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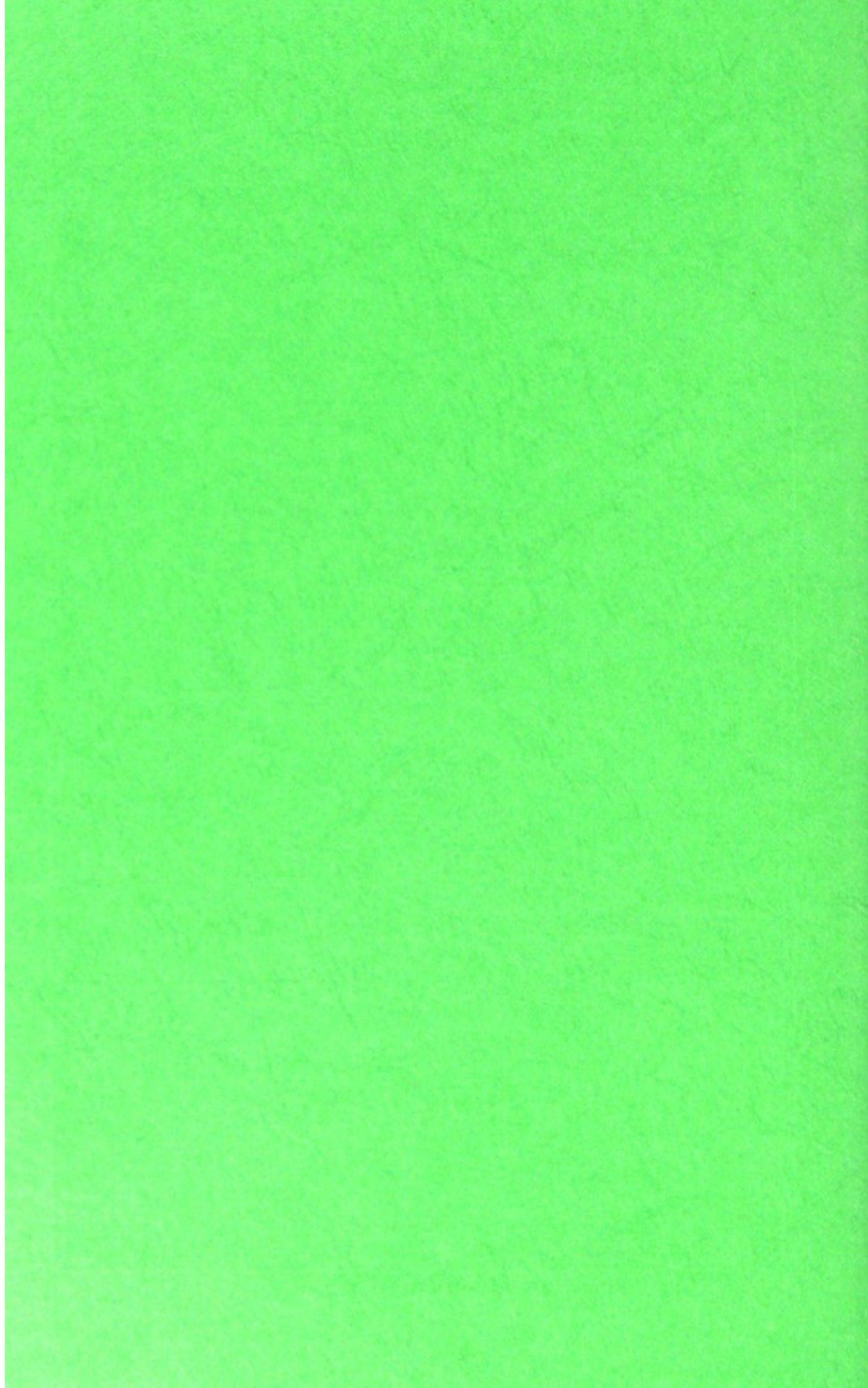
ASPULL URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL

ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

Medical Officer of Health
incorporating the Report of the
Public Health Inspector

FOR THE YEAR 1967






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ASPULL URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL

Chairman of the Council :

Councillor J. HATTON, J.P.

Vice-Chairman of the Council :

Councillor H. LOWE

Members of the Council :

Councillor T. Gray

Councillor Mrs. E. Matthews, J.P.

Councillor T. Green

Councillor J. Moore

Councillor Wm. Maunders

Councillor A. Singer, J.P.

Councillor J. Taberner

The Health Committee comprises all Members of the Council.

Chairman of the Health Committee :

Councillor J. MOORE

Vice-Chairman of the Health Committee :

Councillor Wm. MAUNDERS

Clerk of the Council and Chief Financial Officer :

PETER RYDER

Medical Officer of Health :

R. SCHOFIELD, M.D., Ch.B., D.C.H., D.P.H.

(Resigned 30th June, 1967)

J. H. McP. ROBERTSON, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.

(Appointed 6th July, 1967)

Public Health Inspector :

B. E. DYSON, M.R.S.H., M.A.P.H.I.

ASPULL URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL

PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT,
COUNCIL OFFICES,
ASPULL.

Telephone: Wigan 45843.

To the Chairman and Members of the Aspull Urban District Council

Mr. Chairman, Mrs. Matthews and Gentlemen,

I have the honour of submitting to you the Annual Report on the health of the District for the year 1967.

As in previous years it has been compiled in accordance with instructions from the Ministry of Health.

In this my first year of office, I wish to express my gratitude for the assistance and co-operation received from the Officers of the Council and particularly to Mr. Dyson, Public Health Inspector for his unfailing support.

I also respectfully wish to offer to Members of the Council my appreciation for the courtesy and encouragement given to me at all times.

I am, Mr. Chairman, Mrs. Matthews and Gentlemen,

Yours faithfully,

J. H. ROBERTSON,
Medical Officer of Health.

STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE AREA

Area: 1,906 acres.

Population (Census 1961): 6,740.

Estimated mid-1967 (Registrar General): 7,360.

Total Number of Houses: 2,563.

Rateable Value: £170,133.

Sum represented by Penny Rate: £670.

Aspull Urban District is situated some three miles north-east of Wigan and seven miles west of Bolton. The north-western portion of the area reaches to the greatest height above sea level (525 ft.) and from this point an uninterrupted view of the countryside for miles around may be obtained.

The present Urban District Council consisting of nine members governs the district, which is divided into three Wards. The Council, together with the Councils of the neighbouring Urban Districts of Hindley and Westhoughton, administer Borsdane Wood, through which runs the brook forming one of the natural boundaries of the Urban District.

The main industries are baking, weaving, tile manufacturing and agriculture. Several other smaller factories operate within the area.

VITAL STATISTICS

<i>Births</i>				<i>Males</i>	<i>Females</i>	<i>Total</i>
Live Births:	Legitimate	.....	.....	65	70	135
	Illegitimate	.....	.....	3	1	4
Still Births:	Legitimate	.....	.....	2	1	3
	Illegitimate	.....	.....	NIL	NIL	NIL
Live birth rates per 1,000 estimated population:						
	Crude Rate	.....	.....	18.9		
	Adjusted rate	.....	.....	18.5	(17.2)	
	Area comparability factor	.....	.....	0.98		
	Still birth rate per 1,000 total births	.....	.....	21	(14.8)	

DEATHS

Mortality rates per 1,000 estimated population:

Total (all forms):

Crude rate	.....	.....	.....	10.2	
Adjusted rate	.....	.....	.....	14.1	(11.2)
Area comparability factor	.....	.....	.....	1.38	
Respiratory tuberculosis	.....	.....	.....	NIL	(0.043)
Malignant neoplasms	.....	.....	.....	2.04	

Maternal mortality rate per 1,000 total births NIL

Deaths of Infants:

		<i>Males</i>	<i>Females</i>	<i>Total</i>
Infant Mortality:	Legitimate	1	1	2
(deaths under 1 year of age)	Illegitimate	NIL	NIL	NIL
Neonatal Mortality:	Legitimate	1	NIL	1
(deaths under 4 weeks of age)	Illegitimate	NIL	NIL	NIL
Early Neonatal Mortality:	Legitimate	NIL	NIL	NIL
(deaths under 1 week of age)	Illegitimate	NIL	NIL	NIL
Infant Mortality rate per 1,000 live births		14	(18.3)	
Neonatal Mortality rate per 1,000 live births		7	(12.2)	
Early Neonatal Mortality rate per 1,000 live births		NIL	(10.8)	
Perinatal Mortality (still births and deaths under 1 week of age) rate per 1,000 total births		21	(25.4)	

(The figure shown in parenthesis represent the respective rates for England and Wales).

CANCER

Facilities for radium treatment are available to Aspull residents at the Radium Institute, Manchester, and at Wigan Infirmary, which for this purpose is a sub-clinic of the Manchester Centre.

Fifteen deaths (8 males and 7 females) were certified as due to cancer during the year.

TABLE SHOWING CAUSES OF DEATH AT VARIOUS AGES

CAUSE OF DEATH	Sex	Total All Ages	Under 4 weeks	4 weeks & under 1 year	AGE IN YEARS								75 & over
					1—	5—	15—	25—	35—	45—	55—	65—	
Malignant Neoplasm, (Stomach) ...	M	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
Malignant Neoplasm, (Lung-Bronchus)...	F	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Malignant Neoplasm, Breast ...	M	5	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	2	—	2
Malignant Neoplasm, Breast ...	F	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
Malignant Neoplasm, Uterus ...	M	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Malignant Neoplasm, Uterus ...	F	1	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Malignant Neoplasm, Uterus ...	F	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—
Other Malignant & Lymphatic Neoplasms	M	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	—
Diabetes ...	F	4	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	—	—
Diabetes ...	M	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
Diabetes ...	F	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Vascular Lesions of Nervous System ...	M	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Vascular Lesions of Nervous System ...	F	8	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	2	4
Coronary Disease, Angina ...	M	6	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	1	2
Coronary Disease, Angina ...	F	7	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	2	2
Other Heart Disease ...	M	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Other Heart Disease ...	F	11	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	8
Other Circulatory Disease ...	M	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Other Circulatory Disease ...	F	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	1
Influenza ...	M	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Influenza ...	F	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Pneumonia ...	M	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Pneumonia ...	F	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Bronchitis ...	M	3	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2
Bronchitis ...	F	7	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	3	3
Nephritis and Nephrosis ...	M	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—
Nephritis and Nephrosis ...	F	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—
Congenital Malformations	M	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Congenital Malformations	F	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Other Defined & Ill-defined Diseases	M	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Other Defined & Ill-defined Diseases	F	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1
All Other Accidents	M	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
All Other Accidents	F	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
TOTAL ALL CAUSES ...	M	29	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	3	5	11
TOTAL ALL CAUSES ...	F	46	—	1	—	1	—	—	—	2	4	5	23

GENERAL PROVISIONS OF HEALTH SERVICES IN THE AREA

LABORATORY ARRANGEMENTS

Bacteriological examinations are carried out by the Department of Bacteriology, Royal Albert Edward Infirmary, Wigan. Chemical analyses are undertaken by the County Analyst, County Hall, Preston. These arrangements are entirely satisfactory.

AMBULANCE ARRANGEMENTS

During the year non-infectious, infectious, accident and maternity cases were dealt with adequately by the Ambulance Service operated by the Lancashire County Council. The ambulances are stationed at Hindley and Standish.

NATIONAL ASSISTANCE ACT, 1948

No action was taken by the Authority during the year, under Section 47 of this Act.

PREVALENCE OF, AND CONTROL OVER, INFECTIOUS DISEASES

A total of 45 cases of infectious diseases were notified during the year. This figure comprises 15 cases of measles, 25 cases of whooping cough and 5 cases of respiratory tuberculosis.

The following table shows the number of cases of these diseases occurring within various age groups.

Food Poisoning—No cases of food poisoning were notified during the year.

Tuberculosis—The dispensary service is under the control of the Regional Hospital Board and Aspull cases attend the Chest Clinic, Millgate, Wigan.

CASES OF INFECTIOUS DISEASES NOTIFIED DURING 1967

TOTAL CASES NOTIFIED	
DISEASE	<div> TOTAL CASES AT ALL AGES </div> <div> AGE PERIODS — YEARS </div>
	<div> 0-1-2-3-4-5-10-15-25 and overage unknown </div>
Whooping cough	<div> 253445148NILNILNILNILNILNILNILNILNILNIL </div>
Measles (excluding rubella)	<div> 15NIL411441NILNILNILNILNILNILNILNILNILNIL </div>
Tuberculosis — Respiratory	<div> 5NILNILNILNILNILNILNILNILNILNILNILNILNILNILNILNIL </div>

IMMUNISATION AND VACCINATION

The following tables show the number of children resident in Aspull who were immunised and vaccinated during the year.

Children protected against	Primary		Re-inforcement	
	0-4 years	5-15 years	0-4 years	5-15 years
Diphtheria	131	12	120	111
Whooping Cough	129	2	3	2
Tetanus	129	12	120	111
Poliomyelitis	124	10	2	133

Smallpox Vaccination	Primary		Re-vaccination	
	0-4 years	5-15 years	0-4 years	5-15 years
	94	7	NIL	2

REPORT OF THE PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR

B. E. DYSON, M.R.S.H., M.A.P.H.I.

DETAILS OF VISITS

Investigation of complaints	116	Grocers shops.....	21
Re-inspection of notices	219	Licensed premises	16
Housing Acts inspections	64	Bakeries	2
Supervision of refuse collection and disposal	210	Mobile shops and hawkers	14
Rodent Control	248	Fish friers	8
Factories (Mech.)	5	Butchers shops	5
Sites of building operations	5	School kitchens	5
Re: Petroleum Regulations	10	Factory canteens	2
Re: drainage	103	Cafes/snack bars	4
Overcrowding	3	Shops (selling sugar confectionary, ice-cream)	11
Unwholesome premises—filthy and/or verminous	15	Milk producers	2
Demolition sites	37	Ice-cream vendors	13
Improvement grants	31	Sampling of water	18
Caravans, gypsies and other travellers	11	Sampling of milk	15
Outworkers premises	1	Sampling of ice-cream	17
Re: tenancy of Council owned dwellings	59	Enquiries re: infectious diseases	4
Schools	5	Dustbin/paper sack holder provision scheme	200
Public conveniences	3	Interviews	219
Offices, Shops and Railway Premises Act	27	Miscellaneous	21

Total number of visits and inspections: 1,769

Defects and/or nuisances:

- (i) Discovered — 103
- (ii) Remedied — 140

Notices served:

- (i) Informal — 59
- (ii) Statutory — 33

Notices compiled with:

- (i) Informal — 70
- (ii) Statutory — 34

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA

WATER SUPPLY

The Bolton Corporation is the statutory water undertaker for the Urban District, although certain functions are carried out within the area by the Makerfield Water Board.

There are three sources of supply to the district.

The north-western portion of the district, that is the area adjacent to Butcherfield Row and part of Haigh Road, is supplied from Wilderswood Reservoir at Blackrod. This supply is pumped to Aspull by the Makerfield Water Board.

Properties at Pennington Green and Hall Lane derive their supply of water from the reservoir at Rivington via the Liverpool aqueduct.

The remaining parts of the district receive the Thirlmere supply provided by Bolton Corporation.

All premises within Aspull receive a piped supply from the public mains. During the year three existing mains were extended to sites of new development and 63 new dwellings were connected to the public supply.

The water is soft upland surface water and laboratory reports indicate that it is fit for drinking and all domestic purposes.

The combined fluorine content varied between 0.021 and 0.10 parts per million.

The following table shows the number of samples of fully treated water taken during the year.

BACTERIOLOGICAL EXAMINATIONS			CHEMICAL ANALYSES		
Results			Results		
No.	Satisfactory	Unsatisfactory	No.	Satisfactory	Unsatisfactory
8	8	NIL	4	4	NIL

DRAINAGE AND SEWERAGE

The combined system of drainage is in operation throughout the district. All dwellings with exception of 12 isolated cottages and farms have a water carriage system of sanitation.

As a result of a preliminary survey carried out by a firm of Consultant Engineers on the existing sewerage system in the area; a new sewer to serve the Eastern half of the area will need to be laid. Meantime only development that has already received planning approval will be allowed to proceed. Other development which replaces recently demolished houses will also be allowed.

During the year 103 inspections were made in connection with drainage and sewerage, 63 new dwellings were connected to the sewerage system.

The sanitary accommodation in the district at the end of the year was:

Number of fresh water closets	2,713
Number of pail closets	6
Number of privy middens	1

PUBLIC CONVENIENCES

There are two conveniences in the area, one at New Springs and the other at the Finger Post. Both are designed as integral parts of omnibus shelters. As in many other districts these conveniences have suffered, during the year, from the incomprehensible activities of vandals and appreciable amounts of time and materials have been spent in maintaining the conveniences in a reasonable condition.

It is essential that such damage is repaired as soon as possible in order that the health of the public does not suffer as a result of the actions of the irresponsible few.

TENTS, VANS AND SHEDS

There are no licensed caravan sites within the district.

SMOKE ABATEMENT

There are two factory chimneys in the district and no action has been found necessary during the year.

OFFENSIVE TRADES

There are no registered premises within the district.

SWIMMING BATHS AND POOLS

There are none in the district.

VERMINOUS PREMISES

During the year five houses were treated for cockroaches and two for silverfish using Pybuthrin.

In summer months ants were occasionally a problem on certain properties and it was found necessary in these cases to remove the flagging from around the premises before treatment could be successfully carried out.

Disinfestation of domestic premises is generally carried out free of charge and occupiers are advised on any possible steps that should be taken to prevent re-infestation.

RODENT CONTROL

One man is employed part-time on rodent control work.

During the year 248 visits were made to premises in this connection, dealing with 148 infestations of rats and mice. This shows an increase of 42 infestations on the previous year.

The presence of rats or mice, or even the suspicion of such, should be reported immediately to the Public Health Inspector, as an early notification will often lessen the task of the rodent operative.

During May and June 168 manholes on the public sewerage system were baited. There were only 4 complete 'takes' and 4 partial 'takes' and subsequent baiting of these manholes and adjacent ones revealed no further 'takes.'

TABLE SHOWING DETAILS OF RODENT CONTROL WORK

	Type of Property			
	Local Authority	Non-Agricultural Dwelling Houses	All other (including business premises)	Agricultural
Number of properties in District.....	8	2563	304	20
Number of properties inspected as a result of:				
(a) Notification	5	144	12	3
(b) Survey or otherwise	3	29	NIL	5
Total inspections carried out including re-inspections	14	196	20	18
Number of properties inspected which were found to be infested by:—				
Rats:				
Major	NIL	NIL	NIL	NIL
Minor	4	110	9	3
(b) Mice:				
Major	NIL	NIL	NIL	NIL
Minor	3	19	NIL	NIL
Number of infested properties treated by the L.A.	7	129	9	3
Total treatments carried out, including re-treatments	7	129	9	3
Number of "Block" control schemes carried out	NIL	NIL	NIL	NIL

SCHOOLS

Schools are visited periodically in connection with refuse collection, rodent control, washing facilities and sanitary accommodation.

All the schools in the district except one, now have supplies of hot and cold water to the wash-hand basins, but unfortunately not all have indoor toilet accommodation.

The Divisional Education Committee have continued to co-operate in employing the paper sack system of refuse collection at the Aspull schools.

HOUSING

A considerable proportion of the houses within the district are old in type and many of these are now beyond improvement. There are however others which with the introduction of the basic amenities would provide accommodation of a reasonable standard for several years longer than the fifteen required by the Standard Grant Scheme.

It is obvious that a close look must be taken of the housing stock and every effort made to encourage owners to repair and improve houses which although substandard at present, could still have a useful life after improvement.

Slum clearance is continuing, but unfortunately, at a very slow rate. The biggest factor which is holding back progress in this direction is the lack of alternative housing.

A certain amount of new building (comprising of two storey flats and accommodation for handicapped persons) within the council estate has also been approved.

A scheme for the redevelopment of the Top Lock area has been approved and it is hoped to commence this scheme as soon as possible.

Private development has continued throughout the year, with several sites under construction. The majority of the private building has taken place in the last seven years and it is pleasing to see the general environment and appearance of Aspull improve in this way.

The Council owned dwelling, providing substantial accommodation with regular maintenance, is still in demand. At the end of the year there were 160 applicants for various types of Council properties.

HOUSING STATISTICS

Number of new dwellings erected during the year:

(i)	By Local Authority	NIL
(ii)	By other Local Authorities	NIL
(iii)	By other bodies or persons	63 houses

1.—INSPECTION OF DWELLING HOUSES DURING THE YEAR:

(1)	(a)	Total number of dwelling houses inspected formally or informally for housing defects under Public Health or Housing Acts	180
	(b)	Number of inspections made for the purpose	399
	(c)	Number of dwellings in (a) above found to be not in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation but capable of being rendered fit	69
(2)		Total number of dwellings existing at end of year, occupied or not, which were unfit for human habitation and not capable at reasonable expense of being rendered fit and in respect of which:	
	(a)	Demolition, Clearance or Closing Orders have been made (at any time)	13
	(b)	Demolition, Clearance or Closing Orders have not yet been made (estimated)	333

2.—HOUSES DEMOLISHED IN CLEARANCE AREAS:

	<i>Houses Demolished</i>	<i>Displaced during year Persons</i>	<i>Families</i>
(1) Houses unfit for human habitation	NIL	NIL	NIL
(2) Houses included by reason of bad arrangements, etc.	NIL	NIL	NIL
(3) Houses on land acquired under Section 43(2), Housing Act, 1957	NIL	NIL	NIL

Not in Clearance Area:

(4)	As a result of formal or informal procedure under Section 17(1) Housing Act, 1957	10	6	2
(5)	Local Authority owned houses certified unfit by the Medical Officer of Health.....	NIL	NIL	NIL
(6)	Houses unfit for human habitation where action has been taken under local Acts	NIL	NIL	NIL
(7)	Unfit houses included in Unfitness Orders	NIL	NIL	NIL

3.—UNFIT HOUSES CLOSED:

(1) Under Sections 16(4), 17(1) and 35(1) Housing Act, 1957	3	11	4
(2) Under Sections 17(3) and 26, Housing Act, 1957	NIL	NIL	NIL
(3) Parts of buildings closed under Section 18, Housing Act, 1957	NIL	NIL	NIL

4.—UNFIT HOUSES MADE FIT AND HOUSES IN WHICH DEFECTS WERE REMEDIED:

	<i>By Owner</i>	<i>By Local Authority</i>
(1) After informal action by local authority	70	NIL
(2) After formal notice under		
(a) Public Health Acts	34	NIL
(b) Housing Act, 1957	NIL	NIL
(3) Under Section 24, Housing Act, 1957	NIL	NIL

5.—UNFIT HOUSES IN TEMPORARY USE: (Housing Act, 1957)

	<i>No. of Houses (1)</i>	<i>No. of seporate dwellings contained in Col. (1) (2)</i>
Position at end of year:		
(1) Retained for temporary accommodation		
(a) Under Section 48	NIL	NIL
(b) Under Section 17(2)	NIL	NIL
(c) Under Section 46	NIL	NIL
(2) Licensed for temporary occupation under Sections 34 or 53	NIL	NIL

6.—PURCHASE OF HOUSE BY AGREEMENT:

	<i>No. of Houses (1)</i>	<i>No. of occupants of houses in Col. (1) (2)</i>
Houses in Clearance Areas other than those included in confirmed Clearance Orders or Compulsory Purchase Orders, purchased during the year	NIL	NIL

RENT ACT, 1957

There have been no applications and a reduction in number of queries appertaining to the Rent Act, 1957. It would appear that this is mainly due to the fact that repairs are being dealt with more speedily by landlords who are in receipt of increased rents.

During the year the following applications and undertakings were dealt with in respect of repairs to houses where the rent had been increased.

PART I.

APPLICATIONS FOR CERTIFICATES OF DISREPAIR

(1) Number of application for Certificates	NIL
(2) Number of decisions not to issue Certificates	NIL
(3) Number of decisions to issue Certificates	NIL
(a) in respect of some but not all defects	NIL
(b) in respect of all defects	NIL
(4) Number of undertakings given by landlords under paragraph 5 of the First Schedule	NIL
(5) Number of undertakings refused by Local Authority under proviso to paragraph 5 of the First Schedule	NIL
(6) Number of Certificates issued	NIL

PART II.

APPLICATIONS FOR CANCELLATION OF CERTIFICATES

(7) Applications by landlords to Local Authority for cancellation of Certificates	NIL
(8) Objections by tenants to cancellation of Certificates	NIL
(9) Decisions by Local Authority to cancel in spite of tenants' objection	NIL
(10) Certificates cancelled by Local Authority	NIL

Very little use is now being made of the disrepair procedure provided by the above Act.

7.—HOUSING ACTS: IMPROVEMENT GRANTS, ETC.

No applications were received for Improvement Grants during 1967.

Nineteen applications, from owner-occupiers, for Standard Grants were received 15 of which were approved during the year.

It is hoped that there will be an increase in the number of applications for Grants in 1968; and every effort must be made to encourage owners to improve their property in this way.

PUBLIC CLEANSING

Seven men are employed in the Refuse Collection Service; one of these men being engaged at the refuse disposal site.

The nature of domestic refuse has changed considerably during recent years as a result of modern packaging methods, and the extensive use of plastics for containers. This vast increase in the bulk of refuse coupled with the growth of the district show the obvious need for the larger type of vehicles with continuous compression.

All refuse is collected from the rear of premises and a weekly collection is operated throughout the area. This service has been maintained during the year except for the breaks caused by annual and public holidays.

If the efficiency of the refuse collection service may be judged on the number of complaints received from the public, then the almost complete absence of such complaints during the year speaks for itself.

The disposal of refuse is carried out by controlled tipping using a 'Fordson' tractor with a shovel and blade. The tip is regularly treated with bait and insecticidal powder to prevent infestations of vermin and insects.

Tipping is at present taking place in the disused railway cutting off Haigh Road, but the remaining life of this tip is now very short.

The absence of sites within the district, suitable for refuse disposal is now a very serious problem; and although several possible sites have been investigated each present difficulties either with regard to access or the prior preparation of the site before refuse can be tipped.

The Council have in operation a paper sack system of refuse collection. This method was introduced several years ago and there are now approx. 750 paper sack holders being used at domestic premises, and at the schools within the district.

The advantages of this system over the conventional metal dustbin are readily appreciated by the men engaged on refuse collection; the more obvious of these being less weight to carry, shorter overall distances to walk and virtually dustless loading. The eventual extension of this system throughout the district will be beneficial both to the men and to the householder. A new container each week eliminates the often evil smelling and rarely cleansed dustbin; the noise is minimal. An extra sack is left prior to holidays.

A dustbin provision and replacement scheme is operated within the district.

Street cleansing is carried out under the control and supervision of the Surveyor.

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD

MILK SUPPLY

Lancashire County Council are now the responsible Authority for the issuing of milk licences.

No Ministry investigation by the Divisional Inspector of the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food were found necessary during the year as a result of notification of tuberculous milk.

MEAT AND OTHER FOODS

There are no slaughterhouses in the district.

Butchers obtain their supplies from abattoirs situated in neighbouring areas.

FOOD AND DRUGS ACT, 1955

Given below are details of samples obtained in the Aspull Urban District, under the provision of the above Act, during 1967.

A total of 35 samples was obtained comprising 19 milks (of which three were Channel Island milk) and 16 others as follows:—

1 Fresh Fruit	1 Fish, canned
1 Flour Confectionery	1 Cocktail Shrimps in Brine, canned
1 Sauce	1 Tea
1 Gravy Browning	1 Borax B.P.
1 Coffee and Chicory Essence, liquid, sweetened	1 Plain Flour
3 Herbs, dried (culinary)	1 Seedless Raisins
1 Self Raising Flour	1 Stewed Steak in Gravy, canned

I give below details of one sample on which the County Analyst gave an adverse report:—

Sample	Result of Analysis	Action taken
Stewed steak in gravy, canned	Sample consisted of two 7½ oz. cans, both bearing code 0140. Visible piece of gelatinised gristle present 7.8% and 5.7% respectively.	Complainant informed and canners communi- cated with.

The following article of food was voluntarily surrendered as unfit during the year:

Ham 2 x 11 lb. 4 oz. cans

Food condemned is collected by the Authority and suitably buried on the refuse tip.

The following is a list of food premises within the district:

TYPE OF BUSINESS:

General grocers and provision dealers	32
Greengrocers and fruiterers (including those selling wet fish, game, etc.)	6
Meat shops (butchers, p urveyors of cooked and preserved meat, tripe, etc.)	6
Bakers and/or confectioners	9
Fried fish shops	7
Shops selling mainly sugar confectionery, minerals, ice-cream, etc.	9
Licensed premises, clubs, canteens, restaurants, cafes, snack bars and other similar establishments	27
The number of food premises registered under Section 16 of the Food and Drugs Act, 1955, was as follows:	
Premises for the storage and retail sale of ice-cream	26
Preserved foods, etc., premises	5

FOOD HYGIENE (GENERAL) REGULATIONS, 1960

Routine inspections of food premises and mobile shops have continued during the year.

It is necessary to stress once again that the general public, especially the housewife, can greatly help to facilitate the work of the Public Health Inspector by observing hygienic practices when in food premises and also by patronising only those shops which provide a clean and hygienic service for their customers.

Inspections of school kitchens revealed that although in most schools the standards are quite satisfactory, there are unfortunately, a small number which suffer from a lack of adequate space. This is generally found in those schools where meals are delivered ready cooked and the only handling of the food is during the actual serving.

ICE-CREAM (HEAT TREATMENT, Etc.) REGULATIONS, 1959 and 1963.

There are no ice-cream manufacturers in the area.

Several itinerant vendors operate within the district; ice-cream sold from these vehicles is regularly sampled for bacteriological examination. Of the nine samples taken, one was reported as unsatisfactory.

At retailers' premises all ice-cream sold is pre-packed and stored in cabinet refrigerators at or below 28 deg. F.

FACTORIES ACT, 1961. (Part 1)

1. Inspections for the purposes of provisions as to health.

Premises (1)	Number on Register (2)	Number of		
		Inspections (3)	Written notices (4)	Occupiers prosecuted (5)
(i) Factories in which sections 1, 2, 3, 4, and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities	NIL	NIL	NIL	NIL
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority	9	5	NIL	NIL
(iii) Other premises in which section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding outworkers premises)	4	5	NIL	NIL
TOTAL	13	10	NIL	NIL

2. Cases in which defects were found.

Particulars (1)	Number of cases in which defects were found				Number of cases in which prosecutions were instituted (6)
	Found (2)	Remedied (3)	Referred		
			To H.M. Inspector (4)	By H.M. Inspector (5)	
Want of cleanliness (S.1) ...	NIL	NIL	NIL	NIL	NIL
Overcrowding (S.2) ...	NIL	NIL	NIL	NIL	NIL
Unreasonable temperature (S.3) ...	NIL	NIL	NIL	NIL	NIL
Inadequate ventilation (S.4) ...	NIL	NIL	NIL	NIL	NIL
Ineffective drainage of floors (S.6) ...	NIL	NIL	NIL	NIL	NIL
Sanitary conveniences (S.7)					
(a) Insufficient ...	NIL	NIL	NIL	NIL	NIL
(b) Unsuitable or defective ...	1	1	NIL	NIL	NIL
(c) Not separate for sexes ...	NIL	NIL	NIL	NIL	NIL
Other offences against the Act (not including offences relating to out-work) ...	NIL	NIL	NIL	NIL	NIL
TOTAL	1	1	NIL	NIL	NIL

Sites of building operations are visited to ensure that suitable sanitary accommodation is provided in accordance with section 127 of the Act and to ensure that insanitary conditions do not arise.

OFFICES, SHOPS AND RAILWAY PREMISES ACT, 1963

The Act is designed to protect the health and safety of persons employed in offices, shops and certain railway premises.

The few premises in the district yet to be inspected, are those **where** there is probably no more than one employee and where conditions are expected to satisfy the requirements of the Act.

1. Registrations and General Inspections

<i>Class of Premises</i>	<i>Number of premises registered during the year</i>	<i>Number of registered premises at end of year</i>	<i>Number of registered premises receiving a general inspection during the year</i>
Offices	NIL	1	1
Retail Shops	2	8	6
Wholesale shops, Warehouses ...	NIL	2	2
Catering establishments open to the public, canteens	1	7	3
Fuel storage depots ...	NIL	NIL	NIL
TOTALS:	3	18	12

TOTAL NUMBER OF VISITS OF ALL KINDS BY INSPECTIONS TO
REGISTERED PREMISES UNDER THE ACT: 27

2. Analysis of Contraventions

<i>Section</i>	<i>Number of Contraventions found</i>				<i>Section</i>	<i>Number of Contraventions found</i>			
4	Cleanliness ...	...	...	NIL	13	Sitting facilities ...	...	1	
5	Overcrowding ...	...	...	NIL	14	Seats (Sedentary Workers)...		NIL	
6	Temperature ...	...	...	2	15	Eating facilities ...	...	NIL	
7	Ventilation ...	...	...	2	16	Floors, passage and stairs ...		4	
8	Lighting ...	...	...	2	17	Fencing exposed parts of machinery ...	...	NIL	
9	Sanitary conveniences ...	...		2	18	Protection of young persons from dangerous machinery		NIL	
10	Washing facilities ...	...		1	19	Training of young persons working at dangerous machinery ...	...	NIL	
11	Supply of drinking water ...	...	NIL		23	Prohibition of heavy work...		NIL	
12	Clothing accommodation ...	...	1		24	First aid General provisions		6	
						TOTAL: ...	...	21	

PETROLEUM (REGULATION) ACTS, 1928 and 1936.

Thirteen licences to store petroleum spirit were renewed during the year.

