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BOROUGH OF BEBINGTON



ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

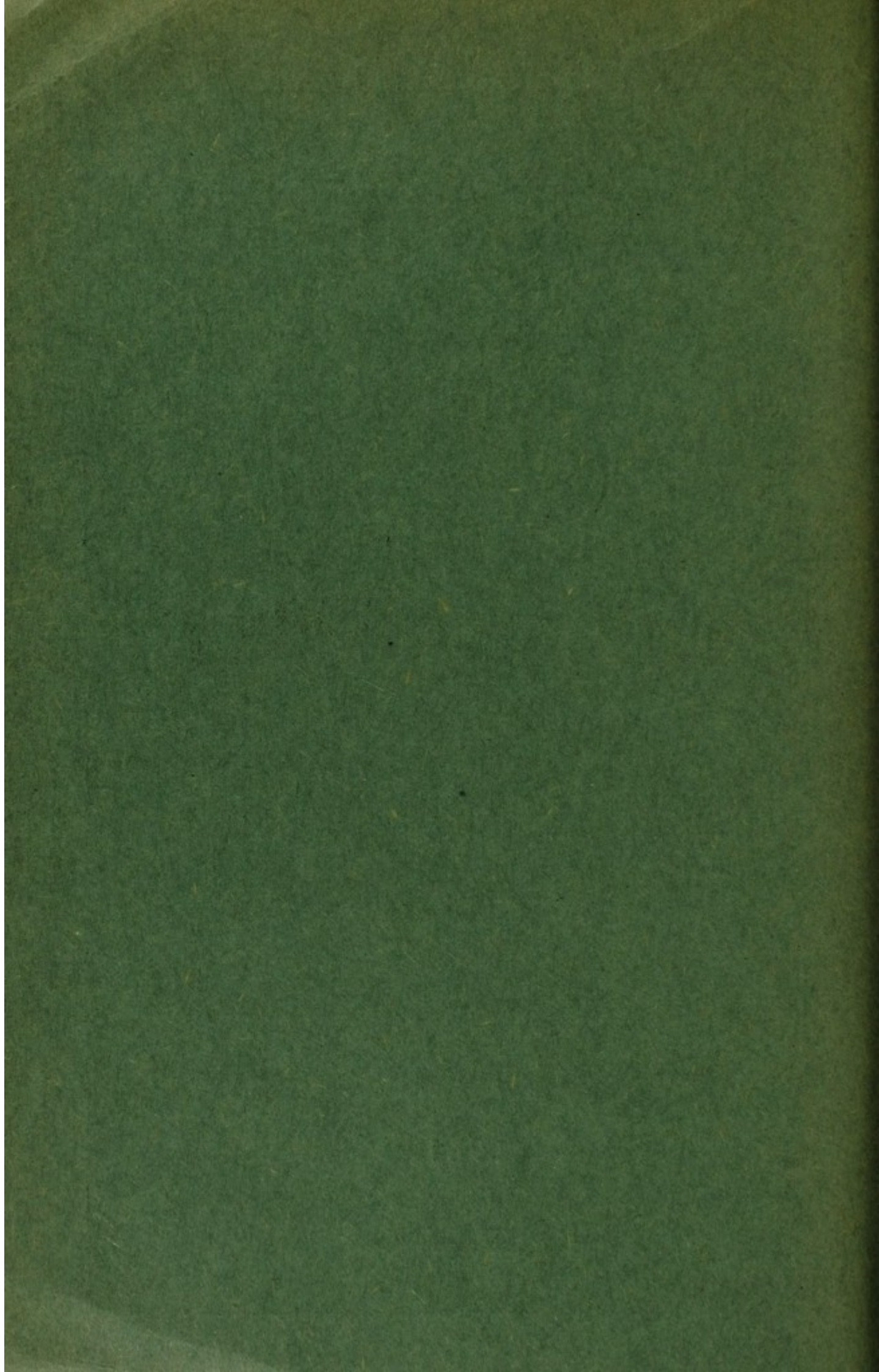
DIVISIONAL MEDICAL OFFICER

AND

DIVISIONAL SCHOOL MEDICAL OFFICER

FOR THE YEAR

1961



BOROUGH OF BEBINGTON



ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

DIVISIONAL MEDICAL OFFICER

AND

DIVISIONAL SCHOOL MEDICAL OFFICER

FOR THE YEAR

1961

Town Hall,
BEBINGTON, WIRRAL,
CHESHIRE.
(Tel. ROCK FERRY 1440)

BOROUGH OF BEBINGTON

HEALTH COMMITTEE

Chairman : Councillor C. W. D. THOMPSON

Vice-Chairman: Councillor R. D. DIXON

The Mayor: Councillor J. HARRIS, J.P.

The Deputy Mayor: Councillor J. K. TRENCH

Aldermen—

H. P. LONG Mrs. E. B. WILLIAMS R. WILLIAMS

Councillors—

R. EVANS	R. HORSLEY
Mrs. B. GILL, J.P.	J. P. MERNOCK
G. E. GLOVER	W. WEDGEWOOD
Mrs. H. G. HEBRON	

PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT STAFF*Medical Officer of Health*

F. S. MELVILLE, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.

Chief Public Health Inspector

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

Deputy Chief Public Health Inspector

J. BALL, M.R.S.H., M.A.P.H.I.

Additional Public Health Inspectors

E. CLOSS-PARRY	L. C. MOORE
A. R. MOORE (To 14.1.61)	R. B. VAUGHAN
J. C. KNEALE (From 27.2.61)	

Pupil Public Health Inspector

J. L. ELLIS

Chief Clerk

W. R. TURNER

Clerical Staff

Mrs. E. BIENIEK	Miss M. HOSKER
Miss B. LEA	Mrs. P. JONES

THE MAYOR, ALDERMEN AND COUNCILLORS OF THE BOROUGH OF BEBINGTON

Your Worship, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have much pleasure in submitting the Annual Report for the year 1961.

The year has seen some real progress in cleaning the air of the borough. The Abbots Grange estate has now been in a smoke control area for 18 months. No complaints have been received from the residents and the difference in the atmosphere above the estate is there for all to appreciate. Meanwhile, the programme as set out in 1959 has been continued, the second area was confirmed by the Minister of Housing and Local Government during the year and comes into force on the 1st July 1962, and what was to be the third area has now become the eighth area and has been submitted to the Minister. The reason for the re-numbering is that five areas not in the original plan have also been submitted. These five are areas of new development and it was felt that all such areas if of any significant size and not too circumscribed by old property should be smoke controlled from the start.

It is to be regretted that complimentary to the reduction in nuisance from smoke from domestic chimneys people cannot be persuaded to reduce the amount of smoke from tobacco, both to benefit their own health and to make the atmosphere indoors more pleasant for others. The transistor radio set is fast becoming a serious noise nuisance in places of recreation and public transport and rightly evokes a great deal of outspoken indignation from the unwilling listeners but it is not so great a nuisance to others as tobacco smoke. Noise nuisance has been reported on some occasions during the year and has been dealt with adequately. It is however a difficult matter especially where dwelling houses are in close proximity to industry. To revert briefly to atmospheric pollution the one serious blot in the borough is the smoke from the Bromborough Dock area. Many nuisances from this cause have been observed by the staff but as the executive authority is Liverpool by the time contact is made with them and they can investigate, the nuisance has gone and so probably has the ship.

During the year the last of the houses in the original slum clearance programme of 1956 were represented. This does not mean that there are no more unfit houses in the borough. Houses like all other goods wear out. How fast they wear out, also like other things, depends on how well they are made in the first place and how well they are subsequently maintained. The varying qualities of maintenance of different owners is demonstrated clearly when in a row of houses built identically and at the same time some are seen to be in good condition whilst others have become dilapidated or even unfit. Perhaps more important though in a borough of Bebington's character where there is no significantly large number of

old working class houses built in the last century, is the question of upgrading of housing to standards suitable to the second half of the 20th century, houses with bathrooms, indoor toilets, running hot and cold water, proper food storage. This upgrading can be done and generous improvement grants are available but unfortunately landlords are not coming forward in any significant numbers with proposals to improve their property. As an aside I feel that the fitting of approved fires should be one of the conditions of a standard grant. The policy of the government has not been to help house owners to get approved fires unless the houses were covered by smoke control orders because there would be no way of ensuring that only smokeless fuel was burnt but it must be remembered that approved appliances are not only essential to burn smokeless fuel but that they burn all fuels more efficiently than the older fashioned appliances. Perhaps the principle cause of this lethargy in upgrading houses is the attitude of the tenants to increased rents and their attitude to living priorities. To a household adequate and proper food should be a first priority immediately followed by adequate housing and all other comforts and luxuries should follow, not precede these. As the average national wage is now said to be over £15, a rent, including rates, of £3 should not be considered at all out of the way.

Statistics have been commented on in the body of the report. Probably the most interesting of these are the high birth rate, perhaps mainly due to the borough being a growing one with a steady influx of younger people, the comparatively high number of deaths from coronary disease, which may or may not be significant, and the high death rate. Cancer accounted for 12 more deaths than in 1960 and there were 26 more deaths from coronary disease than in 1960. 12 of these additional deaths from coronary disease were under 65. All deaths under 65 represent a loss of production capacity in the country and as the proportion of those over 65 becomes greater so do the deaths under 65 become more serious to the well being of the community.

This report has been compiled with the very able assistance of Mr. Townson, Mr. Turner, and clerical staff, to all of whom I wish to convey my thanks for their continued support, enthusiasm and loyalty. In particular I would like to thank the staff for their forbearance and willing help during the time the department was investigated by the Organisation and Methods team from Cheshire County Council.

Once more Mr. Townson, the Chief Public Health Inspector, and the staff have sustained the high standards they have set in previous years and I cannot adequately express my appreciation.

Finally to the Chairman and members of the Health Committee my sincere thanks for their interest, help and guidance throughout the year.

F. S. MELVILLE,
Medical Officer of Health

VITAL STATISTICS

Area in acres	12,244
Census population (April, 1961)	52,202
Registrar General's estimated population (mid 1961)	52,060
Inhabited houses at 31st December, 1961	16,457
Rateable Value at 31st December, 1961	£931,321
Yield of a Penny Rate (Estimate for 1961/62)	£3,875

Live Births:—	<i>Total</i>	<i>Male</i>	<i>Female</i>	
Legitimate	882	472	410	
Illegitimate	25	15	10	
	<hr/>			
	907			

Birth rate per 1,000 of the estimated population	17.4
Birth rate adjusted by comparability factor of 1.01	17.6
Birth rate per 1,000 population for England and Wales	17.4
Illegitimate live births per cent of total live births	2.8

Still Births:—	<i>Total</i>	<i>Male</i>	<i>Female</i>	
Legitimate	14	9	5	
Illegitimate	—	—	—	
	<hr/>			
	14			

Total live and still births	921
Still Birth rate per 1,000 total live and still births	15.2
for England and Wales	19.1

Infant Deaths:—

Deaths of Infants under ONE year—Legitimate	16	
Illegitimate	—	16
Total Infant Deaths per 1,000 total live births		17.6
Legitimate infant deaths per 1,000 legitimate live births		18.1
Illegitimate infant deaths per 1,000 illegitimate live births		NIL
Deaths under FOUR WEEKS—Legitimate	12	
Illegitimate	—	12
Neonatal mortality rate (deaths under four weeks per 1,000 total live births)		13.2
for England and Wales		15.5
Early Neonatal Deaths (under 1 week)		10
Early Neonatal mortality rate (Deaths under 1 week per 1,000 total live births)		11.0
Perinatal mortality rate (still births and deaths under 1 week combined per 1,000 total live and still births)		26.1

Maternal Mortality (including Abortion):—

Number of deaths	Nil
Rate per 1,000 total live and still births	Nil
for England and Wales	0.33

Deaths:—

	<i>Total</i>	<i>Male</i>	<i>Female</i>
	639	327	312
Death rate per 1,000 of the estimated population	12.3		
Death rate adjusted by comparability factor of 1.15	14.1		
Death rate per 1,000 population for England and Wales	12.0		

Deaths from Diarrhoea (including Enteritis)

under 2 years of age Nil

Deaths from Measles (all ages) Nil

Deaths from Whooping Cough (all ages) Nil

Deaths from Diphtheria (all ages) Nil

TABLE I**Comparative Annual Numbers and Rates of Births and Deaths for Borough of Bebington since 1939**

Year	Popula- tion	Live Births		Infant Deaths		Maternal Mortality			Deaths all ages	
		Total No.	Rate Per 1,000 Popu'n (ad- justed)	Total No.	Rate Per 1,000 Live Births	Puer. Fever	Other	Rate Per 1,000 Live Births	Total No.	Rate Per 1,000 Popu'n (ad- justed)
1939	42,000	781	18.61	34	43.53	—	2	2.56	396	9.38
1940	43,180	682	13.48	46	67.2	2	1	4.68	470	10.88
1941	41,910	688	16.42	36	52.6	—	1	1.46	482	11.5
1942	41,880	748	17.8	21	28.07	—	—	—	403	9.6
1943	41,300	748	18.11	47	62.83	—	—	—	455	11.01
1944	41,970	857	20.41	36	42.00	—	—	—	434	10.34
1945	42,390	788	18.3	39	49.00	1	2	3.8	419	10.02
1946	45,620	875	19.4	45	51.0	—	1	1.14	489	10.8
1947	46,640	914	19.6	47	51.3	—	1	1.09	470	10.1
1948	46,780	809	17.2	37	45.5	—	1	1.2	432	9.2
1949	47,030	706	14.9	24	33.9	—	2	2.8	471	9.9
1950	47,150	687	14.5	18	26.2	—	1	1.4	460	9.7
1951	47,300	648	13.7	17	26.3	1	—	1.52	562	11.6
1952	47,790	651	13.7	17	26.2	—	—	—	529	11.0
1953	48,220	643	12.9	21	32.6	—	—	—	499	11.0
1954	48,740	635	13.7	15	23.6	—	—	—	478	10.2
1955	49,100	663	14.2	19	28.7	—	—	—	513	10.8
1956	49,950	753	15.8	16	21.2	—	—	—	509	11.4
1957	50,150	766	15.9	10	13.1	—	—	—	524	11.6
1958	50,540	772	15.9	21	27.2	—	—	—	552	12.1
1959	51,050	816	16.6	18	22.1	—	—	—	554	12.1
1960	51,640	870	17.5	27	31.0	—	—	—	554	12.0
1961	52,060	907	17.6	16	17.6	—	—	—	639	14.1

Population

The Registrar General's estimated mid-year population of the borough at the 30th June was 52,060. The 1961 census population taken in April was 52,202.

All statistical data for the year throughout this report is based on the mid-year estimate of 52,060. This is 420 more than 1960 and shows the continued uninterrupted trend since 1946.

TABLE II
Causes of Death
1961
Arranged according to Registrar General's
Short Classification, Age and Sex

	0-		5-		15-		25-		45-		65-		Total	
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
1. Tuberculosis, respiratory	1	..	..	..	..	-	1
7. Acute Poliomyelitis	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	-
9. Other infective and parasitic diseases	1	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	2	-
10. Malignant neoplasm, stomach	1	1	7	6	8	7
11. Malignant neoplasm, lung, bronchus	6	..	11	2	17	2
12. Malignant neoplasm, breast	2	..	3	..	7	..	-	12
13. Malignant neoplasm, uterus	3	..	4	..	-	7
14. Other malignant and lymphatic neoplasms	3	..	3	12	22	18	28	30
15. Leukaemia, aleukaemia	1	..	2	1	..	1	2	3
16. Diabetes	2	..	2	2	4	2
17. Vascular lesions of nervous system	1	..	14	12	27	43	41	56
18. Coronary disease, angina	1	..	42	10	56	44	99	54
19. Hypertension with heart disease	2	12	2	12
20. Other heart disease	1	1	9	..	11	31	21	32
21. Other circulatory disease	3	..	5	11	5	14
22. Influenza	1	..	1	1	4	3	5	5
23. Pneumonia	1	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	1	19	33	21	35
24. Bronchitis	3	1	19	3	22	4
25. Other diseases of respiratory system	1	..	..	1	1	1
26. Ulcer of stomach and duodenum	1	..	..	4	1	4
27. Gastritis, enteritis and diarrhoea	1	..	1	-
28. Nephritis and nephrosis	2	..	2	1	1	..	3	3
29. Hyperplasia of prostate	1	..	1	-
31. Congenital malformations	2	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	3	-
32. Other defined and ill-defined diseases	8	6	..	..	..	..	1	2	2	3	5	15	16	26
33. Motor vehicle accidents	3	..	3	..	1	..	..	1	7	1
34. All other accidents	1	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	1	..	4	1	7	1
35. Suicide	1	..	1	2	..	..	2	2
	12	7	1	-	6	-	10	11	94	54	197	242	320	314
	19		1		6		21		148		439		634*	

* The totals do not agree with those returned by the Registrar General. (*vide supra*). It is probable that the error arises in the transfer of some deaths occurring in hospital.

Population
The Registrar General's estimated mid-year population of the borough at the 30th June was 22,000. The 1951 census population taken in April was 22,302.
All statistical data for the year throughout this report is based on the mid-year estimate of 22,000. This is 420 more than 1950 and shows the continued uninterupted trend since 1947.

TABLE II
Arranged according to Registrar General's
Short Classification, Age and Sex
Cause of Death

Age Group	Male	Female	Total
0-1	1	1	2
2-4	1	1	2
5-9	1	1	2
10-14	1	1	2
15-19	1	1	2
20-24	1	1	2
25-29	1	1	2
30-34	1	1	2
35-39	1	1	2
40-44	1	1	2
45-49	1	1	2
50-54	1	1	2
55-59	1	1	2
60-64	1	1	2
65-69	1	1	2
70-74	1	1	2
75-79	1	1	2
80-84	1	1	2
85-89	1	1	2
90-94	1	1	2
95-99	1	1	2
100+	1	1	2
Total	1	1	2

* Figures do not agree with those returned by the Registrar General. This is provided that the error arises in the transfer of some deaths occurring in 1951.

TABLE III.

Number of deaths from certain causes, death rate per 10,000 population, mean ages at death, years of "working life" lost and years of "total life" lost per 10,000 population.

No.	Cause of Death	1961*					1960*					1959*					1958*					1957*					1956*				
		Total Deaths		Mean age at death		Years of Life lost per 10,000 population		Total Deaths		Mean age at death		Years of Life lost per 10,000 population		Total Deaths		Mean age at death		Years of Life lost per 10,000 population		Total Deaths		Mean age at death		Years of Life lost per 10,000 population		Total Deaths		Mean age at death		Years of Life lost per 10,000 population	
		No.	Rate / 10,000 population	Ages 15-64	Total to age 85	Ages 15-64	Total to age 85	No.	Rate / 10,000 population	Ages 15-64	Total to age 85	Ages 15-64	Total to age 85	No.	Rate / 10,000 population	Ages 15-64	Total to age 85	Ages 15-64	Total to age 85	No.	Rate / 10,000 population	Ages 15-64	Total to age 85	Ages 15-64	Total to age 85	No.	Rate / 10,000 population	Ages 15-64	Total to age 85	Ages 15-64	Total to age 85
BERKINGTON	All Causes	320	129	65.7	757	2,515	304	124	62.8	895	2,635	277	114	64.2	758	2,330	100	125	64.5	780	2,499	268	122	66.2	533	2,006	264	111	64.7	625	2,171
	Tuberculosis of respiratory system	314	115	71.7	369	1,579	252	93	48.7	478	1,549	274	103	70.3	424	1,557	250	94	70.7	345	1,354	252	96	68.5	461	1,557	245	93	68.2	468	1,547
	Cancer (all sites)	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
	Cancer of Lung, Bronchus	55	22	70.4	68	331	57	23	62.4	154	476	53	22	63.8	121	444	50	21	66.7	39	350	55	23	64.6	103	419	47	20	65.3	139	429
	Cancer of breast	61	22	67.1	82	350	47	17	62.0	130	360	42	16	68.5	50	242	40	15	67	63	243	45	17	64.9	85	297	43	16	65.1	87	292
	Vascular lesions of C.N.S.	17	7	69.2	18	106	17	7	65.1	29	122	17	7	63.0	35	138	19	8	69.5	18	119	24	10	63	43	194	15	4	61.2	37	133
	Coronary disease	12	4	62.2	26	80	8	3	64.6	17	57	7	3	63.7	11	49	7	3	57.6	17	64	5	2	69.2	6	30	6	2	58.2	33	54
	Other cardiac diseases	36	21	73.8	42	253	43	16	75.8	19	170	59	22	75.7	22	217	44	17	73.8	28	199	48	18	75.5	20	191	45	17	74.1	20	183
	23, 24 Bronchitis and Pneumonia	99	40	67.6	137	681	73	30	65.5	102	506	71	29	66.9	92	487	84	35	68.8	111	535	73	31	66	112	510	78	33	63.1	144	404
	26 Ulcer of stomach and duodenum	44	20	72.5	28	221	55	20	71.3	33	241	54	20	71.8	42	263	50	19	73.6	20	194	48	18	72.3	46	233	37	14	75.3	46	203
	33, 34 Accidents	23	9	68.0	18	164	30	12	77.3	9	132	22	9	74.2	9	104	31	13	76.5	15	160	16	7	73.3	10	82	39	16	73.3	40	240
ENGLAND & WALES	All Causes	55	17	69.2	18	106	17	7	65.1	29	122	17	7	63.0	35	138	19	8	69.5	18	119	24	10	63	43	194	15	4	61.2	37	133
	Tuberculosis of respiratory system	12	4	62.2	26	80	8	3	64.6	17	57	7	3	63.7	11	49	7	3	57.6	17	64	5	2	69.2	6	30	6	2	58.2	33	54
	Cancer (all sites)	41	17	70.1	42	251	29	12	71.4	18	151	40	16	71.7	40	224	36	15	73.5	21	194	27	11	73.3	19	147	21	9	70	22	132
	Cancer of Lung, Bronchus	36	21	73.8	42	253	43	16	75.8	19	170	59	22	75.7	22	217	44	17	73.8	28	199	48	18	75.5	20	191	45	17	74.1	20	183
	Cancer of breast	99	40	67.6	137	681	73	30	65.5	102	506	71	29	66.9	92	487	84	35	68.8	111	535	73	31	66	112	510	78	33	63.1	144	404
	Vascular lesions of C.N.S.	17	7	69.2	18	106	17	7	65.1	29	122	17	7	63.0	35	138	19	8	69.5	18	119	24	10	63	43	194	15	4	61.2	37	133
	Coronary disease	12	4	62.2	26	80	8	3	64.6	17	57	7	3	63.7	11	49	7	3	57.6	17	64	5	2	69.2	6	30	6	2	58.2	33	54
	Other cardiac diseases	36	21	73.8	42	253	43	16	75.8	19	170	59	22	75.7	22	217	44	17	73.8	28	199	48	18	75.5	20	191	45	17	74.1	20	183
	23, 24 Bronchitis and Pneumonia	99	40	67.6	137	681	73	30	65.5	102	506	71	29	66.9	92	487	84	35	68.8	111	535	73	31	66	112	510	78	33	63.1	144	404
	26 Ulcer of stomach and duodenum	44	20	72.5	28	221	55	20	71.3	33	241	54	20	71.8	42	263	50	19	73.6	20	194	48	18	72.3	46	233	37	14	75.3	46	203
	33, 34 Accidents	23	9	68.0	18	164	30	12	77.3	9	132	22	9	74.2	9	104	31	13	76.5	15	160	16	7	73.3	10	82	39	16	73.3	40	240

* These figures calculated on weights given in Registrar General's 2nd Quarterly Return for the previous year being the most recent standard set of weights available.

TABLE IIIA

Average death rate per 10,000 population per year, mean ages at death, and average number of years of "working life" and years of "total life" lost per 10,000 population per year over 5 years 1957-1961.

No.	Cause of Death		Deaths Rate per per 10,000 per annum	Mean age at death	Years of life lost per 10,000 population per annum	
					Years 15-64	Total to age 85
All	All Causes	M	123	64.7	745	2397
		F	100	72	417	1523
I	Tuberculosis respiratory	M	1	64	10	21
		F	0	43	5	14
10-15	Cancer (all sites)	M	23	65.6	105	404
		F	17	65.9	82	298
11	Cancer of Lung, Bronchus	M	8	66	29	136
12	Cancer of Breast	F	3	63.5	15	56
17	Vascular lesions of C.N.S.	M	14	72	28	193
		F	19	74.9	26	206
18	Coronary disease	M	33	67	111	544
		F	19	72.3	34	230
19-20	Other cardiac diseases	M	10	73.9	16	128
		F	14	75.8	16	135
23-24	Bronchitis and Pneumonia	M	16	70.5	50	218
		F	12	75.9	26	133
26	Ulcer of Stomach and Duodenum	M	1	64.1	5	19
		F	1	66.5	1	8
33-34	Accidents	M	5	40.7	147	260
		F	1	58.7	14	30

Births

907 live births were referable to the borough which gave a rate of 17.6 per thousand of the population compared to 870 and 17.5 the previous year. This is again a rise in the rate and the highest rate recorded since 1947, the peak year of the immediate post-war bulge.

25 illegitimate births were registered during the year.

Deaths

According to the Registrar General 639 deaths were referable to Bebington during 1961 giving a crude death rate of 12.3 and an adjusted death rate of 14.1. The locally determined figure of 634 alters these rates very slightly and insignificantly to 12.2 and 14.0 respectively.

This is the highest death rate recorded in the borough since its formation and it is not clear why this should be so. It will be seen from Table III that the mean age of death rose for both sexes and the

years of life lost per 10,000 population between ages of 15 and 64 went down so that the increase occurred amongst those who had passed retiring age but why in 1961 more of the aged died than in 1960 is not particularly evident.

The cause of the greatest increase in deaths amongst the males was coronary thrombosis. Deaths from cancer and bronchitis showed the greatest increase amongst the female population.

Table III shows that Bebington's figures are fairly closely comparable with the national figures and the average for Bebington taken over a five year period approximates even more closely to the national average with the exception of male deaths from coronary thrombosis where Bebington's figures have been consistently higher than the national ones. When coronary thrombosis and other heart conditions are added together then the five year averages for Bebington and England and Wales approximate much more closely. The most probable explanation, therefore, seems to be that the diagnosis of coronary thrombosis is more fashionable in Bebington than throughout the country generally.

There were 8 residents of the borough killed in road accidents. This is slightly above the national average. 3 out of the 4 fatalities to Bebington residents occurring in the borough happened on the New Chester Road.

TABLE IV

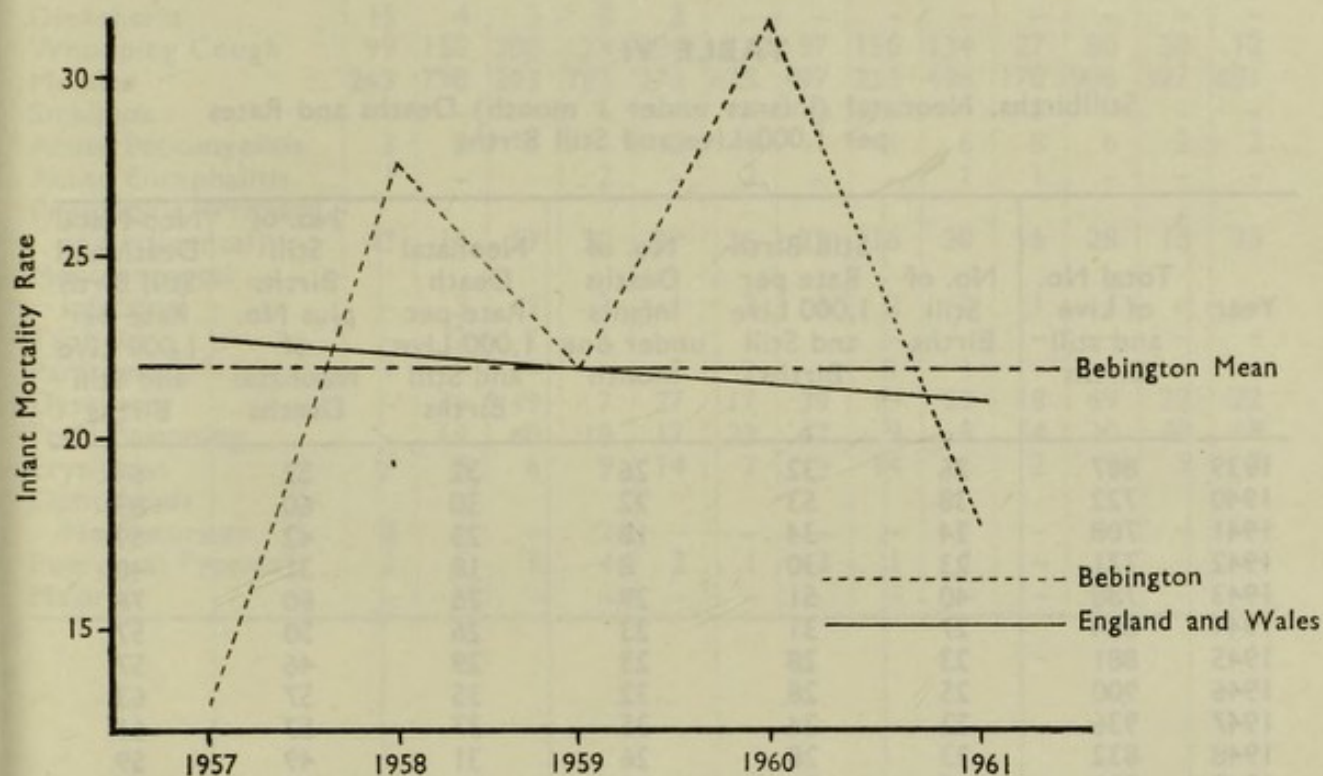
34. All other Accidents/Actual cause (Age in brackets)

Cause of accident	Male	Female	Total
Gas poisoning	1 (85)	1 (79)	2
Falls—Stairs	1 (67)		1
Outside	1 (4)		1
Drowning	3 (79) (51) (17)		3
Unknown	1 (75)		1
	7	1	8

Infant Mortality

16 infants under one year of age died giving an Infant Mortality Rate of 17.6 per thousand compared with 27 deaths and a rate of 31.0 in 1960. 12 of these deaths were under one month. The rate for England and Wales was 21.6 per thousand so that comparatively the figures for Bebington are better than the national average. Over a five year period the infant mortality rate in Bebington has been 22.2 which is not significantly better than the five year average for England

and Wales. A small graph of the yearly infant mortality rate illustrates why the numbers involved in a borough of this size make statistical findings on a yearly basis so unreliable.



The mortality rate of infants under one month and still births dropped to 28 per 1,000 live and still born children. The Perinatal Mortality Rate which is now recognised as the rate for infant deaths under one week and still births was 26.1.

TABLE V

Cause of death of those dying under one month.

Cause of Death	Male	Female	Total
Congenital Deformity	1		1
Cerebral Anaemia	1		1
Atelectasis	1		1
Cerebral Haemorrhage	2	1	3
Prematurity	3	3*	6
Total	8	4	12

*Two of these twins

Maternal Mortality

No maternal death has occurred in the borough since 1951. Statistically, on the basis of the national figures, one maternal death should occur in the borough about once in every four years.

TABLE VI

Stillbirths, Neonatal (Infants under 1 month) Deaths and Rates per 1,000 Live and Still Births

Year	Total No. of Live and still Births	No. of Still Births	Still Birth Rate per 1,000 Live and Still Births	No. of Deaths Infants under one month	Neonatal Death Rate per 1,000 Live and Still Births	No. of Still Births plus No. of Neonatal Deaths	Neo-Natal Death and Still Birth Rate per 1,000 Live and Still Births
1939	807	26	32	26	32	52	64
1940	722	38	53	22	30	60	83
1941	708	24	34	18	25	42	59
1942	771	23	30	8	10	31	40
1943	788	40	51	29	25	60	76
1944	884	27	31	23	26	50	57
1945	881	23	28	23	29	46	57
1946	900	25	28	32	35	57	63
1947	936	22	24	35	37	57	61
1948	832	23	28	26	31	49	59
1949	730	19	26	19	26	38	52
1950	711	24	34	15	21	39	55
1951	655	7	11	11	16	18	27
1952	670	19	28	15	23	34	51
1953	661	18	27	15	23	33	50
1954	654	19	29	13	20	32	49
1955	681	18	26	13	20	31	46
1956	771	18	23	13	16	31	39
1957	786	20	25	6	8	26	33
1958	785	13	17	15	19	28	36
1959	828	12	15	15	18	27	33
1960	883	13	15	21	24	34	39
1961	921	14	15	12	13	26	28

TABLE VII

Number of notified infectious diseases occurring in Bebington according to year and disease.

DISEASE	YEAR												
	1949	1950	1951	1952	1953	1954	1955	1956	1957	1958	1959	1960	1961
Scarlet Fever	54	55	72	46	77	55	34	15	37	38	74	31	21
Diphtheria	15	4	3	8	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Whooping Cough	99	155	200	129	200	140	97	150	134	27	80	58	12
Measles	263	798	293	793	273	623	497	255	496	170	906	327	681
Smallpox	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	5	-	-	-
Acute Poliomyelitis	3	5	4	-	2	4	1	1	6	8	6	2	2
Acute Encephalitis	1	-	-	2	-	3	-	-	1	1	-	-	-
Pneumonia (Primary and Influenzal)	43	16	57	30	27	36	22	16	30	16	28	15	25
Meningococcal Infection	-	3	3	3	1	3	3	2	2	1	3	-	-
Typhoid	-	2	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Paratyphoid	1	-	-	-	2	2	-	1	1	-	-	-	-
Dysentery	-	36	49	7	27	17	39	19	22	18	69	22	22
Food Poisoning	-	69	60	19	17	23	47	9	4	54	20	48	18
Erysipelas	9	9	6	9	14	7	9	14	6	2	9	5	3
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	2	-	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Puerperal Pyrexia	2	1	5	4	2	1	3	1	1	-	3	-	-
Malaria	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-

TABLE VIII

Notified infectious diseases during year 1961 occurring in the different wards

	Hr. Bebington	Woodhey	Lr. Bebington	Poulton	Sunlight	Park	New Ferry	N. Bromborough	S. Bromborough	Eastham	TOTAL
Scarlet Fever	1	3	1	2	1	-	6	4	-	3	21
Whooping Cough	1	4	-	-	-	-	3	-	2	2	12
Measles	77	60	42	35	15	15	101	39	79	218	681
Acute Poliomyelitis	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2
Pneumonia, (Primary and Influenzal)	8	4	2	1	3	-	2	2	-	3	25
Dysentery	-	-	3	2	2	2	-	3	9	1	22
Food Poisoning	7	2	1	3	1	1	1	-	1	1	18
Erysipelas	1	1	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	3
Totals	96	75	49	43	22	18	114	48	91	228	784

INFECTIOUS DISEASES

Scarlet Fever

21 cases of Scarlet Fever were notified during 1961. This disease continues in a very mild form and no case was admitted to hospital during the year.

Diphtheria

It is now eight years since a case of diphtheria was notified. This disease is now almost as exotic as smallpox but I would warn parents it is also almost as dangerous when introduced to the non-immunised person.

Whooping Cough

12 cases of whooping cough were notified during the year. Three of these children had been immunised. Two cases were under one year, which is the age at which this disease is most severe. Neither of these had been immunised.

The protection afforded by the whooping cough inoculation does not seem to be as good as that afforded by diphtheria immunisation but the figures of incidence and age show clearly the advantages of immunisation and booster doses in modifying the disease and raising the age at which it is contracted and *ipso facto* lessening the severity of the disease.

Measles

681 cases of measles were notified during the year. The majority of these occurred during the first few months of the year and were a continuation of the epidemic which had started late in 1960.

Smallpox

No cases were notified in the borough and no cases from elsewhere were admitted to New Ferry Isolation Hospital although at the end of the year it was still the area's reception hospital for these cases. An alternative hospital has been selected but has not yet been altered to make it fit for this purpose.

Anterior Poliomyelitis

Two cases were notified during the year. The first was a boy of 14 years, a paralytic case. He had not been vaccinated. The second was also a boy, of 13, but he was affected four months after the first and there was no apparent connection. This boy had never been vaccinated against poliomyelitis and died of the infection. The source of the infection was not discovered in either case.

Food Poisoning

18 cases of food poisoning were notified during the year with 12 otherwise ascertained. 20 of these cases occurred in Clatterbridge

Hospital. This was not an explosive outbreak but was spread over some weeks. The organism causing this was *Salmonella* Newport. After intensive investigation six of the food handlers in the hospital were found to be affected or to be carrying this organism and appropriate action was taken. It was not a typical food poisoning outbreak and it was impossible to pin point the source or foodstuff but in view of the incidence of sporadic cases throughout the wards it must be assumed that the very small spread there was came through the kitchen.

Dysentery

22 cases were notified during 1961. No outbreak of any note occurred and no reports of any person being seriously affected by it were received.

Tuberculosis

The primary notifications of respiratory tuberculosis decreased from 17 in 1960 to 11 in 1961 giving a rate of 0.21 per thousand of the population.

One death was attributed to respiratory tuberculosis during 1961.

TABLE XI

Primary notifications and the number of deaths from tuberculosis during 1961.

Age Periods	Primary Notifications				Deaths			
	Respiratory		Non-Respiratory		Respiratory		Non-Respiratory	
Years	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
0—1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
1—5	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
5—15	1	—	1	—	—	—	—	—
15—25	4	1	1	—	—	—	—	—
25—35	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
35—45	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—
45—55	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
55—65	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
Over 65	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Total	8	3	2	—	—	1	—	—
	11		2		1		—	
	13				1			

TABLE X

The following table shows the number of primary notifications, the number of deaths, and the death rate from Tuberculosis during the last fifteen years:—

Year	Primary Notifications				Number of Deaths				Death-rate from Resp. T.B. England & Wales per 1000 popul'n
	Respiratory Total No.	Rate/1000 popul'n	Non-Respiratory Total No.	Rate/1000 popul'n	Respiratory Total No.	Rate/1000 popul'n	Non-Respiratory Total No.	Rate/1000 popul'n	
1947	36	0.753	8	0.17	21	0.45	3	0.06	0.55
1948	37	0.79	5	0.11	18	0.38	2	0.04	0.51
1949	50	1.06	6	0.13	23	0.49	2	0.04	0.49
1950	41	0.87	8	0.17	11	0.23	—	—	0.36
1951	47	0.99	9	0.19	11	0.23	4	0.08	0.32
1952	42	0.88	11	0.23	11	0.23	4	0.08	0.24
1953	35	0.73	5	0.10	4	0.08	1	0.02	0.20
1954	42	0.86	12	0.25	2	0.04	2	0.04	0.18
1955	29	0.59	2	0.04	5	0.10	—	—	0.13
1956	44	0.88	3	0.06	9	0.18	—	—	0.11
1957	36	0.72	2	0.04	2	0.04	—	—	0.095
1958	21	0.42	6	0.12	4	0.08	1	0.02	0.10
1959	12	0.24	3	0.06	4	0.08	—	—	0.077
1960	17	0.33	3	0.06	3	0.06	2	0.04	0.068
1961	11	0.21	2	0.04	1	0.02	—	—	0.065

Total Live Register at 31st December, 1961

Respiratory Cases	.....	355	(Dec. 1960	.....	344)
Non-Respiratory Cases	.....	40	(Dec. 1960	.....	39)
		<u>395</u>			<u>383</u>

Medical Examinations

During the year the Medical Officer has carried out 167 medical examinations for new employees, superannuation and sick pay purposes.

ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH

TABLE XI

This Table shows the number and types of Inspections made by the Public Health Inspectors during 1961.

Number and Nature of Inspections Made	Totals for 1961	Informal Notices	Statutory Notices	Notices complied with
Dwelling houses inspected	900	158	14	—
Dwelling houses re-inspected....	1307	3	13	132
Overcrowding	5	—	—	—
Places of Employment:				
*Shops	547	38	—	27
Factories with mechanical power	44	4	—	4
Factories without mechanical power	54	7	—	—
Workplaces	27	—	—	—
Hairdressers	31	—	—	1
Schools	19	—	—	—
Places of Entertainment	48	—	—	—
Tents, Vans and Sheds	2	—	—	—
Public Conveniences	41	—	—	—
Courts and Passages	59	14	—	—
House Drainage	780	82	11	61
Ditches and Watercourses	71	—	—	—
Septic Tanks	110	7	—	1
Pail Closets	11	—	—	—
Offensive Accumulations	17	—	—	—
Dustbins	1494	241	—	241
Food Premises	1018	105	—	67
Food Hawkers	36	—	—	—
Slaughterhouses	395	1	—	1
Piggeries	57	—	—	—
Cowsheds	9	—	—	—
Keeping of Animals	30	—	—	—
Pet Shops	4	—	—	—
Food and Drugs Sampling:				
Visits	57	—	—	—
Nature and Substance	148	—	—	—
Bacteriological Sampling:				
Food	62	—	—	—
Milk	71	—	—	—
Ice Cream	26	—	—	—
Water	7	—	—	—
Swimming Bath Water	16	—	—	—
Infectious Disease Enqrs. & Revisits	51	—	—	—
Food Poisoning Enqrs. & Revisits	380	—	—	—
Verminous Premises	143	—	—	1
Rodent Control	968	—	—	—
Smoke Control	1603	—	—	—
Noise Nuisances	12	1	—	—
Miscellaneous	248	—	—	—
Appointments outside Office	249	—	—	—
TOTAL	11,157	661	38	536

*Visits re Closing and Employment etc., not included. See report under Shops Act.

HOUSING

Inspections

Due to the increased work entailed on formulating future Smoke Control areas, it was not possible to carry out routine house to house inspections in the Borough. However, detailed house surveys were made of 1 to 8 Williams Terrace, Hr. Bebington, with a view to representing them as a clearance Area in 1962.

Clearance Areas

During the year under review the remaining houses in the Woodhead Street Area were vacated and 50 families rehoused.

A formal enquiry was held in May in respect of the "Alma Street Clearance Order No. 6" comprising 17 houses, and later in the year this Order was confirmed by the Minister. All the properties were vacated by the end of the year and 57 persons involving 20 families rehoused. The Council's policy of fumigation of tenants' furniture by a private firm, and the disinfecting of the bedding by the Health Department prior to removal to their new homes, was again carried out.

During the early part of the year representation was made in respect of Nos. 14, 16 and 18 Bromborough Village Road, Bromborough, the total number of persons involved being 8 comprising 4 families. This representation completed the final phase of the Council's first five year Slum Clearance programme.

In December an Inspector of the Ministry of Housing and Local Government heard an objection lodged by the owner/occupier of 16 Bromborough Village Road against the Clearance Order and the result is awaited.

Individual Unfit Houses

During the year Nos. 15, 17, 23 and 27 New Ferry Road, New Ferry, which were represented in 1960 as individual unfit houses, and Nos. 19, 21 and 25 which were acquired by agreement with the Council, were vacated and 7 families rehoused.

Nos. 2, 4 and 6 Acres Road, Bebington, were formally represented under the Housing Act as individual unfit houses and not capable at reasonable expense of being rendered fit. No objection was raised by the owners of the property. The four families involved will subsequently be rehoused by the Council.

The following properties were demolished during the year:—
Clearance Area No. 4—Woodhead Street Area

2 to 22 Georges Place

1 to 25 Georges Place

2 to 26 Sea View

1 to 17 Sea View

2 to 18 South View

1 to 13 South View

1 General Shop and 1 Hairdressers establishment were also demolished during the clearance.

Clearance Area No. 6—Alma Street Area

1 to 33 Alma Street

House Repairs

A total of 1,018 complaints were received and as in previous years the nuisance sections of the Public Health Act 1936 were relied upon to secure their abatement. The complaints resulted in 661 informal and 38 statutory notices being served.

It was observed that there was less delay in getting the necessary work completed after service of notices during this year as compared with last year, and the improvement in general maintenance continued.

Rent Act 1957

The year under review once again indicated that occupiers had more or less forgotten about the advantages to be gained by utilising the Rent Act.

The following figures indicate the work carried out under this Act:—

5 Applications by tenants for Certificate of Disrepair (Form I)

5 Notices to Landlords of Proposal to issue Certificate of Disrepair (Form J)

5 Undertakings by Landlord to remedy defects as proposed to be included on Certificate of Disrepair (Form K)

Movable Dwellings

Caravans and food stalls used by the Showmen at the Fair in Marquis Street, New Ferry, were found on inspection to be of a high standard and well maintained, and complied fully with the Food Hygiene Regulations. One of the features of the stallholders was their ready co-operation in complying with any request made by the inspectorial staff.

The Cheshire Agricultural Show was again held at Hooton Park and as in previous years the helpful co-operation continued with the Show Director enabling inspectors to visit and inspect and advise where necessary prior to the Show. Regular inspections of cafes, canteens, bars and food stalls were also carried out on the actual Show Days.

Disinfestation

The policy of the Council in disinfesting affected properties was

again carried out by this Department. During the year 4 houses were found to be infested with bed bugs and subsequently treated.

The following figures show the number of premises found to be verminous and consequently treated:—

		4 houses for bed bugs
24	„	„ woodworm infestation
65	„	„ other vermin

CLEAN AIR

In September the Borough of Bebington (Area No. 2) Smoke Control Order was confirmed with modifications by the Minister of Housing and Local Government, the date of operation to be the 1st July 1962. An exemption was included to permit the use of kindling with sticks and paper if there was no gas laid on in the house.

The area in question is bounded by the south side of Heath Road, the easterly side of Cross Lane to a point where if Quarry Avenue were continued would meet Cross Lane; the northerly side of Fairacres Road, the westerly side of Church Road, the westerly side of The Village to its junction with Heath Road. It is approximately 58 acres in size and comprises 289 dwellings and 8 commercial premises. On receiving notification of the Order all owners and occupiers were informed of :—

- (a) the type of conversions to fireplaces reasonably necessary to comply with the Order
- (b) the necessity of having the work and cost approved by the Council before proceeding with the adaptations.
- (c) having the works passed as satisfactory by the local authority before application for 7/10ths grant can be considered
- (d) the procedure for applying for the grant on the requisite form.

Since the confirmation of the Order numerous visits to dwellings both during and after Office hours together with many Office appointments were made following requests for advice mainly as to type of fireplaces and ignition.

It has been noticeable that although the public agree with the principles of "Clean Air", estimates were slow in being returned, in fact only fourteen approvals for work to proceed had been given by the end of the year.

During the year a further six Smoke Control Orders were made by the Council which are awaiting confirmation by the Minister of Housing and Local Government, Area No. 3—Poulton Road Estate, No. 4—Marfords Estate, No. 5—Dibbinsdale Estate, No. 6—Brookhurst Estate (north) and Brookhurst Estate (south), No. 7—Plymyard Estate. These areas are either in or will be in the process of being developed in the near future.

The final survey for Area No. 8 was completed and a Smoke Control Order made by the Council which awaits confirmation by the Minister. This area is bounded by the south side of Heath Road commencing from the junction of Heath Road and Cross Lane (Wirral Grammar School) to Bracken Lane, south side of Bracken Lane to Mount Road, east side of Mount Road to Brimstage Road, and north side of Brimstage Road, Beechway, west side of Beechway and Cross Lane to junction of Cross Lane and Heath Road. It is approximately 290 acres in size and comprises 850 dwelling houses of which 416 are owned by the Corporation. There are 17 commercial and 8 other premises.

It is estimated that 739 fireplaces will require conversion to enable smokeless fuel to burn efficiently and the total cost of the works including the installation of suitable ignition is estimated to be £10,583, the cost to the local authority being £4,607.

One application was received during the year under Section 3 of the Clean Air Act 1956 for prior approval to instal furnace. This application was approved.

Three Informal Notices were served under the Clean Air Act in consequence of offences observed.

Observations carried out around the Bromborough Dock area revealed many cases of smoke nuisances from ships, tugs etc. On these occasions the appropriate authorities in Liverpool were contacted by telephone, but it will be appreciated that by the time the inspectorial staff of this authority get to the scene, the nuisance probably no longer exists. Following correspondence with the Medical Officer of Health for Liverpool increased supervision was carried out by his staff, but the difficulty of efficient control still exists,

ATMOSPHERIC POLLUTION

Although no complaints were received following last years acid fall-out from the C.E.A. Power Station, regular sampling around the area was continued which in all cases proved negative. These tests will still be carried out as a routine matter.

GENERAL SANITATION

Water Supply

The water is supplied by the West Cheshire Water Board from three sources, i.e. Prenton, Mouldsworth and Sutton Hall, the Hooton source having been closed will now only be used in any emergency.

The Prenton and Mouldsworth supplies are obtained from deep boreholes and adits, using steam and electrically driven pumping plant; water from each source being sterilised by chlorination.

The Sutton Hall supply is obtained by pumping water from the River Dee at Chester to treatment works providing for sedimentation, filtration and sterilisation with chlorine. Chlorine dioxide is also added when necessary, for the elimination of tastes and lime for increasing the pH. Water after treatment is pumped into supply with electrically operated plant.

The River Dee supply is generally a softer water than that obtained from Prenton and Mouldsworth. It was not possible to resume softening of the Board's borehole supplies during the year.

The water supply in the area has been satisfactory both in quality and quantity.

Bacteriological and chemical examinations are carried out both on the raw water and the treated water at regular intervals by the Board's Chemist. In addition, fortnightly bacteriological examinations and quarterly chemical examinations are made by the Public Health Laboratories. In all cases the results have shown a pure and wholesome water suitable for public supply purposes.

There has been no case of contamination.

All dwelling-houses in the borough are supplied from public water mains direct to the houses.

Sewerage

The arrangements for sewerage and sewage disposal in the district are reasonably adequate. The Dibbin Valley sewer was completed during the year thus opening up a large acreage for future building development, also the Village of Raby was sewered and connected to the Thornton Hough Sewage Works, thus eliminating many of the polluted ditches in that area.

The relief scheme to prevent serious flooding in the Bromborough area is expected to commence next year and preliminary plans for the relief sewerage of Eastham and discharge to the Dibbin Valley sewer are under way.

House Drainage

The policy of the local authority in clearing house drains on request continued as in previous years. A total of 780 visits were made in connection with testing, examining drains and necessitated the service of 82 notices.

Dustbins

At the end of the year under review 6,510 dustbins had been supplied under the Council scheme.

During the year the following number of bins were supplied:—

By Local Authority	648
„ Owners following notices	26
„ Tenants following notices	10
Bins renewed	75

Once again difficulties have been encountered during the year in dealing with cases, usually on complaint, of wrongly numbered bins being returned to premises, and oft times bins which are more aged. This involves valuable time having to be spent around the particular area checking the bin numbers and making sure that the correctly numbered bins are at their respective houses.

Public Conveniences

During the year 41 routine visits were made to the conveniences situated in the Borough. The Borough Engineer and Surveyor was notified of 14 defects found in 5 conveniences which were all dealt with.

Cesspools and Septic Tanks

During the year a determined effort was made to complete the inspection of all cesspools and septic tanks in the Borough, and once again it was found that although the majority were structurally sound, complete neglect was apparent regarding the regular cleansing, and cleaning or changing the existing media. In most cases remedies were affected after advice given by the inspectors, and it was only found necessary to serve 7 notices.

Completion was carried out of the Dibbin Valley sewer which resulted in closing down and abandoning the Eastham Rake, Dibbinsdale Road and Vanderbyl Avenue sewage works. The Clatter Valley sewer was also completed. This resulted in the Clatterbridge sewage works being closed down and their drainage connected to the new sewer. 13 septic tanks in the Raby Drive area were filled in and the house drainage connected to the sewer.

Schools

Schools in the Borough were inspected as a routine duty and by arrangement with the Cheshire County Council regular inspections were also carried out by the rodent operators who made 277 visits and carried out 14 treatments during the year.

Tips

Tipping ceased at the Mayfields Tip, New Ferry, during the early part of the year and was transferred to Jobs Ferry, Eastham, in February and was carried out there until August when tipping commenced at the new site in Spital Road. Tipping in this site is more satisfactorily controlled due to adequate covering material being readily available on the site, and exposed surfaces are covered effectively after each working day. There has been very little evidence of fly breeding and except for one rodent infestation which was promptly dealt with no complaints have been received from the neighbouring property. The tip surface was sprayed as a routine preventative measure against flies and crickets etc., and regular routine inspec-

tions were carried out by the rodent operators to make sure no infestations were allowed to become active.

Mortuary

During the year 2 bodies were received into the New Ferry Mortuary where regular cleansing is carried out by this Department.

Infectious Disease

The number of enquiries made by public health inspectors during the year were slightly higher than last year, a total of 51 visits being made. Disinfection of premises and articles (when found necessary) was carried out by this Department as in previous years.

Pet Shops

The high standard of cleanliness associated with these premises was again noticeable during inspection and no evidence of any ill treatment was noticed.

Factories Acts, 1937 and 1959

The number of factories at the end of the year totalled 160 an overall increase of 7. It still has not been found possible due to other commitments for all factories to be visited during the year.

The following tables show the results of inspections in the form required by the Minister of Labour:—

TABLE XII I. INSPECTIONS FOR PURPOSES OF PROVISIONS AS TO HEALTH

Premises	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	30	35	1	—
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority	110	63	9	—
(iii) Other Premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding outworkers' premises)	20	15	1	—
Total	160	113	11	—

TABLE XII 2. CASES IN WHICH DEFECTS WERE FOUND

Particulars	No. of cases in which defects were found				Number of cases in which prosecutions were instituted
	Found	Remedied	Referred to H.M. Inspector	Referred by H.M. Inspector	
Want of Cleanliness	6	6	—	—	—
Overcrowding	—	—	—	—	—
Unreasonable temperature	—	—	—	—	—
Inadequate ventilation	4	4	—	—	—
Ineffective drainage of floors	—	—	—	—	—
Sanitary Conveniences					
(a) Insufficient	1	1	—	1	—
(b) Unsuitable or defective	6	5	—	2	—
(c) Not separate for sexes	—	—	—	—	—
Other offences against the Act (not including offences relating to Outwork)	1	1	—	—	—
Total	18	17	—	3	—

RODENT CONTROL

Active rodent control measures progressed throughout the year, maintaining the preventive control of infestation and nuisance.

The number of complaints and notifications of surface infestations during the year was 186, a slight increase on the previous year.

It will be noted that there is a considerable apparent increase in the last two horizontal columns, compared with last year, in the table shown relating to treatment and re-treatment of infested properties. This is accounted for by declaring the monthly revisit to an "annual contract job" as a separate treatment. In previous years premises holding an annual contract were deemed to have received the one continuing treatment throughout the year. It is felt that this method of summarising did not truly reflect the exact position relating to treatments and inspections carried out.

It was found impracticable, during the year, to carry out the usual sewer maintenance programme.

Rodent control work in itself may involve a considerable amount of time in careful investigation and survey work by the inspectorial and rodent staff to ascertain probable points of infestation. Results of such endeavours are not often obvious and much can be said in appreciation of their routine work in helping maintain the borough relatively free from rodent nuisance.

Various forms of presentation of bait, all however based on Warfarin poison, were tried during the year together with the use of baiting tunnels. The results from these methods were not as successful as the tried methods of intelligent open baiting with loose ready-mixed Warfarin.

The Committee, towards the end of the year, considered the possibility of treatment of domestic premises as a free service, the current administrative procedure on a rechargeable basis being unjustified against the small amount of revenue received from householders, and accordingly it was agreed that, at the end of the year, the treatment of solely domestic premises on a chargeable basis should cease.

The following statistics indicate the work carried out during 1961 :—

Major Primary	....	Infestation of 20 and over
Minor Secondary	....	Infestation of up to 20

TABLE XIII

	Type of Property				
	Local Authority	Dwelling Houses including Council Houses	All other including Business Premises	Total of Columns 1, 2 & 3	Agricultural
Properties inspected as a result of					
(a) Notification	3	139	40	182	4
(b) Survey under the Act	8	153	47	208	10
(c) Otherwise (when visited primarily for some other purpose)	1	38	21	60	17
Total inspections carried out incl. reinspections	296	1840	1927	4063	78
No. of Properties inspected which were found to be infested by:					
Rats Major	4	8	8	20	1
Minor	2	76	23	101	1
Mice Major	—	—	—	—	—
Minor	—	3	2	5	—

(continued overleaf)

TABLE XIII—continued

No. of infested properties treated by L.A.	77	346	507	930	6
Total treatments carried out inc. re-treatments	138	562	820	1520	9

Types of visits made:—

Dwelling Houses (including Council Houses)	1839
L. A. Property (1) Tips and non agricultural work	146
(2) Sewage Works	69
(3) Other buildings	81
Business (1) Factories and Workplaces	778
Premises (2) Shops	203
(3) Places of Entertainment	56
(4) Cafes and Canteens	—
(5) Licensed Premises....	57
(6) Non-agricultural land	336
Agricultural (1) Market Gardens and Farms	35
Properties (2) Piggeries	28
(3) Agricultural Land	18
Other Authority (1) Schools	277
Properties (2) Hospitals	258
	<u>4,191</u>
No. of Estimates provided	133
No. of Contracts signed	120
Value of Contracts signed	£312/12/-d.

FOOD & DRUGS ACT 1955—FOOD HYGIENE

Last year I commented on the improvement in standards of cleanliness, equipment and construction of food premises in the Borough. This was made possible by advice and encouragement given to the occupiers of food premises by the public health inspectors.

This year has again revealed a high standard and the result of continued co-operation between owners, managements and public health inspectors has proved its worth from the number of requests this Department has received from various retailers for advice.

Now that our smoke control programme is increasing in momentum, it is unfortunate that regular routine inspections of the various food shops during the last few months of the year show a de-

crease, and it is evident that these shops in the coming year will not be visited as regularly.

The control of food poisoning in catering establishments requires constant supervision by both management and this Department, prevention being better than cure. In order to keep up the standard now evident in the Borough it may be found necessary in the coming year to request the Council to consider an increase in staff to enable regular routine visits to be maintained.

It was still noticeable that the smaller establishments tend to require more supervision and persuasion to keep their premises up to the Food Hygiene Regulations standard. This is due in most cases through lack of management and shortage of adequate storage space, resulting in the shop itself being utilised as a part store, thus making efficient cleansing difficult.

The following premises are registered under Section 16 of the Food and Drugs Act:—

For the Sale and Storage of Ice Cream	183
Manufacture of Sausages and Cooked Meat.....	81
Registration of Hawkers under the Cheshire County Council Act, 1953	39

Meat Inspection

I have to report that once again 100% inspection of carcasses and organs has been maintained at the two slaughterhouses in the Borough. This, of course, was only made possible by the working of overtime at week-ends by the public health inspectors.

Confirmation was received from the Minister of Agriculture and Fisheries fixing the 1st October 1961 as the date that both slaughterhouses had to comply with the Slaughterhouse (Hygiene) Regulations 1958 and the Slaughter of Animals (Prevention of Cruelty) Regulations 1958. A substantial amount of work was needed especially in the slaughterhouse occupied by the Riverside Meat Co. Ltd., Hr. Bebington. This work was commenced early in the year, and by the end of the year the majority of the requirements had been carried out.

Particulars of slaughtering at the two private Slaughterhouses S. Edge & Son, New Ferry, and the Riverside Meat Co., Hr. Bebington, are given below:—

It will be noticed that the incidence of tuberculosis shows only a small percentage of cattle affected. This is a reflection on the improvement in dairy farms since all cattle are now required to belong to tuberculin tested herds only. However, it is still noticeable that the disease distomatosis (liver fluke) in livers is still high, resulting in waste and loss of money.

TABLE XIV NEW FERRY

	Cattle Excluding Cows	Cows	Calves	Sheep and Lambs	Pigs	Total
Number killed	97	—	8	811	—	916
Ante-mortem in- spection includ- ing supervision of humane slaughter	97	—	8	811	—	916
Notice of Slaughter rec'd	97	—	8	811	—	916
Emergency notifi- cations	97	—	8	811	—	916
Post-mortem in- spection	97	—	8	811	—	916
Tuberculosis only						
Whole carcasses condemned	—	—	—	—	—	—
Carcasses of which some part or organ was con- demned	—	—	—	—	—	—
Percentage of number affected	—	—	—	—	—	—
All diseases except Tuberculosis						
Whole carcasses condemned	—	—	—	—	—	—
Carcasses of which some part or organ was con- demned	11	—	—	57	—	68
Percentage of number affected	11.3%	—	—	7.02%	—	7.4%

HR. BEBINGTON

Number killed	1063	99	4	8091	1972	11229
Ante-mortem in- spection includ- ing supervision of humane slaughter	1063	99	4	8091	1972	11229
Notice of Slaughter rec'd	1063	99	4	8091	1972	11229
Emergency notifi- cations	1063	99	4	8091	1972	11229
Post-mortem in- spection	1063	99	4	8091	1972	11229

(continued)

TABLE XIV—HR. BEBINGTON—*continued*

	Cattle Excluding Cows	Cows	Calves	Sheep and Lambs	Pigs	Total
Tuberculosis only						
Whole carcasses condemned	1	—	—	—	—	1
Carcases of which some part or organ was con- demned	21	1	—	—	30	52
Percentage of the number affected	2.06%	1.01%	—	—	1.5%	0.47%
All diseases except Tuberculosis						
Whole carcasses condemned	—	—	—	5	4	9
Carcases of which some part or organ was con- demned	517	61	3	711	488	1680
Percentage of the number affected	48.6%	61.6%	75%	8.89%	19.8%	—

Other Condemned Food

TABLE XV

The following table indicates tinned and other goods found to be unsound during visits to canteens, warehouses and shops. The condemned goods were disposed of in the local authority Tip under the supervision of the inspector concerned.

1347 tins of Meat	4 boxes of Cherries
17 tins of Fruit	292 pkts. of Royal Dessert
20 tins of Soup	38 pkts. of Suet
7 tins of Milk	541 pkts. of Soup
90 tins of Vegetables	27 pkts. of Lemon Chiffon
5 tins of Fish	4 pkts of Caramel Dessert
209 pkts. of Frozen Peas	4 pkts. of Tangerine Dessert
85 pkts. of Frozen Beans	4 pkts. of Strawberry Dessert
75 pkts of Frozen Chicken & Turkey Pie	24 pkts of Royal Chiffon
111 pkts of Steak & Kidney & Beef Pie	17 pkts of Pie Fillings
27 pkts of Chip Potato	20344 pkts. of Potato Crisps (from a warehouse damaged by damp)
2 cases of S. African Pears	15 jars of Sunny Spread Peas
10 lbs. Lambs Liver	30 lbs. of Shoulder Steak

Disposal of Unsound Food

Meat and offal from the Hr. Bebington slaughterhouse is stained with a vegetable dye under the supervision of the meat inspector and is removed by collectors in a locked van.

Meat and offal from the New Ferry slaughterhouse is likewise stained before removal by this Department for incineration.

MILK (SPECIAL DESIGNATIONS) (RAW MILK) REGULATIONS 1949

MILK (SPECIAL DESIGNATIONS) (PASTEURISED AND STERILISED MILK) REGULATIONS 1949

The number of licences issued under the above Regulations during 1961 is as follows:—

Tuberculin Tested Milk: 53 Dealers

Pasteurised Milk: 56 Dealers

Sterilised Milk: 39 Dealers

and show a slight increase over the figures for 1960.

No figures are shown for supplementary dealer's licences for the year. The 1961 Regulations discontinue such licences.

SAMPLES OF MILK FOR BIOLOGICAL AND BACTERIOLOGICAL TESTS

TABLE XVI

Tests for Tuberculous Milk and Brucella Infested Milk

Source	Designation	No. of Samples	Satisfactory	Not satisfactory
Shops, Dairies, Schools and Vending Machines	Tuberculin Tested	31	30	1
Roundsmens Vehicles	Tuberculin Tested	8	8	—

In the instance of the milk infected with Brucellosis, notification was made as required to the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries & Food and to the County Medical Officer of Health.

TABLE XVII**Tests for Keeping Quality**

Information concerning the testing of milk for good keeping quality by means of the prescribed tests.

Source	Designation	No. of Samples	Satisfactory	Not satisfactory
Shops, Dairies, Schools and Vending Machines	T.T.	31	28	3
ditto	Pasteurised	22	21	1
Roundsmens Vehicles	T.T.	8	5	3
ditto	Pasteurised	8	7	1

In the cases of the 6 unsatisfactory Tuberculin Tested milks shown at 1 and 3 these were producer milks and were referred to the County Health Officer for investigation: one was, however, taken from a vending machine (since removed from the Borough) and unless such machines are replenished daily with fresh milk, keeping quality is less reliable.

The incidence of 2 samples of Pasteurised Milk failing the prescribed tests were referred to the processing dairies concerned, and also to the local health authority for the area.

TABLE XVIII**Tests for adequate Pasteurisation or Sterilisation**

Table shows details of prescribed tests for efficient pasteurisation and sterilisation of milk :—

Source	Designation	No. of Samples	Satisfactory	Not Satisfactory
Shops, Dairies, Schools and Vending Machines	Tuberculin Tested	22	22	—
ditto	Sterilised	5	5	—
Roundsmens Vehicles	Pasteurised	8	7	1
ditto	Pasteurised	5	5	—

The one milk declared unsatisfactory was, in fact, virtually a raw milk. The processing dairy was *immediately* notified, and the local authority in whose area the dairy is situated was also advised. Pasteurising plant overhauled and records checked.

BACTERIOLOGICAL EXAMINATION OF ICE CREAM

During the year 27 samples of Ice Cream/Ice Lollies were sampled and subjected to the prescribed test (Methylene Blue Test) at the Public Health Laboratory.

Results :

22 samples were graded I	}	Satisfactory
3 " " " " II		
1 sample was graded III	}	Unsatisfactory
1 " " " " IV		

The Grade III sample was obtained from an Ice Cream vehicle based outside the Borough; the vehicle operator was instructed in correct sterilisation techniques, the Ice Cream manufacturers' vehicle owners were advised on the congested conditions in the particular vehicle, and the appropriate local authority were notified of the sample result. Subsequent samples from the Company's vehicles have proved satisfactory.

The Grade IV referred to an Ice Lolly sample from a frozen food conservator. Advice given to retailer on storage methods, and local authority of manufacturer advised of result. Further sample to be taken.

TABLE XIX

BACTERIOLOGICAL EXAMINATION OF FOODSTUFFS IN GENERAL

During 1961, 64 samples of miscellaneous foods were taken and submitted for bacteriological routine examination.

Sample	Number Taken	Satisfactory	Unsatisfactory
Meat Pie	8	6	2
Desiccated Coconut	4	4	—
Custard Tart	6	6	—
Meat and Potato Pie	1	1	—
Minced Beef	4	—	4
Pork Pie	5	5	—
Cream Bun	1	1	—
Chocolate Lollipop	1	1	—
Coltsfoot Rock	1	1	—
Custard Cake	1	1	—
Cream Doughnuts	5	5	—
Fine Coconut	1	1	—
Egg Albumen	1	1	—
Frozen Whole Hen Egg	1	1	—

Irish Stew	1	1	—
Corned Beef	1	1	—
Coconut Cakes	3	3	—
Kraft Cheese	1	1	—
Croquette (Meat)	1	1	—
Salmon Spread	1	—	1
Beef Spread	1	—	1
Chocolate Eclairs	1	1	—
Boiled Ham	2	2	—
Ox Tongues	2	2	—
Drinking Chocolate	1	1	—
Pork Luncheon Meat	1	1	—
Pink Salmon	1	1	—
Bacon Rolls	1	1	—
Raw Minced Meat	4	4	—
Meringue	1	1	—
Cream Trifle	1	1	—
	—	—	—
	64	56	8
	—	—	—

In the case of the unsatisfactory samples of 2 meat pies, one showed bacterial contamination of a non-specific nature, whilst the other was contaminated with evidence of faecal coliforms: the retailer concerned decided to discontinue the sale of these pies from his premises. Subsequent examination of these food-stuffs have, however, proved satisfactory.

Minced beef examined showed evidence of faecal contamination. No great significance should, however, be attached to this finding since in the circumstances of raw meat production such contamination is sometimes inevitable, and such meat is almost always pre-cooked by the consumer to afford adequate protection.

The salmon and beef spreads sampled were considered "susceptible" foods owing to the nature of the food itself, circumstances of storage and sales exposure at the retailer's premises.

Both samples were contaminated with faecal coliforms: these matters were taken up with the local authority of the manufacturers and a sampling programme on these foods was carried out by the local authority officers over a period of time with reasonably satisfactory results.

Advice and guidance on food hygiene and practice was also given to retailers.

The following table refers to specimens and samples taken in connection with suspected food poisoning and associated cases.

TABLE XX

Type	No. Taken	Result
Faeces	380	311 Negative
		28 Shigella Sonne
		16 Salmonella Heidelberg
		25 Salmonella Typhimurium

PUBLIC SWIMMING BATHS

There are two public swimming baths in the Borough, one at Shorefields, New Ferry adjoining the River and owned by the Corporation, and the other a private swimming bath where the public are admitted and situated in Port Sunlight, owned by Lever Brothers.

The New Ferry bath is of open air type, 110 yards x 30 yards with a million gallon capacity. The source of water is by mains supply from the West Cheshire Water Board. Treatment is by continuous circulation, filtration through rapid gravity sand filters, and chlorination with a 12 hourly water change-over.

The swimming bath at Port Sunlight is also open air type, circular in shape, 30 yards across with a capacity for 165,000 gallons. The water is supplied from wells in Lever Brothers Factory. Here it is steam heated and pumped direct to the bath. There is continuous circulation and chlorination and sediment filtration, and the water has a change-over every twelve hours. The bath is emptied regularly once a week and scrubbed down.

TABLE XXI
SWIMMING BATH WATER

Bacteriological Sampling

16 samples were taken from Port Sunlight, New Ferry and Clatterbridge (private pool).

Results of examination

	<i>Number Taken</i>	<i>Satisfactory</i>	<i>Unsatisfactory</i>
New Ferry Baths	6	5	1
Port Sunlight Baths	8	8	—
Clatterbridge Swimming Pool	2	2	—

BACTERIOLOGICAL AND CHEMICAL EXAMINATION OF TAP WATER

During the year 4 samples of tap water for drinking purposes were taken and all reported satisfactory.

FOOD AND DRUG SAMPLING

Nature, Substance and Quality

TABLE XXII

The following shows the number and type of foods purchased by the Inspectors and analysed by the Public Analyst.

Article	No. of samples of each article examined			No. of Samples of each article regarded as adulterated		
	Formal	Informal	Total	Formal	Informal	Total
Almonds (Ground)	—	1	1	—	—	—
Butter	—	2	2	—	2	2
Blackcurrant Health Drink	—	1	1	—	—	—
Confectionery (Cakes, etc.)	—	1	1	—	—	—
Confectionery (Sweets, etc.)	—	8	8	—	—	—
Lemon Juice	—	1	1	—	—	—
Soft Drinks	—	3	3	—	—	—
Milk	4	69	73	—	6	6
Anchovy fillets in Olive Oil	—	1	1	—	—	—
Apples	—	2	2	—	—	—
Beef and Butter (potted)	—	1	1	—	—	—
Brandy	1	—	1	—	—	—
Breakfast Grill	—	1	1	—	—	—
Cabbage	—	1	1	—	—	—
Casserole (Beef and Vegetable)	—	1	1	—	—	—
Cauliflower	—	1	1	—	—	—
Cheese and Bacon Spread	—	1	1	—	—	—
Chili-con-Carne	—	1	1	—	—	—
Coffee (fresh black)	—	1	1	—	—	—
Tussibron Cold Mixture	—	1	1	—	—	—
Compound Syrup of Hypophosphites	—	1	1	—	—	—
Smokols	—	2	2	—	1	1
Java Crackers	—	1	1	—	—	—
Double Cream	—	1	1	—	—	—
Cucumber	—	1	1	—	—	—
Epsom Salts	—	1	1	—	—	—
Gin	2	—	2	—	—	—
Glycerine, Lemon and Honey	—	2	2	—	1	1
Glycerine of Thymol	—	1	1	—	—	—
Ice Cream	—	5	5	—	—	—
Ice Lollies	—	3	3	—	1	1
Jelly	—	1	1	—	—	—
Cough Linctus	—	2	2	—	—	—
Luncheon Meat	—	1	1	—	—	—
Marzipan	—	1	1	—	—	—
Meatless Steak in rich gravy	—	1	1	—	—	—
Mentholated Balsalm	—	1	1	—	—	—
Meringue	—	1	1	—	—	—
Mushrooms (tinned)	—	1	1	—	—	—
Pate de foie truffe	—	1	1	—	—	—
Pears	—	2	2	—	—	—
Peps	—	1	1	—	—	—
Plums	—	1	1	—	—	—
Pudding (Mixed Fruit)	—	1	1	—	—	—

TABLE XXII—continued

Article	No. of samples of each article examined			No. of samples of each article regarded as adulterated		
	Formal	Informal	Total	Formal	Informal	Total
Ricory	—	1	1	—	—	—
Rum	1	—	1	—	—	—
Sauce (Soy)	—	1	1	—	—	—
Sausage (liver)	—	1	1	—	—	—
Soup (Chicken Noodle)	—	1	1	—	—	—
Stewed Steak	—	1	1	—	—	—
Tomatoes	—	1	1	—	—	—
Tomato Catsup	—	1	1	—	—	—
Whisky	1	—	1	—	—	—
TOTALS	9	138	147	—	11	11

		Milk Fat	Non Fatty Solids	Water
Milk Average for the year ...	...	3.6%	8.75%	87.65%
Legal minimum standard ....	...	3.0%	8.5%	—
Channel Island Milk Average for year ... ..	...	4.9%	9.3%	85.62%
Legal minimum standard ...	...	4.0%	8.5%	

TABLE XXIII

Details of Samples Adulterated or Below Standard:

Sample No.	Article	Formal or Informal	Nature of Adulteration	Action Taken
1	Butter	Informal	Butter containing rancid butter fat	Not due to the presence of foreign fats. These butter samples and all other similarly affected butter were voluntarily surrendered by retailer concerned
2	Butter	Informal		
3	Channel Island Milk	Informal	10% deficient in milk fat	Formal sample taken proved genuine
4	Milk	Informal	Sub-standard but genuine milk deficient in solids not fat to the extent of 2.3%	Farmer/producer advised. Further sample genuine

continued

TABLE XIII—*continued*

Sample No.	Article	Formal or Informal	Nature of Adulteration	Action taken
5	Glycerine, Lemon and Honey	Informal	Sample did not conform with declared ingredients. Label did not conform to the Pharmacy and Poisons Act	Manufacturing chemist informed. Stocks withdrawn pending revision of working formulae. Label to be corrected. Further sample declared satisfactory
6	Milk	Informal	Substandard but genuine milk deficient in solids not fat to the extent of 2.3%	Farmer/producer advised
7	Channel Isle Milk	Informal	Deficient in fat to the extent of 5.0%	Formal sample taken and proved genuine
8	Channel Isle Milk	Informal	Deficient in fat to the extent of 7.5%	Formal sample taken and proved genuine
9	Iced Lolly	Informal	Minor infringement of the Labelling of Food Order	Manufacturers advised. Infringement declared by analyst to be un-important to purchaser
10	Milk	Informal	Milk deficient in fat to the extent of 11.6%	Formal sample taken and proved genuine
11	Smokols	Informal	Proprietary medicine containing an excess of alum, B.P.	Wholesalers and manufacturing chemists notified re this adulterated sample. Error in manufacture confirmed. All tablets belonging to adulterated batch withdrawn from stockists.

Two special types of sampling were undertaken during the year at the request of the Public Analyst—

1. Fruits and vegetables (other than root crops) for determination of evidence of pesticide or insecticide residues.
2. Iced Lollipops for determination of excess acidity, possibly causing erosion of children's teeth

The information contained from the results of the analyses are to be considered on a national basis by a Joint Advisory Committee.

Action taken under the Food and Drugs Act and Milk and Dairies (General) Regulations, 1959

1. Foreign matter in Chocolate Coated Nuts	.....	Confectioner warned
2. Foreign matter in Loaf of Bread	.....	Confectioner warned
3. Foreign body in bottle of School Milk	.....	Wholesalers warned
4. Foreign body in bottle of School Milk	.....	Wholesalers warned
5. Foreign body of bottle of Milk	.....	Wholesalers warned
6. Dirty bottle of School Milk	.....	Wholesalers warned

HEATING APPARATUS (FIREGUARDS) ACT, 1952

No offences under this Act have been observed and no complaints received.

SHOPS ACT, 1950

YOUNG PERSONS EMPLOYMENT ACT, 1938

The Chief Public Health Inspector who is Chief Inspector under the above mentioned Acts, reports as follows:—

Administration

This concerns (a) hours of employment of young persons, (b) facilities for meals, (c) provision of seats for female assistants, (d) hours of closing, Sunday Trading, and (e) provision and maintenance of sanitary accommodation, washing facilities, light, ventilation and temperature.

A total of 547 visits were made during normal working hours apart from those made during the evenings and on Sundays.

During the year the following notices were served :—

Failure to provide :—

Sufficient means of maintaining a suitable temperature	3
--	-------	---

Failure to maintain :—

Suitable and sufficient temperature	.....	5
Suitable and sufficient sanitary conveniences	.....	20

Warnings were given in regard to the following offences :—

Assistants Half Holiday Notice not exhibited	.....	1
Mixed Business Notices not provided (Half Holiday)	.....	26
" " " " (Sunday)	.....	10

Shops open illegally on Sunday	7
Shops open after Closing Hours for serving customers (Half Day)	3
Shop open for serving customers after normal Closing Hours	1

A noticeable feature during last year was the tendency for the small general shop to remain open on the statutory Half Holiday and Sunday for the sale of non-exempted goods. Special observations on a number of shops have been necessary since it became apparent that shopkeepers were disregarding the Shops Act legislation in regard to the closing, and selling of certain goods.

It is appreciated that shopkeepers have difficulties in deciding whether an article is for refreshment or otherwise, but as the law stands it is their responsibility to enquire from the buyer, if in doubt, whether the article is for refreshment or not. This position is most unsatisfactory especially when it is known that any goods can be sold from mobile shops and vending machines.

CHESHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

BEBINGTON DIVISIONAL HEALTH COMMITTEE

ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE
DIVISIONAL
MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH
(F. S. MELVILLE, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.)

FOR THE YEAR

1961

Divisional Health Office,
Town Hall,
BEBINGTON.
Cheshire.
29th June, 1962

CHESHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

BEBINGTON DIVISIONAL HEALTH COMMITTEE

Representing Bebington Borough Council

Chairman: Alderman Mrs. E. WILLIAMS

Deputy Chairman: Councillor Mrs. B. E. GILL, J.P.

Aldermen:

H. P. LONG
R. WILLIAMS

Councillors:

R. D. DIXON
R. EVANS
H. GARNER
G. E. GLOVER
Mrs. H. G. HEBRON
J. P. MERNOCK
Mrs. S. A. PRICE
W. WEDGEWOOD

Representing Cheshire County Council

County Alderman Miss B. E. WILSON, J.P.

County Councillor G. BEARDSWORTH, O.B.E., J.P.

County Councillor J. HARRIS

Ex Officio Members

County Alderman G. ASTBURY, J.P.

County Alderman F. McBIRNIE

Representative Members

J. H. WILLIAMS, Esq.

Dr. B. CARRUTHERS

A. F. DRAKE, Esq.

J. J. BROWN, ESQ.

Mrs. V. LAMB

J. H. SPEED, Esq.

Mrs. M. GITTINS

A. L. RADCLIFFE, Esq.

Representing

Bebington Divisional Executive for Education.

County Palatine of Chester Local Medical Committee

County Palatine of Chester Local Dental Committee

Central Wirral Hospital Management Committee

Wirral Society for Mentally Handicapped Children

Bebington Old People's Welfare Committee

<i>Divisional Medical Officer and School Medical Officer</i>	F. S. Melville, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.
<i>Clerk to the Divisional Health Committee</i>	G. Chappell, O.B.E., LL.B.
<i>Assistant County Medical Officers</i>	Jessie Tough, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H. M. V. Jukes
<i>Dental Surgeons</i>	Mrs. B. Petrie, L.D.S. (To July 61) M. K. Baron, L.D.S. A. Allen, L.D.S. (From 1.9.61)
<i>Chief Clerk</i>	W. R. Turner
<i>Clerical Staff</i>	Mrs. E. Bieniek Mrs. P. W. Jones Miss N. Mackey Miss H. Stanley Mrs. E. Davies (To 1.8.61) <i>Temporary</i> Mrs. D. Jacks
<i>Health Visitors</i>	Miss E. Nicholson Miss R. E. Abraham Miss E. M. Wright Miss B. Shepherd Mrs. M. F. Cordon Miss D. V. Stamper Miss D. Cadogan, Mrs. J. O. Pace
<i>Home Nurses</i>	Miss M. G. Griffiths Miss F. Baughan Mrs. M. R. Heatley Mrs. A. Thompson Mrs. F. E. Harrison Mrs. A. Holesak Mrs. E. Kelly E. Cochrane
<i>Midwives</i>	Mrs. C. R. Green Mrs. A. Harwood Mrs. D. Clarke Miss B. A. Rimmer (From 1.1.61)
<i>Senior Mental Welfare Officer</i>	E. M. Harborow
<i>Mental Welfare Officers</i>	Mrs. C. Ledsome E. S. Hughes
<i>Matron, Day Nursery (Bromborough)</i>	Mrs. F. G. Davies, S.R.N.
<i>Supervisor, Junior Training Centre</i>	Miss I. J. Young
<i>Domestic Help Supervisor</i>	Miss E. Shepherd (From 24.8.61)
<i>Speech Therapist</i>	Miss K. E. Jones, L.C.S.T. (To Aug. 61)

<i>Chest Physician</i>	D. W. C. Tough, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.
<i>Gynaecologist</i>	M. M. Datnow, M.D., F.R.C.S., F.R.C.O.G.
<i>Orthopaedic Surgeon</i>		G. A. Wetherell, M.Ch., Orth., F.R.C.S.
<i>Ophthalmic Surgeon</i>		P. J. Devlin, M.B., Ch.B., D.O.M.S.
<i>Paediatrician</i>	K. R. Llewellyn, M.R.C.P., D.C.H.

TO THE CHAIRMAN AND MEMBERS OF THE BEBINGTON DIVISIONAL HEALTH COMMITTEE

Madam Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have pleasure in submitting to you the Annual Report for the year 1961.

The year has seen a steady advance in the field of immunisation and vaccination. Vaccination against poliomyelitis with the parenteral Salk vaccine was continued and as can be seen in the report a very large proportion of the child population has been vaccinated. During the year those children between 5 and 12 years were offered a fourth dose although that side of the programme had to be suspended because of difficulties in supplies of vaccine.

Liverpool had a campaign of mass vaccination in the early summer which happened to coincide with cases of the disease and this gave quite a boost to the numbers of adults vaccinated but it is quite impossible to assess how many as few records of those done outside the Borough have been received.

Arrangements were made during the year with Clatterbridge Hospital to try to ensure that all those casualties who having at the time of injury been given anti-tetanic serum were subsequently actively immunised against tetanus. This is an extremely vital matter as many people become sensitive to anti-tetanic serum and have severe and occasionally fatal reactions if it is given again subsequently because of another injury and active immunisation obviates this danger. In addition to this the hospital was asked to enquire from the health department if a child brought in to Casualty who should, because of the nature of the injury, be protected against tetanus had in fact been immunised against it before considering giving anti-tetanic serum.

The Day Nursery had its most successful year and gives some indication of the number of mothers of young children who are going out to work. Equally if not more important are only children of 3 years or over who need more social contacts. There is a very great need for nursery school places in Bebington and there seems to be some good arguments for postponing formal school education to the age of seven and replacing the infant schools with nursery schools for the 3 to 7 year age group. This need not imply more buildings or teachers as it would probably be better for this age group to attend school for half days only anyway.

Ten years ago in 1951 the population of this division was 47,300. At that time there were seven health visitors and a school nurse, now there are eight health visitors but as they share the duties of the school nurse there is now the same number of nurses to deal with the overall work of the young. Therefore, in 1951 there was the equivalent of one health visitor to 5,900 of the population. In 1961 there is one to 6,500. The total births in 1951 were 679, in 1961—915, an increase of 35%. In 1951 the health visitors made about 200 visits to aged, chronic sick, and handicapped and in 1961 some 1,800 visits to the same classes, a ninefold increase

in that side of the work. Health visitors now have additional duties at the paediatric clinic, geriatric clinic, the handicapped persons club, young children's clinics and hearing clinics—none of these existed in 1951. The concept of a health visitors duties has changed considerably since the National Health Service Act and she is now expected to cover a much wider field but her primary function is an educational one and to perform this satisfactorily she must have time. This division would not be over-staffed by any reasonable criteria if it had twelve health visitors, this would still be one to over 4,000 of the population. I must put on record that the present staff have never complained to me and one would need to go a very long way to find more willing, cheerful, hardworking and enthusiastic workers.

I would like to thank all the divisional staff, for their keenness and efficiency throughout the year.

I would also like to thank the County Medical Officer and his staff, the general practitioners in the area, the staffs of Clatterbridge Hospital, the County Children's Department and County Welfare Department for all the help they have given me during the year and to thank the Chairman and members of the Divisional Health Committee for their continued keen interest and help.

F. S. MELVILLE,

Divisional Medical Officer.

Town Hall,
BEBINGTON.
29th June, 1962.

NATIONAL HEALTH SERVICE ACT, 1946

HEALTH SERVICES ADMINISTERED AND MANAGED BY THE
DIVISIONAL HEALTH COMMITTEE IN ACCORDANCE WITH
THE TERMS OF THE COUNTY COUNCIL'S DIVISIONAL HEALTH
ADMINISTRATION SCHEME, 1948

Section 22—Care of Mothers and Young Children

(i) Day Nursery

The average daily attendance was 33.6. This is the highest figure ever achieved in the Bromborough Nursery and demonstrates forcibly the need for such accommodation in a light industrial area.

The number of priority cases fell slightly from the previous year.

TABLE I

AVERAGE DAILY ATTENDANCES

Year	New Ferry	Bromborough
1949	34.5	26.1
1950	32.9	27.7
1951	32.2	25.1
1952	29.5	23.1
1953	Closed	21.3
1954		24.7
1955		21.2
1956		23.5
1957		21.8
1958		23.6
1959		19.8
1960		27.1
1961		33.6

TABLE II

MONTH	Total children on Register	No. of priority cases	TYPE OF PRIORITY CASE					
			Illegitimate child	Parents Separated	Widow	Widower	Mother in Hospital	Illness at home of mother
January	35	9	2	3	1	1	1	1
February	35	9	2	3	1	1	2	-
March	35	10	2	4	1	1	1	1
April	35	9	1	4	1	1	1	1
May	35	11	2	4	2	1	1	1
June	35	11	2	4	2	1	-	2
July	35	12	2	4	2	-	-	4
August	35	12	2	6	2	-	-	2
September	35	12	1	8	2	-	-	1
October	35	10	1	5	2	-	-	2
November	35	11	1	7	2	-	-	1
December	35	11	1	7	2	-	-	1

Table III shows attendances made during the year:—

TABLE III

	0—2 years	2—5 years	Total
January	93	555	648
February	105	517	622
March	155	606	761
April	114	492	606
May	126	566	692
June	125	584	709
July	136	566	702
August	73	262	335
September	123	453	576
October	109	588	697
November	128	591	719
December	92	429	521
	<hr/> 1379	<hr/> 6209	<hr/> 7588
Average daily attendance	6.1	27.5	33.6

(ii) **Mothers' Clinics**

(a) **Ante-Natal and Post-Natal**

Combined ante-natal and post-natal clinics are held at the New Ferry Welfare Centre on Monday and Friday mornings where the mothers are examined by the consultant obstetrician and where advice and education on maternity and infant care is given by the health visitors.

TABLE IV

	Sessions	New Cases	Total Attendances
Ante-Natal } 97	72	528	
Post-Natal } 2	27		

(b) **Preparation Class**

This clinic, started in 1958, continued to run successfully every Thursday afternoon at New Ferry Welfare Centre and has been very well attended. It is run by a Health Visitor and a Physiotherapist. Ideally the midwives should also be in attendance but unfortunately they do not have the time at present to get there very often.

Talks and demonstrations to these mothers have included the following subjects, objects of Preparation and Relaxation Classes, preparation of the mind, anatomy, mechanism of labour, diet, good nutrition, vitamins, general hygiene, care

of breasts, clothing, teeth, feet, varicose veins, exercise, simple ailments, Rh factor, breast feeding, artificial feeding, types of feeding, bottles, teats, equipment, sterilisation, bathing baby, washing nappies and baby clothes, gas and air, suitable clothing for mother and baby.

The 66% increase in the number of new cases shows that the work of this clinic is becoming more and more appreciated by the general practitioners and the patients.

Table V gives the attendances made during the year—

TABLE V			Total
	Sessions	New Cases	Attendances
Preparation Class	51	134	832

(iii) Infant Welfare Clinics

There is one ad hoc clinic in the borough at New Ferry where an infant welfare clinic is held each Wednesday afternoon. In addition there are weekly infant welfare clinics held in rented premises at the Mayer Hall, Bebington; St. David's Presbyterian Church Hall, Eastham; Bromborough Council Offices; Victoria Hall, Higher Bebington. It was reported last year that attendances at the Thornton Hough clinic had fallen so low that it had been decided to hold a clinic there only once per month. However, it was found during the current year that there was a demand for this clinic and the fortnightly sessions were restored.

During the year 8,184 attendances were made as compared to 8,907 in 1960 and 8,674 in 1959.

TABLE VI

Total attendances, new cases and numbers seen by the doctor at infant welfare clinics during 1961:—

	Attendances		New Cases		Number seen by doctor	Sessions
	Under 1 year	1—5 years	Under 1 yr.	1—5 years		
New Ferry	1235	174	111	2	313	51
Eastham	1300	109	148	2	262	48
Hr. Bebington	1484	125	134	—	567	51
Bromborough	1782	230	153	19	428	51
Lr. Bebington	1247	155	103	4	371	50
T. Hough	274	69	22	—	89	22
	7322	862	671	27	2030	273
	8184		698			

(iv) **Young Children's Clinics**

A routine inspection of children yearly on or about their birthday is invaluable for the early detection of physical defects such as deafness, adenoids, squints, minor orthopaedic defects, feeding and sleeping difficulties, and is also invaluable for imparting such simple health education principles as home safety, nutrition, exercise and the various needs of the child before going to school. Such clinics are held once monthly at New Ferry Welfare Centre; St. David's Presbyterian Church Hall, Eastham; Bromborough Council Offices and Mayer Hall, Bebington.

Table VII gives the figures of attendance—

TABLE VII

Clinic	Sessions	Attendances
New Ferry	9	93
Eastham	12	188
Bromborough	11	181
Lr. Bebington	11	116

(v) **Special Clinics and Ancillary Services**

(a) **Orthopaedic Clinic**

The orthopaedic specialist has a consultative clinic fortnightly at New Ferry Welfare Centre. This is a combined clinic for pre-school and school children. During 1961 there were seventeen sessions when 489 attendances were made by children of all ages, 95 of whom were new cases. Corresponding figures for 1960 were sessions 20, attendances 410, new cases 76.

(b) **Physiotherapy**

A physiotherapist attended New Ferry clinic starting in January and continuing till August but since then it has been impossible to find someone for this work.

TABLE VIII

	1961	1960
Sessions	28	25
New Cases	9	7
Total attendances	60	94

(c) **"Sunlight"**

It was impossible to find a physiotherapist prepared to give "Sunlight" so no clinics were held during the year.

(d) **Ophthalmic Clinic**

The Ophthalmologist attends New Ferry Welfare Centre monthly to see children under 5 years of age reported to him.

During 1961 he saw 65 new cases and 188 attendances were made as compared with 63 new cases and 205 attendances in 1960.

(e) Ear, Nose and Throat

No ear, nose and throat clinic is held in the local authority premises. Cases are referred directly to Clatterbridge Hospital.

(f) Paediatric

During the year this clinic was augmented so that it is now held every Tuesday morning.

TABLE IX

	1961	1960
Sessions	31	21
New Cases	65	13
Total attendances	241	131

(g) Blood Investigations

Arrangements were made in 1960 with the consultant pathologist to have a laboratory technician in attendance once a month at New Ferry Welfare Centre to investigate young children and mothers referred by the Paediatrician or Obstetrician mainly for blood counts and haemoglobin estimations. This saves the patients a special journey to the hospital and means a considerable saving in time for them.

(h) Hearing Clinics for Young Children

Most of the Health Visitors have now had training in the techniques for detecting deafness in very young children and now hold regular sessions where these children are tested by appointment.

There is an optimum time at which the normal child should begin to talk and if because of deafness of any type he or she cannot appreciate the spoken word and efforts are not made to overcome the deafness and train the speech as soon as possible no subsequent intensive training can compensate so that whilst the total number of deaf children discovered is very small the early detection of deafness is vital.

TABLE X

	New Cases			Re-Tests			Defective		
	0-1	1-2	2-5	0-1	1-2	2-5	0-1	1-2	2-5
New Ferry Welfare Centre	55	153	210	5	11	13	2	1	8
	(418)				(29)			(11)	
Bromborough Clinic	66	48	105	—	1	5	—	—	8
	(219)				(6)			(8)	
Eastham Clinic	83	40	57	2	2	3	1	—	2
	(180)				(7)			(3)	

Table X gives some indication of the work done by the Health Visitors. It will be seen that 22 of the children after testing and re-testing required to be referred further. Of these 22 not one was suffering from any degree of true deafness, they all either required treatment for some other defect in the ear, nose and throat, such as tonsils, catarrh, adenoids, or were mentally handicapped.

(vi) **Branded Infant Foods**

The sale of branded infant foods at child welfare clinics during the year realised £3,188 as compared to £2,398 in 1960.

(vii) **Welfare Foods**

The arrangements made when these became the responsibility of the Local Health Authority during 1954 continued. New Ferry clinic is the main centre and is open for their sale each morning from Monday to Friday between 9 a.m. and 12 noon. In addition there is a clerk in attendance at Bromborough Council Offices on a Thursday morning and these foods are sold at all the infant welfare clinics including New Ferry Welfare Centre on a Wednesday afternoon. In the early summer the government introduced or altered the charges for the vitamin supplements. Cod Liver Oil which had been free to infants became 1/-d. per 6 oz. bottle. Vitamin A & D tablets for infants and expectant mothers became 6d. per packet and Orange Juice went up from 5d. per 6 oz. bottle to 1s. 6d.

As can be seen from the figures this has resulted in a very significant reduction in the uptake of these supplements. Whilst it might be claimed that this is of relative unimportance in so far as Cod Liver Oil is concerned, it may well be that some expectant mothers are not now having the Vitamin A. & D. supplement which they should have. The Orange Juice is now being supplemented by proprietary brands which whilst being excellent in quality tend to have more sugar in them and the vast majority of babies in this country already get far too much sugar in their diet.

During the year 1961 the following Welfare Foods were issued:-

		1961	1960
National Dried Milk	20 oz. tin — 2/4d.	10,794	12,917
Cod Liver Oil	6 oz. bottle—1/-d.	1,775	2,562
Vitamin A & D Tablets	6d.	2,192	2,647
Orange Juice	6 oz. bottle—1/6d.	16,326	24,394

SECTION 23—MIDWIFERY SERVICE

The establishment of midwives for the area remained at four and they attended 169 cases which worked out at an average of 42 each.

I am pleased to report that it has been possible to agree on a more

rational procedure for mothers delivered in hospital. The responsibility for these mothers on discharge on the 9th day or after is assumed directly by the health visitor so avoiding the difficulties of having two persons within three or four days advising the mother and also means that the midwife does not have to try to see and understand a mother and small baby for a short period of three to four days.

The Preparation Classes already mentioned are helping considerably to bolster the mothers confidence in the difficult first two or three weeks.

Births notified to the borough during the year:—

Domiciliary	169
Heathfield Maternity Home	340
Clatterbridge Hospital	304
Outside the Borough	102
Total....	<u>915</u>

SECTION 24—HEALTH VISITING

The establishment of health visitors for the division is eight and during the year this number has been employed.

Routine work in the ante-natal clinics, infant welfare and young children's clinics, specialists clinics in ophthalmology, paediatrics, orthopaedics, has continued as before. A health visitor continues to attend the Geriatric follow-up clinic at Clatterbridge Hospital each week.

In my opinion the ratio of one health visitor/school nurse to every 6,500 of the population is far too low, one to 4,000 would not be considered unreasonable and it would seem to me that with the ever increasing problems of the aged and mental health, in addition to all the other facets of the work, there is a reasonable argument for an increase in the health visiting staff.

Table XI illustrates just how widely the net is cast now in the health visitors work. Whilst by inclination and training the maternity and child welfare service gets pride of place in their work the social care of the whole family comes within their orbit.

TABLE XI

Work done by Health Visitors during 1961

Visits	Primary	875
	Revisits (Infants)	4165
	1—5 years	6502
	School children	430
	Ante-natal	554
	Tuberculosis	361

Domestic Helps	290
After-Care, Aged and Handicapped	1785
Mental Health	59
Special	443
Total	<u>15,464</u>
<i>Attendances at Clinics</i>	631

SECTION 25—HOME NURSING SERVICE

At the end of 1961 seven home nurses including a male nurse were serving residents in the Division who were considered by general practitioners to be in need of home nursing, and the relevant statistics for the year are shown in conjunction with the 1960 figures, which are given in brackets.

New Cases in 1961

645 (540)

Cases referred to hospital

Deaths

Visits paid in 1961

19,378 (17,196)

147 (123)

81 (78)

SECTION 26—VACCINATION and IMMUNISATION

(i) Vaccination against smallpox

512 children under five years of age were vaccinated during 1961. This is only about 56% of the children born in the Borough and is not good enough. It is surprising how short some people's memories can be and undoubtedly many of the parents of the remaining 44% will rush for vaccination of their children if there is any smallpox scare. This in fact is not the ideal time to be vaccinated except for the close contacts of a known case. Inevitably there are more reactions to vaccination during a mass campaign because the large numbers attending force the medical staff to hurry their work.

Although the neighbourhood of a port is likely to be more vulnerable to outbreaks than other areas, in this day of rapid travel no place is immune from the danger of some traveller arriving still in the incubation period of the disease, so that it is important that the whole population should be well vaccinated.

Much exhortation and education is done to encourage parents on this subject. It should be noted that the general practitioners have in fact vaccinated two thirds of the total number done and I would like to put on record my thanks to them for their interest and keenness in this preventive work.

TABLE XII

Primary Vaccination (Smallpox)

	0-4 years	5 years and over
General Practitioners	342	30
Local Authority Clinics	170	6
	<u>512</u>	<u>36</u>

TABLE XIV

Number of children immunised against diphtheria either alone or combined with whooping cough or as triple antigen during 1961.

		Under 5 years	5—14 years	Reinforcing doses
1961	By General Practitioners	417	158	510
	At Local Authority Clinics	288	83	703
1960		705	241	1213
		753	142	716

The figures in this table are taken from the monthly returns and are a true record of the actual immunisations done in the Borough during the year. They do not agree with the figures in Table XIII which is a true record so far as is known of the children still living in the Borough.

The records received of children who have come to live in Bebington from other places are known to be anything but complete, whereas the records of all those leaving the Borough are forwarded to the local health authority of the area in which they have gone to live.

(iii) **Whooping Cough**

Whooping Cough immunisation has been continued throughout the year usually combined with diphtheria and tetanus using the antigen already mentioned.

The comments made about diphtheria immunisation apply equally to whooping cough.

TABLE XV

Number of children inoculated against whooping cough according to year of birth and year of completion of inoculation

		Year of Birth																Total
	1946	1947	1948	1949	1950	1951	1952	1953	1954	1955	1956	1957	1958	1959	1960	1961		
1946	8																8	
1947	240	12															252	
1948	56	246	19														321	
1949	7	33	136	2													178	
1950	3	1	12	76													92	
1951	3	—	5	30	68	2											108	
1952	3	4	2	6	39	73	3										130	
1953	1	1	6	6	5	44	112	10									185	
1954	1	1	7	5	8	13	49	101	9								194	
1955	2	1	2	5	4	6	17	21	74	3							135	
1956	1	2	—	6	2	14	15	12	43	117	36						248	
1957	1	1	—	1	2	4	27	7	24	47	201	83					398	
1958	—	1	3	—	3	3	12	23	3	8	42	354	92				544	
1959	—	1	2	—	6	10	8	34	41	17	17	55	369	154			714	
1960	—	1	6	7	12	5	13	37	99	135	27	29	38	388	200		997	
1961	—	6	—	17	17	30	39	42	67	172	188	27	26	50	326	137	1144	
TOTAL	326	311	200	161	166	204	295	287	360	499	511	548	525	592	526	137	5648	
												2328						

TABLE XVI

Number of children inoculated against whooping cough either alone or combined with diphtheria and tetanus.

		Under 5 years	5—14 years	Reinforcing doses
1961	By General Practitioners	413	73	294
	At Local Authority Clinics	285	85	184
		698	158	478
1960		730	44	307

See remarks under Table XIV.

(iv) Tetanus

It is now a routine part of the immunisation policy to offer inoculation against tetanus in addition to diphtheria and whooping cough. This is in fact given with diphtheria and whooping cough as a triple antigen.

During the year 687 children under 5 years completed this course of triple antigen. These children are included in the respective figures for diphtheria and whooping cough above.

TABLE XVII

Number of children immunised against tetanus either alone or combined with diphtheria and whooping cough during the year.

		Under 5 years	5—14 years	Reinforcing doses
1961	By General Practitioners	408	161	66
	At Local Authority Clinics	297	681	58
		705	842	124
1960		683	131	58

(v) Anterior Poliomyelitis

Table XVIII is a record of the work done during the year but gives little indication of the tremendous amount of work which had to be done by the office staff.

12,210 children under eighteen had received two injections by the end of 1961 which represents about 84% of the population in that age group.

Adults up to the age of 40 are eligible for this vaccination also and it is a most important protection to the individual in early adult life as it is at this age that the disease seems to strike most virulently. The numbers indicated in the table suggest that about 25% of the adult population in this age range have been vaccinated.

TABLE XVIII

No. of persons vaccinated during the year with

	2nd Injection		3rd Injection		4th Injection	
	At Clinic	By G.P.	At Clinic	By G.P.	At Clinic	By G.P.
Children born in the years 1943 to 1961	487	1359	245	735	1650	1661
	1846		980		3311	
Young Persons born in the years 1933 to 1942	35	547	39	159	—	—
	582		198		—	
Persons born before 1933 who have not passed their 40th Birthday	141	1626	184	476	—	—
	1767		660		—	
Others	—	7	1	13	—	—
	7		14		—	

Total number of children (1943/1961) who have received—	two injections	—	12,210
	three injections	—	9,977
	four injections	—	3,311
Total number of persons (1933/1942) who have received—	two injections	—	2,508
	three injections	—	1,871
Total number of persons born before 1933 who have not passed 40th Birthday who have received —	two injections	—	2,635
	three injections	—	1,129

TABLE XIX

Number of children vaccinated against poliomyelitis according to year of birth and year of completion of vaccination.

		Year of Birth																
YEAR OF VACCINATION		1946	1947	1948	1949	1950	1951	1952	1953	1954	1955	1956	1957	1958	1959	1960	Total	
	1958	2	1	4	4	2	4	5	5	7	7	6	1	—	—	—	48	
	1959	459	518	471	432	437	422	432	401	457	454	468	425	156	—	—	5532	
	1960	121	137	110	109	90	102	87	98	109	79	96	157	221	191	—	1707	
	1961	14	25	18	24	22	23	32	28	26	24	36	39	79	297	183	870	
	TOTAL	596	681	603	569	551	551	556	532	599	564	606	622	456	488	183	8157	
	Total Births	875	914	809	706	687	648	651	643	635	663	753	766	772	816	870	11208	

(vi) **B.C.G. Vaccination (Tuberculosis)**

As the number of infectious persons in the country steadily and swiftly decreases due to modern effective treatments and all danger from infected milk has gone because of the rigorous policy of getting all cattle tuberculin tested and the pasteurisation of milk, the number of persons who have never been faced with the infection and who therefore have had no opportunity fortunately, because of its dangers, to obtain an active naturally acquired immunity, has increased. This makes it more important than ever that adolescents approaching the dangerous age in-so-far as tuberculosis is concerned should be vaccinated in their early "teens".

This is a time consuming procedure involving at least three visits to the schools for each batch of children and the head teachers and staff have been most co-operative.

Table XX gives details of numbers vaccinated.

TABLE XX

B.C.G. Vaccination of thirteen year old schoolchildren:—

					1961	1960
1.	Estimated population	....	....	....	845	870
2.	Number of consents	....	....	....	685	754
	% consenting	....	....	....	81.1	86.7
3.	Number of children tuberculin tested	....	....	....	678	697
4.	Number of children tuberculin positive	....	....	....	108	97
	% positive	....	....	....	15.9	13.9
5.	Number of children vaccinated with B.C.G.	....	....	....	570	600
6.	Percentage vaccinated of population	....	....	....	67.5	69

In addition 19 child contacts of cases of tuberculosis were vaccinated by the Chest Physician during the year.

All mothers having their babies in hospital are being encouraged to have them vaccinated early in life and 253 had this done during the year.

SECTION 28—PREVENTION OF ILLNESS, CARE and AFTER-CARE

(a) Tuberculosis

Home visits to tuberculosis patients by health visitors were continued throughout the year and close liaison with the Tuberculosis Officer, Dr. D. W. Tough, was maintained. Nursing equipment was loaned to patients in appropriate cases.

The after-care of tuberculosis has been much simplified because modern methods of treatment ensure that with few exceptions the patients are made fit for work again so much more rapidly that they do

not become the social problem they did when they were hospitalised over long periods in previous years, and after-care visiting by the health visitors is now largely to see that they are indeed maintaining their progress and reporting to the tuberculosis officer regularly.

Whilst after-care may be diminishing somewhat in volume, care and prevention are becoming even more important. Now that the patients are treated effectively and quickly become sputum negative the early detection of cases and prompt isolation is of the utmost importance in still further reducing the number of cases and it is perhaps unfortunate that too many discovered cases are not notified much sooner than they are.

The following table shows the state of the register at the 31st December, 1961, and other relevant figures for the year.

TABLE XXI

Tuberculosis Register at 31st December, 1961

	Male	Female	Total
Pulmonary	189	166	355
Non-pulmonary	14	26	40
	<u>203</u>	<u>192</u>	<u>395</u>
New cases placed on register	Male	Female	Total
Pulmonary	11	10	21
Non-pulmonary	3	—	3
	<u>14</u>	<u>10</u>	<u>24</u>
Cases removed from Register			
Deaths	3	} Total = 12	
Pronounced cured	1		
Left district	7		
Lost sight of	—		
Colonised at Wrenbury	—		
Transfer from non-pulmonary to pulmonary	1		
Contacts referred for examination		53	
Contacts examined		145	
Child contacts vaccinated with B.C.G.		19	
Chalets in use		1	
Visits paid by Health Visitors		361	
		1961	1960
Cases on Register at 31st December		395	383
No. of cases/1,000 population		7.6	7.4
New Cases*		13	20
New Cases/1,000 population		0.2	0.4
Deaths		3	13
Death rate/1,000 population		0.06	0.25

*These are new cases notified for the first time whilst residing in the borough and this figure does not include transfers.

(b) Sick and Aged After-Care Handicapped Persons Club

The number of persons on the club register at 31st December, 1961 was 25 and there was an average attendance of 18 during the year.

I am happy to say that the club has lost one or two members because they have become fit enough to resume full time work and this is of course the ideal conclusion to attendance at such a club, a conclusion which unfortunately only a few can hope to achieve because of their very severe handicaps.

In January 1961 due to the enthusiasm for this club by the participants and the generous help given to it by voluntary workers, in particular the W.V.S., who help both with transport and at the Club, it was possible to hold it weekly instead of fortnightly and it continues to go from strength to strength.

The main aims and objects of the club are to get those who are severely handicapped to have more social contacts, at the same time to encourage them to do more for themselves and ultimately if possible to give them opportunities of doing useful work and feeling that they are part of and making a contribution to the community.

The Club is run by a part time occupational therapist and one of the health visitors.

Chiropody

The Chiropody Service for the aged, handicapped and expectant mothers continues.

Whilst there has been some retraction from the position some years ago when it was claimed that a very large number of the aged were immobile only because of the state of their feet there is no doubt that this service makes life easier to live for many.

TABLE XXII

PLACE OF TREATMENT	CATEGORY					
	OVER 65		PHYSICALLY HANDICAPPED		EXPECTANT MOTHERS	
	No. of patients	No. of treatments	No. of patients	No. of treatments	No. of patients	No. of treatments
Chiropodist's surgery	70	388	1	12	—	—
Home of Patient	192	851	20	82	—	—

Number of cases in which County Council paid full fees — 254

Number of cases in which County Council paid part fees — 29

It will be seen from Table XXII that 212 out of the 283 patients had their treatment at home and this may seem to be rather a large proportion. I am happy to say that it is not because many of these patients are unable to get out and about but only that some of the chiropodists prefer to go to the patient and as they are not charging for this service it is a very useful idea as it is saving these old people 'bus fares and difficulties in keeping appointments.

Geriatric Clinic

The health visitor continued to work at the Geriatric After-Care Clinic at Clatterbridge Hospital, which is held each Thursday afternoon. The number of cases dealt with and attendances are set out in Table XXIII.

This clinic is attended by appointment and the intention of it is to keep those patients who have had treatment and recovered sufficiently to return home, under observation. The health visitor obtains up-to-date reports from the district health visitors of the conditions and conveys this to the geriatrician. He discusses with the health visitor subsequent needs of the patient and she then sees that these are conveyed back to the appropriate person for attention.

This "geriatric health visitor" has forged a valuable link between the hospital services and the local health authority in the catchment area of the hospital to the mutual benefit of the hospital staff, local health authority staff and most importantly to the patients themselves.

TABLE XXIII

	NUMBER OF				
	Patients attended	New Cases	Attendances	Deaths	Discharges
Bebington....	67	35	219	14	4
Other Areas	68	41	167	4	—

Visits made by Health Visitors

1,785 visits were made in 1961 by Health Visitors in connection with the welfare of the chronic sick, including aged and infirm.

Home Nursing Equipment

During the year issues of home nursing equipment on loan totalled 122 and domestic helps were provided in 172 chronic sick cases.

Meals on Wheels

The voluntary "Meals on Wheels" Service run by the Women's

Voluntary Service supplied 9,224 meals to aged and handicapped people during the year.

This is the first complete year in which the W.V.S. have had two vans operating this service and the number of meals served has gone up by 35%. This service is of inestimable value in supporting the nutritions of the aged living at home and ipso facto in prolonging considerably the time that these old people can stay in their own homes, where they want to be, in reasonable health and vigour.

It is rather sad to reflect that in a reasonably well to do community such as Bebington the W.V.S. find it difficult to recruit more volunteer drivers and attendants. In spite of this they maintain this service through hail and snow and never fail their customers and I cannot express too warmly my gratitude to them.

Convalescence

In 1961 convalescence was obtained for one child and seven adults.

Alterations and Adaptations to property

During the year financial assistance was granted in two cases to meet the cost of alterations and adaptations to property occupied by physically handicapped people to help them overcome their difficulties. In one instance a concrete ramp was constructed at the rear door step and in the other case a handrail was fitted to the bathroom wall.

Special Washing Service

Two cases received the special washing service during the year. This service is for laundering of bed clothes and underclothes where a patient is incontinent. The special washing is put in waterproof bags and taken to Clatterbridge Hospital for laundering.

The issue of disposable paper drawsheets has proved to be very useful for the nursing of incontinent bedfast cases.

(c) Health Education

As is indicated previously in the report much health education is carried out at preparation classes for antenatal mothers, infant welfare and young children's clinics, and individually by the staff.

Many film strips have been shown at the preparation classes, Infant Welfare Centres, and at home safety lectures.

Home Safety Committee

The Bebington Voluntary Home Safety Committee continued to work steadily towards educating and informing the public on the dangers and pitfalls in the home and its environs and how to obviate accidents. Members of the Committee gave talks and demonstrations

to many groups including church organisations, parent-teacher associations, St. John's ambulance members, Townswomen's Guilds and old age pensioners clubs.

During National First Aid Week which was from 10th to 17th April press publicity was obtained and other publicity given by letter and poster.

A special exhibit was shown in the Bebington Chamber of Trade tent at the Cheshire Show when a special "quiz" on Falls was the main item. This demonstration loaned by the Royal Society for the Prevention of Accidents consisted of questions for which the onlooker had to select an electric button for the correct answer and he could see how familiar he was with dangers after attempting all the questions.

In addition a film strip was shown on the same subject with a tape recorded commentary.

In July an outdoor exhibit on Water Safety was staged at the Youth Rally held at The Oval, Bebington. Demonstrations on canoeing, swimming, life saving and artificial respiration were given by the British Red Cross cadets and other volunteers in an artificial pond loaned by the Fire Service.

At the Bebington Flower Show in the Mayer Park an exhibit on the same lines as the Cheshire Show but on Burns and Scalds was staged and the Cheshire Fire Service showed their model house on the theme of fire dangers and prevention.

October 30th to November 4th was National Fire Prevention Week as a preliminary send off to a winter's campaign on this subject. Press, poster, leaflet, bookmark and other publicity was pressed and in addition the local fire station was open for inspection and all the clinics were specially visited during that week and the mothers shown film strips and given talks.

MENTAL HEALTH

(a) Staff

The Mental Health section is now staffed by a senior mental welfare officer and two other mental welfare officers, one of whom is a female, for the Wirral.

These mental welfare officers are charged with the care and after-care of the mentally disordered, that is both the mentally ill and the mentally subnormal.

(b) Junior Training Centre

Whilst it would be ungracious not to acknowledge the valuable work done at the premises at St. Mark's Church Hall and gratitude for being allowed to use it for many years it was a memorable step

when this Centre moved into its new custom built premises at Eastham.

These premises have four classrooms one of which is intended for physically-handicapped mentally subnormal children which is not yet in use, a well appointed main hall, fine playing and gardening space, up to date toilet and washing facilities and comfortable staff rooms.

The staff consists of a supervisor, three assistant supervisors and a part-time helper for the dinners. The children and staff get dinner from Grove Street School canteen and these dinners are of a very high standard. Fortunately satisfactory arrangements have been made to convey these dinners to the centre and whilst they may lose a little in transit they are consistently excellent and the canteen staff are to be congratulated on their quality.

During the year the Adult Training Centre was opened at Ellesmere Port and it is hoped that soon there will be no more adults over the age of 16 in the Junior Training Centre.

There were fifty children and adolescents on the register at 31st December, 1961. Their ages ranged from 5—21 years.

The register was made up as follows:—

District	No. of children on register
Bebington	11
Ellesmere Port	19
Heswall	5
Neston	2
Hoylake and West Kirby	9
Irby	2
Willaston	2
	<hr/> 50 <hr/>

SECTION 29—DOMESTIC HELP SERVICE

The demand for domestic help service during 1961 continued to increase and domestic helps were employed for a total of 36,992 hours, which is 1,779 hours more than in 1960.

Health Visitors paid 290 visits to households during the course of the year in connection with applications for the service, and it is very satisfactory to record that no application had to be refused and there was no waiting list.

A part-time domestic help supervisor was appointed during the year sharing duties between Bebington and Deeside divisions and this did help to relieve the health visitors to some extent.

At the end of the year 42 part-time helps were employed, compared with 36 part-time workers at the end of 1960.

The rise in the demand for this service is largely due to the progressively more complete knowledge of the old and handicapped in the borough. Whilst every endeavour is made to keep the number of hours worked in each needy household to a reasonable amount the more who can be helped in this way and the earlier the help is given the longer are they able to enjoy reasonable lives in their own homes and the less demand there is on hostel and hospital beds.

Details of cases provided with domestic help service during the year together with comparative figures for 1960 are as follows:—

TABLE XXIV

	1961		1960	
	Cases	Hours	Cases	Hours
Maternity	22	609	24	750
Tuberculosis	2	782	4	1,244
Chronic sick, including aged and infirm	172	33,112	153	30,696
Others	41	2,489	31	2,523
	<u>237</u>	<u>36,992</u>	<u>212</u>	<u>35,213</u>

The maximum charge to patients for domestic help service was increased from 4/-d. to 4/3d. per hour on the 3rd July, 1961. There is a scale of charges in operation whereby the amount payable is assessed according to the income of the family concerned after deductions are made for rent, rates and personal allowances.

In 66 of the 237 cases provided with help in the year under review the maximum charge was paid.

SCHOOL HEALTH SERVICE

The following information has been supplied by the Principal School Medical Officer in respect of the School Health Service for the year 1961:—

PERIODIC MEDICAL INSPECTIONS

Age Group Inspected	Number of pupils inspected			Physical Condition of pupils inspected		Pupils found to require treatment			No. of pupils having had tonsillectomy		
	Boys	Girls	Total	Satisfactory	Unsatisfactory	For defective vision (excl. squint)	For any of the other conditions recorded in Table E	Total individual pupils	Boys	Girls	Total
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)	(9)	(10)	(11)	(12)
1957 & later	1	1	2	2	—	—	1	1	—	—	—
1956	152	166	318	306	12	—	73	73	6	5	11
1955	133	102	255	230	5	2	28	30	4	5	9
1954	10	5	15	15	—	—	2	2	—	—	—
1953	1	3	4	4	—	1	1	2	—	—	—
1952	62	60	122	114	8	10	17	27	11	7	18
1951	105	125	230	228	2	15	21	36	—	6	6
1950	79	55	134	132	2	12	18	30	1	1	2
1949	30	1	31	31	—	4	—	4	3	—	3
1948	105	—	105	105	—	13	5	18	8	—	8
1947	48	—	48	48	—	15	2	17	2	—	2
1946 & earlier	159	—	159	159	—	32	7	39	8	—	8
Total	885	518	1403	1374	29	104	175	279	43	24	67

Special Inspections and Re-examinations

Number examined	Required treatment	Referred for observation	Number re-examined
537	59	57	416

Number of children inspected for visual acuity 383

Number of parents present at all inspections 1156

Number of children referred for observation only 206

School Clinics

Clinic	Sessions	New Cases	Total attendances	Doctors' Sessions	Cases seen by Doctor
Bromborough	11	42	43	1	1
New Ferry	67	303	543	24	143
	<u>78</u>	<u>345</u>	<u>586</u>	<u>25</u>	<u>144</u>

Children not seen by the Doctor are inspected by the Clinic Nurse.

Specialists Clinics

Clinic	New Cases	Attendances	Glasses recommended
Ophthalmic (New Ferry)	<u>154</u>	<u>963</u>	<u>379</u>
Speech Therapy (Bebington)	<u>14</u>	<u>563</u>	<u>22</u>

Dental Service

No. Inspected	No. Selected	No. Treated	No. of Teeth extracted	No. of Teeth filled
6,943	4,753	1,872	1,910	4,669

Handicapped Pupils

	New Cases	Re-examinations
Blind	—	—
Partially sighted	—	—
Deaf	—	—
Partially deaf	—	1
Delicate	—	4
Diabetic	—	—
E.S.N.	—	—
Epileptic	4	4
Maladjusted	—	—
Physically handicapped	2	4
Speech defect	—	—
	<u>6</u>	<u>13</u>

DEFECTS FOUND IN THE COURSE OF MEDICAL INSPECTION

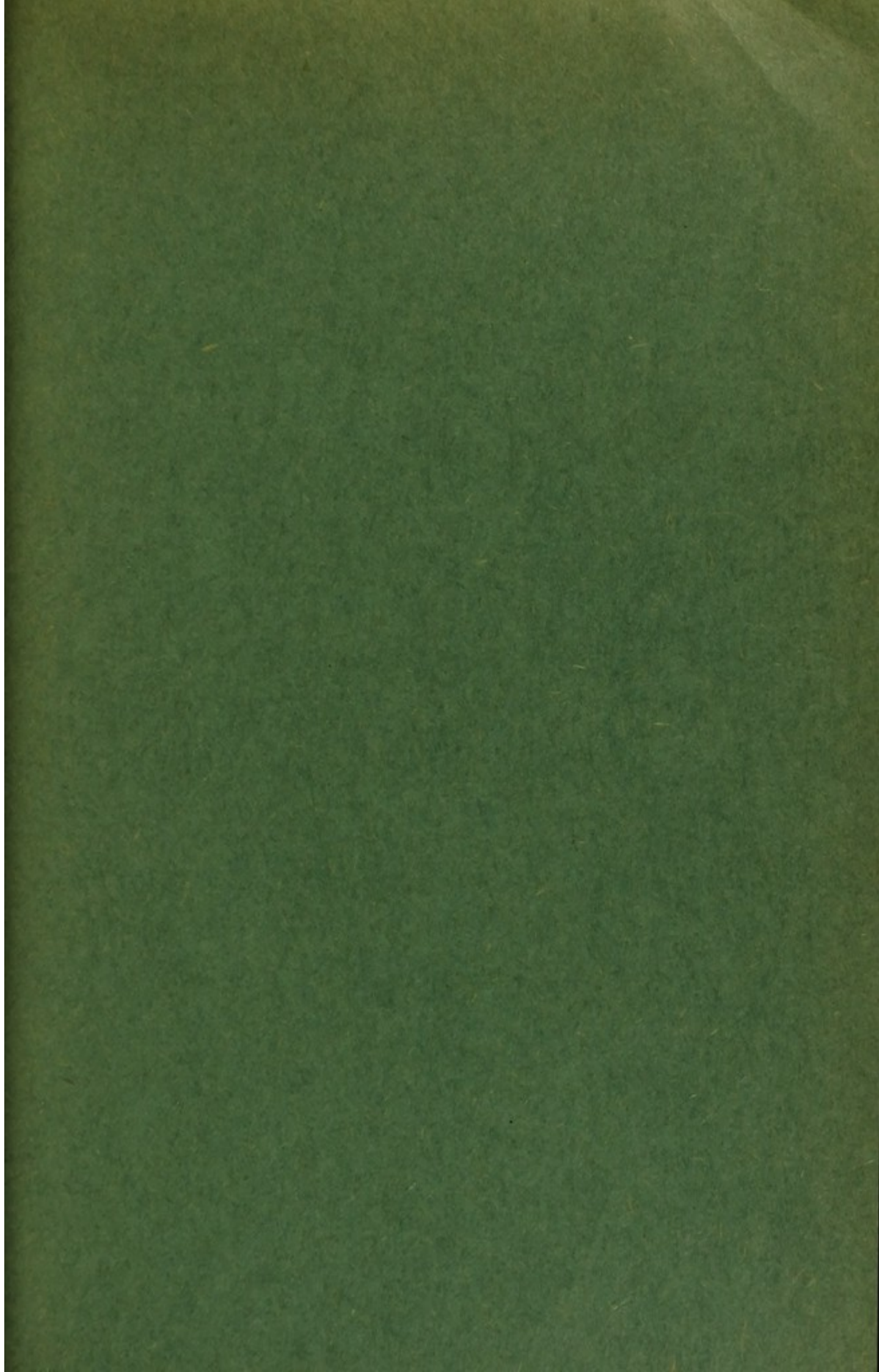
TABLE E

Defect or Disease *	Periodic Inspections								Special Inspec's.	
	No. requiring treatment				No. requiring observation				No. req. treat't	No. req. obs'n
	E	L	I	Total	E	L	I	Total		
1. Cleanliness	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
2. Infestation										
(a) head	1	-	2	3	-	-	-	-	2	-
(b) body	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
3. Teeth	-	-	12	12	-	-	1	1	5	1
4. Skin	17	1	13	31	5	1	2	8	6	1
5. Eyes										
(a) vision	2	32	70	104	2	-	22	24	26	12
(b) squint	5	1	3	9	1	-	3	4	5	4
(c) other	2	-	2	4	-	-	2	2	1	-
6. Ears										
(a) hearing	3	-	4	7	11	-	5	16	3	2
(b) otitis media	-	-	1	1	2	-	2	4	-	-
(c) other	4	-	-	4	2	-	-	2	-	2
7. Nose and Throat	32	-	14	46	66	-	18	84	6	15
8. Speech	1	-	-	1	6	-	1	7	3	2
9. Lymphatic Glands R.	3	-	-	3	9	-	1	10	1	1
" " L.	3	-	-	3	9	-	1	10	1	-
10. Heart	1	2	1	4	3	-	1	4	-	1
11. Lungs	2	-	1	3	13	-	15	28	2	7
12. Developmental:										
(a) hernia	2	-	-	2	-	-	1	1	-	-
(b) other	-	-	-	-	1	-	1	2	-	-
13. Orthopaedic:										
(a) posture	1	1	6	8	-	-	3	3	1	2
(b) feet	19	2	6	27	2	-	3	5	2	3
(c) other	3	-	3	6	4	-	4	8	3	7
14. Nervous System										
(a) epilepsy	1	-	1	2	1	-	1	2	1	1
(b) other	-	-	-	-	2	-	2	4	-	1
15. Psychological:										
(a) development	-	-	-	-	3	-	1	4	-	5
(b) stability	3	-	-	3	10	-	4	14	1	5
16. Abdomen	-	-	1	1	2	-	1	3	1	1
17. Other	20	-	10	30	3	-	1	4	6	1
	125	39	150	314	157	1	96	254	76	74

* E Entrants

L Leavers

I Intermediates and Others



MEEK THOMAS & Co. Ltd.
Leighton Printing Works
NESTON