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ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

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

FOR THE YEAR 1971

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ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

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

FOR THE YEAR 1971

Chairman of the Council: Councillor T. GREEN

Vice-Chairman of the Council: Councillor J. TABERNER

Members of the Council:

Councillor T. Gray

Councillor Wm. Maunders

Councillor J. Hatton

Councillor J. Moore

Councillor H. Lowe, J.P.

Councillor A. Singer, J.P.

Councillor Mrs. E. Matthews, J.P.

The Health Committee comprises all Members of the Council

Chairman of the Health Committee:
Councillor J. MOORE

Vice-Chairman of the Health Committee; Councillor J. HATTON

Clerk of the Council and Chief Financial Officer:
PETER RYDER

Medical Officer of Health:
P. LEE, B.SC., M.B., CH.B., D.P.H.

Public Health Inspector:
T. SUTTON, M.R.S.H., M.A.P.H.I.

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 1971.

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

I would like to take the opportunity to express my gratitude for the assistance and co-operation received from the Officers of the Council and particularly to Mr. Sutton, Public Health Inspector, for his unfailing support.

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

> I am, Mr. Chairman, Mrs. Matthews and Gentlemen, Yours faithfully,

> > P. LEE,

Medical Officer of Health.

STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE AREA

Area: 1,906 acres.

Population (Census 1971): 7,500.

Estimated mid-1971 (Registrar General): 7,500.

Total Number of Inhabited Dwellings at end of 1971 according to Rate Books: 2,666.

Rateable Value: £199.356.

Sum represented by Penny Rate: £1,925.

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, tile manufacturing and agriculture. Several other smaller factories operate within the area.

VITAL STATISTICS

Births					Males	Females	Total
Live Births:	Legitimate				61	57	118
	Illegitimate				4	2	6
Still Births:	Legitimate				1	NIL	1
	Illegitimate				NIL	NIL	NIL
Live birth r	ates per 1,000	estim	ated po	pula	tion:		
Crude Ra	te				16.5	(16.0)	
Adjusted	rate				16,2	(16.0)	
	parability fac	tor			0.98		
	rate per 1,00		lbirths		8	(12)	

Deaths

Mortality rates per 1,000 estimated population:

Total (all forms):					
Crude rate			 	11.3	
Adjusted rate			 	15.6	(11.6)
Area comparabilit	y fac	ctor	 	1.38	
Respiratory tuber			 	NIL	(0.019)
Malignant neoplas	ms		 	2.0	(2.39)

Maternal mortality rate per 1,000 total births ... NIL Death of Infants:

		Males	Females	Total
Infant mortality	Legitimate	NIL	1	1
(deaths under 1 year of age)	Illegitimate	NIL	NIL	NIL
Neonatal mortality	Legitimate	NIL	1	1
(deaths under 4 weeks of age)	Illegitimate	NIL	NIL	NIL
Early neonatal mortality	Legitimate	NIL	1	1
(deaths under 1 week of age)	Illegitimate	NIL	NIL	NIL
Infant mortality rate per 1,000	live births		8	(18)
Neonatal mortality rate per 1,		***	8	(12)
Early neonatal mortality rate		irths	8	(10)
Perinatal mortality (still birth 1 week of age) rate per 1,000		inder	16	(22)

(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.

Sixteen deaths (4 males and 12 females) were certified as due to cancer during the year.

TABLE SHOWING CAUSES OF DEATH AT VARIOUS AGES

equelae	CAUSE OF DEATH	Sex Total	Under	4 weeks		AGE	IN	AGE IN YEAR	AR	S		75
Discussion F. F. Discuss				l year	1	- 15	- 25		-45-	- 55-	-65-	-00
Feb. 1			11	1	1	1	1	1	1	1-	1	1
onchus	B19(2) Malignant Neoplasm, Oesophagus		111							1	11	-
	B19(3) Malignant Neoplasm, Stomach		11	1	11					11-	11.	11.
### ### ### ### ### ### ### ### ### ##		M M	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	- -	- -	- 1
ten the state of	B19(6) Malignant Neoplasm, Lung, Bronchus	M 1	11	11	11	11	11	11	-	- 1	-	11
ten the many state of the man	plasm, Breast	W W L		11	11	11	11	11	11	11	119	11.
ten	B19(10) Leukaemia	M I	11	11	11	11	1 1	11	11		7	-
tem In the property of the	B19(11) Other Malignant Neoplasms	N N	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11.	-	
### ### #### #########################		M W	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	-	11	11
F. F	B46(1) Other Endocrine etc. Diseases	- N	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	
the state of the s	B26 Chronic Rheumatic Heart Disease	N.	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	-	1-
### ### ### ### ### ### ### ### ### ##	B27 Hypertensive Disease	M 3 2		11	11	11	11	11	11	- 22	11	2
### ### ### ### #### #### ############	B28 Ischaemic Heart Disease	F 13	11	11	11	11	11	1-	-	15	9	11
in K 10	B29 Other Forms of Heart Disease	M 2 2	11	11	11	11	11	11	-	-	2	27 -
stem M	:	F 3	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	1-	14	eo ro
in the step of the state of the		M 2	11	11	11	11		11	11	11	7	2
tem ::::::::::::::::::::::::::::::::::::		M I	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11'	-	11
tem		M 2	11	11	11	11	11	11	11			2
stem M. M. 1		N N	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11
sten K K		M 1	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	-	
stem K 1 1	B36 Intestinal Obstruction and Hernia	N N N	11	11	11	11	11	11	11		11.	11
stem K 2		M 1	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	1	-	11
stem K 1	:	M 2	11	11	11	11	11		11	2	11	11
K	Genito-Urinary	M 1	11	11	11		11	11	11	11	-	11
K 3	:	M M M	11.	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11
K 1 1 - 1 - 1 - 1 - 1 - 1 - 1		M 3	- 1	11	2	11	1 1	11	11	11	11	-
S M 47 2 1 2 14 17	:	M 1	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	-	11	11
	s		11-	111	67		111		121	14	17	11 11

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 10 cases of infectious diseases were notified during the year. This figure comprises 7 cases of measles, 1 case of respiratory tuberculosis and 2 cases of whooping cough.

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

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

CASES OF INFECTIOUS DISEASES NOTIFIED DURING 1971

			1	OTA	T C	TOTAL CASES NOTIFIED	LON	IFII	3.0		
DISEASE	TOTAL				AGE	AGE PERIODS —		YEARS			
	AT ALL AGES	0	1-	2-	ep	4	5	10-	15-	25 and over	age un- known
Measles (excluding rubella)	7	NIL	4	NIL	1	1	1	NIL	NIL	NIL	NIE
Tuberculosis - Respiratory	1	NIL	NIL	NIE	NIL	NIE	NIE	NIL	NIE	1	NIL
Whooping Cough	2	NIL	NIE	1	NIL	NIL	1	NIL	NIL	NIL	NIE

IMMUNISATION AND VACCINATION

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

ROTECTED AGAINST	_			PRIMARY	RE-INFORCEMENT
Diphtheria	***	 ***	***	132	222
Whooping Cough		 		120	5
Tetanus		 		132	221
Poliomyelitis		 	***	132	122
Measles		 ***		72	NIL
Rubella		 ***	***	74	NIL
Smallpox		 		43	2

REPORT OF THE PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR

T. SUTTON, M.R.S.H., M.A.P.H.I.

DETAILS OF VISITS

Refuse Disposal		 230	Farms		4
Miscellaneous Visits		 117	Qualification Certificates		41
Drainage		 7	Poultry Slaughter		
Factories		 16	Noise		11
Outworkers		 1	Housing Act Inspections		258
Pet Shops		 3	Public Health Act Insp.		
Petrol Installations		 18	Grocers		32
Rodent Control		 28	Butchers		10
Insects Control		 9	Bakers		6
Schools		 6	Fried Fish Shops		4
Offices, Shops and Ra	ilway		Sweet Shops		6
Premises Act		 18	Licensed Premises		18
Stables and Piggeries		 1	Schools		8
Scrap Metal Dealers		 2	Canteens		8
Standard Grants		 29	Street Vendors and Haw	kers	8
Filty or Verminous Pr	remises	 3	Milk Samples		21
Infectious Disease		 9	Water Samples		14
Council Housing Visit	S	 337			

Total number of visits and inspections: 1,470

Total number of interviews: 861

PUBLIC HEALTH ACT, 1936

Defects and or nuisances:

(i) Discovered—52 (ii) Remedied—77

Notices served:

- (i) Informal—28
- (ii) Statutory—3

Notices complied with:

- (i) Informal—28
- (ii) Staturory—12

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 69 new dwellings were connected to the public supply.

Laboratory reports indicate that it is fit for drinking and all domestic purposes.

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

	BACTERIOLO EXAMINAT			CHEMIC	
	RES	ULTS		RES	ULTS
No.	Satisfactory	Unsatisfactory	No.	Satisfactory	Unsatisfactory
8	8	NIL	3	3	NIL

DRAINAGE AND SEWERAGE

Work has commenced on the laying of the new sewer which will run from the boundary of Wigan in Wigan Road and terminate in Scot Lane, a distance of 3\frac{3}{4} miles.

The work should be completed in 1972 and thus enable the Council to build approx. 200 houses on the Scot Lane site.

It will also allow private development to proceed on land where sewerage was not previously available.

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

Number of fresh water closets	 	 	 2,934
Number of pail closets	 	 	 2
Number of privy middens	 	 	 1

PUBLIC CONVENIENCES

There are three public conveniences in the area.

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 10 houses were treated for bugs, fleas, silverfish, cockroaches or wasps.

RODENT CONTROL

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

During the year 336 visits were made to premises in this connection, dealing with 186 infestations of rats and 31 infestations of mice. This shows an increase of 85 infestations on the previous year.

The annual sewer treatment carried out in August in which 216 manholes were treated showed only 2 partial takes.

TABLE SHOWING DETAILS OF RODENT CONTROL WORK

				TYPE OF PROPERTY	ROPERTY
				Non-Agricultural	Agricultural
	(a)	Number of properties in district	:	2,956	26
	(p)	Total number of properties (including nearby premises)	(se)	205	
	(0)	Number of (h) infested by Bats — Major	: :	185	٦
		Minor	:	156	2
		Mice — Major	:		1
		Minor	:	29	1
	(p)	(d) Total number of properties inspected for rats and or mice for	for		
		reasons other than notification	:	3	1
	(e)	Number of (d) infested by Rats - Major	:	1	1
		Minor	:	1	1
		Mice — Major	:	1	1
-		Minor	:	2	1
	(f)	Number of infested properties treated by L.A	:	188	3
	(8)	Total treatments carried out including re-treatments	:	217	3
	(h)	Number of "Block" control schemes carried out	::	1	1
			_		

SCHOOLS

Schools are visited periodically in connection with food hygiene, washing facilities and sanitary accommodation.

Attempts have been made to see that suitable facilities are available in all our schools but unfortunately without success.

HOUSING

The number of applicants on the Housing Waiting list at 31st December, 1971 was 147. In addition to this 37 Council house tenants have submitted a request for an exchange of houses.

Sixty-seven tenancies were granted in the current year and 16 exchange of houses were arranged for existing tenants. Forty-one of these tenancies were in respect of houses and flats allocated in the Top Lock Redevelopment Scheme.

Two Clearance Areas were declared in the Top Lock area involving 31 houses and 80 persons. An objection was made to the making of the Leeds Street (West) Clearance Area No. 8 and a Public Enquiry was held on the 9th March, 1971 following which the Ministry confirmed the Clearance Order. Objections were made to the making of the Liverpool Street (Central) Clearance Area No. 10 and the Leeds Street (South) Clearance Area No. 11 and a Public Enquiry will be held in 1972.

Demolition Orders were made in respect of 9 house sand houses were the subject of Closing Orders.

Twelve one bedroomed flats have been completed at Crawford Close and 5 purpose-built handicapped persons flats have been completed at Hilton Place with 5 standard three bedroomed flats above.

HOUSING STATISTICS

Nu	imber of new dwellings erected during	ng the vea	r:	
	8	-6)	House	s Flats
(i	By Local Authority		23	36
(ii			NIL	NIL
(iii			6	NIL
(1) ((a) Total number of dwelling house or informally for housing defects or Housing Acts (b) Number of inspections made for Control Number of dwellings in (a) above all respects reasonably fit for his	the purpose found to	d formally blic Health	h 120 432 n
	capable of being rendered fit			. 28
(or not, which were unfit for hu not capable at reasonable expensit and in respect of which: (a) Demolition, Clearance or Closin made (at any time) (b) Demolition, Clearance or Closin yet been made (estimated)	man habitase of being Orders ng Orders	tation and g rendered have been	d d n . 78
O TT				
2.—Но	ouses Demolished in Clearance A	Houses Demolished	Disple during Persons	year
(1)	Houses unfit for human habitation		136	59
1	Houses included by reason of bad			
, ,	arrangments, etc	NIL	NIL	NIL
(3)	Houses on land acquired under Sec-		****	
	tion 43(2), Housing Act, 1957 in Clearance Areas:	NIL	NIL	NIL
	As a result of formal or informal pro-			
	cedure under Section 17(1) Housing			
	Act, 1957		31	11
	Local Authority owned houses certi-			
(6)	fied unfit by the Medical Officer of Health Houses unfit for human habitation	NIL	NIL	NIL
	where action has been taken under local Acts		NII	NII
	Unfit houses included in Unfitness	NIL	NIL	NIL
	Orders	NIL	NIL	NIL

3.—Unfit Houses Closed:		
(1) Under Sections 16(4), 17(1) and 35(1) Housing Act, 1957 and Section 26		
Housing Act, 1961	14	8 2
(2) Under Sections 17(3) and 26, Housing Act, 1957	NIL N	IL NIL
(3) Parts of buildings closed under Section 18, Housings Act, 1957	NIL N	IL NIL
4.—Unfit Houses Made Fit and Houses	IN WHICH D	EFECTS WERE
REMEDIED:		D. r1
	By Owner	By Local Authority
(1) After informal action by local auth-		
ority	25	NIL
(2) After formal notice under		
(a) Public Health Acts	9	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)		
(Housing Act, 1901)		No. of separate dwellings
	No. of House	contained in $Col.$ (1) (2)
Position at end of year:		
(1) Retained for temporary accommodat	tion	
(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:		
	No. of Houses	No. of occupants of house in Col. (1)
	(1)	(2)
Houses in Clearance Areas other than those included in confirmed Clear-		
ance Orders or Compulsory Purchase		
Orders, purchased during the year	1	NIL

RENT ACT, 1957

There have been 6 applications for qualification certificates appertaining to the Rent Act, 1957, 5 of which were granted. An application for provisional approval was also granted.

7.—Housing Acts Improvement Grants, etc.

No applications were received for Improvement Grants during 1971.

Twenty-five applications were received for Standard Grants during the year and all, with the exception of three were approved.

PUBLIC CLEANSING

A weekly collection of refuse has been maintained during the year with the exception of the July and September holiday weeks.

All householders now use the plastic sack method for refuse disposal with the exception of the existing houses in Top Lock which are due to be demolished.

Our refuse collection productivity agreement is still functioning satisfactorily but, due to the increased use of the sack method of collection, the bonus has fallen considerably. The scheme has now been in operation for three years and has proved most successful.

Although, following the introduction of the productivity agreement, the number of complaints against the refuse collection service were comparatively few in 1970, it is gratifying to note that the number of complaints in 1971 were even less, i.e. only 12 complaints were received during the year, e.g. refuse not removed or replacement sack not provided.

This I feel is a true reflection of the type of service given by the Council and by our refuse collectors, a service which will be difficult to improve upon.

1971 has shown an increase in the number of requests for the removal of unwanted articles of household furniture, 98 visits have been made for this purpose. This is probably due to the fact that rate-payers are beginning to realise, that it is not necessary to indiscriminately dump their unwanted household articles on the roadside or in convenient fields, it is so much easier to ask their Local Council to collect them free of charge.

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD

MILK SUPPLY

Lancashire County Council are the responsible Authority for issuing milk licenses.

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

A total of 16 samples was obtained comprising 12 milks (one of which was a Channel Islands Milk) and 4 others as follows:-

1 Lemonad

1 Dairy Cream canned

1 Meat and Potato Pie

1 Part Bottle Orange Crush

I give below details of those samples on which the County Analyst gave adverse reports:-

Sample

Result of Analysis

Action Taken

Lemonade

Hydrogen Sulphide 0.2 parts in Dealt with informally. one million parts of the drink and a steel "circlip" weighing 0.152 grammes.

Meat & Potato Pie Contained bovine hair and hide weighing in all 0.431 grammes.

Informal action requested by complainant. Baker cautioned.

Orange Crush

Part Bottle Contained part of a plastic toy (made of polystyrene and completely inert in the drink) weighing 0.43 grammes.

Complainant informed. Manufacturer cautioned.

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 on page 23 are details of samples obtained in the Aspull Urban District, under the provisions of the above Act, during 1971.

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					24
Meat shops (butchers, purveyors of coottripe, etc.)				neat,	6
Bakers and or confectioners					4
Fried fish shops			***		6
Shops selling mainly sugar confectioner Licensed premises, clubs, canteens,	y, mine restaur	erals, ic	e-crean	netc.	7
bars and other similar establishm. The number of food premises registere			on 16 o		38
Food and Drugs Act, 1955, was a Premises for the storage and retail sal	s follow e of ice	vs: -cream			19

FOOD HYGIENE (GENERAL) REGULATIONS, 1960

Routine inspection of food premises and mobile shops have contained during the year.

104 visits have been made for this purpose.

One Food Hygiene Notice was served and 9 Notices remedied, two Food Hygiene Defects were found and 26 Defects were remedied.

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

There are no ice-cream manufacturers in the area.

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	2	4	NIL	NIL	
(ii) Factories not included in (1) in which section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority	6	12	2	NIL	
(iii) Other premises in which section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding outworkers premises)	NIL	NIL	NIL	NIL	
TOTAL	8	16	2	NIL	

2.—Cases in which defects were found.

	N	amber of cas	Number of cases in which		
Particulars (1)		Remedied (3)	Refe	prosecu-	
	Found (2)		To H.M. Inspector (4)	By H.M. Inspector (5)	instituted (6)
Want of cleanliness (S.1)	NIL	NIL	NIL	NIL	NIL
Overcrowding (S.2)	NIL	NIL	NIL	NIL	NIL
Unreasonable tempera- ture (S3)	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	3	3	NIL	NIL	NIL
(c) Not separate for sexes	NIL	NIL	NIL	NIL	NIL
Other offences against the Act (not includ- ing offences relating to outworkers	NIL	NIL	NIL	NIL	NIL
TOTAL	3	3	NIL	NIL	NIL

PETROLEUM (REGULATION) ACTS, 1928 and 1936.

Ten licenses to store petroleum spirit were renewed during the year.



