical.

General Appearance	Clear and colourless
pH.	approximately 7.0
	<i>part per million.</i>
Ammoniacal Nitrogen	Less than 0.02
Albuminoid Nitrogen	0.03
O ₂ absorbed in 15 minutes	0.04
O ₂ absorbed in 4 hours	0.36
Total Solids	20
Hardness—Total	18
Carbonate	0
Non-Carbonate	18
Chlorides	7
Iron...0. Copper...0. Lead...0. Zinc...Trace.	
Opinion: "Chemically satisfactory."	

Bacteriological.

Probable number of coliform bacilli per 100 ml.	Nil
Probable number of faecal coli per 100 ml.	Nil
Bacteriological Classification	Excellent

3. Sewerage and Drainage.

Only minor sewerage and drainage work was done during the year, consequent on private building.

4. Refuse, Collection and Disposal.

No change occurred in methods of collection and disposal during the year. The same difficulties of dealing with increasing quantities of paper and cardboard obtained.

The scheme for the issue of standard dustbins to all inhabited premises was completed. During the six years of the scheme to 1st April, 1959, the following numbers of bins were issued.

Issues.

According to the scheme (by area) ...	5,779
To new Corporation houses	228
To new privately built houses	177
Replacements (Corporation houses)	822
Replacements (private houses)	845
Total	<u>7,851</u>

The total weight of refuse collected during the year was some 3,000 less than in the previous year. The figure was 10,970 tons—assessed by test weighing. The net cost per ton, collection and disposal, was 40/1d., an increase of 3/- on last year.

SECTION D.

1. Inspections of Dwelling-houses during the Year.

(1) (a)	Total number of dwelling-houses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts)	659
(b)	Number of inspections made for this purpose	2230
(2) (a)	Number of dwelling-houses (included under sub-head (1) above) which were inspected and recorded under the Housing Consolidated Regulations, 1925	nil
(b)	Number of inspections made for this purpose	nil
(3)	Number of dwelling-houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation	18
(4)	Number of dwelling-houses (exclusive of those referred to under the preceding sub-head) found not to be in all respects fit for human habitation	641

2. Remedy of Defects during the Year without Service of Formal Notices :

Number of defective dwelling-houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or other officers	604
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3. Action under Statutory Powers during the Year :

(a)	Proceedings under Sections 9, 10 and 12 of the Housing Act, 1957.	
(1)	Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs	11
(2)	Number of dwelling-houses which were rendered fit after service of formal notices:	
(a)	By Owners	11
(b)	By Local Authority in default of Owners	nil

(b)	Proceedings under Public Health Acts:	
(1)	Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied	26
(2)	Number of dwelling-houses in which defects were remedied after service of formal notices:	
(a)	By Owners	26
(b)	By Local Authority in default of Owners	nil
(c)	Proceedings under Sections 16, 17 and 23 of the Housing Act, 1957.	
(1)	Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made	18
(2)	Number of dwelling-houses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders	18
(d)	Proceedings under Section 18 of the Housing Act, 1957.	
(1)	Number of Closing Orders made	nil
(2)	Number of Closing Orders determined, the accommodation having been rendered fit ...	nil

SECTION E.

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD.

The number of inspections made in connection with the Food Hygiene Regulations was 1011, as compared with 644 during the previous year.

The following is a list of food premises in the Borough:
Licensed Premises, Clubs and Temperance

Hotels	89
Cafes, Snack Bars and Canteens	48
Butchers	28
Dairies	28
Grocers (Predominant Business)	66
Fruit and Vegetables (Predominant Business)	36
Fish	9
Fried Fish and Chips	25
Tripe	1
Bakers and Confectioners	45
Sweets	52
General (shops selling a variety of goods) ...	63
Brewers and Soft Drink Manufacturers	5

495

Persons manufacturing or selling ice cream, or preparing or manufacturing sausages or potted, pressed, pickled or preserved food must have their premises registered with the Local Authority in accordance with section 16 of the Food and Drugs Act, 1955. The number of such premises so registered is 162—

Ice Cream	98
Preserved Food	64

There are 5 manufacturers of ice cream within the Borough, 3 prepared by the "hot mix" method and 2 by the "cold mix" method. The majority of ice cream sold by the 98 retailers is pre-packed.

Ice lollipops is a very popular commodity made by many shopkeepers. The standard of purity should at least equal that of the water supply used in their production. Eighteen samples submitted for bacteriological examination were declared satisfactory.

Milk retailed in the Borough is bottled and is either tuberculin tested or pasteurised. There are 30 registered purveyors of milk and 22 registered dairies. Twelve farms within the Borough produce tuberculin tested milk.

Approximately 4 tons of foodstuffs were condemned as unfit for human consumption. After condemnation foodstuffs are collected and deposited on the refuse tip at the beginning of each working day to ensure complete coverage with refuse matter.

During the year 311 certificates were issued to various food vendors in respect to goods condemned by the Public Health Inspectors.

Magisterial Proceedings.

- | | |
|--|--|
| 1. Contravening Food Hygiene Regulations, 1955, section 9(e). Smoking whilst handling cakes. | Conditional discharge upon payment of costs. |
| 2. Contravening Food and Drugs Act, 1955, section 2 selling chocolate teacakes containing insects. | Fined £50 and £76 costs. |
| 3. Contravening Food and Drugs Act, 1955, section 2 selling currant square containing a nail. | Fined £20 and costs. |

The Committee also considered reports of foreign bodies in milk bottles and decided to warn the two dairymen concerned.

SECTION F.

PREVALENCE OF, AND CONTROL OVER, INFECTIOUS AND OTHER DISEASES

1. Notifiable Diseases (other than Tuberculosis) and Food Poisoning.

There was no heavy incidence of any one notifiable disease during 1958. No case of food-poisoning was notified. The epidemic of Asiatic Influenza of the previous year did not repeat itself. There was only one death recorded from acute influenzal pneumonia—in an elderly person. Measles was almost in abeyance : 11 cases notified as against 726 in 1957. The table "Notification of Infectious Diseases, 1958" below gives the full count of notifiable infectious disease during the year.

Poliomyelitis.

No case of poliomyelitis has been notified in the borough since 1956.

Increasing supplies of poliomyelitis vaccine made it possible to extend the earlier limited cover of its employment to further groups. By the end of the year the authorised groups included expectant mothers, ambulance personnel and their families, general practitioners and their families, hospital staff, medical students and their families, children born in the years 1943 to 1958 and young persons born in the years 1933 to 1942. Authorisation for protection has not yet been extended to persons (and their families) concerned with the prevalence and control of this and other infectious diseases in the home environment. Late in the year a third dose was authorised for the same groups.

On 31st December, 1958, the numbers of Workington residents inoculated were as follows:—

Group.	2 injections.	3 injections.	Total.
Children born 1943 to 1958 ...	5,128	147	5,275
Young persons born 1933 to 1942	234	—	234
Expectant mothers	56	—	56
General Practitioners, etc. ...	21	—	21
Ambulance Staff, etc.	—	—	—
Total ...	5,439	147	5,586

The figure for hospital staff was not available. Approximately 80% of children born between 1943 and 1958 had received at least two injections by the end of the year.

Diphtheria and Diphtheria Immunisation.

No case of diphtheria was notified during the year.

Primary inoculation at about 1 year of age, by general practitioners and in the clinics, was fairly well maintained during the year but disruption in the scheme for giving booster (mainly at school) was first brought about during the outbreak of poliomyelitis in 1956 by the considered risk of producing a provocative attack of paralytic poliomyelitis by injection. The hitherto even tenor of the booster programme was further interrupted by the increasing momentum of vaccination against poliomyelitis and the difficulty of integrating the various existing procedures in preventive measures with this widely flung new measure. Over 50,000 injections against poliomyelitis in West Cumberland were carried out with little extra medical help. Any anxious parent should know, however, that a booster injection against diphtheria can be arranged on application to any clinic.

The total number of inoculations against diphtheria given in 1958 were : 259 primary inoculations and 42 boosters.

The three tables given in recent years are brought up to date below. Table (a) gives the percentage number of children who have received inoculation at some time but are not all fully protected by booster doses. Table (b) show the percentage split of those done into adequately protected and partially protected. Table (c) sets those adequately protected against the numbers of child population—expressed as a percentage, the figures being called the "Immunity Index"

(a) Diphtheria Immunisation State.

Percentage number of children inoculated at some time, calculated on figures of child population (by local estimate since 1952).

Year	Children aged 0—5 years.	Children aged 5—15 years.
1947	26	64
1948	32	65
1949	37	81
1950	37	82
1951	40	84
1952	39	85
1953	40	91
1954	39	89
1955	39	89
1956	39	93
1957	42	91
1958	42	87

**(b) Protection Percentages in the Inoculated Group
Itself—Adequate or Partial.**

<i>Year.</i>	<i>Adequate.</i>	<i>Partial.</i>
1953	87	13
1954	67	33
1955	77	23
1956	80	20
1957	75	25
1958	69	31

**(c) Immunity Index—Percentage of Child Population
Adequately Protected.**

AGE GROUPS

Year.	Under 1 year.	2—4 years.	5—9 years.	10—14 years.	0—15 years
1953	3%	49%	81%	69%	64%
1954	4%	49%	71%	38%	51%
1955	3%	50%	84%	49%	59%
1956	8%	48%	81%	62%	61%
1957	10%	52%	67%	58%	56%
1958	10%	51%	52%	56%	54%

The above figures relate to a changing population—although they deal each year with fourteen age groups, each year one new group (viz. the current year) comes in and one goes out (the group attaining the age of 15 years). So that, unless a steady amount of booster work is done each year (and this is normally done at about 5 and 10 years of age in schools) the figures for **adequate** protection will fall even although **primary** inoculation in infants at clinics is well maintained. This state of affair is reflected in tables (b) and (c).

Whooping Cough.

No other infectious disease, or preventive measure, requires a particular note. A tabular summary of all notifications (other than Tuberculosis) follows.

Notification of Infectious Disease, 1958.

Disease	Total Number of cases	Age Groups								Admitted to Hospital	Died	
		Under 1 year										
		1+	2+	3+	4+	5-9	10-14	15-24	25+			
Scarlet Fever	8		1	1		5		1				
Whooping - cough	11	2	2	1	2	4						
Measles	15		1	2	4	7	1					
Dysentery	18	1	4		4	4	1	1	3			
		<hr/>										
		Under 5 years										
		5-14	15-44	45-64	65 and over							
Pneumonia	13	2	2	3	4	2						
Erysipelas	3		1	2								
		<hr/>										
Puerperal pyrexia	26											
Chickenpox	48											

1. Tuberculosis.

(a) Prevention.

Vaccination against Tuberculosis is offered to all schoolchildren aged 13-14 years where indicated — according to the results of previous Mantoux testing. Vaccination of contacts of cases of the disease is carried out by the Chest Physicians.

Of 590 children in the age-group 1944 attending Workington Schools, 417 (71%) consents were received from parents for B.C.G. vaccination. Of these 400 were tested and 253 (63%) found to be Mantoux negative, i.e. in need of protection against the disease. The number finally vaccinated was 251. In addition, a number of children would have been protected at an earlier age at the Chest Clinic. It follows that approximately 7 children out of 10 are known to be reasonably prepared against the disease in this age group.

The early ascertainment of cases by means of the Mass X-ray Unit continued. A total of 1,857 examinations were made in Workington during the year. These were not all, though mainly, Workington residents.

Housing

Particular investigation into the housing circumstances of five cases of tuberculosis resulted in priority being given towards re-housing.

(b) Incidence, Notification and Deaths.

Thirty-five respiratory and six non-respiratory cases were notified during 1958. The incidence was chiefly between 25 and 65 years of age in men but earlier in the case of women. Three males and one female died from respiratory disease and one female from a non-respiratory form of tuberculosis. The death-rate was 0.17 per 1,000 population as compared to 0.10 in 1957.

The tables below give (a), the number of deaths and death-rates since 1911; (b), notifications and deaths by age-groups; (c), treatment of cases in hospital; and (d), the total incidence among residents of Workington as shown by the Tuberculosis Register.

(a) Tuberculosis—Workington—1958.**Deaths and Death-Rate.**

Years	No of deaths — Workington			Death Rate per 1,000 Pop.	
	Pulmonary	Non-Pulmonary	Total	Workington	England and Wales
1911-1915	27.3	4.8	42.1	1.69	1.41
1916-1920	21.8	13.4	35.2	1.25	1.48
1921-1925	17.4	6.6	24.0	0.88	1.08
1926-1930	18.2	8.2	26.4	1.01	0.94
1931-1935	22.8	8.0	30.8	1.19	0.81
1936-1940	20.0	5.4	25.4	0.92	0.67
1941-1945	19.7	5.9	25.6	0.86	0.66
1946-1950	17.2	1.8	19.0	0.67	0.48
1951-1955	9.0	0.8	9.8	0.34	0.22
1956	2	—	2	0.06	0.12
1957	3	—	3	0.10	0.10
1958	4	1	5	0.17	0.10

(b) Tuberculosis—Workington—1958.

Notifications and Deaths

Age Periods.	Notifications				Deaths.			
	Respiratory		Non-Respiratory		Respiratory		Non-Respiratory	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
0—1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
1—5	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
5—10	...	3	1	...	...	...	...	...
10—15	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
15—20	1	3	...	1	...	...	...	...
20—25	...	2	...	1	...	...	...	...
25—35	2	7	...	1	...	...	...	...
35—45	3	4	1	...	...	1	...	...
45—55	4	...	...	1	...	...	...	...
55—65	3	...	...	...	2	...	...	...
65 & over.	2	...	...	...	1	...	...	1
Total	16	19	2	4	3	1	...	1

(c) Workington, 1958.

Tuberculosis—Hospital Treatment.

	In Hos- pital 1st. Jan. 1958.	Admit- ted. 1958	Dis- charged	Died	In Hos- pital 31st Dec. 1958.
Respiratory Cases					
Adult Males ...	4	8	6	1	5
Adult Females ..	8	6	2	...	12
Children ...	1	...	1	...	...
Non-Respiratory Cases					
Adult Males ...	...	1	...	..	1
Adult Females ...	1	1	1	...	1
Children ...	...	...	...	...	...
Observation Cases					
Adult Males ...	...	...	...	...	...
Adult Females ...	...	...	...	...	...
Children ...	...	..	...	...	..
TOTAL ...	14	16	10	1	19

(d) Tuberculosis—Workington—1958.

Tuberculosis Register.

On the 31st December, 1958, the number of cases on the register was as follows:—

Respiratory Cases.

Male	184
Female	161
Total	345

Non-Respiratory.

Male	37
Female	56
Total	93
Total on Register ..	438

3. Cancer.

There were fifty-seven deaths from cancer in Workington residents during 1958—eight less than in 1957. Approximately one in six deaths were ascribed to this cause. Rather more females than males died of cancer and there was a reduction in the number of lung cases in males from fifteen to eight. The average age at death in males was 68 years and the range of age at death was 49 to 83 years. In females the average age at death was 64 years with a range of age at death from 33 to 87 years.

The mortality rate per 1,000 population from cancer in Workington since 1955 has been:—

1955	2.3
1956	2.1
1957	2.2
1958	1.9

The distribution by site and sex in 1958 was as follows:—

<i>Location.</i>	<i>Males.</i>	<i>Females.</i>	<i>Total.</i>
Stomach	5	1	6
Other parts of alimentary tract ...	8	13	21
Lung	8	1	9
Breast	—	7	7
Uterus	—	2	2
Other Sites	6	6	12
	—	—	—
	27	30	57
	—	—	—

APPENDIX

SANITARY INSPECTION OF THE AREA.**Annual Report of Chief Public Health Inspector.***To J. L. Hunter, Esq., M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.,**Medical Officer of Health.*

Sir,

I herewith submit the following statement showing the number and nature of inspections carried out during the year 1958, also the number of notices served and the various items dealt with:—

Caravans	...	...	...	...	69
Cinemas, Theatres, Clubs, Hotels	...	...	...	...	58
Complaints investigated	...	...	...	...	1244
Drainage inspections	...	...	...	...	269
Dwelling-houses:—					
Public Health Acts	...	...	...	...	558
Housing Acts	...	...	...	...	101
Re-inspections	...	...	...	...	1571
Dirty and/or Verminous Premises	...	...	...	...	205
Factories	...	...	...	...	337
Food Premises:—					
Butchers	...	...	...	...	92
Bakehouses	...	...	...	...	56
Fish Frying	...	...	...	...	68
Ice Cream	...	...	...	...	41
Dairies, Farms	...	...	...	...	31
Shops	...	...	...	...	562
Markets, Stalls, Carts	...	...	...	...	87
Infectious Diseases	...	...	...	...	69
Offensive Trades:—					
Tripe Boiling	...	...	...	...	5
Rag and Bone Merchants	...	...	...	...	11
Knacker Yard	...	...	...	...	33
Rats and Mice	...	...	...	...	468
Piggeries, Stables, Poultry	...	...	...	...	35
Shops Act, 1950	...	...	...	...	196
Smoke Nuisances	...	...	...	...	45
Refuse Collection and Disposal	...	...	...	...	365
Miscellaneous	...	...	...	...	96
Rent Act	...	...	...	...	535
Sampling—Water, Milk, Food, etc.	...	...	...	...	50
Total Inspections	...	...	...	...	7257

Notices Served

Informal Notices	...	...	...	...	...	558
Statutory Notices	...	...	...	...	...	37

At the end of the year 71 informal notices remained to be dealt with.

The attention of the Borough Surveyor was called to the following defects:—

Choked sewers, street gullies and drains	...	...	...	...	...	38
Waste or poor pressure of water, defective stop taps, etc.	...	...	...	...	...	35
Repairs to Corporation property	...	...	...	...	...	14
Defects in public conveniences	...	...	...	...	...	3
Defective pavements, back lanes, etc.	...	...	...	...	...	4
Dangerous structures	...	...	...	...	...	2
Subsidence	...	...	...	...	...	1

Summary of Works carried out as a Result of Notices Served.

Drainage :—

Drains re-laid	...	...	...	...	...	12
Choked drains cleared	...	...	...	...	...	71
Inspection chambers provided	...	...	...	...	...	1
Gullies renewed	...	...	...	...	...	9
Ventilation pipes renewed	...	...	...	...	...	3

Sanitary Conveniences :—

Flushing cisterns repaired or renewed	...	...	...	...	...	31
W.C. basins renewed	...	...	...	...	...	14
Cone joints renewed	...	...	...	...	...	2
Additional W.C.'s provided	...	...	...	...	...	2
Seats renewed	...	...	...	...	...	7
Doors repaired or renewed	...	...	...	...	...	10
Roofs repaired	...	...	...	...	...	6
Floors renewed	...	...	...	...	...	1
Soilpipes renewed	...	...	...	...	...	3
Light and ventilation improved	...	...	...	...	...	3
Walls repaired	...	...	...	...	...	4
Water pipes repaired	...	...	...	...	...	151
Insufficient water supply	...	...	...	...	...	2
Cleansed or limewashed	...	...	...	...	...	9

Yards and Outbuildings :—

Accumulations removed	...	...	...	23
Yard surfaces relaid	...	...	...	4
Coal houses repaired	...	...	...	2
Yards to clean	...	...	...	2
Yard doors to renew or repair	...	...	...	5

Exterior of Houses :—

Chimney stacks repaired	...	...	...	10
Roofs repaired	...	...	...	48
Spouting cleansed or renewed	...	...	...	99
Pointing and rendering	...	...	...	2

Interior of Houses :—

Chimney flues repaired	...	...	...	10
Ceilings repaired or renewed	...	...	...	11
Floors repaired or renewed	...	...	...	12
Fireplaces or ovens repaired	...	...	...	21
Doors repaired	...	...	...	37
Wallplaster renewed	...	...	...	44
Windows repaired or renewed	...	...	...	14
Sashcords provided	...	...	...	41
Wastepipes renewed or repaired	...	...	...	11
Accumulations removed	...	...	...	13
Waterpipes renewed	...	...	...	5
Dampness remedied	...	...	...	43
Staircases repaired	...	...	...	4
Sinks and Baths	...	...	...	16

Miscellaneous :—

Animals removed	...	...	...	8
Poultry removed	...	...	...	2
Caravans removed	...	...	...	19

Since the resignation of an Assistant Public Health Inspector in February, 1957, many of the statutory duties did not receive the necessary attention, but with the appointment of a General Assistant in June, 1958, the position has improved and many routine duties have been taken over by this Official.

It has again been difficult getting repairs carried out within a reasonable time after service of notices and a vast number of interviews with owners, agents, builders, plumbers etc., has resulted. Owners and agents fail to understand that it is their duty to maintain property in a good

condition, and if they would give attention to defects reported by householders it would certainly save the Officials of this Department much time and many unpleasant interviews. Complaints during the year increased and 1,244 were received and investigated.

Slum clearance has been retarded owing to the shortage of Council houses, but duties in connection with the Rent Act have increased and during the year 535 inspections were made. The Rent Act has resulted in a considerable amount of repair work being carried out but in numerous instances tenants omitted major defects from the "G" form and consequently these could not be included in the Certificate of Disrepair and it was necessary to take additional action under the Public Health or Housing Acts.

More attention has been given to food premises and improvements continue to be carried out.

Verminous Premises.

The Department disinfested 168 houses during the year as compared with 163 for the previous year.

Fluids and powders used for disinfestation work contain D.D.T. and Pyrethum, and for ant extermination 0.25% Thallium Sulphate is included.

Post-war years have shewn a most satisfactory decline in bug infestations, but premises infested with ants continue to rise. Houses were treated for the following conditions:—

	<i>Council Houses.</i>				<i>Other Houses.</i>
Bugs	—				1
Fleas	4				5
Cockroaches	4				14
Ants	16				90
Silverfish	1				1
Redmite	1				3
Earwigs	17				—
Woodworm	1				—
Bluebottles	1				1
Other Conditions	2				6
	—				—
	47				121
	—				—

Prevention of Damage by Pests Act, 1949.

Four hundred and sixty-eight visits were made by the Public Health Inspectors, and the treatment service was

carried out by the Department's handyman. Special attention has been given to piggeries, allotments and refuse tips. The Corporation's sewers were test baited during the year.

No serious infestation has occurred.

In addition to traps, prebaited used are sausage rusk and bread mash, and poisons used are warfarin, zinc phosphate and red squill.

All food premises have been automatically inspected for rats and mice, and in 11 instances structural work (i.e. proofing) was requested in order to minimise possible infestation.

The Corporation receive a grant from the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food for carrying out duties in this Act.

Factories Act, 1937.

Number in Register	...	...	...	...	309
Inspections made	...	...	...	...	337
Notices served	...	...	...	...	17
Prosecutions	...	...	...	...	nil
Outworkers	...	...	...	...	2
Classification of defects:—					
Want of cleanliness	...	...	...	...	6
Inadequate ventilation	...	...	...	...	3
Insufficient sanitary conveniences	...	...	...	...	1
Defective sanitary conveniences	...	...	...	...	7
Not separate for sexes	...	...	...	...	1
Fire escape Certificates issued	...	...	...	...	4

The following is a classified list of trades carried on in the Borough:—

Aerated Waters	...	...	...	...	4
Paint Making, etc.	...	...	...	...	12
Corn. Merchants	...	...	...	...	2
Printing, etc.	...	...	...	...	4
Rayon Manufacture	...	...	...	...	1
Gas Undertaking	...	...	...	...	2
Laundry	...	...	...	...	2
Dyers and Cleaners	...	...	...	...	2
Brewery	...	...	...	...	1
Quarrying	...	...	...	...	1
Weaving	...	...	...	...	3

Ice Cream	...	...	...	...	...	5
General Dealers	...	...	...	...	...	4
Building Trades	...	...	...	...	...	36
Wood Cutting and Working	...	...	...	...	...	35
Leather Working, Shoe Repairing, etc.	...	...	...	...	...	23
Monumental Masons	...	...	...	...	...	2
Collieries	...	...	...	...	...	2
Fur Manufacture	...	...	...	...	...	1
Tailoring, Cutting, etc.	...	...	...	...	...	19
Bakehouses	...	...	...	...	...	35
Food Preserving Premises	...	...	...	...	...	64
Light Engineering, including Motor Repairs	...	...	...	...	...	26
Heavy Engineering	...	...	...	...	...	7
Electrical Undertaking	...	...	...	...	...	2
Plumbers, Gasfitters, etc.	...	...	...	...	...	12
Scale Repairing	...	...	...	...	...	2
Knacker Yard	...	...	...	...	...	1
Electrical and Radio Repairs	...	...	...	...	...	11
						<hr/> 321 <hr/>

Clean Air Act, 1956.

All premises affected by the provisions of the Act have been visited and discussions have taken place so that everyone was made conversant with the various requirements. Methods of stoking, types of fuel, oil installations and alterations of plant were discussed.

Two firms are to instal oil fired boilers, and at the Local Steelworks several processes are to be reorganised and special attention is being given to smoke, dust and gas problems. In all matters affecting the Steelworks close co-operation has been maintained with the District Inspector of Alkali Works, Ministry of Housing and Local Government.

Following observations on three factory chimneys complaints were made to the management of excess smoke emission. The primary cause in each case was injudicious stoking.

Food Inspection.

The following foodstuffs were found unfit for human consumption and in all cases Certificates under the Food and Drugs Act were issued to the respective vendors:—

Tinned and Bottled Goods:—

Ham (107 tins).	Apricots (4 tins).
Tongue (24 tins).	Pears (81 tins).
Pork (115 tins).	Grapefruit (51 tins).
Corned Beef (70 tins).	Pineapple (63 tins).
Luncheon Meat (29 tins).	Oranges (57 tins).
Minced Beef Loaf (42 tins).	Gooseberries (2 tins).
Veal (5 tins).	Peaches (109 tins).
Steak (60 tins).	Plums (5 tins).
Steak and Kidney Pie (9 tins).	Raspberries (1 tin).
Steak and Gravy (11 tins).	Tomatoes (112 tins).
Chicken (14 tins).	Carrots (16 tins).
Tuna (6 tins).	Beetroot (6 jars).
Crab (1 tin).	Beans (68 tins).
Pilchards (32 tins).	Peas (191 tins).
Salmon (21 tins).	Milk (73 tins).
Crawfish Tails (2 tins).	Cream (40 tins).
Hamburgers (3 tins).	Rice (11 tins).
Strawberries (27 tins).	Soup (26 tins).
Bilberries (4 tins).	Cheese (10 packets).
Fruit Salad (34 tins).	Orange Juice (2 tins).
Other Foods:—	
Bacon (43½ lbs.).	Pies (120—10 dozen).
Butter (4 lbs.).	Skate (34 lbs.).
Currants (50 lbs.).	Haddock (42 lbs.).
Shin Beef (124 lbs.).	Cod (98 lbs.).
Potatoes (6,671 lbs.).	

The approximate weight of foodstuffs condemned was 4 tons.

(Signed) RICHARD JAMES,
Chief Public Health Inspector.

Town Hall,
Workington.

