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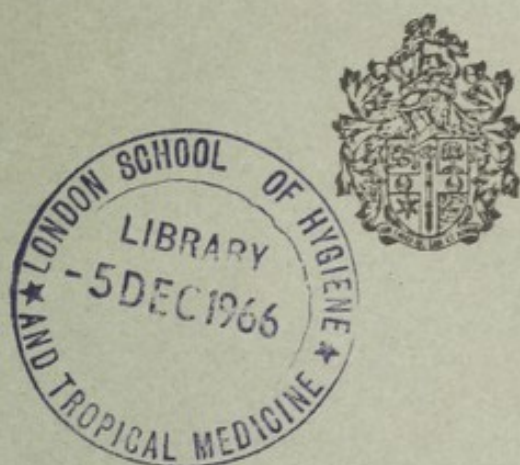
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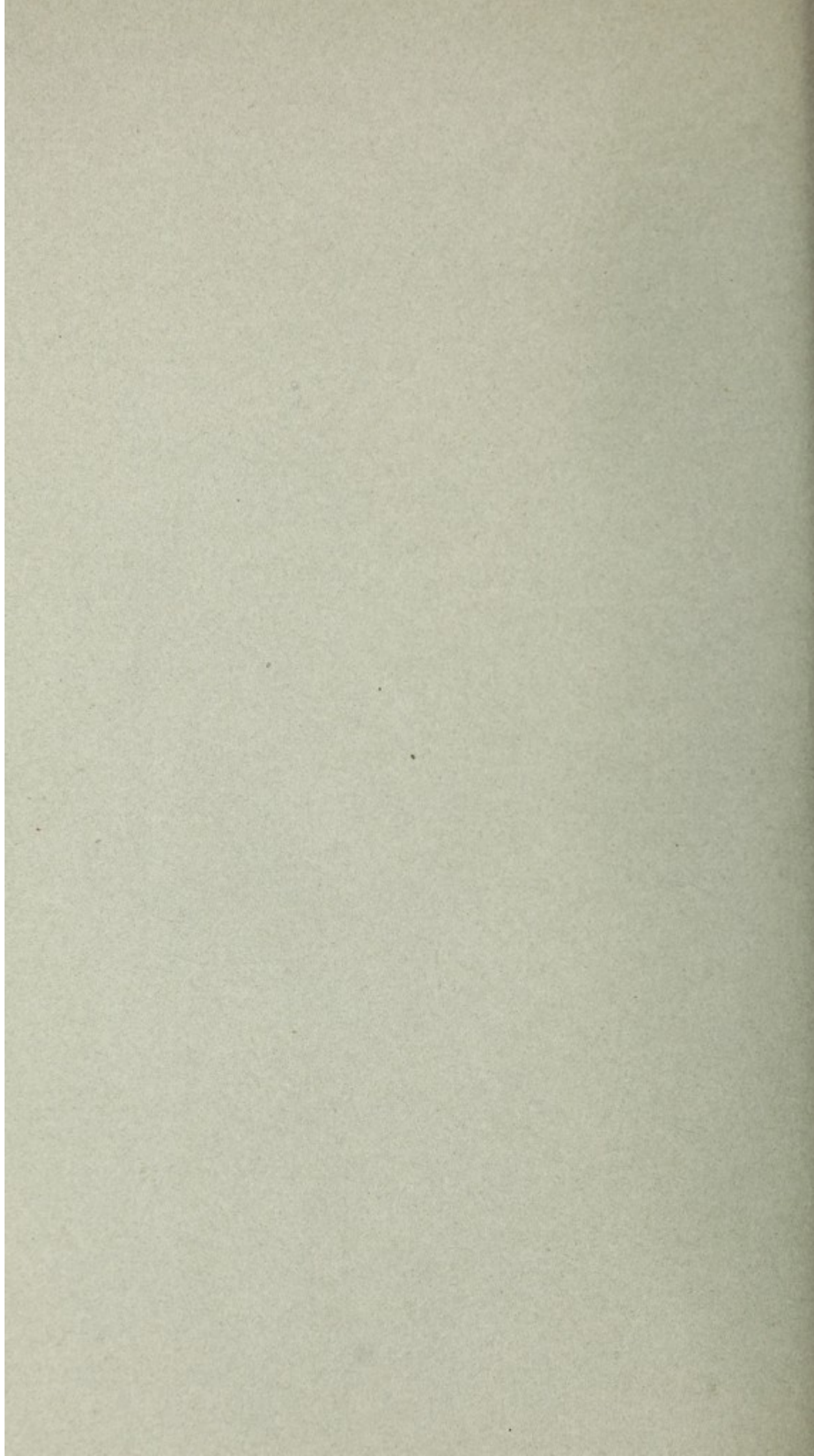
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COUNTY BOROUGH OF BIRKENHEAD



ANNUAL REPORT
OF THE
MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH
FOR
1965

J. W. Lobban. M.A., M.D., D.P.H.



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COUNTY BOROUGH OF BIRKENHEAD

HEALTH COMMITTEE

(As at 31.12.65)

His Worship the Mayor
(Councillor W. Gardner, J.P.)

Chairman :

Alderman Mrs. A.L. Crombleholme

Deputy Chairman :

Councillor P.A. Wilson

Aldermen :

Mrs. E.F. Gardner

H.D. Shakeshaft

J.W. Oates

(Ex-Officio, Chairman of Finance Committee)

H. Platt, O.B.E., J.P.

(Ex-Officio, Chairman of General Purposes Committee)

Councillors :

A.N. Dean

Mrs. M. Ryan

J.E. Evans

R. Pilkington

M.B. Harrop

W.G. Smith

Miss B. Jackson

Co-opted Members :

Mrs. A. Capper

Mrs. A.W. Osborne

Mr. M. Denby

Mrs. C.J. Rimmer

Mrs. P. Jones

Mr. L. Toale

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v
S T A F F

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH :

J.W. Lobban, M.A., M.D., D.P.H.

DEPUTY MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH :

A.H. Wilde, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.

ASSISTANT MEDICAL OFFICERS :

Mary K. Hinchliffe, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.

John C. Hinchliffe, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.

Pamela A. Robertson, M.B., Ch.B., D.Obst. R.C.O.G.

PRINCIPAL DENTAL OFFICER :

F.G. Sutcliffe, L.D.S.

CHIEF PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR AND INSPECTOR

UNDER FOOD AND DRUGS ACT

M. Holgate, M.R.S.H.

CHIEF MEAT INSPECTOR :

T.K. Ward, LL.B. (Lond.), M.R.S.H., M.Inst.M.

SUPERINTENDENT HEALTH VISITOR :

Miss C.M. Jones, S.R.N., S.C.M., H.V.C.

NON-MEDICAL SUPERVISOR OF MIDWIVES AND

SUPERINTENDENT OF HOME NURSING SERVICE

Miss M. Pringle, S.R.N., S.C.M., M.T.D., H.V.C.

LAY ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER :

J.H.H. Shell, D.P.A. (Lond.), M.R.S.H.

TO THE MAYOR, ALDERMEN AND COUNCILLORS
OF THE COUNTY BOROUGH OF BIRKENHEAD :

Mr. Mayor, Ladies and Gentlemen,

The year under review has been one of staff difficulties, particularly on the medical side. One assistant Medical Officer was on sick leave for the last six months of the year. The Deputy Medical Officer of Health was ill for the last quarter of the year. These illnesses produced an increasing burden on the remaining medical staff and it was only by the willing help of the remaining full-time staff and the co-operation of part-time Medical Officers that the work was maintained.

An appreciable time has been taken up in the planning of the proposed new Social Services Centre which at last is nearing fruition. The new Clinic at Prenton promised for November 1965 was unfinished at the end of the year. The Woodchurch Clinic in the Community Centre was opened and in use in April 1965.

I am glad of this opportunity to pay tribute to the work of all members of the Health Department during a difficult year. The interest shown by the Health Committee is a stimulus which encourages the Department.

I am,

Your obedient servant,

J.W. LOBBAN,

Medical Officer of Health.

GENERAL STATISTICSPOPULATION

Registrar General's estimated population									
mid year 1965 .. .. .	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	143,660
Census Population 1961 .. .. .	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	141,683

BIRTHS

	<u>Males</u>	<u>Females</u>	<u>Totals</u>	
Live Births Legitimate	1309	1299	2608	
Illegitimate	104	98	202	2,810
Live Birth Rate per 1,000 population .. .. .	..	..	..	19.5
Comparability factor .. .. .	..	..	..	0.99
Birth Rate as adjusted by factor .. .. .	..	..	..	19.3
Illegitimate live births per cent of total live births				7.1

	<u>Males</u>	<u>Females</u>	<u>Totals</u>	
Still Births Legitimate	20	29	49	
Illegitimate	3	2	5	54
Total live and still births .. .. .	..	..	..	2,864
Still Birth rate per 1,000 total births (live and still)				18.8

DEATHS

Number of deaths:	Males 862)						
	Females 806)	..	..	..	..	..	1,668
Death Rate per 1,000 population .. .. .	..	..	..	..	..	..	11.6
Comparability factor .. .. .	..	..	..	..	..	..	1.11
Death Rate as adjusted by factor .. .. .	..	..	..	..	..	..	12.8

INFANT MORTALITY

Deaths of all infants under one year .. .. .	..	..	..	..	71
Rate per 1,000 total live births .. .. .	..	..	..	..	25.2
Deaths of legitimate infants under one year	..	..	..	..	68
Rate per 1,000 legitimate live births .. .. .	..	..	..	..	26.1
Deaths of illegitimate infants under one year	..	..	..	..	3
Rate per 1,000 illegitimate live births .. .. .	..	..	..	..	14.8

NEONATAL MORTALITY

2

Deaths of infants under four weeks	..	..	..	..	..	48
Rate per 1,000 live births	..	..	..	..	..	17.1

EARLY NEONATAL MORTALITY

Deaths of infants under one week	..	..	..	..	..	40
Rate per 1,000 live births	..	..	..	..	..	14.2

POST NEONATAL MORTALITY

Deaths of infants over four weeks and under one year	..	..	..	..	..	23
Rate per 1,000 live births	..	..	..	..	..	8.1

PERINATAL MORTALITY

Still births and deaths of infants under one week	..	..	..	..	..	94
Rate per 1,000 total births (live and still)	..	..	..	..	..	32.8

MATERNAL MORTALITY

Maternal deaths	..	..	..	..	..	1
Rate per 1,000 total births	..	..	..	..	..	0.34

EXCESS OF BIRTHS OVER DEATHS

..	1,142
----	----	----	----	----	----	-------

GENERAL

Area of Borough (in acres)	..	..	..	..	..	8,643
Number of persons per acre	..	..	..	..	..	16.6
Number of houses in Borough	..	..	..	..	..	42,933
General Rate 1965/66	..	..	..	..	..	10/3d.
Estimated product of a penny rate	..	..	..	..	..	£19,200

DEATHS

1,668 deaths occurred during the year (862 males and 806 females). This represents a death rate of 12.8 per 1,000 population. The comparable death rate for England and Wales is 11.5 per 1,000 population. Recent annual figures are as follows :-

<u>Year</u>	<u>Borough</u>	<u>England & Wales</u>
1953	11.8	11.4
1954	12.7	11.3
1955	13.3	11.7
1956	12.8	11.7
1957	12.7	11.5
1958	13.3	11.7
1959	12.9	11.6
1960	12.9	11.5
1961	14.0	12.0
1962	13.5	11.9
1963	13.8	12.2
1964	12.5	11.3
1965	12.8	11.5

INFANT MORTALITY

There were 71 deaths of children under 1 year of age which represents an infant mortality rate of 25.2 compared with the National average of 19.0.

The causes of death were as follows :-

Pneumonia	13
Congenital malformations	11
Accidents (other than motor vehicle)	9
Gastritis	1
Ulcer of Stomach	1
Infective and Parasitic diseases	1
Other defined and ill defined diseases	35
	<hr/>
	71
	<hr/>

It is disappointing to record 9 deaths as due to accidents. One feels that these deaths are more readily preventable than those deaths due to congenital malformations.

48 or 67% of the deaths occurred in the first 4 weeks of life and 40 or 56% within the first week of life.

The regular case conferences every month at St. Catherine's Hospital have been attended by the Medical Officer of Health or his Deputy. The still births and neonatal deaths are fully discussed by the Hospital medical and nursing staff concerned.

This is found to be most helpful and it is hoped may bear fruit in preventing some of these still births or infant deaths in the future.

Deaths due to Tuberculosis

		<u>Rates per</u> <u>1,000 population</u>	<u>England &</u> <u>Wales</u>
Respiratory	6	0.04	0.042
Non-respiratory	0	0.00	0.006

Deaths due to Cancer of the Lung

The number of deaths was 84 compared with 101 in 1964. The marked disproportion between males and females has continued - 70 males and 14 females have died from this condition.

Recent figures are as follows :-

<u>Year</u>	<u>Males</u>	<u>Females</u>	<u>Total</u>
1954	57	5	62
1955	65	17	82
1956	48	8	56
1957	53	7	60
1958	79	11	90
1959	58	17	75
1960	64	19	83
1961	59	8	67
1962	68	8	76
1963	89	15	104
1964	92	9	101
1965	70	14	84

The local figures represent 0.58 per 1,000 population compared with the National figure of 0.553.

Cancer of Other Sites

216 deaths occurred as a result of cancer of other sites, representing 1.5 per 1,000 population compared with the National figure of 1.674.

Heart Disease

Heart disease accounted for 526 deaths, representing 31% of total deaths. 92 of the 195 deaths due to coronary disease in males were under the age of 65 years.

Pneumonia and Bronchitis

Pneumonia claimed 104 victims, while bronchitis was the cause of death in 85 cases. Together these diseases represented 11.3% of total deaths. 86 of the deaths due to these diseases occurred in the age group 75 years and over.

Maternal Deaths

There was one maternal death during the year.

Accidents

33 deaths occurred as a result of motor vehicle accidents and 45 as a result of other accidents. It is deplorable that 9 accidental deaths occurred in children under 1 year of age.

Altogether 78 deaths were caused by accident, which is an increase of 14 compared with 1964.

Suicide

Fourteen cases of suicide occurred during the year, compared with 15 in 1964.

SUMMARY OF COMPARATIVE STATISTICS

	<u>Birkenhead</u>	<u>England & Wales</u>
Birth Rate (per 1,000 population)	19.3	18.0
Still Birth Rate (per 1,000 total live and still births)	18.8	15.7
Death Rate (per 1,000 population)	12.8	11.5
Infant Mortality Rate (per 1,000 live births)	25.2	19.0
Neonatal Mortality Rate (per 1,000 live births)	17.1	13.0
Deaths from respiratory tuberculosis (per 1,000 population)	0.04	0.042
Deaths from non-respiratory tuberculosis (per 1,000 population)	0.00	0.006
Deaths from Cancer of Lung (per 1,000 population)	0.58	0.553
Deaths from Cancer of other sites (per 1,000 population)	1.5	1.674

CAUSES OF DEATH AT DIFFERENT PERIODS OF LIFE DURING 1965
(as compiled by the Registrar-General)

CAUSE OF DEATH	Sex	Total All Ages	Under 4 weeks	4 weeks and under 1 year	AGE IN YEARS							65-	75 & over
					1-	5-	15-	25-	35-	45-	55-		
1. Tuberculosis, Respiratory	M	6	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	2	2	1
3. Syphilitic Disease	F	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	M	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-
	F	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
9. Other Infective and Parasitic Diseases	M	2	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	F	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
10. Malignant Neoplasm, Stomach	M	22	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	7	9	4
	F	22	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	5	4	7	6
11. Malignant Neoplasm, Lung, Bronchus	M	70	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	7	22	33	5
	F	14	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	5	4	4
12. Malignant Neoplasm, Breast	M	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	F	25	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	7	2	9	6
13. Malignant Neoplasm, Uterus	F	7	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	-	2	2	1
14. Other Malignant and Lymphatic Neoplasms	M	80	-	-	-	1	1	1	2	8	20	26	21
	F	60	-	-	-	1	1	-	3	2	10	15	29
15. Leukaemia, Aleukaemia	M	3	-	-	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	1	-
	F	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1
16. Diabetes	M	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2
	F	10	-	-	-	-	1	-	1	-	-	5	3
17. Vascular Lesions of Nervous System	M	92	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	14	29	43
	F	149	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	2	12	40	94
18. Coronary Disease, Angina	M	195	-	-	-	-	-	-	6	20	66	54	49
	F	144	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	7	16	49	70
19. Hypertension with Heart Disease	M	6	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	3	1	2
	F	13	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	5	7
20. Other Heart Disease	M	66	-	-	-	-	-	-	3	4	11	11	36
	F	103	-	-	-	1	-	-	2	8	7	18	67
21. Other Circulatory Disease	M	31	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	2	7	9	11
	F	41	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	1	4	12	23

INFECTIOUS DISEASE

There was a drop in the number of cases of measles, as was to be expected. Whooping cough also showed a welcome decrease. Cases of scarlet fever remained much about the same number and continue to be of a mild nature. Confirmed cases of dysentery numbered 44, compared with 114 in 1964. There were two cases of typhoid fever and one of paratyphoid fever notified and confirmed during the year. Exhaustive enquiries both in Birkenhead and the immediate neighbourhood failed to reveal the cause of the two cases of typhoid which were unconnected in any way. Similarly, enquiries failed to reveal the source of infection in the case of the paratyphoid fever. No secondary cases arose from these cases of typhoid fever or paratyphoid fever.

SUSPECTED FOOD POISONING CASES AND INFECTIOUS DISEASE CASES ASSOCIATED WITH FOOD AND/OR DRINK

During the year 128 cases of suspected food poisoning and dysentery were notified. Investigations involved 274 visits to patient's houses by the Food and Drugs Inspector and the submission of 304 specimens of faeces for bacteriological examination. In only one case of suspected food poisoning was any suspect food available for examination and there were no pathogenic organisms in the remains.

The causal agent was confirmed in the following number of cases :-

Salmonella typhimurium	..	..	..	..	..	..	6
" infantis	..	..	..	..	..	..	2
" paratyphi B.	..	..	..	..	..	..	2
Clostridium welchii	..	..	..	..	..	..	7
Shigella sonnei	..	..	..	..	..	..	44

The salmonella cases were all in isolated family outbreaks. No foodstuffs could definitely be implicated. The cases of clostridium welchii followed an outbreak in the area of a neighbouring authority. The dysentery cases were all in family outbreaks, and the opportunity was taken to give advice and guidance on personal hygiene when visits were made to the families concerned.

Two cases of typhoid fever were confirmed in patients admitted to hospital. Specimens taken from other members of the families concerned, and from other contacts, were all negative. No particular food could be implicated.

	Meningo- coccal Infection		Scarlet Fever		Diphtheria		Acute Poliomyelitis				Measles		Whooping Cough		Dysentery	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	Paralytic		Non- Paralytic		M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
							M.	F.	M.	F.						
Numbers originally notified	2	2	27	41	-	-	-	-	-	-	366	358	76	60	43	56
Final numbers after correction																
Age under 1 year	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	16	22	9	2	4	-
Age 1	-	-	1	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	61	80	13	5	1	3
Age 2	-	-	1	4	-	-	-	-	-	-	71	54	11	14	3	-
Age 3	-	-	5	4	-	-	-	-	-	-	69	51	14	11	-	5
Age 4	-	-	7	7	-	-	-	-	-	-	56	54	8	5	1	-
Age 5 - 9 years ...	-	-	11	19	-	-	-	-	-	-	88	91	21	19	3	5
Age 10 - 14 years ...	2	1	2	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	4	4	-	1	-	1
Age 15 - 24 years ...	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	-	1	4	3
Age 25 years and over	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	2	3	8
Totals ...	2	2	27	39	-	-	-	-	-	-	366	358	76	60	19	25

	Acute Pri- mary and Influenzal Pneumonia		Enteric or Typhoid Fever		Malaria		Para- Typhoid Fever		Ery- sipelas		Small- pox		Puer- peral Pyrexia	Acute Encephalitis				Food Poison- ing		Ophth- almia Neona- torum	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
Number originally notified	21	23	-	2	-	-	-	1	1	10	-	-	13	-	2	-	-	16	13	-	-
Final numbers after correction																					
Under 5 years	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-
Age 5 - 14 years	2	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	1	1	-	-	-
Age 15 - 44 years	6	8	-	2	-	-	-	1	1	2	-	-	13	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-
Age 45 - 64 years	7	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	5	1	-	-	-
Age 65 and over	5	8	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	6	-	-	-	-	-	-	3	2	-	-	-
Age unknown	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Totals	21	23	-	2	-	-	-	1	1	10	-	-	13	-	1	-	11	4	-	-	-

TUBERCULOSISNotification

There were 50 new cases of tuberculosis notified during 1965, a decrease of 27 on the figure for 1964.

Mortality

There were 6 deaths from tuberculosis during the year, an increase of 2 on the figure for 1964. 15 patients died from other causes.

Tuberculosis Register

The Register shows a decrease of 55 during 1965. 57 cases were added to the Register and 112 were removed for various reasons. Of the latter figure 23 died, 80 were recovered, 34 left the Borough and 1 was lost sight of. Of the 57 cases added to the Register 7 were inward transfers and 50 were primary notifications.

	Adults	Children (under 15 years)	Total
Respiratory - Male	552	49	601
- Female	412	46	458
Non-respiratory - Male	21	34	55
- Female	54	30	84
Totals - Male	573	83	656
- Female	466	76	542
Grand Total	1039	159	1198
1964	1086	165	1251

Department	Not Passed		Deferred for further examination	Passed for:						Recommended for Premature Retiral	Examination for:				Special Examinations	Totals
	Service	Superannuation		Service	Service and Superannuation	Service, Superannuation & Driving P.S.V.'s	Superannuation	Teaching Appointments	Entry into Teacher's Training Colleges		Driving P.S.V.'s	Work in Mersey Tunnel	Tar Cancer	Disablement		
Architect	1	-	-	13	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	14
Baths	1	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	5
Borough Valuer	-	-	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2
Cleansing	73	3	6	10	37	-	25	38	109	1	-	7	-	-	1	131
Education	157	1	1	41	41	-	8	-	-	1	-	-	4	-	7	358
Engineer & Surveyor	26	1	1	3	3	-	5	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	1	80
Fire and Ambulance	3	-	-	49	49	-	4	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	1	10
Health	19	-	1	7	3	-	7	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	2	80
Housing	1	-	1	15	15	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	11
Libraries	1	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	16
Municipal Buildings	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
Other Authorities	-	-	-	3	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	3
Parks & Cemeteries	20	1	2	2	11	-	6	-	-	3	-	-	-	-	1	35
Police	2	-	-	5	5	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	14
Probation Service	-	-	-	14	14	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	5
Town Clerk	-	-	-	80	80	-	8	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	14
Transport & Ferries	28	1	7	23	23	183	2	-	-	7	40	-	-	1	15	377
Treasurer	1	-	-	4	4	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	28
Weights and Measures Works	45	2	4	5	5	-	33	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	3	52
TOTALS	16	9	22	385	321	183	100	38	109	13	40	7	4	1	33	1281

GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES

MEDICAL EXAMINATIONS

Details of the various medical examinations carried out by the Medical Staff for other Corporation Departments will be found in the preceding table.

CREMATIONS

The Medical Officer of Health is Medical Referee to the Landican Crematorium, and the Deputy Medical Officer of Health and an Assistant Medical Officer of Health act as his deputies. During 1965, 2,581 cremations took place, compared with 2,520 in 1964.

FLUORIDATION OF WATER SUPPLIES

During the year the Council renewed its consideration of this question in the light of the pronouncements issued by the Ministry of Health. Despite the advice circulated by the Minister, the Council decided not to recommend to the Wirral Water Board that a scheme for the fluoridation of drinking water in the Borough should be introduced. This decision was in conformity with that taken in January 1964.

CHIROPODY SERVICE

Following the prolonged indisposition of Mrs. G.A. Willmer, President of the Birkenhead District Nursing Society, which had been administering the Chiropody Service in the Borough, early in the year the Society asked the Local Health Authority to take over the service. Accordingly, from the 1st April, 1965, the Health Department has operated the service as a direct function.

The Authority took the opportunity of introducing from that date a simple form of financial assessment and revised the charges payable by the patients in accordance with the following table :-

<u>Single Persons</u>	<u>Married Couples</u>	<u>Cost Payable by Patient per Treatment</u>
(1) If in receipt of National Assistance; or other Income not exceeding £5. 0. 0. per week.	If in receipt of National Assistance; or other Income not exceeding £8. 0. 0. per week.	Free treatment
(2) Income exceeding £5. 0. 0. per week but not exceeding £7. 0. 0. per week.	Income exceeding £8. 0. 0. per week but not exceeding £11. 0. 0. per week.	2/6d.

Single PersonsMarried CouplesCost Payable by
Patient per
Treatment

(3) Income exceeding
£7. 0. 0. per week but
not exceeding £9. 0. 0.
per week.

Income exceeding
£11. 0. 0. per week
but not exceeding
£14. 0. 0. per week.

5/-d.

(4) Income exceeding
£9. 0. 0. per week.

Income exceeding
£14. 0. 0. per week.

Not eligible
under the
scheme.

The following classes of patient remain eligible for treatment under the scheme :-

- (1) Persons of either sex over 65 years of age;
- (2) Handicapped persons of all ages;
- (3) Expectant mothers.

Initially the Authority has continued the service as previously operated by the voluntary organisation under which treatments are given by chiropodists in private practice on a fee-per-treatment basis.

The following statistics show the number and type of persons for whom treatment has been provided. I am indebted to the Honorary Treasurer of the Society for the figures in respect of the period from 1961 - 1964 inclusive, and for the first quarter of the calendar year 1965 :-

YEAR	PLACE OF TREATMENT				TOTAL		NUMBERS (INCLUDED IN COLS. (2) TO (7) INCLUSIVE) OF FREE CASES AND TREATMENTS	
	Chiropodist's Surgery		Home of Patient					
	Cases	Treatments	Cases	Treatments	Cases	Treatments	Cases	Treatments
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)	(9)
*1961	1400 *	9396	315 *	1917	1715 *	11313	25 *	177
1962	1220 *	8403	300 *	1845	1520 *	10248	400 *	2842
1963	1300 *	9069	350 *	2329	1650 *	11398	600 *	4260
1964	1400 *	10371	480 *	2966	1880 *	13337	870 *	6005
1965	1210 +	8947	546 +	3107	1756 +	12054	1415	8041

x Figures for full calendar year although Corporation grants only started from 1st April, 1961.

* Estimated figures only.

+ As at 31st December, 1965.

Chiropody PATIENTS on Register as at 31st December :-
(No figures available before 1965).

Table 1.

Year (1)	Aged 65 and Over (2)	Handicapped Persons Under 65			Expectant Mothers (6)	Grand Total (7)
		Blind (3)	Other Physical Handicap (4)	Total (5)		
1965	1712	10	34	44	Nil	1756

Table 2.

Year (1)	Patients receiving DOMICILIARY Treatments			Patients receiving SURGERY Treatments			Total Patients receiving Treatment		
	Free (2)	@ 2/6 (3)	@ 5/- (4)	Total (5)	Free (6)	@ 2/6 (7)	@ 5/- (8)	Total (9)	Grand Total (13)
1965	459	53	34	546	956	170	84	1210	1756

Table 3.

Chiropody TREATMENTS given during year :-

Year (1)	Domiciliary Treatments				Surgery Treatments				Totals			
	Free (2)	@ 2/6 (3)	@ 5/- (4)	Total (5)	Free (6)	@ 2/6 (7)	@ 5/- (8)	Total (9)	Free (10)	@ 2/6 (11)	@ 5/- (12)	Grand Total (13)
1965	2231	791	85	3107	5810	2833	304	8947	8041	3624	389	12054

ACCIDENTAL POISONING

Concern is felt in the Health Department about the high numbers of poisoning or suspected poisoning in children in the Borough.

This anxiety is shared by the Medical Staff of the Children's Hospital and by the Hospital Management Committee.

It is felt that the widest publicity should be given in the hope that improvement may result. As will be seen from the statistics which have been supplied by the Children's Hospital, 150 children under the age of 11 were dealt with at the Hospital during 1965. 132 of the 150 were between the ages of 1 - 4 years. The necessary treatment often involving a stomach washout is frightening to a child, apart from the alarm of being rushed to hospital in an ambulance. It is fortunate that fatalities are infrequent, but nevertheless the risk to life is always present and indeed the possibility of chronic illness.

Parents are asked to exercise every possible care by locking up medicines and drugs and keeping domestic fluids, e.g., bleach, out of reach of children. This is not a problem in Birkenhead only, as the Pharmaceutical Society has viewed it with such concern that a national exhibition is being displayed in various regions of the country. This must be backed by local efforts keeping this problem constantly in the minds of parents.

Children's Hospital - Poisoning Cases treated during the year ended 31st December, 1965, compared with the year 1964

	<u>1965</u>	<u>1964</u>
<u>Total Number of Poisoning Cases treated:</u>	<u>150</u>	<u>175</u>
<u>Age Incidence:</u>		
Birth to 1 year	6	5
1 year to 2 years	43	53
2 years to 3 years	56	60
3 " to 4 "	32	32
4 " to 5 "	5	12
5 " to 8 "	5	5
8 " to 11 "	3	-
8 " to 12 "	-	5
12 " and over	-	3

1965 1964

Nature of Poisoning:

Drugs or Medicines	95	107
Domestic Items	55	68

Main Drug:

Aspirin	46	43
---------	----	----

Main Poisoning by

Domestic Items:

Bleach and Disinfectants	24	25
Paraffin and Turpentine	13	9
Polishes	3	7
Cosmetics	7	4
Alcohol	-	3
Laburnum Seeds	-	9
Mistletoe Berries	-	1
Mice, Rat and Fly Poisons	6	-
Other domestic substances	2	10

Means by which Poisons were obtained:

Left lying loose in house, i.e. tables, drawers, mantelpiece, shelves, cupboards, etc.	88	128
Obtained from handbags	2	5
Obtained from other persons	5	10
Plant poisons taken from lanes or woods	-	11
Found in streets and old properties	5	-
Details not known	50	21

INCIDENCE OF BLINDNESS

The total number of Registered Blind Persons on 31st December, 1965, was 387 (138 males and 249 females). On the corresponding date in 1964 there were 371 (144 males and 227 females). New cases during 1965 numbered 62 (14 males and 48 females). Inward transfers numbered 6 (2 males and 4 females).

Deaths, and transfers to other areas accounted for the deletion of 52 names (22 males and 30 females).

The number of registered Partially Sighted Persons on 31st December, 1965, was 95 (40 males and 55 females). The corresponding figures for 1964 were 89 (37 males and 52 females). Additions to this register during 1965 were 23 (7 males and 16 females). Deaths, removals from the Borough, and transfers to the Blind Register, numbered 20 (5 males and 15 females). There were 3 inward transfers (1 male and 2 females).

Of the 387 registered Blind Persons 211 (57 males and 154 females) are over the age of 70, and of the Partially Sighted 46 (14 males and 32 females) are over 70.

There are 9 blind (3 males and 6 females) and 5 partially sighted children (2 males and 3 females) under 16 years of age.

Blind and partially sighted persons in employment number 51 (41 males and 10 females respectively).

During 1965, 126 examinations were carried out by ophthalmic surgeons - 86 first examinations, and 40 re-examinations.

The cause of blindness in the 62 new cases was as follows :-

Cataract	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	13
Glaucoma	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	13
Congenital, myopic and other defects	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	36

The partially sighted persons notified in the same period were :-

Cataract	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	6
Glaucoma	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	3
Other defects	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	14

A. Follow-up of Registered Blind and Partially Sighted Persons.

- (i) Number of cases registered during the Year in respect of which Para. 7 (c) of Form B.D. 8 recommends:

(a) No Treatment

(b) Treatment (medical, surgical or optical)

- (ii) Number of cases at (i)(b) above which on follow-up action have received treatment.

	Cause of Disability		
	Cataract	Glaucoma	Others
(a) No Treatment	9	6	28
(b) Treatment (medical, surgical or optical)	10	10	22
(ii) Number of cases at (i)(b) above which on follow-up action have received treatment.	4	8	13

B. Ophthalmia Neonatorum.

Ophthalmia Neonatorum cases - Nil.

Retrolental Fibroplasia cases - Nil.

The new Preston Clinic was transferred to the new purpose-built premises in the Community Centre, Carlisle, on 31st April, 1965.

The new Preston Clinic was commenced in 1962 and it is hoped it will be in full use early in 1966. The extension of the Community Centre at Thirlwall will be completed early in 1966 also.

As will be seen from the table of attendances there has been an increase in total attendances and only a slight drop in the number seen by the medical officers. The figure for 1965, however, is still practically 2,000 more than in 1963.

Health education activities and Mothercraft teaching have been continued at the same level as in the previous year.

No. of Sessions	No. seen by doctor	Total attendances		Infant Welfare Centre
		Visits	Referrals	
1964	918	2912	2744	2368
1965	908	3100	2819	2387
Thirlwall	153	604	604	38
Preston	60	101	101	101
Woodhouse	10	10	10	10
Upton	10	10	10	10
Balla Road	10	10	10	10
Central	100	200	200	200
South	173	708	692	286
North	173	4904	4447	457

CARE OF MOTHERS AND YOUNG CHILDREN

INFANT WELFARE CENTRES

At the end of the year, Infant Welfare Centres were open as follows :-

Central Clinic	Monday & Wednesday	2 - 4 p.m.
South Clinic	Monday, Tuesday & Wednesday	2 - 4 p.m.
North Clinic	Wednesday & Thursday	2 - 4 p.m.
Balls Road Clinic	Thursday & Friday	2 - 4 p.m.
Upton Clinic	Tuesday & Friday	2 - 4 p.m.
Woodchurch Clinic	Monday & Wednesday	2 - 4 p.m.
Prenton Clinic	Monday & Thursday	2 - 4 p.m.
Thingwall Clinic	Friday	2 - 4 p.m.

Woodchurch Clinic was transferred to the new purpose-built premises in the Community Centre, Carrbridge Road on 5th April, 1965.

The new Prenton Clinic was commenced in 1965 and it is hoped it will be in full use early in 1966. The extension of the Community Centre at Thingwall will be completed early in 1966 also.

As will be seen from the table of attendances there has been an increase in total attendances and only a slight drop in the number seen by the medical officers. The figure for 1965, however, is still practically 2,000 more than in 1963.

Health education activities and Mothercraft teaching have continued at the centres.

Infant Welfare Centre	Total attendances		Total Visits	No. seen by Doctor	No. of Sessions held
	1st Visits	Re-Visits			
North	457	4447	4904	1642	104
South	586	6492	7078	2287	153
Central	313	2596	2909	690	100
Balls Road	413	4257	4670	1823	102
Upton	225	3522	3747	1024	101
Woodchurch	194	1951	2145	775	86
Prenton	161	3604	3765	691	98
Thingwall	38	1750	1788	153	49
Total 1965	2387	28619	31006	9085	793
1964	2368	27544	29912	9168	680

DENTAL TREATMENT

By arrangement with the Education Committee, expectant and nursing mothers and children under five years of age can receive dental treatment by the School Dental Staff at the School Dental Clinic. During the year dental care was provided as follows :-

	Examined	Treated	Fill-ings	Extract-ions	General Anaesthetics	Dentures provided
Expectant & Nursing Mothers	11	9	23	10	-	5
Children under 5	147	131	36	211	117	-

DAY NURSERIES

The following table shows the attendances during the year.

Name of Nursery	Capacity	No. on register at end of the year		Average daily attendances during the year	
		0-2	2-5	0-2	2-5
Cavendish Road	25 places	9	12	7	13
Old Chester Road	25 places	8	14	5	9

NURSING HOMES REGISTRATION - PUBLIC HEALTH ACT, 1936 - SECTION 187

At the end of the year there were two Nursing Homes registered in the Borough.

The Nursing Homes are inspected periodically by Medical Officers of the Health Department.

CARE OF PREMATURE INFANTS

During the year 216 premature babies were born. 22 were still-born and 194 born alive. 170 were born in hospital, and 24 at home. 4 of the babies born at home were transferred to the Premature Baby Unit for nursing. All premature infants are the subject of particular attention by Midwives and Health Visitors and are included in the "At Risk" register.

CONVALESCENT TREATMENT

4 children under 5 years of age were recommended for convalescent treatment during the year.

VOLUNTARY AGENCIES ASSISTED BY LOCAL AUTHORITY

(a) St. Elizabeth's Convent

No. of attendances during the year

123 1st Visits 2055 Re-Visits

(b) Birkenhead and District Mothers' Welfare Clinic

Of the 914 new patients given advice at the clinic during the year 349 were residents of the Birkenhead Borough.

WELFARE FOODS

The issue of welfare foods on behalf of the Ministry of Health continues from the ten distribution centres but sales have again decreased.

Other authorities share this experience and it is evident that more children are being given proprietary milk foods and vitamin products.

"AT RISK" REGISTER

The Ministry of Health asked Health Departments to keep a register of "at risk" babies born each year. The schedule of "risk" groups prepared by Dr. Sheridan of the Ministry of Health has been in use by hospitals and General Practitioners.

The medical staff of hospitals in the town and the General Practitioners give whole-hearted support and a comprehensive register has been established. The register is kept under regular review in order to keep it up to date.

During the year 473 new cases were registered and 507 were removed after review leaving a total of 305 at 31st December, 1965, compared with 339 at 31st December, 1964.

INCIDENCE OF CONGENITAL ABNORMALITIES

The Registrar-General requires monthly returns of congenital abnormalities detected at birth and to ensure that such information is submitted in respect of each child born in the Borough an entry has been inserted on the birth notification cards 'was any congenital abnormality detected at birth?' and when the answer is in the affirmative a form is sent to the Doctor in charge of the case for insertion of all the information required by the Registrar-General.

A register is kept of all children suffering from congenital abnormalities (whether detected at birth or later) and this register is kept under constant review. During the year 28 new cases were registered, 2 taken off register due to death or removal from the district, 23 were transferred to the list of handicapped pupils on reaching two years of age. At 31st December there were 45 children on the register.

DAY CARE OF CHILDREN

NURSERIES AND CHILD MINDERS REGULATION ACT, 1948

At the end of the year there were two private nurseries and two child minders registered under the Act.

Several play-groups have been formed and whilst registration is not required strictly, it is felt by the Health Committee that some form of registration or notification should be made. This is to enable advice and help to be given and some supervision.

Indeed, the Health Committee expressed the wish that this matter be taken up with the Association of Municipal Corporations. It is understood that in addition to the Association of Municipal Corporations the County Councils Association is equally perturbed about the need to control and supervise the numerous play-groups which are being formed. The practice locally is to encourage the fullest information to be given to the Health Department by those organising such play-groups. Friendly advice and co-operation is extended, and in default of more definite legal requirements it is felt that something is being achieved.

All registered premises are the subject of periodic visits by medical staff in addition to the visits of the Health Visitors for the area.

MIDWIFERY SERVICENUMBER OF MIDWIVES

During the year, 64 Midwives gave notice of their intention to practise in the Borough :-

Municipal Midwives	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	17
Private Midwives	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1
Midwives in Hospitals and Institutions	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	46
Midwives in Nursing Homes	.	..	..	..	..	..	..	-
								—
								64
								—

SUPERVISION

During the sickness absence of the Non-Medical Supervisor, the administration of the Midwifery Service was carried out most capably and efficiently by Mrs. Evans, who normally acts as Deputy.

Inspection of Midwives:

Visits to Midwives' homes	..	..	..	..	..	..	24
Office Interviews	..	..	..	..	..	..	480

Pupil Midwives:

Supervision of nursings	..	..	..	..	..	..	194
Supervision of deliveries	..	..	..	..	..	..	12
Lecture Sessions	..	..	..	..	..	..	27

Miscellaneous Visits:

Cases requiring medical aid	..	..	..	..	..	..	103
Cases of puerperal pyrexia	..	..	..	..	..	..	-
Cases of still birth	..	..	..	..	..	..	3
Expectant mothers	..	..	..	..	..	..	48
Visits to Ante-Natal Clinics	.	..	..	..	..	..	152
**Visits to Relaxation Clinics	.	..	..	..	..	..	96

** The above figures include both the Acting Non-Medical Supervisor's visits and those paid by other Midwives.

NUMBER OF CASES ATTENDED BY MIDWIVES - 623

The number was 623 of which 549 were attended by Midwives alone (in 1964 there were 873 cases of which 755 were attended by Midwives alone).

CASES REQUIRING MEDICAL AID

164 cases were notified by Municipal Midwives in which medical aid had been called, as compared with 281 in 1964.

NOTIFICATIONS RECEIVED FROM MIDWIVES

Still births	3
Liability to be a source of infection	4
Laying out of a dead body	3
Baby deaths	1

MUNICIPAL MIDWIVES

The following is a summary of the work of the Municipal Midwives during the year :-

	1965	1964
No. of bookings	779	1096
No. of births attended		
(a) Doctor present	74)	118)
(b) Doctor not present	549) 623	755) 873
Administration of gas and air analgesia	471	658
Administration of pethidine	399	506
Total visits paid to patients	25229	28612

OPHTHALMIA NEONATORUM

No case was notified.

ADMISSION TO HOSPITAL ON SOCIAL GROUNDS AND EARLY DISCHARGE

In view of the fact that there is now a Planned Early Discharge System in operation, the number of requests for admission to hospital on social grounds has altered appreciably. The number of requests for early discharge prior to the normal ten days has shown a very marked increase over last year. 1,380 requests were made during the year for early discharge, and of this number 1,080 patients were discharged prior to the tenth day of puerperium. 52% of these were discharged within 48 hours of delivery. Although a large number of visits to these early discharge patients have been carried out by part-time Midwives, the full-time Midwives have undertaken a proportion of these visits.

ESTABLISHMENT

During the year, one Midwife had maternity leave and her place was taken by a temporary full-time Midwife. A second temporary full-time Midwife was appointed to replace Mrs. Evans during the time she was undertaking the work of the Non-Medical Supervisor. Two Midwives have resigned to take up other duties, and one has retired from active full-time midwifery; all have been replaced.

DISTRICT MIDWIFERY TRAINING

The usual arrangements for Pupil Midwives Part II Training have continued, supervision being carried out by Mrs. Evans. Tutorial classes were given at the Maternity Hospital. 20 Pupil Midwives completed their training and 19 were successful in passing the qualifying examination.

REFRESHER COURSES

The usual arrangements were made for Midwives to attend Refresher Courses during the year, and much benefit is derived from these contacts.

ANTE-NATAL CLINICS

Once-weekly Clinics were held by the Midwives at North, South, Central, Upton and Woodchurch Clinics. There has been a marked decrease in the number of patients attending and in the number of visits, which is undoubtedly due to the fact that more mothers have been taking advantage of the Planned Early Discharge System, as they attend the Hospital Ante-Natal Clinics and are referred to their own general practitioners for ante-natal care.

CARE OF UNMARRIED MOTHERS

The demand for assistance given to unmarried mothers during the year has shown a slight decrease. Close co-operation has been maintained with the Moral Welfare Association and the Church authorities. The usual monetary grant has been given to the Birkenhead and Wirral Moral Welfare Association.

ANTE-NATAL RELAXATION EXERCISES

DETAILS (Figures for 1964 in brackets)

CLINIC	Sessions (1964)	Patients (1964)	Attendances (1964)
North	48 (47)	120 (123)	729 (810)
Woodchurch	38	8	149
South	48 (47)	92 (105)	703 (744)
TOTALS	134 (94)	220 (228)	1581 (1554)

ANTE-NATAL CLINICS

Once-weekly Clinics were held by the Midwives at North, South, Central, Upton and Woodchurch Clinics on 240 occasions, the number of patients dealt with being 954 and the total attendances made being 3,665. The Clinic at Woodchurch was opened during the year.

Attendances at Clinics (Figures for 1964 in brackets)

CLINIC	No. of Sessions (1964)	No. of Cases (1964)	Attendances (1964)
Central	51 (51)	244 (335)	799 (1281)
North	51 (51)	192 (294)	1049 (1311)
South	49 (47)	307 (369)	878 (1431)
Upton	52 (51)	160 (286)	675 (1053)
Woodchurch	37	51	264
TOTALS	240 (200)	954 (1284)	3665 (4916)

DISTRICT MIDWIFERY TRAINING HEALTH VISITING

The year has been notable for the amount of long-term sickness in the staff in addition to the usual absences for short periods. In all, it is estimated that the time lost is equivalent to the work of a Health Visitor for a year. This, naturally, is reflected in the statistics of work done.

The three student Health Visitors duly qualified and commenced work in August. Only one student Health Visitor was appointed for the 1965-66 Course. The new syllabus for training is in operation, and practical instruction is given by a member of our own staff - Miss D. Roberts - who attended a day release course for Fieldwork Instructors.

It was decided during the year to help the staffing position by appointing a state registered nurse to carry out work in schools as a "hygienist" and to free the Health Visitors from the routine duty of hygiene inspections in schools.

At the end of the year, the establishment was short of 1 full-time Health Visitor and two student Health Visitors.

The Superintendent Health Visitor attended a refresher course for Superintendents in London, and two Health Visitors attended a refresher course in Cambridge.

ASSOCIATION WITH HOSPITALS

The links with the Paediatric Department of St. Catherine's Hospital and the Children's Hospital have continued. The regular visits of Health Visitors to the Hospitals has proved stimulating. The two-way flow of information helps both Hospital and Local Authority. A similar link occurs with the Geriatric Department and during the year 1,002 domiciliary visits were paid as part of the co-operation between the hospital and Local Authority.

PHENYLKETONURIA TESTING

This has continued during the year, and 2,438 babies were tested with negative results in all cases.

SCREEN TESTING FOR DEAFNESS

This has continued and during the year 316 infants were tested. 19 had a second test and 4 were referred to their general practitioners so that the opinion of an Ear, Nose and Throat Consultant could be obtained.

PROBLEM FAMILIES

During the year, the regular meetings every month of the social workers intimately concerned with the very difficult group of problem families have continued. The Health Visitors and

Child Care Officers find this regular meeting stimulating and helpful support for each other's actions is more readily forthcoming after these case consultations.

CO-OPERATION WITH GENERAL PRACTITIONERS

No arrangements have been made for Health Visitors to work in conjunction with a particular General Practitioner or group of practitioners. Occasional requests for assistance have been made during the year, but from the few general practitioners who have made similar requests in the past.

VISITS TO CASES OF TUBERCULOSIS

During the year, Health Visitors paid 80 first visits and 808 re-visits.

STATISTICS OF WORK CARRIED OUT BY HEALTH VISITORS

2754 first visits were paid to infants under one year.
 13367 subsequent visits " " " " " "
 21468 routine visits were paid to infants between one
 and five years of age.
 1784 visits were paid to expectant mothers.
 1474 visits were paid in connection with miscellaneous
 matters.
 9226 visits were paid in which no access was obtained.
 905 visits were paid to aged.

CLINIC DUTIES AND ATTENDANCES

Cytology (cervical)	10
Infant Welfare	2071
Medical Examinations	2
B.C.G. Vaccination	36
Ante-Natal Relaxation	241
Poliomyelitis Vaccination	-
Mothercraft (St. Catherine's Hospital)	52
Hearing Screening (under 5 years)	106
Hospital Attendances: Geriatric Clinic	46
Paediatric Clinic	90

HOME NURSING SERVICE

The work of the Home Nursing Service has followed its normal pattern. There has again been a slight decrease in the number of patients, but an increase in the number of visits paid, particularly where intensive nursing care has been required. The practice of earlier discharge of patients from hospitals in the area is keeping the amount of sub-acute nursing at a steady level. Again, the number of patients requiring injections only has decreased.

ESTABLISHMENT

There have been fewer staff changes during the year, and no vacancies remained unfilled at the end of the year.

TRAINING

As reported last year, local practical training for the certificate of the Queen's Institute of District Nursing is now available. One member of the staff has completed the period of training and has been successful in the qualifying examination, and a second member is in training.

INCONTINENCE PADS

The use of these disposable pads is increasing, and the number of patients requesting them has risen from approximately 500 to 650.

Many more parents of mentally sub-normal children have requested these pads and all are most grateful for this practical assistance.

Disposal is by the flushing away of the cellular tissue in the toilet and, whenever possible, the burning of the non-porous paper back.

LOANS

The requests for the loan of sick room equipment have increased during the year, and two enuresis alarms have been added to the stock of nursing requisites. These are in constant demand and are of invaluable assistance in cases where they are necessary.

SUPERVISION

During the Superintendent's sickness absence, the administration of the service was very ably carried out by Miss P.E. Goldsmith, the Senior Nurse.

CLASSIFICATION OF CASES AND VISITS PAID

	<u>Cases</u>		<u>Visits</u>	
	<u>1965</u>	<u>(1964)</u>	<u>1965</u>	<u>(1964)</u>
Medical	995	1444	38469	37784
Surgical	155	191	5879	5282
Infectious Diseases	-	-	-	-
Tuberculosis	27	39	1672	1421
Maternal Complications	30	39	245	323
	<hr/> 1207	<hr/> 1713	<hr/> 46265	<hr/> 44810

	<u>1965</u>	<u>(1964)</u>
Number of visits paid to patients over 65	31184	27812
Number of patients under 5 at first visit	26	19
Number of visits paid to under 5's	199	181

VISITS BY SUPERINTENDENT

	<u>1965</u>	<u>(1964)</u>
Supervisory	338	157
Nursing } Casual }	500	488

838

645

Reinforcing
InjectionsPrimary

999

1557

0 - 3 years

1879

866

4 - 7 years

283

73

8 - 15 years

3161

2598

IMMUNISATION AND VACCINATION

The following is the programme of immunisation practised in the Health Department :-

<u>Age</u>	<u>Vaccine</u>	<u>Interval</u>
6 - 10 months	Oral Poliomyelitis	1st) 4 - 8 weeks 2nd) 4 - 8 weeks 3rd)
11 - 13 months	Triple Vaccine (Diphtheria, Tetanus & Whooping Cough)	1st) 4 - 6 weeks 2nd)
12 - 24 months	Vaccination against Smallpox	
18 - 21 months	Triple Vaccine	3rd
<u>SCHOOL ENTRY</u>	(Parents to be approached at Medical Examination of Entrants)	
5 - 7 years	Diphtheria/Tetanus Booster Poliomyelitis	4th
8 - 12 years	Diphtheria/Tetanus Booster	
12 years	B.C.G.	

Consent Forms were again sent to parents of children reaching the age of six months and to parents of school entrants aged five years.

A good response was obtained once again from the parents of school entrants but there is still room for improvement in the figures relating to children under five years.

DIPHTHERIA IMMUNISATION

It is estimated that 44.04% of children under five years and 80.56% of the school population have been immunised.

IMMUNISATIONS IN 1965

	<u>Primary</u>	<u>Reinforcing Injections</u>
0 - 3 years	1657	999
4 - 7 years	866	1879
8 - 15 years	75	283
	<u>2598</u>	<u>3161</u>

	<u>Medical Officers</u>	<u>General Practitioner</u>
Immunisation against Diphtheria	36	1
Reinforcing injections against Diphtheria	760	10
Combined Whooping Cough and Diphtheria immunisation	-	1
Combined Whooping Cough and Diphtheria immunisation (Reinforcing Injection)	-	-
Triple Antigen	968	657
Triple Antigen (Reinforcing Injection)	737	400
Immunisation against Diphtheria and Tetanus	863	5
Immunisation against Diphtheria and Tetanus (Reinforcing Injection)	1213	30
Quadruple	-	67
Quadruple (Reinforcing)	-	11

The following tabulated statement shows the numbers

Age in Yrs. on 31st Dec. of the Corres. Yr.	Up to 1944	1945	1946	1947	1948	1949	1950	1951	1952	1953	1954
Under 1 yr.	52	-	5	30	71	60	27	45	539	535	637
1 year	1782	714	588	712	1009	1124	1020	981	564	494	378
2 years	1741	355	355	241	353	385	316	289	181	261	251
3 years	1315	139	125	93	113	144	148	80	63	96	75
4 years	1250	47	75	71	71	84	136	67	86	67	60
5 years	1375	37	51	55	56	80	212	137	275	136	176
6 years	1844	27	43	33	31	58	344	135	279	249	236
7 years	1963	17	26	20	28	41	281	115	150	165	123
8 years	1844	10	20	26	26	21	331	161	116	98	77
9 years	1822	12	20	17	11	33	273	131	81	57	44
10 years	1790	6	27	14	20	22	267	114	124	78	37
11 years	1876	11	17	8	13	33	221	105	90	46	19
12 years	1511	1	10	5	14	7	62	57	71	15	7
13 years	1275	1	5	7	6	7	13	23	123	6	1
14 years	887	8	4	7	6	6	14	12	142	7	-
15 years and over	461	22	8	15	14	14	11	19	16	12	6
Total each year	22788	1407	1379	1354	1842	2119	3676	2471	2900	2322	2127
Reinforcing Injections	-	-	-	47	123	77	4352	2368	2198	1428	1715

immunised against Diphtheria each year since 1944 :-

1955	1956	1957	1958	1959	1960	1961	1962	1963	1964	1965	Total Immu- nised at 31st Dec. 1965
626	524	510	69	148	325	612	176	219	184	234	Aged Under 5 years 6078
270	228	467	617	647	860	1161	674	839	1125	1179	
245	294	130	201	217	331	270	116	143	306	177	
85	67	60	37	94	191	147	46	28	85	67	
77	57	60	40	50	139	123	27	17	27	58	
243	232	194	49	47	112	96	27	33	26	61	Aged 5 - 9 years 8845
359	244	141	93	43	115	224	26	219	97	436	
186	111	60	40	47	170	278	37	28	75	322	
89	74	35	35	26	160	208	51	14	43	44	
34	61	27	25	16	91	194	91	6	104	10	
21	60	35	12	14	66	172	48	11	113	3	Aged 10 - 14 years 9362
7	25	18	15	8	26	199	28	2	68	3	
1	6	7	8	2	12	78	17	-	38	-	
4	-	-	-	8	11	18	1	1	1	2	
1	-	-	-	3	14	12	1	-	-	1	
8	9	3	4	-	36	52	15	6	1	1	43051
2256	1992	1747	1245	1370	2659	3844	1381	1566	2293	2598	Grand Total 67336
1339	2150	1344	746	355	2322	1507	482	1078	2823	3161	29614

IMMUNISATION AGAINST WHOOPING COUGH

	<u>Infant Welfare Centres</u>	<u>G.P.'s</u>
0 - 1 year	64	169
1 - 2 years	740	415
2 - 3 years	96	75
3 - 4 years	36	23
5 - 7 years	31	31
7 - 16 years	1	12
	—	—
	968	725
	—	—

VACCINATION AGAINST SMALLPOX

By Medical Officers at Infant Welfare Centre	598
By General Practitioners	482
	—
	1080

Age at Date of Vaccination	0 - 1 years	1 - 2 years	2 - 4 years	5 - 15 years	Total
Number Vaccinated	124	433	401	51	1009
Number Re-Vaccinated	-	-	13	58	71

VACCINATION AGAINST POLIOMYELITIS

During 1965 the following injections were given :-

SALK VACCINE

	Health Dept.	General Practitioners	Total
1st & 2nd Injections	-	26	26
3rd Injections	-	20	20
4th Injections	-	12	12

ORAL POLIOMYELITIS VACCINE

	Health Dept.	General Practitioners	Total
3 Oral (Primary Course)	2094	867	2961
3rd Oral (after 2 injections)	1	3	4
4th Oral	1516	343	1859

IMMUNISATION AGAINST TETANUS

Tetanus immunisations were continued in the Infant and Junior Schools.

	<u>Primary</u>	<u>Reinforcing Injections</u>
0 - 3 years	1654	1000
4 - 7 years	1456	1335
8 - 15 years	120	745
	<u>3230</u>	<u>3080</u>

B.C.G. VACCINATION - SCHOOL CHILDREN

B.C.G. Vaccination was offered to 12 year olds during the year.

Children found to be positive following testing are sent for X-ray examination and certain cases are referred to the Chest Physician.

Parents Notified	Multiple Puncture Test			
	Children Tested	Positive	Negative	Doubtful
1724	943	18	920	5

Referred to Chest Clinic - 10

(The Senior Driver/Attendant in each shift acts as Deputy to the Section Leader during periods of annual leave and sickness.)

Children referred to the Chest Clinic following positive heaf tests were found to be clinically sound with no chest symptoms. Family contacts were also examined with the same results. It was decided to discontinue skin testing of school entrants in 1965.

The following figures relate to children tested in 1965 for whom consent was obtained in 1964.

Parents Notified	Multiple Puncture Test			Given B.C.G. Vaccination
	Children Tested	Positive	Negative	
1694	1008	113	895	891

AMBULANCE SERVICE(Report of the Chief Fire Officer)

The total number of calls attended was down on the previous year, being accounted for by the fact that the Invalid Children's Association at Hamilton Square ceased to exist and the Service had been responsible for conveying cases on approximately 2,700 occasions during each year to this centre. The amount of work done is still fantastically high - 62,218 calls and 61,270 patients conveyed. Although the number of patients conveyed in 1965 was 2,065 less than the previous year, bearing in mind the specified cases referred to above, there is the tendency for a continued increase, in fact, the last four months of the year showed a 6% increase over the corresponding quarter of 1964.

During 1965, two new ambulances were delivered with approved type trolley stretcher gear and to date have proved invaluable, allowing for easier loading giving more comfort to patients, and permitting patients to be conveyed direct from ambulance to wards without transferring to hospital trolleys.

Training for ambulance men has continued throughout the year and all personnel passed the Red Cross Examinations appropriate to their particular grade. On nine occasions during the year, ambulance men helped with the delivery of babies either in homes or ambulances before the arrival of medical staff and, from most of the mothers involved, letters of appreciation were received. Seven of the ambulance fleet are now equipped with Minuteman Resuscitator sets and these have proved extremely successful on numerous occasions.

The occasions on which the Service was called to convey midwives to cases was reduced further during the year due to more use being made of private transport.

The fact that half the vehicles have to be left in the open at night still causes considerable concern but as indicated in my introduction, this appears to be a problem that can only be solved by completely new premises.

ESTABLISHMENT

<u>Rank</u>	<u>Approved</u>	<u>Actual</u> <u>31.12.65</u>
Station Officer	1	1
Section Leaders	4	4
Driver/Attendants	39	38
	—	—
	44	43
	—	—

(The Senior Driver/Attendant in each shift acts as Deputy to the Section Leader during periods of annual leave and sickness.)

Variations

Resignations: 3 Driver/Attendants
 Appointments: 3 Driver/Attendants

Average Age: 39 years, 11 months

Average Length of Service: 11 years, 3 months

Safe Driving Competition sponsored by the Royal Society for the Prevention of Accidents

Out of a total of 37 entries, the following 33 awards were gained :-

<u>Bar to 5-year Medal</u>	<u>5-year Medal</u>	<u>Diploma</u>
16	-	17

Courses Attended

Eight members of the Ambulance Service attended Preliminary Training Courses for ambulance personnel at the Cheshire County Training Centre, Northwich.

First Aid

The following Certificates were received as a result of examinations sponsored by the British Red Cross Society during 1965 :-

<u>Initial Certificates</u>	<u>Advanced Certificates</u>	<u>Proficiency Certificates</u>
6	3	32

CLASSIFICATION OF CALLS

<u>Classification</u>	<u>Type</u>	<u>Calls</u>	<u>Patients</u>	<u>Mileage</u>
EMERGENCY	Home Accidents	799	803	3615
	Works Accidents	622	636	2417
	Street Accidents	1367	1544	5501
	Maternity	1043	1043	4670
	Emergency Illness	2235	2236	9503
REMOVALS	Ambulances	32321	32833	112878
	Sitting Cars	22175	22175	57191
SPECIAL SERVICES	Midwives	383	-	1949
	Bedding	6	-	36
	Others	65	-	238
AMBULANCES NOT REQUIRED	Malicious False Alarms	81	-	280
	Others	1121	-	3849
		62218	61270	202127

SPECIAL SERVICES

A total of 454 Special Services were attended and these included the conveyance of midwives on 383 occasions.

SUMMARY OF CALLSASSISTANCE TO AND FROM OTHER AUTHORITIES

	<u>Calls</u>	<u>Standbys</u>
Assistance to:-		
Wallasey	37	67
Cheshire	32	-
Others	18	-
Assistance from:-		
Wallasey	1	-
Cheshire	5	-
Others	-	-

AMBULANCES NOT REQUIRED

<u>Classification</u>	<u>Type</u>	<u>Calls</u>
EMERGENCY	Refused conveyance	123
	Removed, passing car, etc.	64
	Transport not required	276
OUT PATIENTS	Too ill to travel	102
	Made own way	52
	Appointment errors	80
	Wrong Address	15
	Not at home and not ready	166
	Refused conveyance	45
	Case cancelled	41
IN PATIENTS	Too ill to travel	5
	Made own way	29
	Not at home and not ready	49
	Refused conveyance	28
	Case cancelled	35
	Wrong address	11
MALICIOUS FALSE ALARMS	Malicious False Alarms	81
		<hr/>
		1202

HOME HELP SERVICE

Cases provided with home help during the year :-

	<u>1965</u>	<u>(1964)</u>
Maternity	66	(68)
Chronic sick, aged and infirm ..	892	(895)
Others	7	(4)
	<u>965</u>	<u>(967)</u>

Number of hours worked by Home Helps.

	<u>1965</u>	<u>(1964)</u>
Chronic sick, Aged, Infirmary and Tubercular	101507	(109958)
Maternity and Acute Illness ..	2233	(2093 $\frac{1}{4}$)
	<u>103740</u>	<u>(112051$\frac{1}{4}$)</u>

The following table shows the growth of the Home Help Service since 1948 :-

	<u>Hours Worked</u>	<u>Cases</u>	<u>Visits-Organiser and Assistant</u>
1948	14626	112	N/A
1949	21905	292	N/A
1950	40205	355	1386
1951	47889	432	1376
1952	53431	467	1745
1953	60856	480	1894
1954	61646	488	1784
1955	60497	533	1347
1956	62057	616	1486
1957	63290	611	1457
1958	71329	618	1185 *
1959	72059	663	1055 *
1960	82686	726	1684
1961	88899	786	1863
1962	92162	875	1677 *
1963	99132	921	1708
1964	112051	967	1852
1965	103740	965	2109

* Figure down due to staff changes

This service which had shown a steady increase in the last few years showed a drop in hours worked from the unusually large figure in 1964. It is difficult to give a firm reason for this. During 1965 there was a number of hours lost through sickness. The increased number of visits by organiser, assistant organiser and visitor has resulted in a more efficient use of the home helps. The cost of this service to those able to pay the whole or major part of the cost may have contributed also. Recruitment of suitable home helps presents problems, particularly during school holidays.

It is gratifying to receive letters of appreciation from the recipients of this worthwhile service which enables so many old people to remain in their own homes.

During the year the Social Worker made 1,515 home and hos-

pital visits and held 1,128 office interviews. A total of 262

visits to the homes of the elderly were made. The total number of

visits to the homes of the elderly was 1,515. The total number of

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PREVENTION OF ILLNESS, CARE AND AFTER CARE

CARE AND AFTER CARE T.B. COMMITTEE

The constitution of the Committee remains unchanged. Examination of tuberculosis contacts is carried out by Dr. D.H. Merrin, Consultant Chest Physician, at the Chest Clinic, 42 Hamilton Square. The Tuberculosis Social Worker also has her office at 42 Hamilton Square.

Home nursing equipment, paper handkerchiefs and destructible paper cups are issued where necessary, and free milk is allowed where the home circumstances justify the supply being made.

During the year the Social Worker made 1,323 home and hospital visits and held 1,128 office interviews.

48 cases were referred to the National Assistance Board for financial help. 265 cases were referred to the John Lloyd Corkhill Trust and other organisations.

During the year 7 patients were referred for more suitable housing accommodation.

19 patients were recommended for convalescence, 1 to the Regional Hospital Board, 1 to the Merseyside Hospitals Council, 1 to the British Legion and 16 to the John Lloyd Corkhill Trust.

HEALTH VISITING

Each new case of tuberculosis occurring inside the Borough is visited by a Health Visitor, who advises as to home nursing and reports details of contacts and home conditions to the Chest Physicians for their information.

Home visits continue while the patient remains on the Tuberculosis Register.

OCCUPATIONAL THERAPY

The changing pattern of tuberculosis and the treatment of the disease had proved the Class for outpatients to be no longer necessary, and the Class was closed in September 1965. Home Teaching continues for one session each week.

13 patients attended daily at the Anne Glassey Workshop in Wallasey.

REHABILITATION

As stated above 13 patients attended for occupational therapy at the Anne Glassey Workshop. 24 patients were referred to the Disablement Resettlement Officers at the Ministry of Labour for registration as disabled persons. Of these 10 were working and 7

were recommended for training in suitable occupations. 1 male patient was rejected as unsuitable, 1 proved unco-operative, and 5 were accepted for training. 1 was placed at the Anne Glassey Workshop and the remaining 4 patients were accepted for courses in Commerce, Gardening, Hairdressing and Wire Assembly, respectively, at Ministry of Labour Training Centres.

SHELTERED EMPLOYMENT

4 patients continued in employment at the Anne Glassey Workshop.

EXAMINATION OF CONTACTS

296 adults and 432 children attended for contact examination either by skin test or X-ray. Of these 3 adults and 1 child were found to have active respiratory tuberculosis, 2 children and 3 adults had minimal lesions which it was considered necessary to keep under medical observation.

The ratio of contacts per notified case remains high at 14.56.

B.C.G. VACCINATION OF CONTACTS

304 children received B.C.G. Vaccination at the Chest Clinic and 57 babies were vaccinated at birth at local hospitals.

A total of 432 children attended the Chest Clinic as new contacts, of these, 70 who had previously received B.C.G. Vaccination - 32 in 1965 and 38 in previous years - proved to have a positive tuberculin test result. Of the remaining 362 who had not been vaccinated, 36 were found to have a positive result, 5 were X-rayed only, 2 were examined only and 13 failed to attend for the tuberculin test reading. 306 children were negative, 304 children received B.C.G. Vaccination and the parents of 2 children refused vaccination.

7 students were vaccinated during the year.

MENTAL HEALTH SERVICEStatisticsMENTAL ILLNESSCases referred to Mental Welfare Department :-

By General Practitioners	287
By Police (Including Courts)	34
By others (General Hospitals, National Assistance Board, Welfare Departments etc.)	309
By Psychiatric Hospitals	211
By Psychiatric Out-Patients Departments	152
	<hr/> 993

Admissions to Hospital (Arranged by Mental Welfare Officers)Under Mental Health Act 1959 :-

Informal admission (Section 5)	352
Urgency applications (Section 29)	44
Observation (Section 25)	140
Treatment (Section 26)	13
Hospital order (Section 60)	1
Warrant to search and remove (Section 135)	1
	<hr/> 551

MENTAL SUBNORMALITYCases referred to Mental Welfare Department :-

From Education Committee	9
From General Practitioners	5
From other sources (Police, National Assistance Board, Welfare Department etc.)	16
Transfers from other Local Authorities	2
From Hospitals (Discharges)	3
From Hospitals (Licence)	3
	<hr/> 38

Admissions to Hospitals :-

Informal admissions (Section 5)	8
Treatment (Section 26)	1
Court Orders (Section 60)	2
Urgency application (Section 29)	1
Court Orders (Section 61)	1
	<hr/>
	13
	<hr/>

Short-Term Care Admissions :-

To Hospitals	23
To other establishments	10
	<hr/>
	33
	<hr/>

Outward transfers 3

Deaths 7

Waiting List of Patients requiring hospital care :-

Urgent	10
Less urgent	8

Appeals to Mental Health Tribunals :- 1

Junior Training Centre -

No. on Register at 31.12.65.	Male	17
	Female	16
	<hr/>	
	Total	33
	<hr/>	

Average daily attendance 24

Adult Training Centre -

No. on Register at 31.12.65.	Male	33
	Female	25
	<hr/>	
	Total	58
	<hr/>	

Position as at 31.12.65.

Number in Hospital	223
" under Guardianship	2
" " Home Supervision	280
" on Register	505
	<hr/>

There has been a slight drop in cases referred to this section of the Health Department, 993 as compared with 1,025 in 1964.

As has been noted in previous years the Mental Welfare Officers continue to arrange a large number of admissions to hospital.

It is satisfactory to note that informal admissions (352 compared with 290 in 1964) increased while urgency cases decreased from 60 in 1964 to 44 in 1965. The admissions of observation cases increased from 119 in 1964 to 140 in 1965 and Section 26 cases decreased from 20 in 1964 to 13 in 1965.

It would appear that consultants and general practitioners find the services of the Mental Welfare Officers in arranging admissions very useful. On the credit side, of course, is the relationship established with the patients and their relatives which proves of assistance in after care.

The adult Training Centre has been in full operation during 1965 and has been very popular with patients and their parents.

The enthusiasm displayed by Mr. Davies, the Chief Training Officer, is shared by his staff and is reflected in the behaviour and work of those attending the Centre.

It is proving a great asset in our treatment of the adult sub-normal who remains under supervision.

The Industrial Therapy Unit in Price Street has continued to function and financial support is given by the three Local Health Authorities - County of Cheshire, Wallasey and Birkenhead - from whose areas patients attend. As a result of the facilities available at the Unit, a considerable number of patients have been able to return to full-time employment.

NATIONAL ASSISTANCE ACT, 1948

Duties under this Act have been assigned to the Welfare Committee of the Council.

The Medical Officer of Health is in administrative control of the Welfare Department, the staff of which is housed in the Health Department offices.

There is the utmost co-operation between the staffs and useful information about handicapped persons or the aged and infirm is exchanged between the Welfare Department and Health Visitors, Public Health Inspectors, Mental Welfare Officers, and the Domestic Help Organiser.

During the year, no case required to be dealt with under Section 47 of the Act. Several cases were visited, but in each it was eventually found possible to take alternative action.

PUBLIC SWIMMING BATHS

Indoor swimming pools are provided at Byrne Avenue and Livingstone Street Baths. There are two pools at each of these premises. All four pools are open during the summer months, but during the winter one pool at Byrne Avenue is closed for conversion to a Youth Centre; two pools having been retained for swimming at Livingstone Street in the 1965/66 Winter Session as an experiment.

Until December 1959, the swimming bath water at both establishments was obtained by pumping salt water from the River Mersey. This practice continues in respect of the swimming pools in the Livingstone Street Baths. At Byrne Avenue, however, the supply of water for the swimming pools is taken from the town's main; pure dried vacuum salt is added to provide reconstituted salt water.

The swimming pool water is constantly changed by a continuous circulation system during which time it is chemically treated, filtered, heated, aerated, and sterilised by a marginal chlorination process. The filtration plant at the Byrne Avenue Baths was renewed in 1964 at a cost of £19,500. The water in the swimming pools is changed routinely every six months, but additional water is added at intervals for "make-up" purposes to replace losses.

Periodic bacteriological examinations are made by the Public Health Laboratory Service. Daily tests are carried out by the Baths Department Staff to ensure satisfactory alkalinity and chlorine factors.

SEWERAGE

The Borough is adequately sewered with the exception of an area on the Western fringe lying within the North Wirral Drainage Area.

This area, together with adjacent areas in Wallasey County Borough, Hoylake Urban District Council and Wirral Urban District Council has been the subject for consideration by the authorities concerned for a joint scheme for the improvement of the sewerage facilities to serve these areas.

This scheme has now received approval in principle by the four authorities, and consultant engineers have been instructed to prepare a detailed scheme involving a new sewer outfall with the point of discharge near Dove Point, Meols.

The sewerage from the Borough is discharged untreated into the River Mersey.

WATER SUPPLY

I am indebted to the Engineer and Manager of the Wirral Water Board for the following report upon the Water Supplies in the Borough.

The supply to the Borough is in the main a mixture of impounded water from Alwen Reservoir in North Wales and river water abstracted from the River Dee at Chester together with a small amount of underground water taken from the Wells at Spring Hill and Flaybrick which are situated within the Borough. The proportion of well water has increased, however, over the previous year.

The supply to the Borough may be described as moderately soft though slight variations do occur according to the conditions of the raw River Dee water abstracted and dependent upon the use of the well supplies. During the summer period if the river flow is low, then there is a tendency for the hardness of the supplies distributed to increase.

The Main Water Works laboratory is situated at Sutton Hall Treatment Works near Capenhurst and is operated by a full-time Chemist and Bacteriologist and four assistants who supervise the treatment processes and undertake regular chemical and bacteriological examinations of the raw water and the treated water to ensure purity of supplies to the consumer.

The Board's Undertaking continues to be a source of interest to the public and numerous visits to the various works have been arranged during the year.

The supply to the statutory area has in all cases been satisfactory, both in quality and quantity.

Approximately some 700 bacteriological examinations of supplies to the Borough are made annually, the majority of which are in respect of the final treated water. The following are average results :-

	Raw Water			Final Water			Mixed Supply
	Dee	Alwen	Wells	Dee	Alwen	Wells	
No. of Examinations	12	26	12	260	104	52	234
No. of Colonies on Agar 1 day at 37° C per ml.	-	3	0	0	0	0	0
No. of Colonies on Agar 3 days at 22° C per ml.	-	91	1	0	3	0	0
Presumptive coli present in	0.01	1.0	-	-	-	-	-
Presumptive coli absent from	0.01	-	100ml	100ml	100ml	100ml	100ml
Probable No. per 100 ml.	6000	250	0	0	0	0	0
Bact. Coli (Type 1) present in	0.01	1.0	-	-	-	-	-
Bact. Coli (Type 1) absent in	0.001	0.1	100ml	100ml	100ml	100ml	100ml
Probable No. per 100 ml.	3500	50	0	0	0	0	0

Treatment of the Alwen supply is by pressure filtration followed by sterilisation by chlorine and ammonia.

Treatment of the Dee supply is by settlement in upward flow sedimentation tanks followed by rapid gravity filtration and super chlorination.

Treatment of the Wells supply - marginal chlorination only.

WIRRAL WATER BOARD

AVERAGE CHEMICAL ANALYSIS FOR 1965

Results expressed in ppm (mgs/litre) except where otherwise stated < = less than	Alwen	Dee	Mixed
pH	9.2	7.6	7.8
Colour (Hazen)	10	< 5	5
Conductivity in Reciprocal megohms	100	320	215
Turbidity	< 2	< 2	< 2
Free Carbon Dioxide	< 0.5	3	2
Alkalinity as CaCO_3	19	81	45
Temporary Hardness as CaCO_3	19	81	45
Permanent Hardness as CaCO_3	11	18	15
Total Hardness as CaCO_3	30	99	60
Calcium as CaCO_3	23	69	42
Magnesium as CaCO_3	7	30	18
Oxygen absorbed 4-hrs @ 27°C	1.7	0.9	1.4
Ammoniacal Nitrogen	0.26	0.15	0.10
Albuminoid Nitrogen	0.07	0.08	0.08
Nitrite Nitrogen	< 0.01	< 0.01	< 0.01
Nitrate Nitrogen	0.3	1.2	0.7
Silica as SiO_2	3	5	4
Chlorides as Cl	13	36	23
Sulphates as SO_2	21	53	35
Iron as Fe	< 0.02	< 0.02	0.07
Manganese as Mn	0.07	< 0.02	0.07
Aluminium as Al	0.45	0.07	0.27
Fluoride as F	Absent	Absent	Absent
Zinc as Zn	Absent	Absent	Absent
Poisonous Metals	Absent	Absent	Absent

The water as put into supply is not plumbo solvent in action. In addition to the regular bacteriological examinations, all new mains being put into operation are sterilised and similar action is taken after the cleaning of any tanks or service reservoirs.

The estimated number of dwellings in the Borough is 42,933 and population 143,660. All properties are supplied direct from the distributive system but there are a number of old houses, possibly some 40 - 50, which do not have an inside supply but are each provided with an outside W.C. and a tap in the back yard. These properties are fast being demolished.

ENVIRONMENTAL HYGIENE

The Chief Public Health Inspector has supplied the following particulars of the work of his section of the Health Department :-

Two district Public Health Inspectors were appointed during the year - one to fill a vacancy which had occurred last year and the second to replace an inspector who resigned to take up an appointment with another authority. Another pupil inspector was appointed and there were changes in the clerical staff.

A new rodent operator was appointed to deal specifically with rat infestation in the sewers. It is hoped that together with a new system of poisoning put into operation late in the year, there will be a considerable improvement in this particular aspect of control.

Further progress was made in the inspection of Offices and Shops under the Act which came into operation in 1963 and on which work started only in October 1964.

Following delays last year progress is again being made in the field of Smoke Control.

The establishment is as follows :-

- 1 Chief Inspector
- 1 Senior Inspector
- 1 Specialist Food and Drugs Inspector
- 1 Specialist Smoke Inspector
- 1 Specialist Housing Inspector
- 7 District Inspectors (one vacancy)
- 1 Technical Assistant - Offices, Shops & Railway Premises
- 2 Technical Assistants - Smoke Control Areas
- 1 Pests Officer
- 1 Rodent operator - sewer control
- 3 Pupil Inspectors

INSPECTION AND REPAIR OF DWELLING HOUSES

All repairs to houses have been secured as a result of the service of notices under the Public Health Act 1936, and the Birkenhead Corporation Act 1954. No notices were served under Section 9 of the Housing Act 1957.

2,646 complaints were received during the year. This is in addition to complaints made to the inspectors on their districts.

Number of inspections under the Public Health Act, etc.	14,915
Number of re-inspections under the Public Health Act, etc.	14,183
Number of informal notices served under the Public Health Act	1,827
Number of Statutory notices served under the Public Health Act	804
Number of Statutory notices served under the Birkenhead Corporation Act, 1954, Section 52	159
Number of Statutory notices served under the Birkenhead Corporation Act, 1954, Section 66	Nil
Average number of notices outstanding	608
Number of notices complied with during the year	1,739
Number of defects remedied during the year	4,584

Summary of Improvements effected :-

Roofs repaired	521
Chimney stacks repaired	70
Rainwater gutters repaired	257
Downspouts repaired	141
Walls pointed or repaired	214
Lighting or ventilation improved	7
Windows repaired	188
Window sash cords renewed	181
Firegrates repaired	59
Hearthstones repaired	6
Floors relaid or repaired	128
Skirting boards repaired	31
Wallplaster repaired	299
Ceiling plaster repaired	127
Walls and ceilings cleansed	26
Doors repaired	186
Staircases repaired	20
Sinks renewed	16
Sink waste pipes trapped or repaired	86
Dampness remedied	288
Yard surface repaired and relaid	141
Yards drained	1
Sufficient water supply provided	121
Drains constructed, altered or repaired	101
Drains cleansed	344
Water closets repaired	402
Food stores provided	5
Tents, Vans, Sheds removed	23
Nuisance from animals abated	7
Verminous persons/clothing/premises treated	9
Water courses or ditches cleansed	1
Miscellaneous	398

LEGAL PROCEEDINGS

Legal proceedings under Section 94, Public Health Act, 1936, were instituted in 4 cases where owners had failed to comply with the requirements of abatement notices.

In one case a fine of £3. 0. 0. was inflicted.

Costs were awarded amounting to £9. 19. 0. in respect of the 4 cases.

The Magistrates made nuisance orders in 2 cases where the nuisances were still outstanding at the time of the hearing of the summonses.

Proceedings were instituted under Section 95, Public Health Act, 1936, in 1 case where the Nuisance Order had not been complied with and a fine of £5. 0. 0. was imposed.

Work done by Local Authority in default of owners

The Local Authority cleansed obstructed drains at 47 houses where owners failed to comply with 48 hour notices under the provisions of Section 52 of the Birkenhead Corporation Act, 1954.

By agreement with or at the request of owners, 12 items of repair of a general nature were completed at 6 houses under the provisions of the Public Health Act, 1936.

The costs of the above work (recoverable from the responsible persons) amounted to £143. 0. 1. during the year.

HOUSING ACT, 1957. Secs: 17 and 18.Dwelling houses unfit for human habitation

15 houses or parts of buildings used as dwellings were reported to the Health Committee as being unfit for human habitation and not capable of being rendered so fit at reasonable expense.

During the year the Council made the following Orders :-

Demolition Orders in respect of 2 dwellings.

Closing Orders in respect of 12 dwellings and 4 parts of buildings.

One house, the subject of a Closing Order, was made fit and the Order was, therefore, determined.

Demolition and Closing of Unfit Dwellings

35 unfit houses, not in Clearance Areas, were demolished during the year and, following the re-housing of the occupants, 14 dwellings were closed.

34 families comprising 120 persons were re-housed from dwellings subject to demolition or closing orders.

HOUSING ACT, 1957. Sec: 42.

Clearance Areas

The Medical Officer of Health represented the undermentioned areas and the Council declared them to be "Clearance Areas".

Area	No. of dwellings	No. of families	No. of persons
Pilgrim Street Clearance Area 1965	10	23	64
Hawthorne Terrace " " 1965	5	5	9
Exmouth Street " " 1965	325	353	1105
King Street No. 1 " " 1965	36	48	152
King Street No. 2 " " 1965	5	9	44
Ivy Street " " 1965	55	68	228
Mill Street " " 1965	48	54	162
Albion Street " " 1965	34	35	78
Neptune Street " " 1965	21	24	66
Cathcart Street " " 1965	6	7	22
	545	626	1930

During the year the Minister of Housing and Local Government confirmed the Orders made in respect of the undermentioned areas:-

Pleasant Street Clearance Area	1963
Walker Place Nos. 1 & 2 Clearance Areas	1963
Mollington Street Nos. 1 & 2 Clearance Areas	1963
Cleveland Street Clearance Area	1964
Holborn Square and Queen Street Clearance Areas	1964
Star Street Clearance Area	1964
Nelson Street Clearance Area	1964
Brook Street Clearance Area	1964

Modifications

(a) Properties added as Grey land

Two properties in the Pleasant Street Area, one in the Mollington Street Area, two in the Star Street Area and two in the Nelson Street Area were excluded from the Compulsory Purchase Orders.

(b) Transferred from Part I to Part II

Three properties in the Pleasant Street area, two in the Queen Street Area and one in the Star Street Area were transferred from Part I (Pink land) to Part II (Grey land).

(c) Well-maintained Payments

Awards of well-maintained Payments were made as follows :-

Pleasant Street Area	7 houses
Walker Place Areas	10 "
Mollington Street Areas	4 "
Holborn Square and Queen Street Areas	12 "
Star Street Area	26 "
Nelson Street Area	8 "
Brook Street Area	2 "

Rent Act 1957

Once again I have to report that little use has been made of this Act during the past year.

Formal details of the applications made for the issue and cancellation of certificates are set out below :-

Part 1 - Applications for Certificates of Disrepair

1)	Number of applications for certificates	3
2)	Number of decisions not to issue certificates	2
	One application withdrawn, one invalid.	
3)	Number of decisions to issue certificates	
	(a) in respect of some but not all defects	1
	(b) in respect of all defects	-
4)	Number of undertakings given by landlords under paragraph 5 of the First Schedule	-
5)	Number of undertakings refused by the Local Authority under the proviso to paragraph 5 of the First Schedule	-
6)	Number of certificates issued	1

Part 2 - Applications for Cancellation of Certificates

7)	Applications by landlords for cancellation of certificates of disrepair	1
8)	Objections by tenants to cancellation of certificates	None
9)	Decisions by Local Authority to cancel in spite of objection by tenant	Nil
10)	Certificates cancelled by Local Authority	1

In addition 1 certificate as to the remedying of defects was issued.

HOUSE PURCHASE AND HOUSING ACT 1959

Standard Grants

88 applications for standard grants were dealt with during the year. 18 of these were in respect of tenanted houses and 70 were from owner/occupiers.

69 of the applications were approved and 19 refused.

The grounds for refusal were mainly that the houses were not likely to have a life of 15 years or that the applicant was not prepared to provide all five amenities or that the amenities already existed and the application had been made in hope of getting a grant for the renewal of obsolete fittings.

The number of dwellings improved during the year amounted to 92. Of these 40 were tenanted houses and 52 owner-occupied.

The amenities provided were :-

- 76 fixed baths
- 81 wash-hand basins
- 73 hot water supplies
- 87 water closets within the house
- 85 food stores

The total grant paid amounted to £8,600. 14. 2. averaging £93. 9. 8½d. per house.

Of the 100 houses in the informal improvement area started in 1964, 59 houses now have all 5 amenities provided. 15 owner-occupied and 26 tenanted houses are still unimproved.

Discretionary Grants

22 premises were surveyed following applications for discretionary improvement grants.

Houses in Multiple Occupation

The Council's policy for the improvement of living conditions in houses in multiple occupation is by the gradual reduction in the numbers of families inhabiting such houses rather than by the increase in the facilities available, the ultimate aim being to secure self-contained accommodation for each family. To secure this end the person in control of a house is encouraged not to re-let rooms as they become vacant until the number of families is such that can be reasonably accommodated. At the same time a schedule of additional requirements and repairs that will be required if the rooms are re-let is issued to each landlord.

Overcrowding of individual lettings is not a serious problem.

12 houses were surveyed during the year.

3 houses previously surveyed have been demolished, and two houses are no longer in multiple occupation.

Common Lodging Houses

One house was demolished in a Slum Clearance Area. There are now 4 registered premises providing accommodation for 196 men.

There are no lodging houses for women.

45 visits were made to these premises during the year. 3 houses are conducted in a reasonable manner but at one house the standard is below what could be reasonably expected. Much attention has to be paid to this particular case.

SMOKE ABATEMENT

428 periodic observations of factory chimneys within the Borough have been made and, in general, there has been little cause for complaint. In a few cases where the permitted periods for smoke emission have been known to be exceeded, warning or advisory letters have been sent to the offenders. Scrap Metal Merchants reclaiming the metal by burning off the upholstery of old cars and the burning of the insulation of electric cables to reclaim the copper wire, are a source of nuisance from time to time and are not easily dealt with.

Smoke Control Areas

Area No. 1 Woodchurch

Coal fired steam locomotives hauling iron ore trains towards Shotton cause smoke nuisance at times on the railway which is the boundary of this Smoke Control Area. Observations on occasion have shown excessive smoke and a letter was sent to British Railways, who replied that they were to discipline the staff concerned.

Four warning letters were sent to tenants who permitted emissions of smoke from their house chimneys, due to the burning of bituminous coal. A mechanical failure at a School was the cause of another offence. Observations to find merchants selling coal in the area located one such, and a letter was sent to the Birkenhead, Wallasey and Wirral Coal Merchants Association, who have promised to take action to stop the sales.

Area No. 2 Bidston

Iron ore trains start their journey to Shotton from this area and from time to time excessive smoke has been observed. Four warning letters were sent to the Divisional Manager of British Railways, who has promised disciplinary action in each case. The real cure is the replacement of coal fired locomotives by diesel locomotives and at a recent meeting with the Locomotive Superintendent for the Area a promise of replacements in two years was given. Considerable quantities of bituminous coal appear to be burned in the area and fifteen letters were sent to offending householders and reports made to the Committee in all cases.

Area No. 3 St. James

This area came under Smoke Control on the 1st December, 1964, and all adaptations to fireplaces were completed in the early months of this year. Considerable difficulty has been experienced in the administration of this area, in that numerous householders continued to burn bituminous coal. A few local coal dealers and some itinerant coal dealers from outside the Borough have been known to supply bituminous coal to householders and while it is no offence to sell the coal, these cases have been taken up with the Local Merchants Association and with the Area Secretary of the Approved Coal Merchants Scheme, who have promised remedial action. The offending householders known to have emitted smoke total 118 and in each case a warning letter has been sent and a report made to the Committee. Letters have been sent to the Divisional Manager of British Railways regarding a smoke emission from Birkenhead North Station premises and also regarding smoke emission from a locomotive operating in the Area, and remedial actions have been promised.

Area No. 4 Claughton

Some further inspections of domestic properties have been carried out to supplement the inspections made in 1963. The Council's Smoke Control Order was made on the 26th October and at the end of the year awaited confirmation by the Minister of Housing and Local Government.

The area contains 277 acres and 2,922 properties.

Area No. 5 Upton

Some further inspections of domestic properties have been made to supplement the inspections made in 1964. A report on this area together with estimated costs will be submitted to the Council early in 1966.

Area No. 13 Fender Valley

Some further attention to this area was given to satisfy the Minister of Housing and Local Government that all residents were aware of the changes in basic solid fuel supplies from gas coke to hard coke (sunbrite) and the different appliances required for this change. The Council's Order of the 11th November, 1964, was confirmed by the Minister on 8th July, 1965, and comes into force on the 1st July, 1966. At the end of the year very little work of adaptation had been done.

Area No. 14 Ford

The Order for this area, comprising 174 acres of open land, was made on 11th November, 1964, confirmed by the Minister on 8th July, 1965, and comes into force on 1st July, 1966.

Developments in the making of sewers, roads, etc., have been in progress during the year in preparation for new buildings.

Smoke Control Areas

	<u>Date of confirmation</u>	<u>Date of operation</u>	<u>Acreage</u>	<u>No. of premises</u>
Area No. 1 Woodchurch	13.7.61.	1. 7.62.	594	4000
" " 2 Bidston	31.5.62.	1. 7.63.	386	719
" " 3 St. James	21.5.63.	1.12.64.	196	1907
" " 13 Fender Valley	8.7.65.	1. 7.66.	418	55
" " 14 Ford	8.7.65.	1. 7.66.	174	2
" " 4 Claughton	25.3.66.	1.12.67.	277	2922
			<u>2045</u>	<u>9605</u>

Industrial

General observations are made from time to time in conjunction with the work on Smoke Control Areas and there appears to be little cause for complaint.

Clean Air Act, 1956

Number of complaints received	23
Number of observations of factory chimneys	428
Number of contraventions recorded	12
Number of prosecutions	Nil
Number of visits to factories	100
Number of other visits	1293

Number of observations of ships 6

Number of visits to ships 7

The complaints were mainly of a minor character and have been satisfactorily dealt with.

Clean Air Act, 1956

Notifications of installations of furnaces
(Section 3) 31

Prior approval of new furnace installation
(Section 3) -

New chimney heights approved (Section 10) 9

Railways

The locomotives hauling ore trains from the North End of the Borough to Shotton are responsible for heavy smoke emissions at times and six warning letters have been sent to the Divisional Manager of British Railways.

The only real cure appears to be the replacement of the coal fired steam locomotive by the diesel locomotive. The Area Locomotive Superintendent has promised that diesel locomotives would take over in approximately two years from the end of 1965.

Shipping

General observations are made from time to time and attention given to any bad offenders or to any complaints that are received. The Inspector's informal visits and action usually result in the smoke emissions being stopped immediately.

National Survey of Air Pollution

The four stations have been in operation since December 1961.

This survey gives a daily record of the amount of smoke and sulphurdioxide present in the air in the vicinity of each station, viz :-

- | | | |
|------------------------------|---|-------------------------------------|
| 1) Tranmere Abattoir | - | an industrial area |
| 2) Central Library | - | a densely built up residential area |
| 3) Water Tower,
Hill Road | - | a lightly built up residential area |
| 4) Woodchurch Estate | - | a clean air zone |

EXTERMINATION OF PESTSRats and Mice(a) In Sewers

The treatment of the sewer system using zinc phosphide or arsenic which had been in operation since 1944 was discontinued this year. A new treatment started in August. This consists of two consecutive treatments of all sewer manholes with 3% fluoracetamide followed by test baiting. Manholes still showing evidence of infestation are re-treated.

This system is claimed to give better results. At the end of the year 3342 manholes in the older and more built up parts of the Borough had been given a first baiting but only 855 had had a second treatment. As there has been no test baiting to date it is not possible to say, at this stage, whether the new system is, in fact, proving more effective than the old.

(b) In surface premises

No. of premises inspected	879
No. of premises found to be infested with rats or mice	592
No. of treatments by rodent operator	558
Total number of visits by rodent operator	2383
Total number of visits by Public Health Inspectors	826

Insect Pests

No. of houses and other premises involved	96
No. of rooms treated	239
Other premises	Nil
Verminous articles treated	Nil
Verminous persons cleansed	6

A nominal charge is made for this work.

25 occupiers of 34 premises retain the services of the rodent operator to make regular visits to their premises throughout the year to keep them free from rats, mice and insect pests.

Treatments were carried out to deal with infestations of bugs, fleas, ants, wasps, clover mites, spider beetles, cockroaches, bluebottles, etc.

Disinfection

No houses were disinfected.

Arrangements were made for the disinfection of 2 lots of bedding.

BIRKENHEAD CORPORATION ACT 1881. Section 90 - PIG-KEEPING

No new applications for permission to keep pigs were received.

One pig-keeper discontinued.

There are now 23 pig-keepers in the Borough.

THEATRES, MUSIC HALLS AND CINEMAS

2 visits were made during the year. These premises are normally well conducted and defects speedily remedied by the proprietors.

PHARMACY AND POISONS ACT 1933

The department is responsible for the issue of licences to persons, other than pharmacists, who sell by retail those poisons set out in Part II of the Poisons List.

New licences issued during the year	17
Licences renewed during the year	142
Change of address	Nil
No. of visits to shops	349
Register not kept	5
Not registered as a licensed seller	1

THE RAG FLOCK AND OTHER FILLING MATERIALS ACT 1951

In accordance with the provisions of the above Act the under-mentioned premises have been included in the Statutory Register.

Premises licensed for the manufacture and storage of Rag Flock	Nil
Premises registered for the manufacture of new upholstery	3

3 visits of inspection were made and the undermentioned samples were submitted to the prescribed analysts for analysis:-

	<u>Passed</u>	<u>Failed</u>	<u>Total</u>
Rag Flock	1	-	1
Layered Rag Flock	1	-	1
Cotton Felt	1	-	1
Hair Mixture	1	-	1
Coir Fibre	1	-	1
Feathers	1	-	1
	6	-	6

OFFENSIVE TRADES

No applications for the establishment of new trades were received.

7 visits of inspection were made.

NOISE ABATEMENT

3 complaints of noise nuisance were received during the year. One was caused by worn refrigerating machinery in a butcher's shop and was easily remedied. The second was more serious and was caused by water pumps and pipes in a launderette. At certain times these caused considerable noise and vibration in an adjoining house. Although some modifications were made the nuisance was not abated and further efforts are being made to deal with the situation. The third complaint was due to the loading and unloading of iron and other minerals at the docks. Although the company concerned co-operated with the local authority as far as possible it was not practicable to effect a complete cure in this case.

Investigations of this type of complaint take a great deal of an Inspector's time. 81 visits were made but this figure gives little indication of the time and trouble taken to deal with these cases.

CARAVANS

There were no applications to place caravans on land within the Borough.

Complaints were received in respect of vans used by "tinkers" who visit the town from time to time. These visits usually last 2 to 4 days. 32 visits were made to these sites during the year.

THE BIRKENHEAD CORPORATION ACT 1954

Register of Barbers and Hairdressers

New registrations during the year	20
Number on register at end of year	185
Number of visits to hairdressers premises	39

OFFICES, SHOPS AND RAILWAY PREMISES ACT 1963

This statistical report is in the form presented by the Ministry of Labour, followed by some remarks on the working of the Act and on lighting standards found during a survey made in November and December.

COUNTY BOROUGH OF BIRKENHEAD

OFFICES, SHOPS AND RAILWAY PREMISES ACT, 1963

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE LOCAL AUTHORITY ON THEIR PROCEEDINGS UNDER THE ACT

Prescribed particulars to be included in the annual report to the Minister of Labour by Local Authorities under Section 60

TABLE A - REGISTRATIONS AND GENERAL INSPECTIONS

Period Covered - 1st January to
31st December 1965

Class of premises (1)	Number of premises registered during the year (2)	Total number of registered premises at end of year (3)	Number of registered premises receiving a general inspection during the year (4)
Offices	50	330	139
Retail shops	225	817	513
Wholesale shops, warehouses	12	48	28
Catering establishments open to the public, canteens	17	180	43
Fuel storage depots	-	3	-
	304	1378	723

68

TABLE B - Number of visits of all kinds by Inspectors to registered premises

= 1673

Class of workplace (1)	Number of persons employed (2)
Offices	3557
Retail shops	4217
Wholesale departments, warehouses	439
Catering establishments open to the public	1344
Canteens	66
Fuel storage depots	13
TOTAL	9636
Total Males	3135
Total Females	6501
TABLE D - EXEMPTIONS	NIL
TABLE E - PROSECUTIONS	NIL
TABLE F - INSPECTORS	
No. of inspectors appointed under section 52(1) of the Act	11 (only one inspector is employed full time on this work)
No. of other staff employed for most of their time on work in connection with the Act	NIL

CONTRAVENTIONS

1253 contraventions were brought to the attention of occupiers of registered premises.

917 of the above contraventions had been remedied at the end of the year.

277 premises inspected had not been registered by the occupiers.

ACCIDENTS

In spite of the publicity given to the operation of this Act it has been found that many employers are quite unaware of its provisions or of their responsibility to register their premises and to provide the amenities required.

A survey of one section of the Borough was made and it was found that there were 304 premises which should have been registered. 277 of these premises were registered only after personal contact with the occupier had been made, form O.S.R.1 handed to the employer and the provisions of the Act explained to him.

A number of enquiries have been made regarding the purchase of forms, regulations, abstracts and general guide. These do not appear to be on sale anywhere in the Borough and employers have therefore to travel to Liverpool or write to H.M. Stationery Office.

Generally the provisions of the Act are being complied with though in most cases only after the attention of the responsible person has been drawn to contraventions found on a primary visit. National and multiple concerns are aware of the Act and endeavour to comply with its requirements. Difficulties arise with the smaller shops. In lock-up shops it is particularly difficult to provide adequate W.C. and washing facilities. Neither the owner nor the occupier is prepared to assume responsibility although Section 42 puts the onus on the owners of multiple occupied premises. Many such premises were never designed for occupation by two or more parties.

54 accidents were reported, 14 of which required investigation. In 2 instances no notification was received and information of their occurrence was received in a roundabout way. The persons responsible for notification professed ignorance of the provisions of the Act.

Lighting

In accordance with Circular 9 a survey of lighting standards was made in offices and shops selected as a representative sample of those in the Borough.

Most offices are found in the older type of building with high ceilings and filament lamps are the usual source of artificial light. Decorations, furniture and fittings seem to absorb much of the light provided and the lights are often badly placed so that the area of an office is not evenly lighted.

In such cases it is frequently found that some typists or clerks are working in badly illuminated corners of rooms. Even in buildings where lighting had been brought up to standard it was still found that in manager's or executive's offices the lighting had been designed for decorative effect rather than adequate illumination.

In some offices fluorescent fittings had been installed but after 6 months use the efficiency of these fittings seemed to have diminished.

Lighting of staircases is often unsatisfactory, lights being placed on main landings only giving poor illumination on stairs and intermediate landings. A number of corridors were illuminated by borrowed light only.

Modern offices seem to be well lit but the remarks about manager's offices apply in some cases.

In shops the sales area is usually well lighted, sometimes apparently over-illuminated so that reflections from counters and fittings may cause strain. In contrast stairs, passages, stock rooms and offices attached to shops may be below standard and the difference is emphasized when passing from the brilliantly lit sales rooms to the poorly lighted passages.

Water Closet accommodation for smaller shops is usually situated in rear yards and often no artificial light is provided though for part of the year assistants are employed during a great number of hours of darkness.

All parts of 40 premises were inspected and measurement of light intensity at working surfaces were obtained with a Weston light meter. Below are typical examples of readings obtained in lumens/sq. ft.

Offices

<u>Office</u>	<u>Toilets</u>	<u>Store rooms</u>	<u>Corridors/ Stairs</u>
8 - 28	4 - 8	-	8 - 10
15 - 32	8 - 10	-	4 - 5
26 - 85	8 - 12	-	3 - 5
10 - 30	10	-	8 - 15
10	10	-	5
15 - 36	8	-	4
10 - 25	6	2 - 18	3
10 - 20	10 - 12	-	2 - 10
35 - 65	10	-	5

Larger type of Shops

Sales Area

28 - 40	18 - 40	18 - 30	12 - 14	12
50 - 52	25	10	12 - 14	12
44 - 55	17	12	7	5
52 - 100	10 - 30	5	-	4
25 - 30	20 - 38	5	5	4
25 - 30	22 - 38	10	5	4
20	25 - 30	12	-	5
30	12 - 22	12	-	2 - 4
34 - 60	18 - 24	15 - 18	-	10 - 15
44 - 60	12 - 38	18	4 - 18	2 - 28
28 - 80	18 - 22	15 - 18	15 - 18	4 - 10

To date improvements have been made in about 15% of cases following representation to the employers.

FACTORIES ACT, 1961

Prescribed Particulars on the Administration of the Factories Act, 1961

PART I OF THE ACT

INSPECTIONS for purposes of provisions as to health
(including inspections made by Public Health Inspectors)

Premises (1)	Number on Register (2)	Number of		
		Inspection (3)	Written notices (4)	Occupiers prosecuted (5)
(i) Factories in which Sections 1,2,3, 4 and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities	22	18	-	-
(ii) Factories not in- cluded in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority	434	183	19	-
(iii) Other premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding out- workers' premises)	55	45	1	-
Total	511	246	20	-

2. Cases in which DEFECTS were found

Particulars (1)	Number of cases in which defects were found				Number of cases in which prosecutions were instituted (6)
	Found (2)	Remedied (3)	Referred		
			To H.M. Inspector (4)	By H.M. Inspector (5)	
Want of cleanliness (S.1)	-	-	-	-	-
Overcrowding (S.2)	-	-	-	-	-
Unreasonable temperature (S.3)	-	-	-	-	-
Inadequate ventilation (S.4)	-	-	-	-	-
Ineffective drainage of floors (S.6)	-	-	-	-	-
Sanitary Conveniences (S.7)	-	-	-	-	-
(a) Insufficient	1	1	-	1	-
(b) Unsuitable or defective	18	16	-	21	-
(c) Not separate for sexes	1	1	-	1	-
Other offences against the Act (not including offences relating to Out-work)	-	-	-	-	-
Total	20	18	-	23	-

PART VIII OF THE ACT

Outwork

(Sections 133 and 134)

Nature of work (1)	Section 133			Section 134		
	No. of out-workers in August list required by Section 133 (1)(c) (2)	No. of cases of default in sending lists to the Council (3)	No. of prosecutions for failure to supply lists (4)	No. of instances of work in un-whole-some premises (5)	Notices served (6)	Prosecutions (7)
Wearing Apparel) Making etc.) Clean-) ing) and) Wash-) ing	6	-	-	-	-	-
TOTAL	6	-	-	-	-	-

MILK SUPPLY

The high standard of previous years has been maintained by the two dairies situated in the Borough. They process and bottle a total of about 24,000 gallons a day and supply the major proportion of milk sold in North Wirral. Therefore, supervision and control by sampling are directed mainly at these two places. The details given later show that satisfactory results were obtained. All milk coming into the dairies at the end of the year was in bulk tenders.

At both dairies machinery has been installed for filling cartons with milk. A number of schools are being supplied with milk in cartons instead of bottles and the results of the trial have been satisfactory.

A scheme for all milk supplied through retail shops to be in cartons was started last year. Unfortunately this scheme broke down and bottled milk is again being supplied.

The numbers of registered dairies and dairymen and of licences issued under the Milk (Special Designation) Regulations are :-

Number of registered dairies	31
Number of registered dairymen	274
Dealers' licences to sell pre-packed milk	272
Processors' licences to pasteurise milk	2
Number of visits to dairymen's premises	286

Bacteriological examination of milk

Samples were submitted with the following results :-

	<u>Passed</u>	<u>Failed</u>	<u>Total</u>
Pasteurised Milk	148	4	152
Sterilised Milk	39	-	39
Untreated Milk	18	1	19
	205	5	210

The phosphatase test was satisfactory for all samples, the failures being in respect of the methylene blue test. All five samples which failed that test were obtained from milk vending machines.

Milk Supplies - Brucella Abortus

1) Number of samples of raw milk examined	-	8
2) Number of positive samples found	-	Nil
3) Action taken in respect of positive samples	-	None

All milk produced from farms in this area is pasteurised. The raw milk sold in the Borough is bottled on farms situated within the area of other Local Authorities. In these circumstances there is little point in extensive sampling from individual bottles. Sampling is carried out at these farms by the Cheshire County Authority.

Chemical Analysis of Milk

182 samples of milk were submitted for analysis :-

175 samples were reported as genuine.

6 samples were reported as deficient of fat.

1 sample contained added water.

Following the gradual increase in the quantity of milk brought in bulk tankers to the wholesale dairies, fewer samples have been taken in the course of delivery to these dairies. It has therefore been possible to increase the number of samples of farm bottled milk.

The samples mentioned above as being not genuine were all taken in the course of delivery to the dairies. In the cases of the samples deficient in fat, the fat content of other churns made up for the deficiency so that the bulk milk from each producer was satisfactory. The sample containing added water was an informal sample, and when formal samples came to be taken some days later the farmer had changed to a bulk tanker collection, so that the case was referred to the County Council concerned.

It should be noted that of the genuine samples, 10 were naturally deficient of non-fatty solids. The farmers concerned were notified of the deficiency and requested to take steps to improve the quality.

ICE CREAM

There have been no significant changes in the methods of manufacture and distribution of ice cream in the Borough during the year.

Details of the premises retained on the Statutory Register are as follows :-

Premises registered for the manufacture of Pasteurised Ice Cream	14
Premises registered for the manufacture of Cold Mix Ice Cream	13
Premises registered for the manufacture of Lolly Ices only	8
Premises registered for the sale of Ice Cream and/or Lolly Ices	575
Number of visits paid to premises	98

39 samples of Ice Cream and 4 samples of Lolly Ices were submitted for Bacteriological analysis during the year and reported upon as follows :-

Samples of Ice Cream placed in Grade I							28
"	"	"	"	"	"	II	7
"	"	"	"	"	"	III	-
"	"	"	"	"	"	IV	4
							<hr/> 39

The Lolly Ice samples were satisfactory.

Ice Cream is not now manufactured at many of the premises registered for that purpose. The majority of these samples were taken from the manufacturers still operating and the results show an improvement over those of the previous year.

WATER SUPPLY

16 samples of drinking water were taken from various points within the Borough for Bacteriological examination.

The reports were satisfactory in every case.

PUBLIC SWIMMING BATHS

28 samples of water from the two public swimming baths in the Borough were taken for Bacteriological examination.

With 2 exceptions the samples have been satisfactory.

FOOD AND DRUGS ACT 1955

Analysis of Food (other than Milk)

A wide variety of foods and drugs were sampled during the year. A total of 225 samples (in addition to the 182 milk samples previously referred to) were submitted for analysis to the Public Analyst, Tennyson Harris, Esq., Ph.C., F.P.S., F.R.I.C., at Manchester, whose help and co-operation are gratefully acknowledged.

The following samples were found to be unsatisfactory :-

Grape Juice	-	contained a permitted artificial colour which had not been declared on the label.
Coconut Sweets	-	contained atmospheric grit.
Sunflower Seed Oil	-	was rancid.
Lemon Squash	-	the label did not bear a statement that an artificial sweetener was present.
Mint Sauce	-	only 1% of mint present.

Instant Curry	-	the description was considered misleading as reconstitution did not give a complete curry
Cut Mixed Peel	-	contained an excessive amount of pith and was short in weight.

Warnings were given in respect of these samples and stocks were withdrawn from sale.

In sixteen of the complaints mentioned in the following paragraph from members of the public, the food or foreign object was sent to the Public Analyst for examination.

Food Complaints

A total of 100 complaints were received regarding food alleged to be unfit for consumption. This number is only slightly less than in the previous year. Foreign objects in food were responsible for 48 of these complaints, food affected by mould for 28, dirty milk bottles for 6 and early decomposition for 18. From the varieties of foods, meat and meat products gave rise to 42 complaints, bread and confectionery 32, milk 12, and 14 were from miscellaneous products.

All complaints were investigated with the retailers, manufacturers and importers. On some occasions, particularly where complaints about meat and poultry were received several days after purchase, it was difficult to establish whether the food was in the alleged condition at the time of sale. Most of the complaints regarding mould concerned bread, confectionery, meat pies and sausage rolls. Nearly always when investigating this type of complaint the Food and Drugs Inspector is assured by all concerned in manufacture and distribution, that the product is delivered to the retailer by the day after production at the latest, and the retailer completes the picture of injured innocence by saying that none was left in stock so that the affected article must have been delivered to him the day before it was sold. In spite of these protestations, articles are sold with the inside filling so heavily affected by mould that they are at least 7 to 10 days old. This is sometimes confirmed by the manufacturer's code on the wrapper.

Obviously somewhere along the line of distribution to the customer, someone has mixed old goods with fresh ones. This happens with nationally distributed goods as well as those produced locally, and all concerned are asked to educate their staff in proper stock control. In particular, retailers are recommended to code all wrapped perishable products on delivery from their suppliers so that they or their staff can tell at a glance the time the article has been in stock.

There were no legal proceedings during the year.

Liquid Egg (Pasteurisation) Regulations 1963

1) Number of egg pasteurisation plants	-	None
2) Number of samples taken	-	11

All samples passed the alpha-amylase test.

No problems have arisen during the second year's administration of these Regulations.

FOOD HYGIENE

This work is carried out by a Food Inspector and six district inspectors, there being no specialist Food Hygiene Inspector. Some 3,148 visits were paid during the year to shops and other food premises of all types.

The problems of food hygiene are still concerned with the education of staffs. There is ignorance of the elementary principles of hygiene, proper rotation of stocks and shelf life of perishable commodities. Extended use of cold display shelves for cooked meats is advocated. Lack of adequate space for storage of new stock, empties, refuse and for staff accommodation are continually recurring problems. In the smaller lock-up shop consisting usually of one room only it is next to impossible to provide proper facilities.

The following premises are registered under the provisions laid down in Section 16 of the Food and Drugs Act 1955.

Fish fryers	92
Fish fryers and chicken roasters	3
Butchers manufacturing sausages	52
Butchers manufacturing sausages and cooked meats	27
Ham boiling	2
Grocers manufacturing cooked meats	6
Pickle manufacturers	2
Chicken roasters	10
Meat products factories	4
	<hr/>
	198

Premises registered under the provisions laid down in the Birkenhead Corporation Act 1954 :-

Notification of new food premises	(Sec: 101)	-
Food hawkers and their premises	(Sec: 102)	62
Vendors of shell fish and their premises	(Sec: 103)	41

During the year 141 written notices and 46 verbal notices were given under the Food Hygiene Regulations, covering 444 separate items.

Legal proceedings were instituted under The Food Hygiene (General) Regulations 1960 against a café proprietor who had not brought his premises up to a reasonable standard in spite of

numerous warnings. 15 summonses were issued as follows :-

Regulation	6(1)	Wood preparation table in store room not kept clean
	6(1)	Gas cooker not kept clean
	6(1)	Serving utensils not clean
	6(1)	Table in kitchen not clean and open jointed
	8	Food and food utensils stored in a W.C. compartment
	8	Cooked meat stored in utensils not capable of being cleansed
	14	First floor W.C. not kept clean
	14	First floor W.C. not properly lighted
	14	First floor W.C. basin not clean
	14	Ground floor ladies W.C. defective
	14	Ground floor gents. W.C. defective
	16	Soap, towel and nail brushes not provided
	17	First aid dressings not provided
	23	First floor kitchen floor, walls and ceiling not clean
	23	First floor store room floor, walls and ceiling not clean

The Magistrates found all cases proved and imposed a fine of £10. 0. 0. in each case or £150. 0. 0. in all.

Summary of Inspections and Defects remedied

	Shops	Cafés Canteens	Food Preparing Premises	Licensed Premises	Stalls and Mobile Shops	Totals
Number of premises	752	142	139	170	99	1302
Number of inspections	1458	129	147	74	188	1996
<u>Defects and Contraventions remedied</u>						
Sanitary convenience separated from food room	1	-	-	-	-	1
Walls, floors, ceilings, doors, windows						
(a) repaired	13	6	5	8	-	32
(b) cleansed	11	6	3	2	2	24
Accumulations of refuse removed	5	-	2	-	-	7
Cleanliness of persons, utensils, clothing	2	-	-	-	1	3
Wash-basins provided	3	-	1	-	-	4
Sinks provided, renewed	3	-	1	-	-	4
Hot and cold water supply	1	1	-	-	1	3
Towels, soap etc., provided	2	2	-	-	-	4
Protection from contamination of food	21	12	11	1	4	49
Contravention of local Bye-laws	1	-	-	-	-	1
First Aid materials provided	6	1	-	-	-	7
	69	28	23	11	8	139

Food Hygiene (General) Regulations 1960

	Shops	Cafés	Food Preparing Premises	Mobile Shops	Licensed Premises	Stalls
Number of premises	752	142	139	28	170	71
Reg. 16	750	142	139	3	170	71
Reg. 19	467	141	139	-	168	-
Actually fitted	398	141	139	-	168	27

Unsound Food

The inspection of food in shops, warehouses, canteens, etc., was carried out by all the public health inspectors. All condemned food was collected and disposed of - mainly by tipping on the Corporation tip - under supervision. The following list shows the types and quantities of food dealt with.

Canned and Bottled Goods :-

Meat	2638	
Fruit and Vegetables	13384	
Fish	811	
Soup	845	
Milk	1340	
Preserves	44	
Puddings	1320	
Frozen Foods	2079	pkts.
Cakes, Biscuits	73	lbs.
Cheese	352	lbs.
Cereals	94	lbs.
Coffee, Cocoa, Tea etc.	11	lbs.
Egg (dried or liquid)	56	lbs.
Fats	13½	lbs.
Fruit, Vegetables, Nuts	45	lbs.
Meat, bacon	56	lbs.
Milk, Cream	112	lbs.
Poultry	596	lbs.
Sugar	35	lbs.
Miscellaneous items	43	lbs.

MEAT INSPECTION(Report of the Chief Meat Inspector)

The progress of the Eire Government's scheme for the eradication of bovine tuberculosis is reflected in the year's statistics. For the second successive year no entire carcasses were condemned at Woodside Lairage for generalised tuberculosis, and the number of cases of localised tuberculosis, viz. 38 cases from 13,387 cattle slaughtered, was the lowest on record.

At Tranmere Abattoir, two entire bovine carcasses were condemned for generalised tuberculosis, both animals concerned being those sent into the abattoir for slaughter as reactors to the Tuberculin Test. Three other reactors showed lesions of localised tuberculosis, and the remainder of the 4432 cattle slaughtered at Tranmere Abattoir during the year were free from the disease. This pays tribute to the field work of the veterinary staff of the Ministry of Agriculture.

Following the heavy rainfalls of the last two summers it was no surprise to find a high incidence of fluke disease. About one-third of the bovine livers inspected were condemned due to infestation by this parasite, and this represents over 20 tons of potential food that was not available to the nation. It is to be hoped that the solution to the problem of eradication of this parasite is not too far away.

There has been only one case of Foot and Mouth Disease in Great Britain during the past three years, and although this is encouraging it is still vital to guard against this virulent disease. The incidence of Foot and Mouth Disease in Europe, and particularly in Holland and Switzerland towards the end of the year, led to a banning of the importation of any fresh or refrigerated meat or offal originating in Holland or Switzerland.

On the commercial front, this has been another bad year for the meat trade in general. The national slaughtering figures showed a reduction of 800,000 animals compared with last year's figures. The reduction locally was of the order of 10,000 animals. The Free Trade Agreement between the British and Eire Governments, concluded this year and becoming operative in July 1966, is a timely measure, and there is cautious optimism that the corner has been turned and that the trade in general, and Woodside Lairage in particular, will find a fresh vigour.

In view of the reduced national slaughtering figures it is interesting to note that exports of livestock increased, in the case of cattle by 20,000, and in the case of sheep and lambs by 75,000. These figures do not include the number of livestock exported for breeding purposes.

The principal Acts and Regulations which enable the Meat Inspection Staff to exercise its powers of inspection and to maintain supervision of meat supplies are :-

Birkenhead Corporation Act 1954
 Food and Drugs Act 1955
 Slaughter of Animals Act 1958
 Slaughterhouses Act 1958
 Slaughterhouses (Hygiene) Regulations 1958
 Slaughter of Animals (Prevention of Cruelty) Regs. 1958
 Meat (Staining and Sterilisation) Regulations 1960
 Food Hygiene (General) Regulations 1960
 Food Hygiene (Docks, Carriers etc.) Regulations 1960
 Meat Inspection Regulations 1963

MEAT INSPECTION REGULATIONS 1963

During the year a total of 59,360 animals were slaughtered within the Borough.

	<u>Cattle</u>	<u>Calves</u>	<u>Sheep & Lambs</u>	<u>Pigs</u>
1965	17819	21	34604	6916

All were subjected to ante-mortem and post-mortem inspection. The following table represents a summary of the results of the post-mortem inspections of the various classes of livestock.

	Cattle	Calves	Sheep & Lambs	Pigs
Number Slaughtered	17819	21	34604	6916
Number Inspected	17819	21	34604	6916
All diseases except Tuberculosis and Cysticerci - whole carcasses condemned	35	5	42	33
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	6124	5	10580	2512
Percentage of the number inspected affected with disease other than tuberculosis and cysticerci	34	24	30	37
Tuberculosis only - whole carcase condemned	2	Nil	Nil	Nil
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	38	Nil	Nil	24
Percentage of the number inspected affected with tuberculosis	0.2%	Nil	Nil	0.3%
Cysticercosis - Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	5	Nil	Nil	Nil
Carcasses submitted to treatment by refrigeration	5	Nil	Nil	Nil
Generalised and totally condemned	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil

Weight of condemned carcasses and portions 12 tons 15 cwts.

Weight of condemned offal and portions 49 tons 8 cwts.

The number of animals slaughtered at Woodside Lairage and Tranmere Abattoir during the year was as follows.

	Cattle	Calves	Sheep & Lambs	Pigs
Woodside Lairage	13387	Nil	1804	63
Tranmere Abattoir	4432	21	32800	6853
Totals	17819	21	34604	6916

WOODSIDE LAIRAGE

Woodside Lairage is owned by the Mersey Docks and Harbour Board, and for over eighty years has represented the largest and most complete establishment for the landing, inland transit, slaughtering, and disposal of animals from abroad. Construction began in 1879, and the facilities were enlarged and improved from time to time during subsequent years. The first cattle to be imported were from U.S.A. and before the end of the century cattle had been brought to Birkenhead from many parts of the world including North Africa, Portugal, Canada, Spain, Sierra Leone, South America, and Norway. In the early years of this century cattle were also brought from Canada and Australia, and sheep from Iceland. It was not until 1912 that Irish cattle came to Woodside, and now importations are almost entirely from Eire and Northern Ireland, with a small number from the Isle of Man.

Woodside Lairage occupies half a mile of water-front and covers twenty-four acres. It possesses its own rail-tracks and its own blocks of offices for meat traders, shipping companies, rail and road transport, and administrative and technical staffs. There are maintenance shops and a refrigerating plant. Twenty-three large refrigerated chambers are at the disposal of the meat traders.

The following tables show the number of carcasses and part carcasses condemned at Woodside, both for tuberculosis and for conditions other than tuberculosis.

	Cattle	Calves	Sheep & Lambs	Pigs
Whole carcasses condemned for tuberculosis	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Part carcasses condemned for tuberculosis	8	Nil	Nil	Nil
Number of carcasses of which some organ was condemned for tuberculosis	22	Nil	Nil	Nil
Percentage of the number inspected affected with tuberculosis	0.2%	Nil	Nil	Nil

Total weight of carcase meat condemned for tuberculosis . 1 cwt.

Total weight of offal condemned for tuberculosis 2 cwts.

	Cattle	Calves	Sheep & Lambs	Pigs
Whole carcases condemned for conditions other than tuberculosis	23	Nil	1	7
Part of carcases condemned for ditto	97	Nil	5	33

Total weight of carcase meat condemned for conditions other than tuberculosis 7 tons 5 cwts.

Total weight of offal condemned for ditto 27 tons -

TRANMERE ABATTOIR

The foundation stone of Tranmere Abattoir was laid in 1886. The abattoir is situated on a busy main road in an industrial area and has no opportunity of expansion and development. Until 1962 it was administered as a Public Abattoir by the Corporation, and in July of that year it passed under lease to the Fatstock Marketing Corporation. Despite its age, the abattoir is able to cope with the demands made upon it as a slaughtering and distributing centre for the Wirral area. The carved stone animal heads over the façade of the main entrance and on the pediments of the main buildings are unlikely ever to be reproduced on any modern abattoir.

The following tables are a summary of condemnations at Tranmere Abattoir together with percentage figures of the incidence of tuberculosis and conditions other than tuberculosis.

	Cattle	Calves	Sheep & Lambs	Pigs
Whole carcases condemned for tuberculosis	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Part carcases condemned for tuberculosis	8	Nil	Nil	Nil
Number of carcases of which some organs were condemned for tuberculosis	22	Nil	Nil	Nil
Percentage of the number inspected affected with tuberculosis	0.3%	Nil	Nil	Nil

	Cattle	Calves	Sheep & Lambs	Pigs
Whole carcasses condemned for tuberculosis	2	Nil	Nil	Nil
Part carcasses condemned for tuberculosis	Nil	Nil	Nil	24
Number of carcasses of which some organ was condemned for tuberculosis	3	Nil	Nil	24
Percentage of the number inspected affected with tuberculosis	0.1%	Nil	Nil	0.4

Total weight of carcase meat condemned for tuberculosis

13 cwt.s.

Total weight of offal condemned for tuberculosis

3 cwt.s.

	Cattle	Calves	Sheep & Lambs	Pigs
Whole carcasses condemned for conditions other than tuberculosis	12	5	41	26
Part carcasses condemned for ditto	42	Nil	49	191

Total weight of carcase meat condemned for conditions other than tuberculosis

5 tons

Total weight of offal condemned for ditto

21 tons

EMERGENCY SLAUGHTER

During the year at Woodside Lairage a total of 358 animals, comprising 156 bullocks, 28 heifers, 6 cows, 4 stirks, 12 sheep, 103 lambs, 4 pigs, 33 sows, 10 boars and 2 gilts were considered to be sick or injured and were the subject of casualty slaughter. The entire carcasses and offals of 7 bullocks, 1 lamb, 1 pig, 1 boar and 5 sows were condemned and part carcasses and offals were condemned from 20 bullocks, 5 heifers, 2 cows, 1 pig, 6 boars and 19 sows. Two bullocks were found to be infested with *Cysticercus Bovis* and the carcasses sent for refrigeration treatment. In the case of the remainder, condemnations were confined to the viscera.

At Tranmere Abattoir 21 sick or injured animals, comprising 7 cows, two bulls, two bullocks, two stirks, 3 calves and five pigs, were received for emergency slaughter. Of these, three carcasses and offals were totally condemned, and part carcasses and offals from five others. In the case of the remainder, condemnations were confined to the viscera.

IMPORTED MEAT

Check inspections of imported meat in Cold Stores and Wholesale Depots were made during the year. In all, 160 visits were made and as a result of inspections two tons of meat and other foods were condemned, comprising 19 cwts. of carcase meat, 15 cwts. of offal, 149 poultry carcasses weighing 5 cwts., and 10 tins of cooked meat weighing 1 cwt.

SLAUGHTERHOUSES (HYGIENE) REGULATIONS 1958

Periodic inspections are made by the Chief Meat Inspector under the provisions of this Order. Works of improvement achieved at Woodside Lairage during the year include the cleansing of all wall surfaces and the application of limewash or bitumastic, as appropriate, in slaughterhouses, cooling-halls, passage-ways, chill-rooms and offal houses. At Tranmere Abattoir renovations included the cleansing of wall surfaces and application of limewash, colour-wash or paint, as appropriate.

SLAUGHTER OF ANIMALS (PREVENTION OF CRUELTY) REGULATIONS 1958

Both Woodside Lairage and Tranmere Abattoir are fully equipped with approved stunning pens for cattle, and, in addition, at Tranmere Abattoir, electrolethalers are installed for the preliminary stunning of sheep and pigs. Work done during the year included the re-limewashing of wall surfaces and repairs to cattle pens.

FOOD HYGIENE (GENERAL) REGULATIONS 1960

Periodic inspections were made of all vehicles transporting meat from abattoirs and wholesale depots. In general the standard is high with all vehicles conforming to legal requirements. Inter alia, these regulations require that persons employed in the handling of meat shall wear protective clothing and by trade

union agreement such protective clothing is provided by the employers. Checks on the cleanliness and sufficiency of such clothing are made from time to time, and minor infringements dealt with by cautionary letter.

FOOD HYGIENE (DOCKS, CARRIERS ETC.) REGULATIONS 1960

Periodic visits of inspection were made to wholesale depots, cold stores, offal houses, and carriers' premises under the provisions of these regulations and technical advice given where necessary. The willing co-operation of the firms and individuals concerned has been much appreciated.

SLAUGHTERHOUSES ACT 1958

Officers of the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food paid a visit of inspection to Woodside Lairage and Tranmere Abattoir under the supervisory powers of this Act. After detailed inspection directed at all the points enumerated in the Slaughterhouses (Hygiene) Regulations and the Slaughterhouses (Prevention of Cruelty) Regulations 1958, satisfaction was declared as to the general organisation and conditions obtaining at both slaughtering centres.

SLAUGHTER OF ANIMALS ACT 1958

The stunning and slaughtering of animals in a slaughterhouse is prohibited except under licence by the Local Authority. As at 31st December, 1965, there were 40 slaughtermen's licences in force.

COMMAND PAPER ON THE MARKETING OF MEAT AND LIVESTOCK

During the year the Minister of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food presented his White Paper on the Marketing of Meat and Livestock. It envisages the establishment of a Meat and Livestock Commission with responsibilities extending over the whole industry in Great Britain, excluding Northern Ireland. Its functions are to extend from the production of livestock on the farm to the sale of meat to the consumer. Specifically excluded from the Commission's area of responsibility are the matters of hygiene standards in slaughterhouses and the inspection of meat. These duties remain with the Local Authorities. Committees will be set up to advise the Commission on such matters as production, marketing, carcase classification, certification for fatstock guarantee, slaughterhouses, retail sales, research and imports.

Taken in conjunction with the more recently concluded Free Trade Agreement with the Eire Government it entitles a note of optimism to be sounded.

PET ANIMALS ACT 1951

This Act regulates the sale of pet animals and makes it an offence to keep a pet shop except under the authority of a licence granted by the Local Authority. These shops are visited regularly

to ensure compliance with the conditions of the licence. During the year 60 visits were made and 10 licences were granted.

BIRKENHEAD CORPORATION ACT 1954

Section 98 of the above Act regulates the sale of animal feeding meat and provides for the registration of approved premises. There were 16 such registered premises in the Borough as at 31st December, 1965, and 64 visits were paid to them during the year.

MEAT (STAINING AND STERILISATION) REGULATIONS 1960

These Regulations require all butchers' meat and imported meat which is unfit for human consumption to be sterilised, and all knacker meat to be stained or sterilised, before sale as pet food. A quantity of unsterilised and unstained meat was found to be on sale as pet food, but on investigation it proved to be horse flesh which was imported under veterinary certificate.

DISPOSAL OF CONDEMNED MEAT AND OFFAL

Meat and offal which, on inspection at the abattoirs, is rejected as unfit for human consumption remains in the legal ownership of the various meat traders concerned. It is removed by contractors to processing plants for heat treatment. By-products include animal foodstuffs, tallow and fertiliser.

MERCHANDISE MARKS ACT 1926

Orders made under the above Act, as supplied to certain classes of chilled, frozen, boneless, and salted meats and edible offals, provide that such foodstuffs shall bear an indication of origin, a further object of the Orders being to ensure that such foodstuffs shall be easily identified when exposed for sale. During the year 150 visits were paid to butchers' shops and stalls under the provisions of the Orders. Generally a good standard is being maintained, and minor infringements were dealt with by verbal caution.

RIDING ESTABLISHMENTS ACT 1964

This Act, which came into operation in April 1965, replaced the Act of 1939 and provided, for the first time, that no person shall keep a riding establishment except under the authority of a licence granted by the Local Authority. Five applications for licence were received and in accordance with the provisions of the Act the five establishments and the horses and ponies in them were inspected by a veterinary surgeon. Following favourable reports, licences were granted to the applicants. Subsequent visits have been paid to all riding establishments and the horses observed at exercise in the paddocks. Premises have been found to be in a clean and satisfactory state and the horses and ponies in good condition.

ANIMAL BOARDING ESTABLISHMENTS ACT 1963

This Act provides for a system of licensing of premises at which a business of accommodating cats and dogs is carried on. There were three licensed establishments during the first half of the year, but one licence was surrendered by the holder when the business ceased. Periodic visits were paid to the establishments and two licences were renewed.

DISEASES OF ANIMALS ACT 1950

In addition to the publication of the Orders of the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food, and the supervision of cleansing and disinfection of infected farm premises, and the licensing of the movement of livestock, it is also the duty of the Local Authority to enforce all Orders made for the protection of animals and poultry from unnecessary suffering during transit.

The principal Orders which enable the Inspectorate to exercise their powers of inspection are :-

- Transit of Animals Order 1927
- Fowl Pest Order 1936
- Anthrax Order 1938
- Foot and Mouth (Amendment) Order 1938
- Tuberculosis (Slaughter of Reactors) Order 1950
- Transit of Horses Order 1951
- Diseases of Animals (Waste Foods) Order 1957
- Regulation of Movement of Swine Order 1959
- Movement (Records) Order 1960
- Live Poultry (Restrictions) Order 1963
- Swine Fever Order 1963
- Transit of Calves Order 1963
- Exported Animals Protection Order 1964
- Diseases of Animals (Seizure of Carcasses) Order 1964

TRANSIT OF ANIMALS ORDER 1927

During the year a total importation of 108,677 store cattle were landed at Woodside from Eire and Northern Ireland. They were held for a detention period during which time they were examined by Ministry veterinary inspectors. In due course they are transported by rail and road to farmland in England, Wales, and Scotland to be fed into fat cattle. During their stay in Woodside Lairage they are adequately fed and watered. Check inspections are made of trucks and vehicles used for transport.

FOWL PEST ORDER 1936

During 1965 there were 495 outbreaks of Fowl Pest in Great Britain. This compares very favourably with the 2,176 cases of the disease in 1964 and is a tribute to the Ministry policy of inoculation of young birds and slaughter of infected flocks. There have been no cases or suspected cases of Fowl Pest in the Borough during the year.

ANTHRAX ORDER 1938

Outbreaks of Anthrax in Great Britain have increased steadily over the last three years. In 1963 there were 320 outbreaks, in 1964 there were 492 outbreaks and in the year under review 515 outbreaks. One of the major causes is considered to be the use of imported animal feeding stuffs. It is over ten years since the last case of Anthrax in the Borough, but this gives rise to no complacency and arrangements are in hand for the prompt disposal of infected carcasses should the occasion arise.

FOOT AND MOUTH (AMENDMENT) ORDER 1938

There having been no outbreaks of Foot and Mouth Disease in the country for two years, it was an unpleasant surprise when an outbreak occurred this year in a southern county which necessitated the slaughter and destruction of 154 cattle. Nevertheless, when one reflects that in 1960 there were 298 outbreaks of the disease, necessitating the slaughter and destruction of 70,593 cattle, it becomes apparent just how tremendous has been the improvement in this sphere. There has been no case of Foot and Mouth Disease in this Borough since the war years.

TUBERCULOSIS (SLAUGHTER OF REACTORS) ORDER 1950

Thirty cattle which had reacted to the Tuberculin Test were sent into Tranmere Abattoir for slaughter and inspection. Five of the cattle showed positive tuberculous lesions. A report of the post-mortem findings was, in each case, sent to the Divisional Veterinary Officer of the Ministry of Agriculture.

TRANSIT OF HORSES ORDER 1951

During the year a total number of 2,964 horses and asses were landed at Woodside Lairage. During their stay they were adequately fed and watered. Check inspections were made of transport vehicles before the animals continued to their destinations, special attention being given to the state of cleanliness in view of the epidemic of equine influenza in the early part of the year. Minor infringements were dealt with by verbal caution.

DISEASES OF ANIMALS (WASTE FOODS) ORDER 1957

This Order prohibits the feeding of unboiled waste food to certain animals or to poultry, and also provides, inter alia, that such waste food must be boiled for at least one hour in boiler plant licensed by the Local Authority. During the year one licence was revoked in respect of premises where pig-keeping had ceased. There are at present nine licences in force. Forty visits of inspection and supervision were paid to farms and piggeries within the Borough under the provisions of this Order.

REGULATION OF MOVEMENT OF SWINE ORDER 1959

During the year 773 store pigs were brought into the Borough under Movement Licence. During the period of 28 days detention

visits were made to farms and piggeries and the pigs inspected. Fifty-two visits of inspection and supervision were made to such premises within the Borough under the provisions of this Order.

MOVEMENT OF ANIMALS (RECORDS) ORDER 1960

This Order requires that records be kept of the movement of animals on and off farm premises and that such records be kept and retained for a specified time. The scheduling of farm land for development has reduced the number of cow-keepers in the Borough to eight. There are also 23 registered pig-keepers. Sixty visits were paid to farms and piggeries during the year for the purpose of inspection of the records of movements of livestock.

SWINE FEVER ORDER 1963

Three years ago there were 1,243 outbreaks of Swine Fever in Great Britain causing the slaughter of 254,786 pigs as being diseased or having been exposed to infection. The incidence has declined rapidly in subsequent years to a total, in 1965, of 113 outbreaks with 42,079 pigs slaughtered as diseased or exposed to infection.

On receipt of information that a number of store pigs, received into two piggeries within the Borough from a livestock market in Wales, were swine fever contacts, a notice restricting movement from the two premises concerned was served on the pig-keepers. The pigs were inspected at the end of the prescribed quarantine period, and, there being no evidence of the development of swine fever among them, a further notice releasing them from restrictions was served in accordance with the terms of the Order.

SWINE FEVER (INFECTED AREAS) SPECIAL ORDER 1965

Consequent upon the outbreak of Swine Fever in an adjoining county, notification was received from the Ministry of Agriculture that the above Order had been made, declaring a defined area to be an Infected Area, and prohibiting any movement of pigs within that area except on Movement Licence. The Borough was within the declared Infected Area, and movements of pigs were accordingly restricted for the three month duration of the Order.

EXPORTED PONIES PROTECTION ORDER 1958

One Welsh Mountain pony with foal at foot were exported from Birkenhead Docks on licence to Rhodesia for breeding purposes.

EXPORTED ANIMALS PROTECTION ORDER 1964

One Hereford heifer was exported from Birkenhead Docks on licence to South Africa for breeding purposes.

