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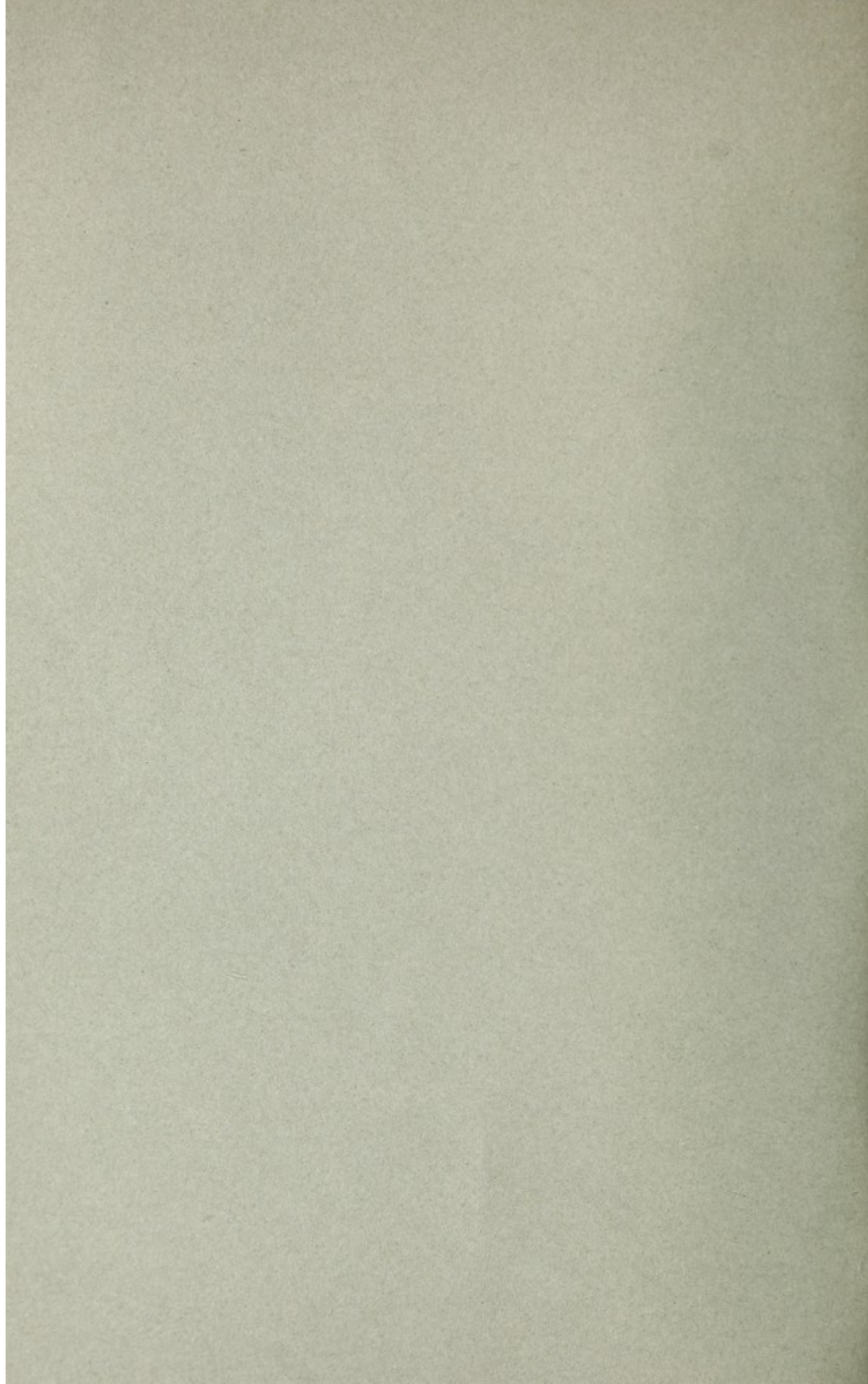
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MINISTRY OF HEALTH
COUNTY BOROUGH OF BIRKENHEAD



ANNUAL REPORT
OF THE
MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH
FOR
1967

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



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COUNTY BOROUGH OF BIRKENHEAD

HEALTH COMMITTEE

(As at 31.12.67)

His Worship The Mayor

Alderman F.J. Snell, J.P.

Chairman:

Councillor Miss D. Tomlinson

Deputy Chairman:

Alderman Mrs. A.L. Crombleholme

Aldermen:

Mrs. E.F. Gardner

C.S. McDonald

R. Pilkington

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

L.N.S. Jones

J.E. Evans, J.P.

Mrs. M. Ryan

Miss B. Jackson

W.G. Smith

Co-opted Members:

Mrs. E. Banner

Mrs. A.W. Osborne

Mrs. A. Capper

Mr. L. Toale

Mr. A.G. de B. Marrs

Mr. P. Wilson

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:

Pamela P. Griffith, L.R.C.P., L.R.C.S., L.R.F.P.S.

Alan K. Spence, M.B., Ch.B., B.A.O., D.P.H., D.C.H.
(Commenced 16th January, 1967.)

John C. Hinchliffe, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.
(Resigned 13th August, 1967.)

Pamela A. Robertson, M.B., Ch.B., D.Obst. R.C.O.G.
(Resigned 30th September, 1967.)

CHIEF DENTAL OFFICER:

F.G. Sutcliffe, L.D.S.
(Resigned 1st February, 1967.)

W.M. Shaw, L.D.S.
(Commenced 10th July, 1967.)

CHIEF PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR AND INSPECTOR
UNDER FOOD AND DRUGS ACT:

M. Holgate, M.R.S.H., M.A.P.H.I.

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.
(Retired 24th May, 1967.)

Miss A.E. Griffiths, S.R.N., S.C.M., H.V.C.
(Commenced 25th May, 1967.)

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.

CHIEF CLERK:

S. Duckworth

CHIROPODISTS:

Mr. J. Poxon, L.Ch., H.Ch.D., S.R.Ch.
(Resigned 2nd July, 1967.)

Mrs. C.M. Davies, M.Ch.S., S.R.Ch.
(Resigned 8th December, 1967.)

Mrs. G. Wellman, L.Ch., S.R.Ch.
(Commenced 11th December, 1967.)

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

Mr. Mayor, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Once again it has been a difficult year from the staffing point of view. Dr. J.C. Hinchliffe resigned in August on obtaining a post elsewhere, and Dr. P.P. Robertson resigned but carried on giving sessional duty in a part-time capacity. Owing to the ban on advertising by the B.M.A. because of the dispute between that body and local authorities, these posts were not advertised. Dr. P.P. Griffith was on the sick list for the latter half of the year.

Vacancies in the Health Visiting staff and in the Public Health Inspectorate remained unfilled at the end of the year.

In spite of these staffing difficulties the output of work has been surprisingly well maintained. Miss C.M. Jones, Superintendent Health Visitor, who had given 35 years' nursing service to the Borough, resigned on 24th May to go into well-earned retirement.

The Chairman and Members of the Health Committee have encouraged the staff by their interest in all aspects of our varied activities.

I am glad of this opportunity of acknowledging the loyal service and conscientious work of all members of the Health Department.

I am,

Your obedient servant,

J.W. LOBBAN,

Medical Officer of Health.

April, 1968.

GENERAL STATISTICSPOPULATION

Registrar General's estimated population							
mid year 1967	..	..	..	..	..	..	143,550
Census Population 1961	..	..	..	..	..	..	141,683

BIRTHS

	<u>Males</u>	<u>Females</u>	<u>Totals</u>	
Live Births Legitimate	1219	1111	2330	
Illegitimate	116	116	232	2,562
Live Birth Rate per 1,000 population	..	..	..	17.8
Comparability factor	..	..	..	0.99
Birth Rate as adjusted by factor	..	..	..	17.6
Illegitimate live births per cent of total live births				9.0

	<u>Males</u>	<u>Females</u>	<u>Totals</u>	
Still Births Legitimate	20	16	36	
Illegitimate	3	4	7	43
Total live and still births	..	..	..	2,605
Still Birth rate per 1,000 total births (live and still)				16.5

DEATHS

Number of deaths:	Males 867)	..	..	..	1,672
	Females 805)	..	..	..	
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	..	..	..	..	61
Rate per 1,000 total live births	..	..	..	..	24
Deaths of legitimate infants under one year	..	..	..	..	49
Rate per 1,000 legitimate live births	..	..	..	..	21
Deaths of illegitimate infants under one year	..	..	..	..	12
Rate per 1,000 illegitimate live births	..	..	..	..	51.7

NEONATAL MORTALITY

Deaths of infants under four weeks	..	..	..	..	47
Rate per 1,000 live births	..	..	..	..	18.3

EARLY NEONATAL MORTALITY

Deaths of infants under one week	..	..	..	..	45
Rate per 1,000 live births	..	..	..	..	17.5

POST NEONATAL MORTALITY

Deaths of infants over four weeks and under one year	..	..	..	..	14
Rate per 1,000 live births	..	..	..	..	5.4

PERINATAL MORTALITY

Still births and deaths of infants under one week	..	..	..	..	88
Rate per 1,000 total births (live and still)	..	..	..	..	33.7

MATERNAL MORTALITY

Maternal deaths	..	..	..	..	0
Rate per 1,000 total births	..	..	..	..	0.00

<u>EXCESS OF BIRTHS OVER DEATHS</u>	..	..	..	..	890
-------------------------------------	----	----	----	----	-----

GENERAL

Area of Borough (in acres)	..	..	..	..	8,643
Number of persons per acre	..	..	..	..	16.6
Number of houses in Borough	..	..	..	..	43,300
General Rate 1967/68	..	..	..	..	10/8d.
Estimated product of a penny rate	..	..	..	..	£19,600

DEATHS

1,672 deaths occurred during the year (867 males and 805 females). This represents a death rate of 12.8 per 1,000 population. The comparable death rate for England and Wales is 11.2 per 1,000 population. Recent annual figures are as follows :-

<u>Year</u>	<u>Borough</u>	<u>England and Wales</u>
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
1966	12.5	11.7
1967	12.8	11.2

INFANT MORTALITY

There were 61 deaths of children under 1 year of age, which represents an infant mortality rate of 24, compared with the National average of 18.3.

The causes of death were as follows :-

Pneumonia	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	11
Bronchitis	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1
Accidents (other than motor vehicle)	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	2
Congenital malformations	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	10
Other defined and ill-defined diseases	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	37
								61

The actual number of deaths is four less than in 1966. There has been a reduction in the number of deaths from congenital malformations (10 compared with 16 in 1966). 47 of the 61 deaths occurred within the first four weeks of life. Accidents caused 2 deaths compared with 6 in 1966.

Deaths due to Tuberculosis

		<u>Rates per</u> <u>1,000 population</u>	<u>England and</u> <u>Wales</u>
Respiratory	8	0.05	0.037
Non-respiratory	0	0.00	0.005

Deaths due to Cancer of the Lung

The number of deaths was 100 compared with 83 in 1966. The marked disproportion between males and females has continued - 84 males and 16 females have died from this condition.

Recent figures are as follows :-

<u>Year</u>	<u>Males</u>	<u>Females</u>	<u>Total</u>
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
1966	70	13	83
1967	84	16	100

The local figures represent 0.69 per 1,000 population compared with the National figure of 0.584.

Cancer of Other Sites

264 deaths occurred as a result of cancer of other sites, representing 1.8 per 1,000 population compared with the National figure of 1.69.

Heart Disease

Heart disease accounted for 471 deaths, representing 28% of total deaths. 100 of the 333 deaths due to coronary disease were under the age of 65 years. (Males 81, females 19.)

Pneumonia and Bronchitis

Pneumonia claimed 134 victims, while bronchitis was the cause of death in 85 cases. Together these diseases represented 13% of total deaths. 106 of the deaths due to these diseases occurred in the age group 75 years and over.

Maternal Deaths

There was no maternal death during the year.

Accidents

25 deaths occurred as a result of motor vehicle accidents and 31 as a result of other accidents. 2 accidental deaths occurred in children under 1 year of age.

Altogether 56 deaths were caused by accident, which is a decrease of 4 compared with 1966.

Suicide

Ten cases of suicide occurred during the year, compared with 9 in 1966.

SUMMARY OF COMPARATIVE STATISTICS

	<u>Birkenhead</u>	<u>England and Wales</u>
Birth Rate (per 1,000 population)	17.6	17.2
Still Birth Rate (per 1,000 total live and still births)	16.5	14.8
Death Rate (per 1,000 population)	12.8	11.2
Infant Mortality Rate (per 1,000 live births)	24	18.3
Neonatal Mortality Rate (Deaths under 4 weeks per 1,000 live births)	18.3	12.5
Early Neonatal Mortality Rate (Deaths under 1 week per 1,000 live births)	17.5	10.8
Perinatal Mortality Rate (Still births and deaths under 1 week per 1,000 total births live and still)	33.7	25.4
Deaths from respiratory tuberculosis (per 1,000 population)	0.05	0.037
Deaths from non-respiratory tuberculosis (per 1,000 population)	0.00	0.005
Deaths from Cancer of Lung (per 1,000 population)	0.69	0.584
Deaths from Cancer of other sites (per 1,000 population)	1.8	1.69

CAUSES OF DEATH AT DIFFERENT PERIODS OF LIFE DURING 1967

(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									
					1-	5-	15-	25-	35-	45-	55-	65-	75 & over	
1. Tuberculosis, Respiratory	M	6	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	4	1	-	-
	F	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	1	-	-	-
3. Syphilitic Disease	M	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
	F	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
9. Other Infective and Parasitic Diseases	M	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	F	27	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	3	3	11	-	10
10. Malignant Neoplasm, Stomach	M	11	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	5	-	4
11. Malignant Neoplasm, Lung, Bronchus	M	84	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	31	27	-	14
	F	16	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	9	6	4	-	3
12. Malignant Neoplasm, Breast	M	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	F	32	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	9	8	11	-	4
13. Malignant Neoplasm, Uterus	F	16	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	4	5	2	-	5
14. Other Malignant and Lymphatic Neoplasms	M	98	-	-	-	2	2	3	8	24	29	21	-	30
	F	80	-	-	1	1	-	2	5	17	21	1	1	32
15. Leukaemia, Aleukaemia	M	4	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	1	-	-
	F	5	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	1	-	-
16. Diabetes	M	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	-	3
	F	7	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	3	-	46
17. Vascular Lesions of Nervous System	M	92	-	-	-	-	-	2	3	13	28	22	-	111
	F	149	-	-	-	-	-	-	5	11	11	22	-	53
18. Coronary Disease, Angina	M	206	-	-	-	-	-	5	33	43	72	72	-	72
	F	127	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	18	36	36	-	72

19. Hypertension with Heart Disease	M	5	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	2	3
20. Other Heart Disease	F	7	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	10	18	5
21. Other Circulatory Disease	M	43	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	7	9	26
22. Influenza	F	83	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	18	28	55
23. Pneumonia	M	31	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	7	-	1
24. Bronchitis	F	37	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	21	26
25. Other Diseases of Respiratory System	M	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	10	13	52
26. Ulcer of Stomach and Duodenum	F	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	30	15	13
27. Gastritis, Enteritis and Diarrhoea	M	63	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	8	2	3
28. Nephritis and Nephrosis	F	71	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	2	5
29. Hyperplasia of Prostate	M	60	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	3	2	2
31. Congenital Malformations	F	25	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	2	1
32. Other Defined and Ill-Defined Diseases	M	10	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	3	3	-
33. Motor Vehicle Accidents	F	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	2	-
34. All Other Accidents	M	9	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	-
35. Suicide	F	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	2	-
36. Homicide and Operations of War	M	7	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	-
	F	43	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	2	-
	M	83	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	11	36	-
	F	31	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	7	9	-
	M	37	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	2	-
	F	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	3	3	-
	M	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	-
	F	63	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	5	4	-
	M	71	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	14	10	-
	F	60	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	3	3	-
	M	25	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	2	-
	F	10	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	-
	M	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	2	-
	F	9	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	3	3	-
	M	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	2	-
	F	5	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	3	3	-
	M	6	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	-
	F	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	2	-
	M	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	-
	F	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	2	-
	M	7	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	-
	F	9	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	2	-
	M	68	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	12	6	-
	F	77	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	9	1	-
	M	15	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	3	3	-
	F	10	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	2	-
	M	17	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	-
	F	14	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	3	3	-
	M	5	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	-
	F	5	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	3	3	-
	M	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	-
	F	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	-
	M	867	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	174	265	267
	F	805	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	95	169	441
Total All Causes			29	10	4	4	6	2	8	5	9	24	75	174	265	267					
			18				6	6	5	5	9	9	47	95	169	441					

INFECTIOUS DISEASES

As will be seen from the tables on following pages, the year under review has been a quiet one. No case of typhoid fever, paratyphoid fever, diphtheria, acute poliomyelitis, smallpox, acute encephalitis, was notified.

One case of Ophthalmia neonatorum was notified.

There was an increase in the number of cases of whooping cough and a marked decrease in the number of measles notified.

SUSPECTED FOOD POISONING CASES AND INFECTIOUS DISEASE

CASES ASSOCIATED WITH FOOD AND/OR DRINK

During the year 113 cases of suspected food poisoning or dysentery were notified to this department. Investigations involved 249 visits to patients' homes by the food and drugs inspector and the submission of 311 specimens for bacteriological examination.

The causal agent was confirmed in the following cases :-

Salmonella typhimurium	..	..	..	..	..	2
Salmonella Virchow	..	..	..	..	..	5
Salmonella senftenberg	..	..	..	..	..	1
Shigella Sonnei	..	..	..	..	..	23

The dysentery cases were all in family outbreaks and the opportunity was taken to give advice on personal hygiene to the families concerned.

The Salmonella typhimurium cases were in one family and no specific food could be implicated as the source of infection. The Salmonella virchow cases occurred at about the same time in 3 families on the same housing estate. Exhaustive enquiries failed to establish any foodstuff or food supplier common to the families. The Salmonella senftenberg case occurred while the patient was in India.

There were no institutional outbreaks during the year.

	Meningo-coccal Infection				Scarlet Fever				Diphtheria				Acute Poliomyelitis				Measles				Whooping Cough				Dysentery			
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
Numbers originally notified	1	1	38	38	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	192	161	85	111	-	-	27	26	-	-	-	-
Final numbers after correction	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Age under 1 year	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	13	10	8	5	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-
Age 1	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	29	26	8	17	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-
Age 2	-	-	4	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	35	29	10	19	-	-	2	1	-	-	-	-
Age 3	-	-	3	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	31	21	12	23	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Age 4	-	-	4	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	22	30	16	11	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Age 5 - 9 years	-	-	16	21	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	57	45	26	30	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Age 10 - 14 years	-	-	9	4	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	3	-	3	2	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-
Age 15 - 24 years	-	-	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-
Age 25 years and over	-	-	-	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	4	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-
Totals	-	-	38	38	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	192	161	84	111	-	-	4	4	-	-	-	-

	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.
Numbers originally notified	36	31	-	-	-	-	-	-	5	4	-	-	9	-	-	-	-	27	23	-	1
Final numbers after correction																					
Under 5 years	6	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	1
Age 5 - 14 years	1	4	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-
Age 15 - 44 years	5	4	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	9	-	-	-	1	3	-	-	-
Age 45 - 64 years	18	5	-	-	-	-	-	-	4	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	1	-	-	-
Age 65 and over	6	14	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Age unknown	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Totals	36	31	-	-	-	-	-	-	5	4	-	-	9	-	-	-	3	6	-	-	1

TUBERCULOSISNotification

There were 45 new cases of tuberculosis notified during 1967, compared with 51 in 1966.

Mortality

There were 8 deaths from tuberculosis during the year, an increase of 1 on the figure for 1966. 29 patients died from other causes.

Tuberculosis Register

The Register shows a decrease of 261 during 1967. 51 cases were added to the Register and 311 were removed for various reasons. Of the latter figure 36 died, 206 were recovered, 63 left the Borough and 6 were lost sight of. Of the 51 cases added to the Register 6 were inward transfers and 45 were primary notifications.

	Adults	Children (under 15 years)	Total
Respiratory - Male	416	10	426
- Female	342	18	360
Non-respiratory - Male	25	1	26
- Female	51	5	56
Totals - Male	441	11	452
- Female	393	23	416
Grand Total - 1967	834	34	868
- 1966	983	146	1129

FORMAL NOTIFICATIONS DURING YEAR
NUMBER OF PRIMARY NOTIFICATIONS OF NEW CASES OF TUBERCULOSIS

AGE PERIOD	0-	1-	2-	5-	10-	15-	20-	25-	35-	45-	55-	65-	75-	TOTAL
Respiratory	-	-	1	-	-	1	-	2	6	5	6	2	-	23
- Males ...	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	3	2	1	1	1	-	12
- Females ...	-	-	-	-	3	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	2
Non-respiratory	-	-	-	1	-	-	1	-	1	-	-	-	-	5
- Males ...	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
- Females ...	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
TOTAL	-	-	2	1	3	2	1	6	9	7	7	4	-	42

NEW CASES OTHER THAN BY FORMAL NOTIFICATION

Death returns from Local Registrars														
Respiratory	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	1	2
- Males ...	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	1
- Females ...	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Non-respiratory	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
- Males ...	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
- Females ...	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Death returns from Registrar - General (Transferable deaths)														
Respiratory	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
- Males ...	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
- Females ...	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Non-respiratory	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
- Males ...	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
- Females ...	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Posthumous Notifications														
Respiratory	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
- Males ...	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
- Females ...	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Non-respiratory	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
- Males ...	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
- Females ...	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
TOTAL	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	1	3

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	Disablment		
Architect	4	-	-	19	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	24	
Baths and Markets	11	-	-	7	-	-	-	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	26	
Borough Valuer	-	-	-	4	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	4	
Children's	-	-	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	
Cleansing	57	3	6	12	15	-	-	38	4	-	-	-	-	8	96	
Education	110	1	-	35	1	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	12	353	
Engineer and Surveyor	15	1	-	12	3	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	1	40	
Fire and Ambulance	3	-	1	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	12	
Health	1	-	-	23	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	25	
Housing	3	-	1	3	5	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	15	
Libraries	-	-	-	16	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	17	
Magistrates' Clerk	-	-	-	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	3	
Other Authorities	-	-	-	5	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	5	
Parks and Cemeteries	18	1	7	2	3	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	3	37	
Police	2	-	-	11	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	13	
Probation Service	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
Town Clerk	2	-	-	21	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	23	
Transport	48	-	13	61	16	224	-	-	6	-	-	-	-	18	437	
Treasurer	1	-	-	11	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	13	
Welfare	6	-	-	13	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	23	
Weights and Measures	2	-	-	4	16	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	6	
Works	29	5	2	4	16	-	-	-	3	-	-	-	-	5	67	
TOTALS	312	21	30	268	72	225	38	143	19	36	-	7	-	53	1241	

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 acts as his deputy. During 1967, 2,176 cremations took place, compared with 2,160 in 1966.

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.

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, 1967,

compared with the year 1966

	<u>1967</u>	<u>1966</u>
<u>Total Number of Poisoning Cases treated:</u>	<u>186</u>	<u>156</u>
<u>Age Incidence:</u>		
Birth to 1 year	6	5
1 year to 2 years	53	44
2 years to 3 years	62	54
3 " to 4 "	40	29
4 " to 5 "	14	7
5 " to 8 "	5	9
8 " to 11 "	3	2
Over 11 years	<u>3</u>	<u>6</u>

	<u>1967</u>	<u>1966</u>
<u>Nature of Poisoning:</u>		
Drugs or Medicines	116	107
Domestic Items	70	49

Drugs:

Aspirin	35	37
Tranquillisers	26	27
Other types of tablets	25	18
Others	30	25

Domestic Items:

Bleach and Disinfectants	16	6
Paraffin and Turpentine	14	12
Polishes	4	8
Cosmetics	6	1
Mice, Rat and Fly Poisons	2	3
Toadstools and Berries	3	11
Other Domestic Substances	25	8

Means by which Poisons were obtained:

Left lying loose in house, i.e. tables, drawers, mantelpiece, shelves, cupboards, etc.	126	105
Obtained from handbags	13	8
Obtained from other persons	7	4
Found in gardens, streets and old properties	6	15
Details not known	34	24

The total figure for 1967 - 186, is the highest since the Annual figures were submitted for 1963, the total figures for each year being as follows :-

1966	-	156
1965	-	150
1964	-	175
1963	-	138

INCIDENCE OF BLINDNESS

The total number of Registered Blind Persons on 31st December 1967, was 400 (135 males and 265 females). On the corresponding date in 1966 there were 391 (134 males and 257 females). New cases during 1967 numbered 50 (16 males and 34 females). Inward transfers numbered 12 (3 males and 9 females).

Deaths, and transfers to other areas accounted for the deletion of 53 names (18 males and 35 females).

The number of registered Partially Sighted Persons on 31st December, 1967, was 82 (38 males and 44 females). The corresponding figures for 1966 were 88 (40 males and 48 females). Additions to this register during 1967 were 6 (2 males and 4 females). Deaths, removals from the Borough, and transfers to the Blind Register, numbered 15 (6 males and 9 females). There were 4 inward transfers (2 males and 2 females).

Of the 400 registered Blind Persons 215 (53 males and 162 females) are over the age of 70, and of the Partially Sighted 40 (12 males and 28 females) are over 70.

There are 7 blind (1 male and 6 females) and 7 partially sighted children (3 males and 4 females) under 16 years of age.

Blind and partially sighted persons in employment number 48 (42 males and 6 females respectively).

During 1967, 92 examinations were carried out by ophthalmic surgeons - 62 first examinations, and 30 re-examinations.

The cause of blindness in the 50 new cases was as follows :-

Cataract	18
Glaucoma	7
Congenital, myopic and other defects	25

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

Cataract	-
Glaucoma	1
Other defects	5

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:	Cause of Disability		
	Cataract	Glaucoma	Others
(a) No Treatment	8	3	21
(b) Treatment (medical, surgical or optical)	10	5	9
(ii) Number of cases at (i) (b) above which on follow-up action have received treatment.	4	5	6

B. Ophthalmia Neonatorum.

Ophthalmia Neonatorum cases	-	One
Retrolental Fibroplasia cases	-	Nil

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

The Central Clinic premises at 3 Conway Street were closed in April 1967, as the building was to be demolished for the Tunnel Approach Scheme.

The Children's Department and Welfare Department moved to alternative premises thus freeing the ground floor of 9 Hamilton Square, the Health Department Office.

The ground floor was altered to provide clinic accommodation and chiropody surgeries and the transfer was effected with the minimum of disturbance. It is interesting to note that some twenty years ago the ground floor was in use as clinic premises. This move is regarded, of course, as a temporary one as the building of the Social Services Centre, which will provide office and clinic accommodation for the Health Department, has been commenced during 1967.

RECORD OF CLINIC ATTENDANCES - INFANT WELFARE

Clinic	Total Attendances		Total	No. seen by Doctor	Year of birth for those making first attendance this year			Total	Sessions
	First Visits	Re- Visits			1967	1966	1965		
North	348	3636	3984	1387	272	242	232	746	104
South	602	5719	6321	1919	419	488	214	1121	151
Central	166	1464	1630	522	105	137	100	342	98
Balls Road	406	4253	4659	1299	311	320	180	811	102
Upton	195	2779	2974	864	168	153	115	436	99
Woodchurch	134	2119	2253	774	114	140	150	404	102
Prenton	181	3561	3742	640	159	130	125	414	100
Thingwall	81	1588	1669	164	77	38	26	141	50
Totals	2113	25119	27232	7569	1625	1648	1142	4415	806

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	Extrac-tions	General Anaesthetics	Dentures provided
Expectant & Nursing Mothers	16	15	46	18	3	3
Children under 5	177	127	117	246	102	-

DAY NURSERIES

The following table shows the attendances during the year.

Name of Nursery	Capacity	Number 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	8	16	6	13
Old Chester Road	25 places	8	16	6	12

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 185 premature babies were born. 25 were still-born and 160 born alive. 152 were born in hospital, and 8 at home. 5 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

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

VOLUNTARY AGENCIES ASSISTED BY LOCAL AUTHORITY

St. Elizabeth's Convent

Number of attendances during the year

120 First Visits 1776 Re-Visits

WELFARE FOODS

The issue of welfare foods on behalf of the Ministry of Health continues from the nine 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 458 new cases were registered and 461 were removed after review leaving a total of 350 at 31st December, 1967, compared with 372 at 31st December, 1966.

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 21 new cases were registered, 2 taken off register due to death or removal from the district, 20 were transferred to the list of handicapped pupils on reaching two years of age. At 31st December there were 47 children on the register.

DAY CARE OF CHILDRENNURSERIES AND CHILD MINDERS REGULATIONS ACT, 1948

At the end of the year there was one private nursery, two child minders, 3 nursery schools and 10 playgroups registered under the Act.

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, 58 Midwives gave notice of their intention to practise in the Borough :-

Municipal Midwives	13
Private Midwives	1
Midwives in Hospitals and Institutions	44
Midwives in Nursing Homes.. .. .	—
	58

SUPERVISIONInspection of Midwives:

Visits to Midwives' homes	23
Office Interviews	403

Pupil Midwives:

Supervision of nursings.. .. .	304
Supervision of deliveries	29
Lecture Sessions	46

Miscellaneous Visits:

Cases requiring medical aid	85
Cases of puerperal pyrexia	2
Cases of ophthalmia neonatorum	2
Expectant mothers	36
Visits to Ante-Natal Clinics.. .. .	66
*Visits to Relaxation Clinics.. .. .	92

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

NUMBER OF CASES ATTENDED BY MIDWIVES

The number was 291 of which 253 were attended by Midwives alone (in 1966 there were 423 cases of which 403 were attended by Midwives alone).

CASES REQUIRING MEDICAL AID

162 cases were notified by Municipal Midwives in which medical aid had been called, as compared with 158 in 1966.

NOTIFICATIONS RECEIVED FROM MIDWIVES

Still births	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	-
Liability to be a source of infection	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	2
Laying out of a dead body	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	-
Baby deaths	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	-

MUNICIPAL MIDWIVES

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

	(1966)	1967	
Number of bookings	(501)	390	
Number of births attended			
(a) Doctor present	(20)	38)	291
(b) Doctor not present	(403)	253)	
Administration of gas and air analgesia	(317)	249	
Administration of pethidine	(318)	218	
Total visits paid to patients	(23549)	20889	

OPHTHALMIA NEONATORUM

One case was notified.

CHANGES IN DOMICILIARY MIDWIFERY SERVICE

In view of the rapidly decreasing numbers of patients attending Local Authority Ante-natal Clinics, it was decided to close all Ante-natal Clinics as from 15th July, 1967. From that date all ante-natal work was carried out by the Domiciliary Midwives in the homes of the patients, by appointment. A central Booking Clinic is held at 40 Balls Road for any patient who wishes to attend there - 66 new patients have attended for booking purposes.

As in 1966, the demand for early discharge increased and the

number of patients discharged home early increased to 1,938. Of these, 838 were discharged home after 48 hours.

To foster liaison between the Hospital and the Domiciliary Services, the Domiciliary Midwives attend all the Hospital Antenatal Clinic Sessions. This has improved the communication between these two branches of the Midwifery Service, and it is hoped that in the near future Pupil Midwives engaged in Part 1 of their training will be able to spend one day with the Domiciliary Midwives.

DISTRICT MIDWIFERY TRAINING

The usual arrangements for Pupil Midwives' Part II Training have continued, although some difficulty has been experienced in providing the necessary number of domiciliary cases.

Tutorial classes have been held at 40 Balls Road, as usual. 14 Pupils completed their training, 12 of whom were successful in passing the qualifying examination of the Central Midwives Board.

REFRESHER COURSES

As in past years, arrangements were made for Midwives to attend such Courses. Much benefit is derived from the contacts made with Midwives from other Local Authorities, and from the lectures and visits arranged during the Course.

CARE OF UNMARRIED MOTHERS

There has been a slight increase in numbers, particularly in the younger age group. Close co-operation has been maintained with both Birkenhead and Wirral Moral Welfare Association and the Church Authorities.

ANTE-NATAL RELAXATION EXERCISES.

DETAILS (Figures for 1966 in brackets).

Clinic	Sessions (1966)		Patients (1966)		Attendances (1966)	
North	46	(48)	98	(142)	640	(916)
* Woodchurch	28	(49)	8	(38)	88	(223)
Prenton	52	(27)	36	(28)	318	(179)
South	49	(51)	87	(132)	615	(829)
	175	(175)	229	(340)	1661	(2147)

* Woodchurch figures are for January to July only.

NATIONAL HEALTH SERVICE (FAMILY PLANNING) ACT, 1967.

It was agreed in principle that the services of the Birkenhead Clinic of the Merseyside Branch of the Family Planning Association be utilised in the implementation of this Act.

Prior to the passing of the Act (in June 1967), discussions had taken place with the Officials of the Birkenhead Clinic with regard to alterations at the Clinic. Cheshire County Council, Wallasey County Borough and Birkenhead County Borough each agreed to contribute towards the cost, and Birkenhead contributed £500 in addition to the usual annual contribution towards the general expenses of the Clinic. The alterations were completed early in the spring of 1967 and have proved exceedingly useful in the work of the Clinic.

During 1967, 974 new patients were seen at the Clinic of whom 340 were from Birkenhead.

HEALTH VISITING

During the year under review there have been staff changes. The Superintendent Health Visitor, Miss C.M. Jones, retired and was succeeded by Miss A.E. Griffiths.

The two student Health Visitors were successful in their examinations and commenced the course of training in Liverpool in September.

Refresher Courses were attended by four Health Visitors, and one Health Visitor attended the Course for Field Work Instructors.

Continued use has been made of part-time help, and State Registered Nurses, both full-time and part-time, have assisted, particularly in the hygiene surveys in schools.

ASSOCIATION WITH HOSPITALS

Health Visitors have continued their attendance at the Paediatric Clinics at St. Catherine's Hospital and the Children's Hospital and at the Geriatric Department at St. Catherine's Hospital.

Mothercraft teaching is carried out at the Ante-natal Clinics at St. Catherine's Hospital by a Health Visitor.

PHENYLKETONURIA TESTING

This has continued. During the year 2,236 babies were tested, with one positive reaction.

SCREEN TESTING FOR DEAFNESS

This has continued as in previous years. 386 children were tested and 40 recalled for a second test. Twelve children were referred to General Practitioners and three to Ear, Nose and Throat Surgeons.

PROBLEM FAMILIES

The meetings with social workers in other Departments of the Corporation concerned with these families have continued throughout the year. There is still a hard core of problem families who need the continued support of all agencies, statutory and voluntary.

CO-OPERATION WITH GENERAL PRACTITIONERS

There would appear to be a hope that in the near future general practitioners will commence to use the services of the Health Visitors in their practices. In the meantime, every opportunity is taken to acquaint general practitioners of the work and functions of the Health Visitor.

MOTHERS' CLUB AT WOODCHURCH

This has continued to flourish during the year and obviously is appreciated by the mothers of the district.

This is in no small way directly due to the work of the Superintendent Health Visitor and the Health Visitors of the district.

HEALTH EDUCATION

The Health Visitors have collaborated with Dr. Fergusson, Health Education Officer, during the year and, in particular, in the Immunisation Drive during the Autumn.

The Health Visitors have had instruction on the use of the film strip - "Self-examination of the Breast", and early in 1968 the campaign for the education of women in the Borough will be in full operation.

VISITS

Groups of students from Calder College of Domestic Science and student nurses from local Hospitals have spent some time on the district with Health Visitors.

Senior school girls and students from the Technical College have visited various clinics.

The Superintendent Health Visitor took part in the Careers Convention organised at the Birkenhead High School for Girls.

STATISTICS OF WORK CARRIED OUT BY HEALTH VISITORS

2,419 first visits were paid to infants under one year
 13,025 subsequent visits were paid to infants under one year
 22,257 routine visits were paid to infants between one and five years of age
 1,234 visits were paid to expectant mothers
 1,401 visits were paid in connection with miscellaneous matters
 9,197 visits were paid in which no access was obtained
 1,260 first visits were paid to aged
 47 first visits were paid to tuberculous patients
 675 subsequent visits were paid to tuberculous patients

CLINIC DUTIES AND ATTENDANCES

Cytology (Cervical)	..	..	..	..	..	..	60
Infant Welfare	..	..	..	..	..	..	1,881
Medical Examinations	..	..	..	..	..	..	-
B.C.G. Vaccination at Chest Clinic	..	..	..	..	..	..	38
Ante-Natal Relaxation..	..	..	..	..	..	..	302
Mothercraft (St. Catherine's Hospital)	..	..	..	..	..	..	40
Hearing Screening (under 5 years)	..	..	..	..	..	..	109
Hospital Attendances: Geriatric Clinic	..	..	..	..	..	..	41
Paediatric Clinic	..	..	..	..	..	..	81

HOME NURSING SERVICE

The work of the Home Nursing Service continues to increase owing to the greater number of calls for nursing, involving many more visits to sub-acutely ill patients. The present tendency is for patients to be discharged from hospital earlier, thus increasing both the visits and the interest for the District Nurses.

Many staff changes have occurred during the year, but it is gratifying to know that two members of the staff, who had left to take Hospital appointments, re-applied when vacancies occurred and were re-appointed to the staff.

TRAINING

We are continuing to act as a Practical Training School for the Queen's District Training, working in conjunction with Liverpool, where the theoretical training is undertaken. During the year, two members of the staff completed their training and were successful in the qualifying examination. A further two members of the staff were in training at the end of the year.

INCONTINENT SICK

The demand for incontinence pads has remained at about the same level, but there has been an increased demand from ambulant incontinent patients requiring the provision of protective aids.

SOCIAL WORK

There have been many more calls on the Home Nursing Service to deal with social problems as well as nursing problems, and a close liaison exists between the Welfare Department and the Home Nursing Service.

CLASSIFICATION OF CASES AND VISITS PAID

	<u>Cases</u>		<u>Visits</u>	
	<u>1967</u>	<u>(1966)</u>	<u>1967</u>	<u>(1966)</u>
Medical	1529	972	39620	37606
Surgical	271	192	6724	5852
Infectious Diseases	1	12	4	141
Tuberculosis	24	31	1135	2092
Maternal Complications	39	25	393	258
Others	43	92	53	162
	<u>1907</u>	<u>1324</u>	<u>47929</u>	<u>46111</u>

	<u>1967</u>	<u>(1966)</u>
Number of patients over 65 years	1223	1229
Number of visits paid to patients over 65	47929	32087
Number of patients under 5 at first visit	25	34
Number of visits paid to under 5's	174	315

VISITS BY SUPERINTENDENT

	<u>1967</u>	<u>(1966)</u>
Supervisory and Teaching Visits:	451	327
Extra Calls: Nursing)	524	601
Casual)	975	928

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 - 9 months	Oral Poliomyelitis	1st) 4 - 8 weeks 2nd) 4 - 8 weeks 3rd)
9 - 12 months	Triple Vaccine (Diphtheria, Tetanus and Whooping Cough)	1st) 4 - 6 weeks 2nd)
12 - 14 months	Vaccination against Smallpox	
16 - 18 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 children but the figures relating to children under five years remain disappointing.

DIPHTHERIA IMMUNISATIONS

It is estimated that 47% of children under five years and 73% of the school population have been immunised.

IMMUNISATIONS IN 1967

	<u>Primary</u>	<u>Reinforcing Injections</u>
0 - 3 years	1652	1200
4 - 7 years	479	1559
8 - 15 years	20	87
	<u>2151</u>	<u>2846</u>

	<u>Medical Officers</u>	<u>General Practitioners</u>
Immunisations against Diphtheria	14	2
Reinforcing Injections against Diphtheria	62	-
Triple Antigen	974	699
Triple Antigen (Reinforcing Injections)	959	412
Immunisations against Diphtheria and Tetanus	399	34
Immunisations against Diphtheria and Tetanus (Reinforcing Injection)	1238	110
Quadruple	-	29
Quadruple (Reinforcing Injection)	-	65
	<u>3646</u>	<u>1351</u>

IMMUNISATION AGAINST WHOOPING COUGH

	<u>Infant Welfare Centres</u>	<u>G.P.'s</u>
0 - 1 year	60	170
1 - 2 years	739	420
2 - 3 years	93	82
3 - 4 years	42	25
5 - 7 years	40	27
7 - 16 years	-	4
	<u>974</u>	<u>728</u>

VACCINATION AGAINST SMALLPOX

By Medical Officers at Infant Welfare Centre	794
By General Practitioners	545
	<u>1339</u>

Age at Date of Vaccination	0 - 1 years	1 - 2 years	2 - 4 years	5 - 15 years	Total
Number Vaccinated	100	477	495	153	1225
Number Re-Vaccinated	-	-	7	107	114

VACCINATION AGAINST POLIOMYELITIS

During 1967 the following injections were given :-

SALK VACCINE

	Health Dept.	General Practitioners	Total
1st and 2nd Injections	-	6	6
3rd Injections	-	1	1

ORAL POLIOMYELITIS VACCINE

	Health Dept.	General Practitioners	Total
3 Oral (Primary Course)	1457	653	2110
4th Oral	975	263	1238

IMMUNISATION AGAINST TETANUS

Tetanus immunisations were continued in the Infant and Junior Schools.

	<u>Primary</u>	<u>Reinforcing Injections</u>
0 - 3 years	1653	1197
4 - 7 years	496	1600
8 - 15 years	29	112
	<u>2178</u>	<u>2909</u>

The following tabulated statement shows the numbers

Age in Yrs. on 31st Dec. of the Corres. Yr.	Up to 1946	1947	1948	1949	1950	1951	1952	1953	1954	1955	1956
Under 1 yr.	57	30	71	60	27	45	539	535	637	626	524
1 year	3084	712	1009	1124	1020	981	564	494	378	270	224
2 years	2451	241	353	385	316	289	181	261	251	245	294
3 years	1579	93	113	144	148	80	63	96	75	85	64
4 years	1372	71	71	84	136	67	86	67	60	77	54
5 years	1463	55	56	80	212	137	275	136	176	243	234
6 years	1914	33	31	58	344	135	279	249	236	359	244
7 years	2006	20	28	41	281	115	150	165	123	186	114
8 years	1874	26	26	21	331	161	116	98	77	89	74
9 years	1854	17	11	33	273	131	81	57	44	34	61
10 years	1823	14	20	22	267	114	124	78	37	21	60
11 years	1904	8	13	33	221	105	90	46	19	7	25
12 years	1522	5	14	7	62	57	71	15	7	1	6
13 years	1281	7	6	7	13	23	123	6	1	4	-
14 years	899	7	6	6	14	12	142	7	-	1	-
15 years and over	491	15	14	14	11	19	16	12	6	8	9
Total each year	25574	1354	1842	2119	3676	2471	2900	2322	2127	2256	1992
Reinforcing Injections	-	47	123	77	4352	2368	2198	1428	1715	1339	2150

munised against Diphtheria each year since 1946 :-

	1957	1958	1959	1960	1961	1962	1963	1964	1965	1966	1967	Total Immu- nised at 31st Dec. 1967
510	69	148	325	612	176	219	184	234	187	232		
467	617	647	860	1161	674	839	1125	1179	1103	1172	Aged Under	
130	201	217	331	270	116	143	306	177	241	178	5 years	
60	37	94	191	147	46	28	85	67	110	70	6464	
60	40	50	139	123	27	17	27	58	107	53		
194	49	47	112	96	27	33	26	61	125	76		
141	93	43	115	224	26	219	97	436	344	323	Aged	
60	40	47	170	278	37	28	75	322	58	27	5 - 9	
35	35	26	160	208	51	14	43	44	31	7	years	
27	25	16	91	194	91	6	104	10	12	3	9309	
35	12	14	66	172	48	11	113	3	7	4		
18	15	8	26	199	28	2	68	3	6	4	Aged	
7	8	2	12	78	17	-	38	-	-	1	10 - 14	
-	-	8	11	18	1	1	1	2	1	1	years	
-	-	3	14	12	1	-	-	1	-	-	9091	
3	4	-	36	52	15	6	1	1	-	-	46955	
47	1245	1370	2659	3844	1381	1566	2293	2598	2332	2151	71819	
44	746	355	2322	1507	482	1078	2822	3161	3221	2846	35681	

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			Given B.C.G Vaccination
	Children Tested	Positive	Negative	
2849	2103	174	1614	1613

AMBULANCE SERVICE

I am indebted to the Chief Fire Officer for the following report :-

Repetition of the same remarks year after year seems superfluous but facts are facts, and the Ambulance Service continues to have increased demands made upon it, and 1967 was no exception. The Service received 66,790 calls and conveyed 65,444 patients, 3,505 more than in the previous year. With the increase in the number of patients attending the various clinics in different hospitals in the area, the keeping to a schedule to meet the tight timetable of appointments for all the specialists involved is well nigh impossible. It is regrettable that many patients have a wait at the hospitals before the Service can transport them back home, but the service is forced, in order to cope with the work load, to operate on a system of priorities. The dealing with Accidents, Emergency illnesses, and conveyance to hospitals for treatment and examinations must take precedence over discharges, inter-hospital transfers and conveyance home. The Ambulance Service already adjusts its method of operation to ensure the manning of the maximum number of ambulances during peak week-day periods, but there is no doubt that with an ever-expanding National Health Service, the resources of ambulance services are going to need to be continually expanding and this cannot be done without considerable expense to the Local Authorities who are charged with the responsibility of providing this part of the National Health Service.

There is no doubt, in my opinion, that many cases passed to the Ambulance Service could be prevailed upon to use Public transport, but the Local Authority Ambulance Service is for most part of its function, providing transport for a nationally controlled Health Service and has little or no say in who should or should not be provided with ambulance transportation. This is, of course, basically correct in that persons in a position to assess the needs of the patient are those medically qualified, but this extends from individual ward sisters to Registrars at various hospitals, and includes specialists and staff of hospitals, clinics, physiotherapy, convalescent, rehabilitation and mental health units besides, of course, general practitioners.

There is only one point at which all demands can be collated and journey schedules arranged, and that is at Ambulance Service control and it is only at this point where at times it becomes obvious that all the time schedules worked out by individual medical units are unco-ordinated and from an ambulance transportation point of view, unattainable. I am strongly of the opinion that with the possible exception of the emergency side of the Ambulance Service, that Hospital Boards should be the authorities responsible for providing Ambulance transport. They would be able to co-ordinate the requirements of various hospitals under their jurisdiction, they would be in a position to assess professionally the order of priorities, and a much more sympathetic and understanding approach to the difficulties encountered by the Ambulance Service would no doubt result.

During a period towards the end of the year, when public

transport was not available, a flu type epidemic was prevailing and weather conditions were atrocious, the calls on the services of the Ambulance Service were unprecedented and, at times, over 300 per day. It was very much to the credit of all ambulance staff they worked to the limit, with practically no time off for meals, to cope with this situation.

False Alarm calls on the Service were a little more than last year, being made on 88 occasions. I have already made my observations on this type of call in my report on the Fire Brigade, but would add that I cannot see how even a child could get any sort of thrill in seeing an Ambulance crew looking around for some fictitious person who is supposed to be seriously injured. It would appear that any service provided within the orbit of a Welfare State for the benefit of the population at large is, for some people, a legitimate target for abuse. I would very much like to see legislation impose sentences to fit the crime in these cases.

ESTABLISHMENT

<u>Rank</u>	<u>Approved</u>	<u>Actual</u> <u>31.12.1967.</u>
Station Officer	1	1
Sub Station Officer	1	1
Section Leaders	4	4
Driver/Attendants	38	36
	<u>44</u>	<u>42</u>

Variations:

Resignations: 4 Driver/Attendants

Appointments: 4 Driver/Attendants

Average Age: 40 years, 1 month

Average Service: 11 years, 6 months

Courses Attended:

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

38 members qualified for First Aid Awards at examinations conducted under the British Red Cross Society.

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

<u>Oak Leaf to 10-year Bar</u>	<u>10-year Medal</u>	<u>Bar to 5-year Medal</u>
5	2	7
<u>5-year Medal</u>	<u>Diploma</u>	
2	16	
Total entries for 1967:		44
Total awards received:		32

Vehicles

<u>Type</u>	<u>Year</u>
2 Austin Ambulances, Diesel	1962
1 Austin Dual Purpose Ambulance, Diesel	1962
1 Austin Car/Ambulance	1964
1 Morris Ambulance, Diesel	1964
2 Morris Ambulances, Diesel	1965
1 Morris Ambulance, Diesel	1966
2 Morris Dual Purpose Ambulances, Diesel	1966
3 Morris Ambulances, Diesel	1967

CLASSIFICATION OF CALLS

	<u>Classification</u>	<u>Calls</u>	<u>Patients</u>	<u>Mileage</u>
EMERGENCY	Home Accidents	843	854	3,744
	Works Accidents	673	683	2,484
	Street Accidents	1,441	1,648	5,423
	Maternity	1,124	1,124	5,372
	Emergency Illness	2,332	2,332	9,542
REMOVALS	Ambulance	28,516	29,106	93,602
	Sitting Cars	29,697	29,697	80,532
SPECIAL SERVICES	Midwives	139	-	435
	Bedding	2	-	10
	Others	62	-	195
AMBULANCES NOT REQUIRED	Malicious False Alarms	88	-	276
	Others	1,873	-	4,833
		66,790	65,444	206,448

Special Services

A total of 203 Special Service calls were attended and included the conveyance of midwives on 139 occasions.

SUMMARY OF CALLSASSISTANCE TO AND FROM OTHER AUTHORITIES

	<u>Calls</u>	<u>Standbys</u>
Assistance to:		
Wallasey	25	34
Cheshire	20	1
Liverpool	9	-
Others	3	-
Assistance from:		
Wallasey	1	-
Cheshire	4	-

AMBULANCES NOT REQUIRED:

<u>Classification</u>	<u>Type</u>	<u>Calls</u>
EMERGENCY	Refused Conveyance	17
	Removed - passing car, etc.	2
	Transport not required	54
OUT PATIENTS	Too ill to travel	47
	Made own way	25
	Appointment errors	13
	Wrong address	4
	Not at home and not ready	46
	Refused conveyance	5
	Case cancelled	12
IN PATIENTS	Wrong address	1
	Too ill to travel	2
	Made own way	6
	Not at home and not ready	5
	Refused conveyance	4
	Case cancelled	6
		249

DOMESTIC HELP SERVICE

During the year increased endeavours were made to recruit additional Home Helps and at the end of the year 124 part-time Home Helps were employed. The strike of 'bus drivers and conductors during the last six weeks of the year had an effect upon the service, as was to be expected.

Fortunately, the effect was not so great as had been feared. Many of the Home Helps walked distances to carry on their work among the aged and much credit is due to them.

During the year the Organiser varied the arrangements for supplying help particularly to the aged and chronic sick, spreading out the hours worked over more days of the week. This has been much appreciated by those receiving the help.

The following are the statistics for the year :-

Short term sickness and maternity cases	67
Chronic sick, aged and infirm	896
Others (psychiatric)	9
	972
Supervisory visits by Organiser and staff	3,267
Hours worked by Home Helps	103,502

PREVENTION OF ILLNESS, CARE AND AFTER-CARE

CARE AND AFTER-CARE - TUBERCULOSIS

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 Tuberculosis Social Worker held 976 office interviews and made 1,127 home and hospital visits.

38 cases were referred to the Ministry of Social Security for financial help. 301 cases were referred to the John Lloyd Corkhill Trust and other organisations.

15 families were referred for more suitable housing accommodation; of these, 5 families were rehoused by the Housing Committee and 2 by the Birkenhead Housing Aid Society.

15 patients were recommended for convalescence to the John Lloyd Corkhill Trust.

OCCUPATIONAL THERAPY

19 patients attended daily at the Anne Glassey Workshop in Wallasey, and Home Teaching continued for one session each week.

REHABILITATION

1 patient continued at the Workshop as a Ministry of Labour Trainee. Of the 19 who attended the Workshop for occupational therapy, one was admitted to hospital and is not expected to return, one patient died, one obtained employment as a motor driver, and one was placed as a male attendant at a Local Authority Home for elderly people.

One male patient was admitted to the British Legion Village, Maidstone, Kent, for residential rehabilitation in preparation for sheltered employment.

10 patients were referred to the Ministry of Labour for registration as Disabled Persons; of these, one has since recovered, one was recommended for rehabilitation at an Industrial Rehabilitation Unit, and, unplaced at the 31st December, has since been placed at the Aintree Centre; as stated above one patient was placed for residential rehabilitation; 7 were placed in employment.

SHELTERED WORKSHOPS

3 patients were employed at the Anne Glassey Workshop.

EXAMINATION OF CONTACTS

223 adults and 342 children attended for contact examination. 3 children were diagnosed as tuberculous during the year, and 6 children were found to have had primary infections.

Of the 342 children who attended - 53 had a positive heaf reading, 10 failed to attend for heaf reading, 11 were X-rayed only, 68 new born babies were vaccinated without test, and 266 were negative.

Of the 266 who were negative - 256 were vaccinated and the parents of 10 children refused B.C.G.

The ratio of contacts per notified case was 12.55.

B.C.G. VACCINATION

As stated above: 68 babies were vaccinated at birth.
256 children were vaccinated following
heaf test.

In addition to these figures 8 student nurses received B.C.G vaccination.

These figures do not include babies vaccinated at birth in hospitals.

CHIROPODY

Staff resignations during the year have had an effect on the service. Domiciliary treatment has been carried on as hitherto by private chiropodists but chiropody for those patients able to visit a surgery has been provided by local authority staff. Charges have remained as before.

<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.
(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.

YEAR	PLACE OF TREATMENT				TOTAL		NUMBERS (INCLUDED IN COLS. (2) TO (7) INCLUSIVE) OF FREE CASES AND TREATMENTS	
	Surgery		Home of Patient					
	Cases	Treatments	Cases	Treatments	Cases	Treatments	Cases	Treatments
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)	(9)
1967	1048	5336	691	4240	1739	9576	1416	7772

Chiroprody PATIENTS on Register as at 31st December :-

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)		
1967	1667	4	68	72	Nil	1739

Table 2.

Year	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)	Free (10)	@ 2/6 (11)	@ 5/- (12)	Grand Total (13)
1967	578	77	36	691	838	157	53	1048	1416	234	89	1739

Chiropody TREATMENTS given during year :-

Table 3.

Year	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)
1967	3493	504	243	4240	4279	781	276	5336	7772	1285	519	9576

CERVICAL CYTOLOGY, 1967.

Number of women tested	..	..	..	..	..	1,055
Number of women re-tested	..	..	..	..	..	19
Number on waiting list	..	..	..	..	..	106

Of the 1,055 tested, 2 had positive smears and these women were referred for further investigation.

23 women were advised to consult their doctors regarding minor conditions although their smears were negative.

HEALTH EDUCATION

During 1967, Dr. Fergusson, Health Education Officer, has given talks to schools on various subjects. Included in the programme has been a series of lectures on Health and Hygiene to the Technical College students. These have been continued throughout the scholastic year. 250 students attended the lectures in groups. The following schools have been visited and films shown. Lectures were given on various subjects :-

Our Lady of Lourdes School
 Conway Street Secondary
 Cavendish Secondary
 Birkenhead Institute
 St. Hugh's R.C. School for Boys
 Park High School for Boys
 Kirklands Secondary School for Girls
 Prenton Secondary School for Boys
 Rock Ferry High School
 Arrowehill Infants
 Bedford Drive Infants
 Arrowehill Juniors
 Bidston Avenue Juniors
 Cathcart Street Juniors

The subjects have been Dental Hygiene, Elementary Digestive Processes, Care of Feet, Care of Eyes, Dangers of Smoking, Physiology of Menstruation, Personal Hygiene, Body Care, Smoking and Cancer, Women of Tomorrow (Menstruation).

In the Autumn an Immunisation Drive in the Schools was in progress.

6 Schools
 670 Parents attended

} November

Films and Lectures
 given by
 Dr. Fergusson

Mental Health Week

Dr. Fergusson took an active part in the preparations for this week, being a member of the local Committee. He arranged photographs of the work of the Training Centres, etc., for display in the exhibition. A stall was made available in the Public Market for leaflets and information, and the photographs of work in Mental Welfare were on display.

It was felt that this 1967 week was an improvement as compared with 1966.

Lectures were given to Police Cadets at the request of the Police Authority during the year. Lectures to outside bodies - Christ Church Young Wives, St. Stephen's Young Wives, Frankby Youth Club, English Martyrs Union of Catholic Mothers, St. Saviour's Women's Meeting, Birkenhead and District Women Citizens' Association, Woodchurch Clinic Mothers' Club, St. Saviour's Church Lads' Brigade, Scout Groups in Frankby, Rover Scouts, North Road, Birkenhead.

In-service training has continued during the year and has been found to be most helpful, e.g., the Immunisation Campaign was discussed and the best means of visual aid to the talks discussed and selected. Health Visitors have been instructed in the use of projectors and teaching methods discussed. This "in-service training" and work is not the least part of the activities of the Health Education Officer. Indeed, it can be classed as one of the important branches of Health Education work. The discussion, which is an essential part, is of value to each member of the staff.

MENTAL HEALTH SERVICE

STATISTICS

1967

MENTAL ILLNESS

Cases referred to Mental Welfare Department

By General Practitioners	321
By Police (including courts)	45
By others (General Hospital, N.A.B., Welfare Department, etc.)	252
By Psychiatric Hospitals	186
By Psychiatric Out-Patients Departments	170
	974

Admissions to Hospital (Arranged by the
Mental Welfare Department)

Under Mental Health Act 1959

Informal Admissions (Section 5)	342
Urgency Applications (Section 29)	41
Observation (Section 25)	116
Treatment (Section 26)	7
Hospital Order (Section 60)	3
	509

Rehabilitation

Richmond Fellowship and Chapel Hey	5
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Industrial Therapy Organisation

Number on Register at 31.12.67.	Male	14
	Female	14

28

Average daily attendance	18
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MENTAL SUBNORMALITY

Cases referred to Mental Welfare Department

From Education Committee	11
From General Practitioners	-
From Police (including Courts)	-
From other sources (N.A.B., Welfare Department, etc.)	27
Transfers from other Local Authorities	1
From Hospitals (Discharges)	5
From Hospitals (Licence)	-
Transfers In	1
	45

Admissions to Hospitals

Informal Admissions (Section 5)	13
Treatment (Section 26)	2
Urgency Application (Section 29)	-
Court Orders (Section 60)	5
Court Orders (Section 61)	-
	—
	20
	—

SHORT TERM CARE ADMISSIONS

To Hospitals	19
To other Establishments	25
	—
	44
	—

Transfers Out

1

Deaths

-

WAITING LIST OF PATIENTS REQUIRING HOSPITAL CARE

Urgent	9
Less Urgent	5

Appeals to Mental Health Tribunals

2

JUNIOR TRAINING CENTRE

Number on register at 31.12.67.	Male	22
	Female	23
		—
		45
		—
Average daily attendance		33

Adult Training Centre

Number on register at 31.12.67.	Male	37
	Female	30
		—
		67
		—
Average daily attendance		57

Position as at 31.12.67.

Number in Hospital	242
Number under Guardianship	1
Number under Home Supervision	297
Number on Register	540

The work of the Department has been maintained at much the same level as in the previous year. The number of Hospital admissions arranged by the Mental Welfare Officers continues to be high. Of 509 admissions, no fewer than 342 informal admissions were arranged by Mental Welfare Officers.

Chapel Hey Hostel has continued to be used in selected cases.

Short-term care for the mentally subnormal has continued to be of benefit to parents.

In December, the strike of Transport staff in the Corporation Transport Department interfered with the attendance of adults and juniors at their appropriate centres.

Thanks, however, to the willing co-operation of parents with cars, the attendance was not affected to the extent one would have expected.

Discussions took place in the autumn with the Regional Adviser of the Ministry of Health on Mental Subnormality.

The future demands on the Adult and Junior Training Centres were fully explored and estimates given of the number of places needed in the 10-year plan of the Corporation.

NATIONAL ASSISTANCE ACT, 1948.

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

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 and, since the 23rd June, 1967, at Woodchurch Baths.

There are two pools at each of these Establishments, all being open during the summer months, but during the winter one pool at Byrne Avenue is closed for conversion to a Youth Centre.

The swimming bath water at Livingstone Street is obtained by pumping salt water from the River Mersey, the two other Establishments being supplied from the Town's mains. The water is continuously filtered and in the case of Byrne Avenue and Woodchurch Baths sterilised by the 'break-point' chlorination process, marginal chlorination being operated at Livingstone Street Baths.

Frequent tests are carried out daily by the Baths Department staff to ensure satisfactory chemical treatment and periodical bacteriological examinations are made by the Public Health Laboratory Service.

SEWERAGE

The Borough is adequately sewered with the exception of an area on the western fringe lying within the North Wirral Draining 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 by the four authorities concerned, and Consultant Engineers have prepared a detailed scheme for draining this whole area, involving preliminary treatment of the flow and a new sea outfall three miles long with the point of discharge near Dove Point, Meols. The scheme has been submitted to the Ministry of Housing and Local Government, and a public inquiry has been held to hear objections to the scheme. The authorities are now awaiting the decision of the Ministry.

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 information about the water supplies in the Borough.

The supply to the Borough is, in the main, a mixture of impounded water from the 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.

The water as supplied to the consumer is generally not regarded as plumbo solvent in action. All new mains put into operation are sterilised and similar action is taken after the cleaning of any tanks or service reservoirs.

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.

The Wirral Water Board carries out regular bacteriological and chemical analyses of the water from the different sources. Copies are supplied to the Health Department. Samples are also sent regularly to the Counties Public Health Laboratories, London, and, again, copies of the analyses are sent to the Health Department. Samples of the water as supplied to the consumer are taken regularly by the Health Department for bacteriological analysis and the results sent to the Wirral Water Board. Throughout the year, the results have been satisfactory as regards quality and the quantity of water supplies has been adequate.

The estimated number of dwellings in the Borough is 43,300. All properties are supplied direct from the distributive system.

Fluoridation

The position is as before. The principle of fluoridation was rejected by the Borough Council in 1965.

Lead in Drinking Water

Following the receipt of the circular letter of the 17th November, 1967, from the Chief Medical Officer, Ministry of Health, the Engineer and Manager of the Wirral Water Board arranged a meeting of Medical Officers of Health of the authorities supplied by the Wirral Water Board. This was held on the 15th December, 1967. A concerted plan of action with regard to sampling and subsequent analysis was agreed and will be in operation in 1968.

ENVIRONMENTAL HYGIENE

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

Shortage of qualified inspectors with its consequent effect on the work of the department continued to be a problem throughout the year. The areas covered by the district inspectors had to be re-arranged twice in order to give a reasonable service over the whole area of the Borough.

Two district inspectors resigned (from an already depleted staff) to take up appointments with other Authorities and the specialist smoke inspector retired on reaching the age of 65 years.

One student was successful in the Diploma Examination and was immediately appointed district inspector, and another district inspector joined the staff in August. The smoke inspector's post was still unfilled at the end of the year.

The present establishment is :-

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

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.

2,701 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.	12,769
---	--------

Number of re-inspections under the Public Health Act, etc.	11,261
--	--------

Number of informal notices served under the Public Health Act	1,619
---	-------

Number of Statutory notices served under the Public Health Act	676
Number of Statutory notices served under the Birkenhead Corporation Act, 1954, Section 52	179
Number of Statutory notices served under the Birkenhead Corporation Act, 1954, Section 66	Nil
Average number of notices outstanding	791
Number of notices complied with during the year	1,609
Number of defects remedied during the year	4,211

Summary of Improvements effected :-

Roofs repaired	679
Chimney stacks repaired	79
Rainwater gutters repaired	288
Downspouts repaired	91
Walls pointed or repaired	156
Lighting or ventilation improved	6
Windows repaired	170
Window sash cords renewed	176
Firegrates repaired	43
Hearthstones repaired	1
Floors relaid or repaired	134
Skirting boards repaired	43
Wallplaster repaired	336
Ceiling plaster repaired	192
Doors repaired	165
Staircases repaired	16
Sinks renewed	16
Sink waste pipes trapped or repaired	76
Washing boilers repaired	1
Dampness remedied	311
Yard surface repaired and relaid	72
Yards drained	5
Sufficient water supply provided	65
Drains constructed, altered or repaired	87
Drains cleansed	287
Water closets repaired	355
Food stores provided	1
Nuisance from animals abated	1
Overcrowding abated	1
Tents, vans, sheds removed	3
Verminous persons/clothing/premises treated	24
Water courses or ditches cleansed	6
Miscellaneous	323

LEGAL PROCEEDINGS

Legal proceedings under Section 94, Public Health Act, 1936, were instituted in one case where an owner had failed to comply with the requirements of an abatement notice. The Magistrates made a nuisance order but no fine was imposed or costs awarded.

An appeal to Quarter Sessions under Section 301 of the Public Health Act, 1936, was made by an owner who had been previously fined for non-compliance with a Nuisance Order. The appeal was upheld and costs, finally settled at £52. 15. 0., were awarded against the Corporation.

Work done by Local Authority in default of owners

The Local Authority cleansed obstructed drains at 84 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, 9 items of repair of a general nature were completed at 7 houses under the provisions of the Public Health Act, 1936.

The costs of the above work (recoverable from the responsible persons) amounted to £152. 4. 8. during the year.

HOUSING ACT, 1957, Sections 17 and 18

Dwelling houses unfit for human habitation

20 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. Six of these were included in a Redevelopment Area Compulsory Purchase Order.

During the year the Council made the following Orders:-

Demolition Orders in respect of 6 dwellings.

Closing Orders in respect of 4 dwellings and 1 part of a building.

Demolition and Closing of Unfit Dwellings

17 unfit houses, not in Clearance Areas, were demolished during the year and, following the re-housing of the occupants, 17 dwellings were closed.

34 families comprising 112 persons were re-housed from dwellings subject to demolition or closing orders.

Closing Orders were determined in respect of two houses which had been made fit.

HOUSING ACT, 1957, Section 42Clearance 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
Edgar Street Clearance Area	129	135	369
Eastham Street Clearance Area	56	55	191
Myrtle Place Clearance Area	102	108	364
Thomas Street Nos. 1, 2 and 3 Clearance Areas	32	32	94
	319	330	1018

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

Area	Properties Upgraded as "Not Unfit"	Well-Maintained Payments
Neptune Street Clearance Area 1965	-	8
Combermere Terrace Clearance Area 1966	3	3
Cottage Street Clearance Area 1966	1	11
Exmouth Street Clearance Area 1965	4	28

In addition 1 property was excluded from the C.P.O. and 5 properties retained by reason of their bad arrangement only.

Wilkinson Street Clearance Area 1966	3	13
Edgar Street Clearance Area 1967	5	21

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

Rent Act, 1965, Part III

The Chief Public Health Inspector is the officer authorised to deal with complaints of harassment and to institute legal proceedings where necessary.

6 complaints of harassment were investigated. Four were in respect of minor interferences with the amenities of subtenants by their landlords and were settled amicably after all parties had been interviewed.

One case of threatened eviction was settled satisfactorily after the landlord had been told of the provisions of the Act.

In the remaining case a subtenant was actually evicted but after enquiries were made he could not be traced and no further action was taken. The landlord also left the premises a few days later and could not be found.

HOUSE PURCHASE AND HOUSING ACT, 1959Standard Grants

108 applications for standard grants were dealt with during the year. 42 of these were in respect of tenanted houses and 66 were from owner/occupiers.

76 of the applications were approved and 23 refused. A further 9 applications were from tenants and negotiations were started with their landlords.

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 55. Of these 26 were tenanted houses and 29 owner-occupied.

The amenities provided were :-

46 fixed baths

49 wash-hand basins

47 hot water supplies over baths

48 " " " " wash-hand basins

40 " " " " sinks

53 water closets within the house

49 food stores

The total grant paid amounted to £6,930. 4. 6. averaging £126. 0. 1. per house against an average last year of £101. 11. 0.

Of the 100 houses in the informal improvement area started in 1964, 74 houses now have all 5 amenities provided. 15 houses were improved during the year. 13 owner-occupied and 13 tenanted houses are still unimproved. There seems to be no immediate prospect of any further progress.

Discretionary Grants

24 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.

7 houses were surveyed during the year. These contained 26 separate lettings and housed 59 persons.

1 house has been closed as unfit for habitation and 8 are no longer in multiple occupation. These houses had contained 19 separate lettings and housed 48 persons.

The population of 33 houses which were sublet at the beginning of the year was reduced from 304 to 258 and the number of separate lettings from 115 to 97.

Common Lodging Houses

One house was closed during the year. There are now 3 registered premises providing accommodation for 94 men.

There are no lodging houses for women.

17 visits were made to these premises during the year. 2 houses are conducted in a reasonable manner but at one house the standard continues to be below what could be reasonably expected. Much attention has to be paid to this particular case.

ATMOSPHERIC POLLUTION

Smoke Control Areas

The Birkenhead (Area No. 4 Claughton) Smoke Control Order came into operation on the 1st December, 1967. This area covers 277 acres and contains 2,922 buildings.

The Birkenhead (Area No. 5 Upton) Smoke Control Order came into operation on the 1st October, 1967. This area covers 281 acres and contains 1,071 buildings.

The Birkenhead (Area No. 6 Bidston Hill) Smoke Control Order was made on the 25th October, 1967, and was awaiting the Minister's decision at the end of the year.

Birkenhead is still behind its target, but approximately one quarter of the Borough is now covered by smoke control orders.

Details of Orders made are as follows :-

<u>Area</u>	<u>No. of Acres</u>	<u>No. of Buildings</u>	<u>Order</u>		
			<u>Made</u>	<u>Confirmed</u>	<u>Operative</u>
1. Woodchurch	394	3002	8. 2.1961.	13.7.1961.	1. 7.1962.
2. Bidston	386	719	23. 3.1962.	31.5.1962.	1. 7.1962.
3. St. James	196	1907	21. 2.1963.	21.5.1963.	1. 7.1964.
13. Fender Valley	418	55	11.11.1964.	8.7.1965.	1. 7.1966.
14. Ford	174	2	11.11.1964.	8.7.1965.	1. 7.1966.
4. Claughton	277	2922	21.10.1965.	25.3.1966.	1.12.1967.
5. Upton	281	1071	25. 8.1966.	6.1.1967.	1.10.1967.
6. Bidston Hill	269	181	25.10.1967.	-	-
Totals:	<u>2395</u>	<u>9859</u>			

Due to new building in the above areas since the date of the Orders, the number of buildings now covered by the Orders is greatly in excess of those shown above.

Future Areas in the planned programme are :-

<u>Number</u>	<u>Area</u>
10	Noctorum
8	Saughall Massie
9	Thingwall
7	Oxton
11	Prenton
12	Higher Tranmere

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. An improvement has been effected by the replacement of steam locomotives by diesel locomotives for the hauling of heavy goods traffic through areas covered by Smoke Control Orders.

Clean Air Act, 1956

Number of complaints received	2
Number of observations of factory chimneys	19
Number of contraventions recorded	3
Number of prosecutions	Nil
Number of visits to factories	12

Clean Air Act, 1956

Notifications of installations of furnaces (Section 3)	18
Prior approval of new furnace installation (Section 3)	1
New chimney heights approved (Section 10)	7

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 sulphur dioxide 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 baiting of all sewer manholes with 3% Fluoracetamide was continued throughout the year.

Three treatments were given in the older part of the Borough, two treatments in a further part and one treatment in the outlying thinly populated areas.

A total of 9,387 manholes were baited.

Test baiting was carried out in 734 manholes.

There were complete takes in 330, partial takes in 37 and no takes in 367 manholes.

(b) In surface premises

Number of premises inspected	1,764
Number of premises found to be infested with rats or mice	1,065
Number of treatments by rodent operator	1,027
Total number of visits by rodent operator	1,033
Total number of visits by Public Health Inspectors	1,293

Insect Pests

Number of houses and other premises involved	86
Number of rooms treated	296
Verminous articles treated	1
Verminous persons cleansed	Nil

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, carpet beetles, flies, bluebottles, mosquitoes, furniture beetles, etc.

Disinfection

One house was disinfected.

There were no requests for disinfection of bedding.

BIRKENHEAD CORPORATION ACT, 1881, Section 90 - PIG-KEEPING

One new application for permission to keep pigs was received.

Eight pig-keepers discontinued.

There are now 10 pig-keepers in the Borough.

THEATRES, MUSIC HALLS AND CINEMAS

5 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	12
Licences renewed during the year	119
Change of address	Nil
Number of visits to shops	174
Unsatisfactory storage of poisons	7
Unlicensed sellers of poisons	3

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

4 samples were sent for analysis during the year, with the following results :-

	<u>Passed</u>	<u>Failed</u>	<u>Total</u>
Curled Hair	1	-	1
Coir Fibre	2	-	2
Layered Rag Flock	1	-	1
	4	-	4

OFFENSIVE TRADES

No applications for the establishment of new trades were received.

2 visits of inspection were made.

NOISE ABATEMENT

14 complaints of noise nuisance were received during the year. 13 of these were investigated by Public Health Inspectors and one, relating to the barking of dogs in the street at night, was referred to the Police for action under the Bye Laws for the Good Rule and Government of the Borough.

In 11 cases nuisance was confirmed and informal action was sufficient to effect a cure in 9 of these. The other cases were still being dealt with at the end of the year.

The noises complained of were from ventilating fans, electric motors, refrigerators, road works, road drills and noisy children. A complaint was again made of excessive noise from the unloading of pig iron and various ores from ships. This was the subject of investigation in previous years and there does not appear to be any reasonable remedy.

CARAVANS

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

THE BIRKENHEAD CORPORATION ACT, 1954Register of Barbers and Hairdressers

New registrations during the year	16
Number on register at end of year	191
Number of visits to hairdressers premises	51

OFFICES, SHOPS AND RAILWAY PREMISES ACT, 1963.

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 1967

(1) Class of premises	(2) Number of premises newly registered during the year	(3) Total number of registered premises at end of year	(4) Number of registered premises receiving one or more general inspections during the year
Offices	27	340	70
Retail shops	58	805	294
Wholesale shops, warehouses	4	40	9
Catering establishments open to the public, canteens	10	171	57
Fuel storage depots	-	3	-
TOTALS:	99	1359	430

64

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

= 1149

TABLE C - ANALYSIS BY WORKPLACE OF PERSONS EMPLOYED IN REGISTERED PREMISES AT END OF YEAR

Class of workplace (1)	Number of persons employed (2)
Offices	3565
Retail shops	4120
Wholesale departments, warehouses	446
Catering establishments open to the public	1640
Canteens	91
Fuel storage depots	12
TOTAL	9874

65

Total Males
Total Females

TABLE D - EXEMPTIONS

TABLE E - PROSECUTIONS

TABLE F - STAFF

Number of inspectors appointed under
Section 52 (1) or (5) of the Act

Number of other staff employed for most
of their time on work in connection
with the Act

(only one inspector is employed
(full time on this work

9

NIL

REGISTRATIONS

Owners and occupiers seem to have become more aware of their responsibilities and are generally co-operative in complying with the provisions of the Act and Regulations. A number of employers wait for an inspection of their premises to be made and contraventions brought to their notice before making any effort to comply with the Act. In most cases this is due to ignorance of the existence of the Act.

1,727 general inspections have been made since the Act came into operation. All contraventions found have been remedied by informal action. In six cases this year it was necessary to obtain authority to institute legal proceedings but before summonses were issued the threat of imminent action was sufficient and outstanding contraventions were remedied. In these cases I gratefully acknowledge the assistance of H.M. Deputy Superintending Inspector of Factories, which was so readily given.

99 new premises were registered during the year, but 58 of these were registered only after personal contact had been made with the employer, Form O.S.R.1. handed to him, and the Act explained.

112 premises were removed from the register mainly because of major redevelopment, road improvement works and slum clearance and occupiers ceasing to employ assistants.

Employers experienced difficulty in obtaining Abstracts of the Act and other forms from local stationers and stocks have to be kept in the department for re-sale.

No complaints were received during the year, but one union enquired about some of its members whose place of work was closed down and who continued to work in the open checking, receiving and despatching parcels. A number of enquiries relating to wages, and hours of employment, were also made during inspections. These enquiries were referred to the appropriate departments.

ACCIDENTS

63 accidents were reported, of which 19 required special investigation. There were no fatal accidents. It seems apparent that not all accidents are reported. 5 other accidents were reported which were not notifiable under the Act as they occurred away from registered premises. More accidents were the result of falls than from any other cause, and women were more prone to this type of accident than men. Persons using power operated machines have been reminded of the danger of accidents if guards are not in position or if the machines are used not in accordance with the manufacturer's instructions. I hope this has resulted in employees becoming more accident-conscious. One accident investigated involved a young child of a shop customer. It was alleged the child's hand was badly cut on a slicing machine. The machine was properly guarded and in such a position that it was difficult to see how a young child could have reached the machine.

CONTRAVENTIONS

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

Summary of Contraventions

[illegible]

F A C T O R I E S A C T , 1 9 6 1

Prescribed Particulars on the Administration of the Factories Act, 1961

PART 1 OF THE ACT

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

Premises (1)	Number on Register (2)	Number of		
		Inspec- tions (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	20	16	-	-
(ii) Factories not in- cluded in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority	416	174	16	-
(iii) Other premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding out- workers' premises)	43	42	-	-
TOTAL:	479	232	16	-

2. Cases in which DEFECTS were found

Particulars	Number of cases in which defects were found				Number of cases in which prosecutions were instituted
	Found	Remedied	Referred		
			To H.M. Inspector	By H.M. Inspector	
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)
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	-	-	-	-	-
(b) Unsuitable or defective	16	14	-	4	-
(c) Not separate for sexes	-	1	-	-	-
Other offences against the Act (not including offences relating to out-work)	-	-	-	-	-
TOTAL:	16	15	-	4	-

PART VIII OF THE ACT

OUTWORK

(SECTIONS 133 AND 134)

Nature of work	Section 133				Section 134		Prosecutions
	Number of out-workers in August list required by Section 133 (1)(c)	Number of cases of default in sending lists to the Council	Number of prosecutions for failure to supply lists	Number of instances of work in un-wholesome premises	Notices served		
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	
Wearing } Making Apparel } etc. } Clean- } ing } and } Wash- } ing	13	-	-	-	-	-	
TOTAL:	13	-	-	-	-	-	

MILK SUPPLY

The arrangements for processing and distributing milk in the Borough continue to be satisfactory. Supervision and control by sampling are carried out mainly at the two processing dairies, where over 30,000 gallons of milk are pasteurised and bottled or cartoned each day.

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

Number of registered dairies	29
Number of registered dairymen	233
Dealers licensed to sell pre-packed milk	231
Processor's licences to pasteurise milk	2
Number of visits to dairymen's premises	172

Bacteriological Examination of Milk

Samples were submitted with the following results :-

	<u>Passed</u>	<u>Failed</u>	<u>Total</u>
Pasteurised Milk	126	4	130
Sterilised Milk	36	-	36
Ultra High Temperature Milk	9	-	9
Untreated Milk	41	3	44
	212	7	219

The failures were in respect of the methylene blue test in samples taken from vending machines. The phosphatase test was satisfactory in all cases.

Examination for Brucella Abortus etc.

The untreated milk sold in Birkenhead is bottled on farms situated within the area of other local authorities. Regular samples are taken of this milk and in the event of positive samples, the Medical Officer of Health of the district concerned is notified.

Number of samples of milk examined	..	44
Number of positive samples found	..	2

These 44 samples were also examined by guinea-pig innoculation for T.B. and "Q" fever. No evidence of T.B. was reported, but serological evidence of infection with "Q" fever was found in 4 samples.

Chemical Analysis of Milk

All milk for the two pasteurising dairies arrives in tankers, each containing the bulked milk from several farms. Samples taken after processing are of a satisfactory standard, as is the farm bottled milk from Channel Island herds.

115 samples were submitted for analysis.

One sample of pasteurised milk was found to contain 30% of added water. Investigations showed that a new operator of the filling machine was not draining rinsing water from the valves before the machine was used.

ICE CREAM

Details of the premises retained on the statutory register are as follows :-

Manufacture of Pasteurised Ice Cream	14
Manufacture of Cold Mix Ice Cream	13
Manufacture of Lolly Ices only	7
Sale of Ice Cream and/or Lolly Ices	574
Number of visits to premises	176

49 samples of Ice Cream and 3 samples of Lolly Ices were submitted for Bacteriological examination during the year and reported upon as follows :-

Samples of Ice Cream placed in Grade I	28
" " " " " " " II	6
" " " " " " " III	8
" " " " " " " IV	7
	49

The Lolly Ice samples were satisfactory.

In addition, six samples of Ice Cream were submitted for Chemical Analysis, with satisfactory results.

Ice Cream is not now manufactured at many of the premises registered for that purpose. The majority of the above samples were taken from the manufacturers still operating.

LIQUID EGG (PASTEURISATION) REGULATIONS, 1963

- | | |
|--------------------------------------|------|
| 1) Number of Egg pasteurising plants | None |
| 2) Number of samples taken | 10 |

All samples passed the Alpha Amylase test.

No problems have arisen in the administration of these Regulations.

WATER SUPPLY

During the year, 16 samples of Drinking Water were taken from various points within the Borough for Bacteriological examination.

All the samples were satisfactory.

PUBLIC SWIMMING BATHS

Thirty-four samples of water from the 3 public swimming baths in the Borough were taken for Bacteriological examination.

All the samples were satisfactory.

FOOD AND DRUGS ACT, 1955Analysis of Food (other than Milk)

A wide variety of foods and drugs were sampled during the year. A total of 247 samples (in addition to the 115 milk samples previously mentioned) were submitted 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 :-

- | | | |
|---------------|---|---|
| Fruit Yogurt | - | 4 samples contained benzoic acid, an unauthorised preservative. |
| Lemon Cheese | - | deficient in lemon oil. |
| Lolly Ice | - | deficient in fruit juice. |
| Pork Sausages | - | slightly deficient in meat. |

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

In 25 of the complaints from members of the public mentioned later, the food or foreign object was sent to the Public Analyst for examination.

Pesticidal Residues in Foodstuffs

This authority is participating in the National Investigation into Pesticide Residues in Food.

A total of 40 samples were taken during the year and Pesticidal residues found in the following foods :-

Potatoes	-	Lindane	0.05 p.p.m.
Beer	-	Aldrin	0.03 p.p.m.
Italian Pears	-	Lindane	0.04 p.p.m.
Gooseberries	-	Lindane	0.10 p.p.m.
Tomatoes	-	Aldrin	0.10 p.p.m.
Carrots	-	Lindane	0.04 p.p.m.
Lettuce	-	Lindane	0.21 p.p.m.
Cabbage	-	D.D.T.	0.17 p.p.m.

Food Complaints

Ninety-three complaints were received during the year regarding food alleged to be unfit for consumption. All complaints were investigated with the retailers, manufacturers, or importers concerned. However, in a few cases it was difficult to establish whether the food was in the alleged condition at the time of sale.

Foreign objects were responsible for 39 of these complaints, food affected by mould for 29 complaints, dirty milk bottles for 7 complaints and unsound food for 18 complaints.

From the varieties of foods, bread and confectionery caused 39 complaints; meat and meat products 30 complaints; -milk and dairy products 13 complaints; while there were 11 complaints about a wide range of miscellaneous foodstuffs.

It was again found difficult to investigate satisfactorily any complaint where the product was affected by age. This usually results in mould growth, and, if the product is pre-wrapped, this mould is not seen at the time of sale. Most manufacturers apply some form of private code to the wrapper or container and the date of manufacture is easily ascertained. However, unless a retailer applies his own code to the article, it is very difficult for him to establish with certainty when the article was delivered to his premises. The best possible remedy is the marking of perishable foods with the last date on which they can be sold.

Legal proceedings were instituted in the following cases :-

Oil dust in Bread	Fined	£10
Mouldy Corned Beef	"	£20
Mouldy Cake	"	£10
Meat Pie containing metal	"	£10
Sour sausages	"	£30
Mouldy Corned Beef	"	£40
Mouldy Bread	"	£30
Bacon infested with maggots	"	£20
Mouldy Cake	"	£30
do.	"	£20
Mouldy Meat Pie	"	£10

FOOD HYGIENE

This work is carried out by a Food Inspector and five district inspectors, there being no specialist Food Hygiene Inspector. Some 1,817 visits were paid during the year to shops and other food premises of all types.

During visits, inspectors point out to shop assistants and managements the importance of personal hygiene, cleanliness of premises, proper storage and rotation of stock, adequate refuse disposal, correct use of refrigerators.

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	9
Butchers manufacturing sausages	55
Butchers manufacturing sausages and cooked meats	39
Ham boiling	1
Grocers manufacturing cooked meats	7
Pickle manufacturers	2
Chicken roasters	13
Meat products factories	2
	220

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

Notification of new food premises	(Sec: 101)	2
Food hawkers and their premises	(Sec: 102)	49
Vendors of shell fish and their premises	(Sec: 103)	31

During the year 172 written notices and 87 verbal notices were given under the Food Hygiene Regulations, covering 390 separate items.

Legal proceedings were instituted under the Food Hygiene (Markets, Stalls and Delivery Vehicles) Regulations, 1966, against 3 stallholders for smoking cigarettes whilst handling open foods. Fines of £5. 0. 0. were imposed in each case.

Summary of Inspections and Defects remedied

Food Hygiene (General) Regulations, 1960

	Shops	Cafés	Food Preparing Premises	Licensed Premises	Mobile Shops and Stalls
Number of premises	797	145	165	184	122
Fitted to comply with Regulation 16	769	145	165	184	104
Premises to which Regulation 19 applies	638	145	165	182	82
Premises fitted to comply with Regulation 19	622	145	165	182	82

	Shops	Cafés Canteens	Food Preparing Premises	Licensed Premises	Mobile Shops and Stalls	Totals
Number of premises	797	145	165	184	122	1413
Number of inspections	1293	209	213	97	123	1935
<u>Defects and Contraventions remedied</u>						
Sanitary convenience separated from food room	2	3	1	-	-	6
Walls, floors, ceilings, doors, windows						
(a) repaired	8	3	2	8	-	21
(b) cleansed	8	-	1	-	-	9
Food rooms ventilated	-	-	-	1	-	1
Accumulations of refuse removed	11	2	3	-	-	16
Cleanliness of persons, utensils, clothing	1	-	-	1	-	2
Wash-basins provided	2	-	-	2	4	8
Sinks provided, renewed	2	-	-	1	4	7
Hot and cold water supply	8	-	1	3	5	17
Towels, soap, etc., provided	1	-	-	3	4	8
Protection from contamination of food	8	-	-	2	10	20
Contravention of local Bye-laws	1	-	-	-	-	1
First Aid materials provided	2	-	-	1	-	3
	54	8	8	22	27	119

Poultry Inspection

There are no poultry processing premises within the Borough.

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	2,324
Fruit and Vegetables	17,866
Fish	949
Soup	1,903
Milk	637
Preserves	20
Puddings	1,027
Meat	696 lbs.
Fruit, vegetables	5,166 lbs.
Fats	464 lbs.
Bread, Confectionery	678 lbs.
Cereals	203 lbs.
Sugar	569 lbs.
Tea	437 lbs.
Cream	40 lbs.
Frozen Foods	820 lbs.
Eggs	78 lbs.
Miscellaneous	5,920 lbs.

MEAT INSPECTION(Report of the Chief Meat Inspector)FOOT-AND-MOUTH DISEASE

In October an outbreak of Foot and Mouth Disease occurred at a farm in Shropshire. Before the close of the year, the disease had spread to seventeen counties and resulted in the confirmation of 2,176 outbreaks, causing the slaughter of 392,453 cattle, sheep and pigs which were found to be diseased or have been exposed to infection. There had been an earlier series of outbreaks in the Southern counties and the Midlands, which brought the year's total of confirmed outbreaks to 2,209, and the number of animals slaughtered to the disastrous figure of 400,751.

Several outbreaks occurred in the Wirral, one farm only two miles from the Birkenhead boundary being infected. Appropriate precautionary measures were taken to reduce as far as possible the risk of outbreaks at farms and small-holdings in the Borough, and, with the co-operation of local farmers, pig-keepers, horse-riders and dog-club members, the year ended without a case of the disease in Birkenhead.

Throughout the period the Foot-and-Mouth (Infected Areas) Restrictions Order, 1938, continued in force, and no movement of livestock was permitted except on movement licence in approved cases.

This has been a troublesome year for the local meat trade and slaughtering industry. A strike among the Irish farmers in the first three months caused a decrease in the number of cattle imported, and the glut of imported carcass meat during the summer months resulted in importations of fat cattle failing to reach their usual high level. The last three months of the year saw the epidemic of Foot-and-Mouth Disease with the virtual cessation of slaughtering at Tranmere Abattoir and the restrictions on the number of livestock landed at Woodside.

It is worth noting that this year, for the first time ever, no carcasses were totally condemned for tuberculosis. There were in all only 33 animals slaughtered which exhibited tuberculous lesions, and, of these, 29 were animals which had been sent into Tranmere Abattoir for slaughter under the provisions of the Tuberculosis (Slaughter of Reactors) Order, 1950, after having reacted to the Tuberculin Test.

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 (Hygiene) Regulations, 1958
- Slaughter of Animals (Prevention of Cruelty) Regulations, 1958
- Meat (Staining and Sterilisation) Regulations, 1960

Food Hygiene (General) Regulations, 1960
 Food Hygiene (Docks, Carriers etc.) Regulations, 1960
 Meat Inspection Regulations, 1963
 Slaughterhouses (Hygiene) (Amendment) Regulations, 1966
 Meat Inspection (Amendment) Regulations, 1966
 Food Hygiene (Markets, Stalls and Delivery Vehicles)
 Regulations, 1966

MEAT INSPECTION REGULATIONS, 1963

During the year a total of 51,427 animals were slaughtered within the Borough.

	<u>Cattle</u>	<u>Calves</u>	<u>Sheep and Lambs</u>	<u>Pigs</u>
1967	16102	14	27990	7321

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 and Lambs	Pigs
Number Slaughtered and Inspected	16102	14	27990	7321
All diseases except Tuberculosis and Cysticerci - whole carcasses condemned	6	Nil	74	31
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	7563	1	9670	2785
Percentage of the number inspected affected with disease other than tuberculosis and Cysticerci	47	7	34	37
Tuberculosis only - whole carcasses condemned	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	33	1	Nil	Nil
Percentage of the number inspected affected with tuberculosis	0.2	7	Nil	Nil
Cysticercosis - Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	5	Nil	Nil	Nil
Carcases submitted to treatment by refrigeration	5	Nil	Nil	Nil
Generalised and totally condemned	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil

Weight of condemned carcasses and portions - 8 tons
 Weight of condemned offal and portions - 57 tons 7 cwts.

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

	Cattle	Calves	Sheep and Lambs	Pigs
Woodside Lairage	12587	Nil	36	48
Tranmere Abattoir	3515	14	27954	7273
Totals:	16102	14	27990	7321

WOODSIDE LAIRAGE

The Mersey Cattle Wharf, or Woodside Lairage as it is more familiarly known, is owned by the Mersey Docks and Harbour Board, and for more than eighty years has represented the largest and most complete establishment for the landing, inland transit, slaughtering, and disposal of animals from abroad. At any one time 6,000 cattle, 5,200 sheep and 2,000 pigs can be accommodated under cover. One cattle shed is a quarter of a mile long, and another cattle shed, which has its own electric self-operated lift and hoists, holds cattle on three floors. It is recorded that as many as 17,000 cattle have been landed in a single week. Woodside Lairage, with its accompanying Wallasey Lairage, connected by a three-quarter mile cattle runway, occupies half a mile of waterfront on the River Mersey and covers twenty-four acres. There are 21 slaughtering bays, and three emergency slaughterhouses are situated in different parts of the landing wharf for the immediate slaughter of animals which are too sick or injured to be moved to the main slaughtering bays.

Livestock landed at Woodside Lairage fall into two categories, viz. store livestock and fat livestock. Store livestock are transported alive to all parts of the country for fattening before eventual slaughter. Fat livestock are those animals which are ready for slaughter when they arrive. The number of fat cattle landed during a year is subject to availability and trade fluctuation. Modern trade trends disclose an ever-increasing importation of carcase meat and a consequent diminution of fat livestock. It is not likely that ever again will the slaughterhouses be the scene of such intense activity as in former years.

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 and Lambs	Pigs
Whole carcasses condemned for tuberculosis	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Part carcasses condemned for tuberculosis	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Number of carcasses of which some organ was condemned for tuberculosis	4	Nil	Nil	Nil
Percentage of the number inspected affected with tuberculosis	0.2	Nil	Nil	Nil

Total weight of carcase meat condemned for tuberculosis

Nil

Total weight of offal condemned for tuberculosis

2 cwts.

	Cattle	Calves	Sheep and Lambs	Pigs
Whole carcasses condemned for conditions other than tuberculosis	2	Nil	Nil	2
Parts of carcasses condemned for ditto	190	Nil	9	8

Total weight of carcase meat condemned for conditions other than tuberculosis

4 tons

Total weight of offal condemned for ditto

37 tons

TRANMERE ABATTOIR

In 1886, nine years after Birkenhead had received its Charter of Incorporation, the corner-stone of a new Public Abattoir was laid in New Chester Road. The abattoir, modern in its time, and ornate with carved stone bovine heads over the façade and on the pediments, served the needs of the surrounding district and, for the next three-quarters of a century was controlled and maintained by the Birkenhead Corporation. In 1962, the Fatstock Marketing

Corporation showed interest in acquiring the premises, and accordingly it passed to that organisation under lease. Modifications were made including the installation of a refrigerated store and chill room, and the replacement of the old method of hand scraping of pigs by a mechanical dehairer. Today, however, the abattoir has reached a crucial point in its long career. Ministerial insistence on rigid application of modern slaughter-house regulations is bringing premature closure to many slaughter-houses. Tranmere Abattoir stands in urgent need of improvement and modernisation if it is to continue its present function.

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 and Lambs	Pigs
Whole carcasses condemned for tuberculosis	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Part carcasses condemned for tuberculosis	2	Nil	Nil	Nil
Number of carcasses of which some organ was condemned for tuberculosis	28	1	Nil	Nil
Percentage of the number inspected affected with tuberculosis	0.8	7	Nil	Nil

Total weight of carcase meat condemned for tuberculosis Nil

Total weight of offal condemned for tuberculosis 5 cwts.

	Cattle	Calves	Sheep and Lambs	Pigs
Whole carcasses condemned for conditions other than tuberculosis	4	Nil	74	29
Part carcasses condemned for ditto	9	Nil	72	309

Total weight of carcase meat condemned for conditions other than tuberculosis 4 tons

Total weight of offal condemned for ditto 20 tons

EMERGENCY SLAUGHTER

During the year at Woodside Lairage a total of 298 animals comprising 160 bullocks, 53 heifers, 1 bull, 1 cow, 31 sheep, 4 lambs, 18 sows and 30 pigs were considered to be sick or injured and were the subject of casualty slaughter. The entire carcasses of 2 bullocks, 3 sows and 1 pig were condemned, as also were part carcasses of 27 bullocks, 7 heifers, 8 sheep, 8 sows and 2 pigs. 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. A total of 160 visits were made and as a result of inspections 2 tons 12 cwt. of meat and other foods were condemned, comprising 1 ton 12 cwt. of carcase meat, 13 cwt. of offal, 168 poultry carcasses weighing 6 cwt., and 12 tins of cooked meats weighing 1 cwt.

EXPORT OF MEAT PRODUCTS

A visit of inspection was paid to a new factory engaging in the preparation of casings and oleo for export. Conditions were satisfactory. Licences were issued for the export of 178 tierces of hog casings.

SLAUGHTERHOUSES (HYGIENE) REGULATIONS, 1958

Periodic inspections of the slaughterhouses were made under the provisions of this Order. Works of improvement completed at Woodside Lairage during the year included cleansing, painting and limewashing. Plans for the improvement and modernisation of Tranmere Abattoir are being examined by officials of the Birkenhead Corporation and F.M.C. (Meats) Ltd.

One breach of the Regulations, viz. smoking in the slaughterhouse was successfully prosecuted, a fine of £5 being imposed on the offender.

SLAUGHTER OF ANIMALS (PREVENTION OF CRUELTY) REGULATIONS, 1958

Woodside Lairage

There are 21 slaughtering bays, and fourteen stunning pens are provided in those bays which are used for the slaughter of cattle. In addition there are four casting pens installed for use in Jewish ritual slaughter. There is excellent illumination to all parts, and spacious lairage accommodation for livestock. All lairages are equipped with water-troughs, to each of which there is a permanent water supply. Large stocks of hay and straw are always available for feeding and bedding.

Tranmere Abattoir

The main slaughter-hall is equipped with three stunning pens for cattle. Electric stunning instruments are installed for pre-slaughter stunning of pigs, sheep and lambs. The cattle-pens are fitted with overhead mangers, and hay and straw are stored for

feeding and bedding. The pens are provided with drinking troughs, and water for drinking is available at all times.

SLAUGHTER OF ANIMALS ACT, 1958

The stunning and slaughtering of animals in a slaughterhouse is prohibited except by persons in possession of a Slaughterman's Licence granted by the Local Authority. As at 31st December, 1967 there were 32 licences in force.

FOOD HYGIENE (GENERAL) REGULATIONS, 1960

All vehicles transporting meat from abattoirs and wholesale meat depots are checked periodically for cleanliness and confirmation to approved standards. Protective clothing worn by meat handlers is checked for cleanliness and adequacy. Minor infringements were dealt with by cautionary letter.

FOOD HYGIENE (DOCKS, CARRIERS, ETC.) REGULATIONS, 1960

Periodic visits of inspection to cold stores, wholesale meat depots, offal houses, and carriers' premises were made under the provisions of these regulations.

FOOD HYGIENE (MARKETS, STALLS AND DELIVERY VEHICLES) REGS. 1966

All butchers' shops and stalls within the Borough were visited and the effect of these regulations insofar as they applied to the meat trade was explained. Meat delivery vehicles were inspected and minor infringements were dealt with by verbal warning.

DISPOSAL OF CONDEMNED MEAT AND OFFAL

Meat and offal, which is rejected as unfit for human consumption at abattoirs, cold stores and wholesale meat depots, 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 applied 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. Visits were paid to all butchers' shops and stalls under the provisions of the Orders. Minor infringements were dealt with by verbal caution.

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. During the year one application for licence was granted and the licences in respect of nine other pet stores were renewed. These shops were visited periodically to ensure compliance with the terms of the licence.

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. During the year three applications for registration were received and approved. There are seventeen registered premises within the Borough, all receiving periodic visits of inspection.

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. Regular visits keep a check on the sources of cooked and uncooked pet food and the conditions of storage. Samples of the various pet foods on offer for sale were submitted to laboratory examination for Salmonella organisms, but were negative in all cases.

RIDING ESTABLISHMENTS ACT, 1964

This Act provides that no person shall keep a Riding Establishment except under the Authority of a licence granted by the Local Authority. Four applications for renewal of licence were granted after inspection of the premises. During the year periodic visits were paid to all riding establishments and the horses observed at exercise in the paddocks. Stables have been inspected and 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. Two applications for renewal of licence were received and were granted after inspection of the kennels. Periodic inspections of the premises are made and the conditions of the animals observed.

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 of Animals (Records) Amendment Order, 1960
 Live Poultry (Restrictions) Order, 1963
 Swine Fever 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 160,669 store cattle, and 1,831 store sheep were landed at Woodside Lairage from Eire and Northern Ireland. In addition, 4,310 fat pigs were landed at Woodside in transit for bacon factories. They were held for a detention period in the lairages during which time they were examined by Ministry of Agriculture veterinary inspectors, prior to conveyance by rail or road to farmland in England, Wales and Scotland. During their detention they were adequately fed and watered. Check inspections of trucks and vehicles were made before the livestock continued to their destinations.

FOWL PEST ORDER, 1936

There were no cases or suspected cases of Fowl Pest among poultry kept at farms and small-holdings within the Borough. There were 198 confirmed outbreaks of Fowl Pest in Great Britain during the year, which shows a slight increase over last year's incidence.

ANTHRAX ORDER, 1938

There were no cases or suspected cases of Anthrax in the Borough during the year. Samples of earth and specimens of bovine bones disclosed during excavations on a building site on former farmland were subjected to investigation by laboratory techniques and proved to be free from Anthrax bacilli. There were 438 confirmed outbreaks of the disease in Great Britain, involving the death of 484 animals. This shows a considerable increase in the incidence, the statistics for 1966 being 222 confirmed outbreaks causing the death of 236 animals.

TUBERCULOSIS (SLAUGHTER OF REACTORS) ORDER, 1950

Seventy-seven cattle which had reacted to the Tuberculin Test were received into Tranmere Abattoir for slaughter and inspection. Twenty-five of the cattle disclosed tuberculous lesions on post-mortem examination, and reports were sent to the Ministry of Agriculture.

TRANSIT OF HORSES ORDER, 1951

During the year a total of 3,715 horses and asses were landed at Woodside Lairage. During their detention they were adequately fed and watered. Check inspections of horse-boxes and transport vehicles were made before the animals left the premises.

DISEASES OF ANIMALS (WASTE FOODS) ORDER, 1957

This Order prohibits the feeding of unboiled waste food to farm animals or poultry and requires that such waste food shall be boiled for at least an hour in boiler plant licensed by the Local

Authority. There are at present eight such licences in force and regular inspections of piggeries and boiler plant were made to ensure that the Order was being complied with.

REGULATION OF MOVEMENT OF SWINE ORDER, 1959

During the year 620 store pigs were brought into the Borough on Movement Licence. During the period of 28 days detention the farms and piggeries concerned were visited and the pigs were examined.

MOVEMENT OF ANIMALS (RECORDS) ORDER, 1960

This Order requires that records be kept of the movement of animals onto and off farm premises and that such records be retained for a specified time. There are five cattle-keepers and twelve pig-keepers within the town's boundaries. During the year visits to these premises were made and the record books inspected.

SWINE FEVER ORDER, 1963

Following the delivery of some suspected contact store pigs to a piggery within the Borough, restrictions were placed on the movement of swine from the premises. After investigation and clearance by Ministry of Agriculture officers, the restrictions were removed. There were no confirmed outbreaks of swine fever in Great Britain during the year. This is the first time that such a report could be made and it is evidence to suggest that this disease is virtually wiped out in this country.

EXPORTED ANIMALS PROTECTION ORDER, 1964

During the year the following animals were exported on licence for breeding purposes from Birkenhead docks.

- 6 Jersey heifers and 12 Friesian heifers to Japan.
- 30 Berkshire pigs and 30 Landrace pigs to China.
- 4 Dorset Horn rams and 4 Romney Marsh rams to Ceylon.
- 2 Hereford bulls, 9 Hereford cows, 2 Aberdeen Angus bulls, 2 Shorthorn bulls and 2 Shorthorn cows to South Africa.
- 20 Landrace boars and 18 Landrace gilts to China.
- 19 in-calf Friesian heifers to Japan.

EXPORTED HORSES PROTECTION ORDER, 1966

Two Welsh horses were exported on licence for riding purposes to Saudi Arabia from Birkenhead Docks.

IMPORTATION OF ANIMALS FOR EXHIBITION ORDER, 1961

This Order is used by the Ministry of Agriculture, in approved circumstances to admit zoological specimens to this country. Visits were paid to the North of England Zoological Society's quarantine station, situated in Birkenhead, for the purpose of inspection of the premises and observation of the various types of gazelle and antelope held there during the detention period.

IMPORTATION OF CARCASES AND ANIMAL PRODUCTS ORDER, 1954

Methods of disposal of food waste from ships in dock were checked and it was confirmed that no such material is being made available to pig-keepers for use as pig-food. Shipping companies were advised that disposal of swill to farmers for animal food would be regarded as a contravention of the above Order, and undertakings were given that no such practice would be permitted.

MOVEMENT OF ANIMALS (RECORDS) ORDER, 1954

This Order requires that records be kept of the movement of animals on and off the premises and that such records be retained for a specified time. There are five parts to the Order, twelve pig-keepers within the London Borough of Lambeth. During the year visits to these premises were made and the records inspected.

SWINE FEVER ORDER, 1954

Following the delivery of some suspected contact store pigs to a piggy within the Borough, restrictions were placed on the movement of swine from the premises. After investigation and clearance by Ministry of Agriculture officers, the restrictions were removed. There were no confirmed outbreaks of swine fever in Great Britain during the year. This is the first time that such a report could be made and is evidence to suggest that the disease is virtually wiped out in this country.

EXPORTED ANIMALS PROTECTION ORDER, 1954

During the year the following animals were exported on licence for breeding purposes from Birkhead Bucks.

- 10 Berkshire pigs and 10 Landrace pigs to China.
- 4 Dorset Horn rams and 4 Romney Marsh rams to Ceylon.
- 3 Hereford bulls, 9 Hereford cows, 2 Aberdeen Angus bulls, 2 Scotch Friesian bulls and 2 Shorthorn cows to India.
- 10 Landrace pigs and 10 Landrace girls to China.
- 10 Friesian heifers to Japan.

EXPORTED HORSES PROTECTION ORDER, 1954

Two Welsh horses were exported on licence for riding purposes to Saudi Arabia from Birkhead Bucks.

IMPORTATION OF ANIMALS FOR EXHIBITION ORDER, 1954

This Order is used by the Ministry of Agriculture to approve circumstances to admit zoological specimens to this country. Visits were paid to the North of England Zoological Society's quarantine station, situated in Birkhead, for the purpose of inspection of the premises and observation of the various types of animals and birds held there during the detention period.

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