

Tramways Committee, and succeeded Mr. A. W. Painter, who followed the late Councillor T. W. Potts, J.P.

The Cleansing Department of the Corporation has been doing steady work in the direction of more efficient and more up-to-date refuse removal and street cleansing, and in the past few years considerable progress has been recorded. The growth in the amount of property in the town, coupled with the gradual replacement of old sanitary systems, has made a speeding up of the department's work necessary, and mechanical vehicles have been brought into use. To-day, the department possesses two mechanical road sweepers, one of which picks up the refuse as it goes along, and 11 motor refuse collecting vehicles, two of which are of the dustless loading type, while two further vehicles of this type are also to be purchased. Great attention is now paid to the emptying of street gullies, and a patent steam gully emptier is used. This was purchased in 1929, and has proved a great advantage. It can also be used for street watering.

The encroachments of the Gas and Electricity undertakings on the Portwood site, which had been occupied by the Department for many years, made it necessary for the Department to secure fresh premises, and a fine modern depot has been placed on land at Booth Street, Edgeley, Stockport, at a total cost of £12,000.

This comprises a garage for 12 motor vehicles, a stable for 10 horses, smithy and wheelwright's shop, paint shop, provender stores, salt and sand stores, of the four-way loading type, capable of holding 100 tons each, and offices. The other depots in various parts of the town have also been brought up-to-date. At Hempshaw Gate depot, a salt store has been erected, and there is now stabling for 16 horses. At the Warth Meadow tip, there is accommodation for 9 horses, and there has been installed a tin baling press for dealing with the increasing number of tins which find their way into the house refuse. These are collected and pressed into $\frac{3}{4}$ -cwt. bales, for sale as scrap. Cardboard and paper are similarly dealt with.

During the past three years the Department has adopted the controlled system of refuse tipping, which has been approved by the Ministry of Health, and an Inspector of the Ministry, who has visited the Stockport tips, has expressed his satisfaction with them.

Some idea of the magnitude of the Department's work may be gained from the fact that refuse is collected from 37,606 houses and premises in the Borough each week, and the net cost per thousand of the population is £197.

A total of 129 miles of streets are cleansed, and 127,500 street gullies are emptied, the cost per thousand of the population being £72 per annum. Fifty-five miles of streets are cleansed daily.

The present Superintendent of the Department, Mr. H. Wilson, succeeded Mr. W. H. Eccles in 1929.

Alderman J. H. Stockton, J.P., is the Chairman of the Cleansing Committee.

Foresight has characterised the policy of the Watch Committee with regard to the police force and fire brigade, during the last ten years, and Stock-