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I
ATHERTON URBAN DISTRICT



ANNUAL REPORT

of the

Medical Officer of Health

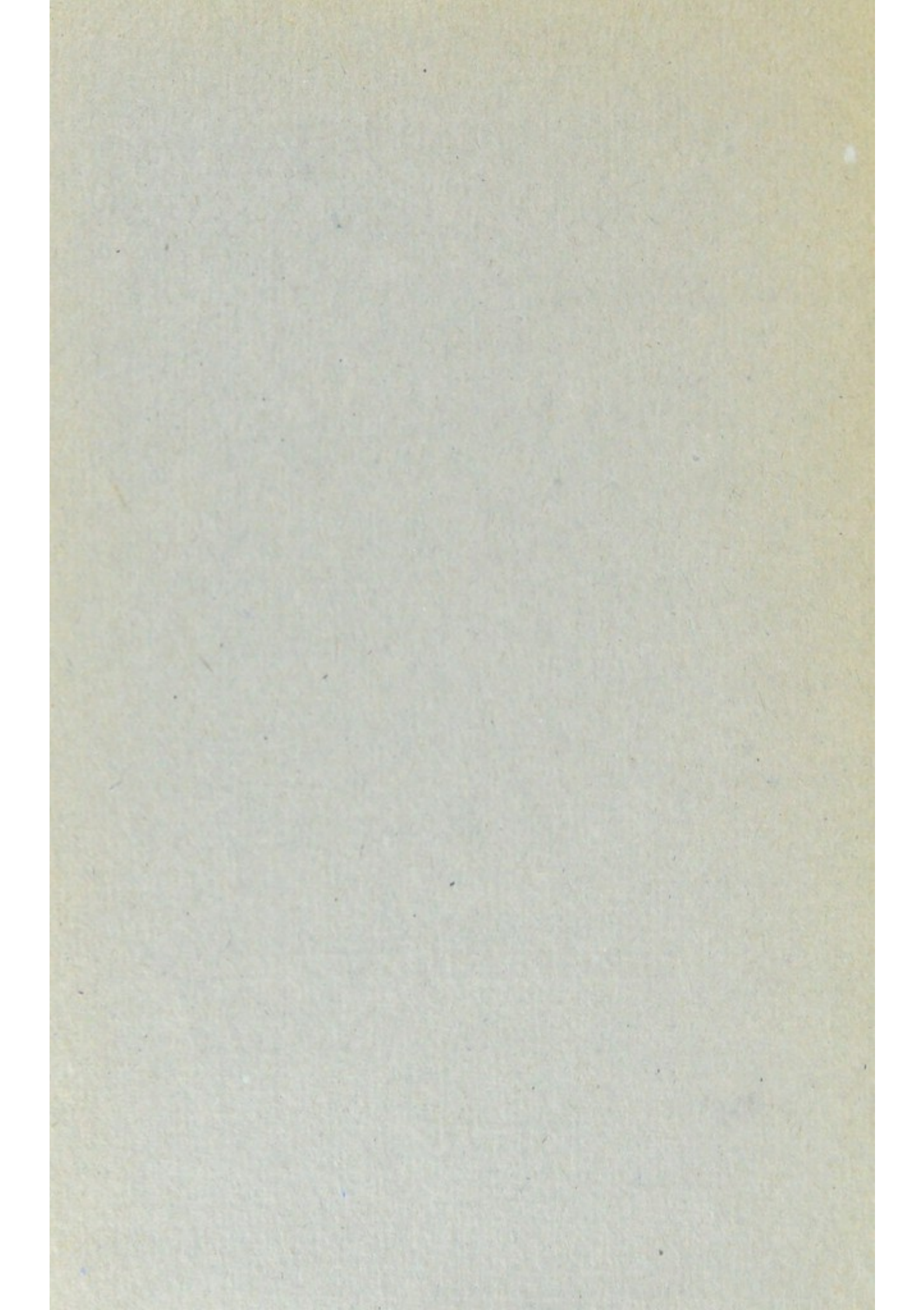
and

Senior

Public Health Inspector

for

1970



ATHERTON URBAN DISTRICT

ANNUAL REPORT

of the

Medical Officer of Health

and

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Atherton Urban District Council

PUBLIC HEALTH COMMITTEE

Chairman :

Councillor N. F. CHESTERFIELD

Vice-Chairman :

Councillor M. H. PARR

Councillors

J. BURKE	W. MURPHY (Dec. 70')	L. SUMNER
F. FILDES	G. W. NALLY	J. SUMNER
L. ILLINGWORTH	S. PICKARD	E. SWEENEY
P. JONES	F. J. POYSER	C. URMSTON
R. H. HAWKINS	H. H. SHARLAND	J. STAVELEY
F. LYTHGOE	R. SHAW	(Retd. Dec., 1970).

PUBLIC HEALTH OFFICERS

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

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

SENIOR PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR

**THOMAS McGUIRE, M.A.P.H.I., M.R.S.H., I.S.A.A. (Dip.), Cert.
R.S.H. for Meat Inspection**

ADDITIONAL PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR

ERIC WATT, M.A.P.H.I.

Cert. R.S.H. for Meat Inspection

PUPIL PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR

W. S. GARSIDE

(To 30.8.1970)

P. C. JONES

(From 9.11.1970)

AUTHORISED MEAT OFFICER

G. OWEN

TECHNICAL ASSISTANT—CLEAN AIR

T. BLAKELEY

CLERICAL ASSISTANT

MRS. A. HOPE

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Public Health Department,
Town Hall,
Atherton.

To the Chairman and Members of the Health Committee

Gentlemen,

I am pleased to present for your information and consideration the Annual Report on the health and sanitary conditions of the Urban District of Atherton for the year ending 31st December, 1970.

A decrease in the estimated population for the year of 100, brought to an end the upward trend of the past few years.

The total number of deaths & births declined but the infant mortality rate improved even on last year. Unfortunately there was an increase in still births. There was no maternal death.

The causes of death followed the usual pattern over half being due to heart and associated disease, and one third due to cancer & respiratory illness.

In spite of an anticipated shortage of smokeless fuel during the winter, it was not found necessary to suspend any smoke control order. The mildness of the weather undoubtedly helped considerably.

In conclusion, my thanks are due to my fellow officers in all departments for their co-operation, and to the Chairman and members of the Health Committee for their consideration and support throughout the year.

Yours sincerely,
E. TAYLOR

Public Health Department,
Towson Hall,
Albany.

To the Chairman and Members of the Health Committee

Gentlemen:

I am pleased to present for your information and consideration the Annual Report on the Health and Sanitary Conditions of the United District of Albany for the year ending 1911.

A summary in the condensed tabular form for the year of the various diseases and the general state of the year is given. The total number of deaths is 1,000, and the number of births is 1,200. The number of marriages is 1,000, and the number of divorces is 100. The number of illegitimate births is 100, and the number of stillbirths is 100.

The causes of death are given in the following table, and the diseases to which they are associated are given in the following table.

The number of deaths from each cause is given in the following table, and the number of deaths from each disease is given in the following table.

In conclusion, my thanks are due to my fellow citizens in all departments for their co-operation and aid in the Commission and members of the Health Committee for their consideration and support throughout the year.

Very respectfully,
E. TAYLOR

SECTION A

Statistics

SECTION A

Statistics

SECTION A

STATISTICS

General Statistics

Area in acres - 2,265.

Population :—

1961 Census - 19,755.

Mid-1970 Estimate - 20,740.

Number of inhabited houses 7,735.

Rateable Value - £583,314, at 31st December, 1970.

Sum represented by a Penny Rate - £2,223 at 31st December, 1970.

Vital Statistics

Live Births :—				Males	Females	Total
Legitimate	.....	.....	.....	175	193	368
Illegitimate	.....	.....	.....	13	4	17
Total				188	197	385

Live Birth Rate (per 1,000 population) 18.6

Still Births :—				Males	Females	Total
				6	5	11
Still Birth Rate (per 1,000 total births)						28

DEATHS - All Causes :—				Males	Females	Total
				168	143	311

Crude Death Rate (per 1,000 population) 15.0

Adjusted Death Rate (per 1,000 population) 14.1

Maternal Deaths Nil

Maternal Death Rate (per 1,000 total births) Nil

Infant Deaths :—

Under 1 year of age 4

Under 4 weeks of age 4

Under 1 week of age 3

Infant Mortality Rate per 1,000 live births 10

Peri-Natal Mortality Rate 35

TABLE I
VITAL STATISTICS

	*Live Births		Stillbirths		*Deaths (all causes)		Maternal Mortality		Infant Mortality Total		Nec-Natal Mortality	
	No. regis- tered	Rate per 1,000 pop'n	No. regis- tered	Rate per 1,000 total births	No. regis- tered	Rate per 1,000 pop'n	No. of deaths regis- tered	Rate per 1,000 total births	No. of deaths regis- tered	Rate per 1,000 live births	No. of deaths regis- tered	Rate per 1,000 live births
Year 1970	385	18.6	11	28	311	14.1	Nil	Nil	4	10	3	35
Year 1969	401	20.2	5	12	358	14.4	Nil	Nil	5	12	2	7
Year 1968	362	18.2	8	22	354	14.5	Nil	Nil	25	22	7	41
Year 1967	364	18.4	13	34	289	12.9	Nil	Nil	7	11	7	37
Year 1966	432	22.1	12	27	327	13.7	Nil	Nil	16	37	12	27.8
Year 1965	367	19.1	7	18.7	277	12	Nil	Nil	10	27.2	7	19.1

Live birth rate (comparability factor, 1.04)
Death rate (comparability factor, 0.94)

TABLE II

CAUSES OF DEATH DURING THE YEAR 1970

Registrar General's Return

	Males	Females
Malignant Neoplasm, Oesophagus	—	2
Malignant Neoplasm, Stomach	4	1
Malignant Neoplasm, Intestine	1	2
Malignant Neoplasm, Larynx	2	—
Malignant Neoplasm, Lung, Bronchus	8	2
Malignant Neoplasm, Breast	—	2
Malignant Neoplasm, Uterus	—	2
Malignant Neoplasm, Prostate	2	—
Leukaemia	2	—
Other Malignant Neoplasms	6	3
Diabetes Mellitus	—	4
Anaemias	—	1
Mental Disorders	—	6
Other Diseases of Nervous System	1	4
Chronic Rheumatic Heart Disease	3	1
Hypertensive Disease	4	3
Ischaemic Heart Disease	64	22
Other Forms of Heart Disease	10	14
Cerebrovascular Disease	15	34
Other Diseases of Circulatory System	10	5
Influenza	2	5
Pneumonia	5	10
Bronchitis and Emphysema	11	2
Asthma	1	—
Other Diseases of Respiratory System	8	—
Cirrhosis of Liver	1	—
Other Diseases of Digestive System	—	2
Nephritis and Nephrosis	—	1
Hyperplasia of Prostate	1	—
Other Diseases, Genito-Urinary System	—	1
Diseases of Musculo-Skeletal System	1	1
Congenital Anomalies	—	1
Birth Injury, Difficult Labour, etc.	—	1
Other Causes of Perinatal Mortality	1	—
Symptoms and Ill defined conditions	1	6
Motor Vehicle Accidents	—	1
All Other Accidents	3	4
All other External Causes	1	—
Total all causes	168	143
TOTAL	168	143

TABLE III

VITAL STATISTICS

Birth and death rates, together with case rates for certain infectious diseases, for England and Wales in the year 1970.
(Provisional figures based on Registrar Generals Weekly and Quarterly Returns).

Estimated home population mid-1970—48,987,700

Births

	No.	Rate per 1,000 home population
Live Births	784,482	16.0
Stillbirths	10,341	13.0

Deaths

All Causes	575,208	11.7
Tuberculosis (all forms)	1,606	0.033 (a)
Respiratory	913	0.019 (a)
Other	693	0.014 (a)
Cancer (all forms)	117,085	2.39 (a)
Lung and bronchus	30,218	0.62 (a)
Other cancer	86,867	1.77 (a)
Maternal Mortality (total)	147	0.18 (b)
Maternal causes (excluding abortion)	115	0.14 (b)
Due to abortion	32	0.04 (b)
Infant mortality	14,269	18.0
Neo-natal mortality	9,663	12.0
Early neo-natal mortality	8,328	11.0

Notifications (corrected)

Measles	307,279	6.273
Dysentery	10,767	0.220
Scarlet Fever	13,138	0.268
Whooping cough	16,597	0.339
Infective jaundice	21,563	0.440
Tuberculosis :		
Respiratory	9,484	0.194
Meninges and C.N.S.	92	0.002
Other forms	2,331	0.048
Diphtheria	22	0.000
Tetanus	22	0.000
Acute meningitis	1,322	0.027
Acute encephalitis :		
Infective	114	0.002
Post infectious	124	0.003
Ophthalmia neonatorum	464	0.009
Acute poliomyelitis :		
Paralytic	6	0.000
Non-paralytic	1	0.000
Leptospirosis	14	0.000
Paratyphoid fever	207	0.004
Typhoid fever	156	0.003
Food poisoning	7,566	0.154
Anthrax	5	0.000
Smallpox	Nil	Nil
Plague	Nil	Nil
Cholera	Nil	Nil
Typhus fever	Nil	Nil
Relapsing fever	Nil	Nil
Yellow fever	Nil	Nil

(a) Per 1,000 home population.

(b) Per 1,000 total (live and still) births.

SECTION B

General Provision of Health Services for the Area

SECTION B

HEALTH SERVICES

Ambulance

Atherton Ambulance Station, Back Orchard Lane. Telephone: Swinton 4343.

Care of Children—Children Act, 1948

Children's Committee, Lancashire County Council. Area Children's Officer: W. N. Ritchie, Williams Deacons Bank Chambers, Leigh. Tel. Leigh 74121.

1. DIPHTHERIA, WHOOPING COUGH, TETANUS AND POLIO-MYELITIS IMMUNISATION
 - (i) Every Monday and Wednesday afternoon. 1-30 to 3-30 p.m.
 - (ii) General Practitioner Service.
2. MATERNITY AND CHILD WELFARE
Alder House Clinic.
Each Monday and Wednesday, 1-30 to 3-30 p.m.
3. OPHTHALMIC
Alder House Clinic, by appointment.
Each Tuesday morning.
4. ORTHOPAEDIC
Poplar Street Clinic, Tyldesley, by appointment.
Friday afternoon of each month.
5. CERVICAL CYTOLOGY
Alder House Clinic.
By appointment.
6. SCHOOL HEALTH
Alder House Clinic
By appointment.

7. CHEST CLINIC

Chest Clinic, Leigh Infirmary, Leigh.

8. VENEREAL DISEASES

(i) Civic Centre Bolton.

Males and Females : Monday to Friday, 9-30 a.m. to 12-30 p.m.

Monday, Wednesday, and Friday 4-30 to 6-30 p.m.

Males and Females : Saturday, 9 to 11 a.m.

(ii) Royal Albert Edward Infirmary, Wigan.

Males : Friday, 2 to 6-30 p.m.

Females : Wednesday, 2 to 6 p.m.

(iii) Leigh Infirmary, Leigh.

Males and Females : Monday, 9-30 to 10-30 a.m.

Convalescence

Under arrangements made by the Lancashire C.C. through the Divisional Medical Officer.

Convalescent Treatment

Under arrangements made by the Regional Hospital Board through the Local Hospital Management Committee.

Health Visiting Service

Full-time Health Visitors/School Nurses are employed in the area by the Lancashire C.C.

Home Help Service

Provided by the Lancashire C.C. Apply to Divisional Medical Officer, Leigh Road, Leigh.

Also Fridays only at Alder House Clinic.

Home Nursing Service

District Nurses employed by the Lancashire C.C. are available in the district.

Hospitals

1. GENERAL

Leigh Infirmary, Atherleigh Hospital, Astley Hospital.

2. INFECTIOUS DISEASE

Hulton Lane Fever Hospital, Bolton; Whelley Hospital, Wigan.

3. MATERNITY

Billinge Hospital, Billinge.

Laboratory Facilities

Regional Hospital Board Laboratories at Bolton, Leigh and Wigan Infirmaries and the Withington Laboratory of the Public Health Laboratory Service.

Maternity Homes

Firs Maternity Home, Leigh.

Midwifery Service

Domiciliary midwives employed whole-time in the area by Lancashire C.C.

Nursing Homes

None in the district.

Unmarried Mothers and Illegitimate Children

Provision for their care is made by the Lancashire C.C., in conjunction with voluntary organisations.

Moral Welfare

Miss Jones, The Parish Offices, Henrietta Street, Leigh, Tuesday, 10 a.m. - 12 noon, Thursday, 4 to 6 p.m.

Welfare Services

Under arrangements made by the Lancashire C.C.

Residential accommodation under Divisional arrangements.

X-ray Facilities

At Leigh and Wigan Infirmaries. Facilities for special chest cases at the Chest Clinic, Leigh Infirmary, Leigh.

SECTION C

Prevalence of and Control over

Infectious and other Diseases

SECTION C
INFECTIOUS DISEASES

Diphtheria

There were no notifications of this disease this year.

Dysentery

No cases notified for the year

Food Poisoning

No notifications for the year

Measles

282 cases notified for the year, being an increase of 244 over the previous year. 277 cases occurred in ages under 10 years.

Meningococcal Infection

Again no notifications during the year.

Paratyphoid Fever

No notifications of this disease for the year.

Poliomyelitis

No cases notified for the year. Oral vaccine available at Alder House Clinic.

Scarlet Fever

34 cases notified for the year as against 22 cases in the previous year.

Smallpox

No cases or surveillance contacts during the year.

Tuberculosis

Three cases of Respiratory tuberculosis reported during the year.

Typhoid Fever

No notifications for the year.

Whooping Cough

Thirty notifications for the year.

TABLE IV

NOTIFIABLE DISEASES DURING THE YEAR, 1970

DISEASE	CASES NOTIFIED													
	Total Cases at all ages	Years												
		Under 1	1—2	2—3	3—4	4—5	5—10	10—15	15—20	20—35	35—45	45—65	65 & over	
Diphtheria	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
Dysentery	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
Enteric Fever	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
Food Poisoning	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
Infective Hepatitis	10	—	1	—	—	2	3	—	3	1	—	—	—	
Measles, excl. German Measles	282	11	39	44	40	103	3	2	—	—	—	—	—	
Meningococcal Infection	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
Acute Polio-encephalitis	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
Acute Poliomyelitis	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
Scarlet Fever	34	2	—	5	4	19	4	—	—	—	—	—	—	
Smallpox	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
Whooping Cough	30	5	10	—	—	13	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
Malaria (contracted abroad) ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
Pulmonary Tuberculosis—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
Males	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	—	
Females	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	
Non-Pulmonary Tuberculosis—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
Males	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
Females	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
TOTALS	359	13	46	55	45	137	10	2	3	1	3	—	—	

TABLE V

Table relating to Vital Statistics and Notified Infectious Diseases in other years

Year	Birth-rate	Death-rate		Infantile Mortality Rate	Diphtheria		Diarrhoea & Enteritis (under two years)	Measles		Non-Pulmonary Tuberculosis		Pulmonary Tuberculosis		Scarlet Fever		Typhoid Fever	
		Actual	Adjusted		Cases	Deaths		Cases	Deaths	Cases	Deaths	Cases	Deaths	Cases	Deaths		
1900	36.7	16.49	...	161.6	3	14	...	...	...	...	...	9	...	29	...	13	2
1905	30.9	13.7	...	141.8	40	34	...	...	...	...	...	24	...	55	1	17	5
1910	26.47	14.67	...	154.1	20	15	...	...	...	...	...	36	...	88	...	19	3
1915	25.44	13.11	...	103.09	31	13	...	...	...	...	...	44	...	100	...	7	2
1920	24.1	12.1	...	109	24	9	...	...	...	...	...	15	...	49	...	2	2
1925	15.4	10.9	...	63	29	3	...	...	...	...	...	8	...	52	...	1	1
1930	15.3	10.6	...	61	8	...	...	...	...	...	...	6	...	42	...	...	...
1935	13.3	12.6	14.3	73	10	1	...	...	...	...	...	9	...	78	...	...	...
1938	13.6	10.2	11.6	42	127	3	...	...	...	...	...	8	...	37	...	...	...
1940	15.5	12.0	...	35	9	7	...	...	...	...	...	7	...	88	...	...	...
1943	18.2	12.8	...	74	12	2	...	...	...	...	...	5	...	49	...	...	...
1944	16.29	11.86	...	60	8	1	...	...	...	...	...	5	...	70	...	...	...
1945	17.9	11.3	...	23	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	4	...	42	...	...	...
1946	17.6	10.9	...	33	5	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	...	22	...	...	...
1947	19.7	13.3	...	50	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	11	...	79	...	...	...
1955	12.6	13.0	14.0	12	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	15	...	22	...	...	...
1957	14.6	15.8	17.4	42	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	10	...	46	...	...	...
1959	15.6	15.4	15.1	6.5	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	...	31	...	...	...
1960	16.5	12.7	12.7	21.4	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	12	...	29	...	...	...
1961	16.2	14.1	14.6	28	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	8	...	1	...	...	...
1962	18.1	15.9	15.3	22.3	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	4	...	21	...	...	...
1963	17.7	14.4	14.1	26.6	...	2	...	...	...	...	...	5	...	3	...	...	...
1964	17.4	13.7	14.1	35.4	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	8	...	5	...	...	...
1965	19.1	13.9	12.0	27.2	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	4	...	12	...	...	...
1966	22.1	16.1	13.7	37	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	7	...	55	...	...	...
1967	18.4	14.1	12.9	37	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	4	...	41	...	...	...
1968	18.2	17.1	14.5	41	8	2	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	12	...	...	...
1969	20.2	17.2	14.4	7	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	4	...	22	...	...	...
1970	18.6	15.0	14.1	10	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	3	...	34	...	...	...

SECTION D

Sanitary Circumstances of the Area

SECTION D.

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA.

Water Supply

The Manchester Corporation Water Undertaking supply the township of Atherton with water, which is derived from their Thirlmere and Haweswater catchment areas.

Throughout the year there has been a regular supply, of good bacteriological standard, and all premises of the town are connected to the mains. There are no wells or private supplies in the area.

There were minor interruptions, breakdowns and complaint of low pressure for short periods during the year, but no risk to public health involvement.

Samples submitted to the public analyst gave a minimal flouride content and a satisfactory report in all respects.

Streams

There are eleven water courses and streams flowing through the area of the town and these are inspected and checked for pollution.

The Mersey and Weaver Rivers Board coupled with the Engineers Department of this authority, check and control the sewer storm water overflows to ensure that the requirements of the Rivers (Prevention of Pollution) Act, are complied with. Their reports are satisfactory.

There are no chemical works or dye works in the area and consequently no pollution effluents.

The streams remain as always the recipient of a multitude of debris which has to be cleared, particularly from under bridge culverts, but it continues to be a see-saw battle of the authority removing it and people throwing more back in again.

Drainage and Sewerage

The combined system of drainage exists for the greater portions of the town, but as new development takes place, the separate system of drainage and sewage is being introduced. The systems now have to comply with the Bye-laws made under the Highways Act, as extended by the Public Health Act of 1961.

Sections of relief sewers have been laid in the area during the year and with the exception of a small number of residential properties on the outskirts of the town, which are served by their own septic tanks, all residential and industrial premises are connected to the sewers.

Sewage is dealt with by the Leigh and Atherton Joint Sewerage Board at Mather Lane works, Leigh.

Sanitary Accommodation

At the end of 1970 the approximate numbers and types of closet accommodation were as follows :

Number of Privy Middens	Nil
Number of Pail Closets	Nil
Number of Trough Closets	Nil
Number of Waste-Water Closets	Nil
Number of Freshwater Closets	8,904
Number of Dry Ashpits	Nil
Number of moveable Ashbins	9,046
Number of Houses on Water Carriage System	7,715

With the isolated cases to be resolved, such as change of house ownership, or the question of grant aid for the dwelling, it is pleasing to report the completion of the waste water closet conversion scheme, leaving the township free of these insanitary systems of disposal.

Disinfestation

The treatment of all premises requiring disinfestation is carried out by the staff of the public health department using residual insecticides of spray, powders and lacquer.

Generally the initial treatment has proved effective but instances of deep seated infestation have occurred and re-treatment resorted to. All dwelling houses are treated free of charge, but for business and commercial premises a charge of labour and material is made.

The Bolton C.B.C. make available to us their disinfestation centre if required, but we have not had to resort to this as we find no resistance to our request for infested clothing or furniture to be destroyed.

Public Cleansing

Refuse collection and disposal is under the control of the Chief Public Health Inspector.

Collection is carried out using 3 pakamatic compression type, rear loading vehicles, 2 having a team of 5 men and the third vehicle with 4 men. Over 9,000 bins are collected from houses, shops, schools, etc., and such paper and cardboard waste that can be salvaged is delivered to the baling shed and baled for sale of waste paper.

Disposal is at the Swan Island Quarry and control is effected by the use of a 'Bristol Taurus' mechanical shovel. The adjoining Urban District - Tyldesley U.D.C. - is also afforded the use of the Quarry for their disposal, but the two townships, coupled with trade waste from the Industrial Estates, can cause an overload of work at the tip and this is aggravated by any mechanical breakdown of plant.

The whole service is being investigated by Council directive and following survey in 1971 it is anticipated that any shortcomings that are instanced will be dealt with.

The introduction of plastic liners for every household, during "Wakes Weeks" and Christmas holidays, was quite a success and will be continued in 1971.

It is to be regretted that following a study of Pulverisation plant, and reaching the stage of costing out the plant, engineering works, site and planning consent; all had to be abandoned due to Financial circumstances beyond the control of the Council. Further method studies will have to go on during 1971.

Offices, Shops & Railway Premises Act, 1963

No flagrant contraventions of the Act were instanced during the year and matters arising from visits are verbally brought to the attention of Management and confirmed later in writing. Re-visits soon determine what action has been taken.

The provisions of this Act cover the Welfare of office and shop workers, which includes catering establishments; and the numbers of personnel are in the order of 568 at 151 places of employment.

Accident reports when received are investigated and a tabulated summary of these reports is submitted to the Factory Inspectorate for the Division.

A table showing a summary of conditions is listed as an appendix to this report.

FACTORIES ACT, 1961

Inspections are carried out covering the provisions as to health, and particulars listed in the appendix to this report gives details of the number of Factories in the district and instances of defects found.

Generally conditions are quite good and management not unwilling to improve or maintain a reasonable standard.

Rodent Control

All rodent control in the district is carried out by the full time rodent operator employed by the department. He is a trained operator and has attended the approved course of instruction organised by the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food.

Complaints received of rodent infestation are dealt with at once, and for householders this is a free service, but business premises and industry are charged for the service. In addition to direct and immediate complaints the Council have contracted with some 14 industries, to carry out a monthly survey and treatment. This we find to be most beneficial to all parties, and an effective rodent control measure.

The half yearly treatment of the sewers of the town was carried out quite successfully, and each programme took up to three weeks to complete. Help is hired to assist him for this heavy work load.

Again as last year, mice resistance to Warfarin was noted and acute poison had to be introduced in such instances.

Table VIII gives the details required to be submitted to the Ministry under the Prevention of Damage by Pests Act, 1949.

Swimming Baths

The Council owned public swimming baths is situated in Mayfield Street, in the central area of the town.

A 75ft. x 30ft. wide plunge holding approximately 76,000 gallons, is fed from the town mains water supply and is sand filtered and chlorinated prior to input, to a break point of 2 parts per million. A continuous flow method of entry and discharge take approximately 3½ hours per cycle.

A fully qualified superintendent is in charge and his staff hold A.S.A. life saving certificates.

Daily tests (3) and records are kept of the chlorine dosage and water samples are submitted at intervals by the public health staff for bacteriological examination.

Schools

There are 12 schools in the district, primary and secondary modern.

Leigh St. Mary's is the latest new provision in school buildings, but some of the older schools have had old blocks demolished and new wings and class room blocks provided. A further new school in Formby Avenue is in the course of erection.

All schools are served with town mains water supply and all drainage is connected to the main sewer.

All have flush toilets, drinking water supply, wash hand basins, hot and cold water and towels and soap. Some sanitary accommodation blocks are modern in every way while some of the older blocks have been subject to a 'face lift'. Progress has been quite good in this respect.

School meal facilities of canteen, distribution, serving and washing up, are generally good, and meals provided are quite nutritious and well taken.

Older solid fuel boiler plant units have with advantage been converted to oil burning, under the Ministerial Circular providing for this.

Offensive Trades :

There are no offensive trade establishments in the town.

Houses in Multiple Occupation

There are no houses in multiple occupation or common lodging houses in the district.

Rag Flock Act

One shop is registered under the Act, and the use of synthetic materials increases the degree of control.

OFFICES, SHOPS & RAILWAY PREMISES ACT, 1963
(A) REGISTRATIONS AND GENERAL INSPECTIONS

TABLE VI

Class of Premises	No. of premises registered during the year	No. of registered premises at end of year	No. of registered premises receiving a general inspection during the year
Offices	—	23	12
Retail Shops	—	105	87
Wholesale shops, Warehouses	1	12	10
Catering establishments open to the public, canteens	—	11	11
Fuel storage depots	—	Nil	Nil
Totals	1	151	120

Total number of visits of all kinds by inspectors to registered premises under the Act **152**

(B) ANALYSIS OF CONTRAVENTIONS

Section	Number of Contraventions found		Section	Number of Contraventions found	
4	Cleanliness	6	13	Sitting facilities	9
5	Overcrowding	—	14	Seats (Sedentary Workers)	—
6	Temperature	19	15	Eating facilities	—
7	Ventilation	4	16	Floors, passage and stairs	13
8	Lighting	9	17	Fencing exposed parts machinery	7
9	Sanitary conveniences	7	18	Protection of young persons from dangerous machinery	2
10	Washing facilities	3	19	Training of young persons working at dangerous machinery	—
11	Supply of drinking water	5	23	Prohibition of heavy work	—
12	Clothing accommodation	21	24	First Aid	17
				Other matters	—
					TOTAL
					122

TABLE VII
FACTORIES ACT, 1961

	Number on Register	Number of Inspections	Number of Written Notices	Number of Occupiers prosecuted
(i) Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities	7	11	4	—
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority	79	87	22	—
(iii) Other Premises in which Sect- ion 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding Out- workers' Premises)	4	4	—	—
	—	—	—	—
Total	90	102	26	—
	—	—	—	—

Defects Found in Factories and Workshops

Nuisances under the Public Health and Factory Acts :—

	Found	Abated	Referred by H.M. Inspector
Want of Cleanliness	15	11	4
Inadequate Ventilation	—	—	—
Unreasonable Temperature	1	1	1
Drainage of Floors	—	—	—
Overcrowding	—	—	—

Sanitary Accommodation :—

Insufficient	1	1	—
Unsuitable or Defective	8	7	2
Not seperate for sexes	1	1	—

Other Offences against the
Act

	—	—	—
Total	26	21	7
	—	—	—

TABLE VIII
PREVENTION OF DAMAGE BY PESTS ACT, 1949
TYPE OF PROPERTY

Non-
Agricultural Agricultural

(I) Number of Rodent Operatives employed—One.

(II) Properties other than Sewers :

(a) Number of properties in district	9054	9
(b) Total number of properties inspected following notification	331	3
(c) Number of (b) infested by rats	192	2
mice	139	—
(d) Number of properties inspected for rats and for mice for reasons other than notification	8	2
(e) Number of (d) infected by mice	3	—
rats	1	—

(III) Sewer Treatment —

The sewers of the town were treated twice during the year.

SECTION E

Inspection and Supervision of Food

SECTION E.

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD

Places under Inspection

The number of food premises, by type of business, at end of 1970 were as follows :

Grocers	84
Bakers and/or Confectioners	18
Confectioners (sweets, minerals, ice cream), etc.	42
Fried Fish Shops	17
Meat Shops (butchers, purveyors of cooked meat, tripe, etc.)	23
Greengrocers	9
Fishmongers	7
Canteens, Snack Bars and Licensed Premises	48
Others	4

Premises registered under the provisions of the Lancashire County Council (Rivers Board and General Powers) Act, 1951, include :—

	No. of Premises	No. of Inspections during 1970
Hawkers—Fish, Fruit and Vegetables	7	18
„ Meat and Meat Products	3	5
Bakehouses	12	16
Fried Fish Shops	17	23
Sausages, etc., Preparing Premises	16	21
Cooked Meat Preparing Premises	3	22
Ice Cream Shops	48	63

Food Premises

The routine inspection of food premises, used for the manufacture, storage, or the sale of food, was carried out throughout the year.

This work in the district covers manufacture of sausage, processing of hams and pork, a large soft drinks establishment, various storage depots and numerous retail shops, barbecues, and cafes. Carcase meat inspection is reported separately.

The general standard of conditions, on the whole, was quite good, but obviously some matters did need action by way of notice under the respective legislation. Management and executives are prepared to comply to avoid prosecution.

One such case of prosecution did arise from the sale of unsound food and Court action that followed resulted in a penalty being imposed. It can be stated that this incident need not have arisen if the staff took greater care in the adherence to the

Codes of Practice that are issued to ensure that food reaching the public is in a fit and proper condition. District inspection work stresses this, on all visits made throughout the year.

Systematic sampling of food for the detection of "foreign bodies", adulteration and labelling, is carried out by the Food Sampling Officers of the Lancashire County Council. These officers visit the district, working in harmony with the department and the County Medical Officer has supplied a list of such food samples, which are produced in the text of this report.

SLAUGHTERHOUSES

There are 2 Licensed Slaughterhouses in the district, one in the West Ward and the other in South Ward. No Knackers Yard or Horse slaughtering and no pigs.

Slaughtering is carried out on the six days, Monday to Saturday and only emergency cattle would be done on Sunday.

The Authorised Meat Officer is employed full time on inspectorial duties and relief is afforded to him on holidays and Saturdays by fully qualified Public Health Inspectors. All carcase meat and offal are inspected in accordance with the Meat Inspection Regulations and the high quality of the cattle is reflected in the low numbers of complete carcase requiring condemnation.

The structure of the buildings and the facilities afforded are satisfactory and the maintenance of rails, hooks, beams and transport vehicles are carried out on a reasonably good schedule.

Details of all animals slaughtered for the year are tabulated herewith.

	Cattle (excl. cows)	Cows	Calves	Sheep
No. Slaughtered	3376	676	717	32839
No. Inspected	3376	676	717	32839
All Diseases other than T.B.				
Whole Carcases condemned	1	1	5	34
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	668	397	5	6657
Percentage of No. Inspected affected with disease other than Tuberculosis	19.8	58.87	1.03	20.30
Tuberculosis only				
Whole Carcases condemned	—	—	—	—
Carcases of which part or organ was condemned	—	—	—	—
Cysticercosis				
Carcases of which part or organ was condemned	3	2	—	—

MILK SUPPLY

Licenses in relation to the production and sale of milk in the area are the responsibility of the Lancashire County Council and all the milk sold has to comply with the Milk (Special Designation) Regulations.

Sampling of milk is carried out by Officers of the County Council as to adulteration and other aspects.

The Public Health Department obtains and submits samples for bacteriological examination, and examination for brucellosis and tuberculosis.

Positive Laboratory reports indicating the presence of Brucellosis results in detailed sampling of the herd concerned, pasteurisation of infected milk, and the final removal of the animals concerned.

It is anticipated that one reasonably large herd in the district will be declared "Brucellosis free" possibly in 1971, whilst on the other hand a smaller producer will run his herd down and cease production possibly due to the exacting demands of regulations now in force.

	Total No. of Samples	Positive	RESULT Negative	Void
(1) Samples for biological examination :				
(a) Tuberculosis	5	—	5	—
(b) Brucellosis :				
Ring Test	24	5	19	—
Culture Test	24	1	23	—

	No. of Samples	Satisfactory	RESULT Unsatisfactory	Void
(2) Raw Milk :				
Methylene Blue Test	8	8	—	—
(3) Heat Treated Milk :				
(a) Methylene Blue Test	4	4	—	—
(b) Phosphatase Test	4	4	—	—

FOOD INSPECTION

The Public Health Department Officers carry out the inspection and condemnation of unused food in warehouses and shops. The greater part of this arises from voluntary surrender and calls for no action under the Food and Drugs Act.

The County Sampling Officers sample foods offered for sale to the public and the list of foods so sampled for the year is tabulated in this report.

All unsound food surrendered is removed and disposed of under the supervision of the officers of this department and a list of these foods is also appended.

Food Inspection

	Number	Weight
Soups	178	140 lbs.
Tinned Meats	140	195 lbs.
Tinned Fruits	351	357 lbs.
Tinned Vegetables	394	283 lbs.
Others (fish, tomatoes, etc.)	737	445 lbs.

FOOD & DRUGS ACT, 1955

A total of 58 samples was obtained comprising 26 milks and 32 others as follows :—

1 Junior Meal, canned	1 Buttered Smoked Haddock
2 Tomato Puree, canned	3 Gin
1 Lard	2 Whisky
1 Stuffed Pork Roll, canned	1 Brandy
1 Sterilised Cream, canned	1 Short Pastry Mix
1 Instant Potato, Dried	1 Pineapple Juice, canned
1 Yoghourt with Bilberries	1 Ginger Beer Shandy
(low fat)	1 Tomato Juice, canned
2 Shandy	2 Caraway Seeds
1 Dried Peas	1 Ground Cinnamon
2 Table Jelly	1 Analgesic Powders
1 Ground Mixed Spice	1 Chocolate Money (Sweets)
1 Aspirin Tablets B.P.	1 Christmas Tree Decorations

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

Sample	Result of Analysis	Action Taken
Junior Meal canned	Submitted with a needle and thread, otherwise genuine	Manufacturer and Complainant informed

SECTION F

Housing

SECTION F

HOUSING

Number of New Houses erected during the year :—	Houses	Flats
(i) By the Local Authority	41	36
(ii) By other Local Authorities	—	—
(iii) By other bodies or persons	66	—

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)	489
(b) Number of inspections, formal or informal, made for the purpose	681
(2) Dwelling-houses unfit for human habitation and not capable at reasonable expense of being rendered fit :	
(a) Number dealt with during the Year	15
(b) Number (or estimated number) at end of year	151
(3) Number of dwelling-houses found during the year to be not in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation but capable of being rendered fit	331

2. Clearance Areas (Housing Act, 1957 and 1961) :—

(1) Number of dwelling-houses demolished during year :	
(a) Unfit houses	Nil
(b) Other houses	Nil
(2) Number of persons displaced	Nil
(3) Families	Nil

3. Houses not included in Clearance Areas :—

	No. of houses	No. of persons displaced
(1) Houses demolished or closed during year :—		
Housing Act, 1957 :—		
(i) Demolished as a result of formal or informal procedure	—	—
(ii) Closed in pursuance of an undertaking given by owners under Section 16 and still in force	2	2

(2) Repairs during the year :—

	*No. of houses
(a) Unfit houses rendered fit and houses in which defects were remedied during the period as a result of informal action by the Local Authority under the Housing or Public Health Acts	31
(b) Public Health Acts—action after service of formal notice—Houses in which defects were remedied :—	
(i) By owners	6
(ii) By Local Authority in default of owners	—
(c) Housing Act, 1957—action after service of formal notice (Sections 9, 10, 11) :—	
Houses made fit :—	
(i) By owners	—
(ii) By Local Authority in default of owners	—

4. **Unfit houses in temporary use (Housing Repairs and Rents Act, 1954) :—**

(1) Number of houses at end of year retained for temporary accommodation and approved for grant under Section 7	Nil
(2) Number of separate dwellings contained in (1) above	Nil
(3) Number of houses at end of year licensed for temporary occupation (Section 6)	Nil

*A defective house remedied more than once during the year is included once only.

Housing Act, 1949—Improvement Grants, etc.

Action during the year :—

	No. of Dwellings Affected
(a) Submitted by private individuals to Local Authority	31
(b) Approved by Local Authority	31
(c) Submitted by L.A. to Ministry	197
(d) Approved by the Ministry	—
(e) Works completed	115

House Purchase & Housing Act, 1959—

Standard Grants—

	No. of Dwellings Affected
(a) Applications submitted to L.A.	67
(b) Applications approved by L.A.	66
(c) Work completed	63

General Inspections

Houses (including re-visits)	1982
Schools	24
Factories and workplaces	136
Bakehouses	97
Food preparing premises and shops	271
Miscellaneous, etc.	372
Slaughterhouses	15
Inspectorial	865
	<hr/>
	3762
	<hr/>

In connection with these inspections, the following nuisances and defects were found and remedied, viz.:—

	Found	Remedied
House roofs in need of repair	65	61
Defective W.C's.	32	32
Choked or defective drains	47	47
Insanitary conditions of yards	6	4
Defective plaster on walls, etc.	70	67
House walls damp	65	56
Defective eaves gutters	16	14
Defective windows, etc.	28	23
Animals kept as to be a nuisance	4	4
Miscellaneous (floors, stairs, etc.)	91	86
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	424	394
	<hr/>	<hr/>

Arising from these nuisances and defects, the following notices were served, viz. :

Informal	259
Statutory	11

GENERAL - Conditions and Observations

The upward trend in population appears to have lost a little impetus, since the mid year estimate of 20,740 is 100 lower than that of the previous year.

The rateable value of the town is shown as £583,314 and the product of a penny rate as £2,223.

The main industries in the town continue to be engineering nut and bolt manufacture, electrical component manufacture and spinning. The Lancashire United Transport Company operate a large omnibus fleet over a wide area.

Construction of Council owned and privately owned dwellings continued at a satisfactory level during the year in addition to which the continuance of the Council's programme for the improvement of pre-war Council houses has resulted in a real and worthwhile improvement in the standard of comfort and amenity in these dwellings.

A total of 505 have been improved to date at a capital expenditure in the order of £413,600.

4172 dwellings are now covered by Smoke Control Areas with No. 6 area being well advanced and due to become operative on 1st July, 1971. The situation regarding the supply of solid smokeless fuels gave rise to increasing concern during the closing stages of the year. It was not found necessary to suspend any orders.

The Council's proposals for a pulverisation plant to be sited at the Swan Island Quarry refuse tip remained the subject of negotiation throughout the year. The review of the Council's services in relation to refuse collection was delayed by external factors but was well under way by the end of the year.

The inspection of shops, offices, factories, food premises, rodent control and disinfestation of premises were carried out during the year, giving quite a full programme of work.

SECTION G

Atmospheric Pollution and Smoke Abatement

SECTION G

ATMOSPHERIC POLLUTION AND SMOKE ABATEMENT

ATMOSPHERIC POLLUTION

4172 dwellings in the town are covered by 5 operative Smoke Control Areas.

On the 10th December, 1969, the Council made the No. 6 Smoke Control Area and proposed that this becomes operative on 1st July, 1971.

The acreage covered to date is 1725, the operation of the No. 6 Area will add a further 263 acres giving a total of 1988 acres and 5418 dwellings. The area of the town is given as 2265 acres and the number of inhabited dwellings as 7735.

Daily readings are taken at the two atmospheric pollution stations in the town and the data obtained is forwarded to the D.S.I.R. Laboratory at Warren Springs for inclusion in their statistics.

Tables of recordings summarised as monthly averages are contained herein :—

AV. DAILY AMOUNTS OF POLLUTION IN MICROGRAMMES PER CU. METRE OF AIR

Month	SMOKE			SO ₂		
	Town Hall	Parks	Garage	Town Hall	Parks	Garage
January	156		107	138		49
February	158		99	129		60
March	179		65	127		45
April	90		57	78		51
May	44		38	65		41
June	23		18	87		45
July	26		17	58		43
August	31		29	52		59
September	61		80	73		54
October	137		89	90		52
November	138		99	76		36
December	188		181	79		48

Tables showing the average daily amount of pollution for the years 1967, 1968, 1969, expressed as microgrammes per cubic metre

	1967			1968			1969			
	Smoke		Sulphur Dioxide	Smoke		Sulphur Dioxide	Smoke		Sulphur Dioxide	
	Town Hall	Parks Garage	Town Parks Garage	Town Hall	Parks Garage	Town Parks Garage	Town Hall	Parks Garage	Town Parks Garage	
January	206	207	247	212	178	135	247	267	184	89
February	82	115	193	312	270	218	269	206	177	97
March	73	45	104	152	138	74	198	130	136	90
April	79	64	98	132	122	102	138	80	107	65
May	87	66	86	126	117	76	116	49	92	49
June	41	29	56	37	62	21	72	33	59	39
July	18	19	32	68	66	36	34	23	45	31
August	72	42	81	51	43	32	54	30	57	33
September ...	83	70	104	98	84	68	109	56	78	51
October	117	70	89	186	127	120	112	70	100	48
November ...	340	260	258	246	157	196	182	99	109	54
December ...	237	148	174	273	183	203	263	153	143	65

