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CHEADLE
Rural District Council



ANNUAL REPORT
of the
Medical Officer
of Health



1963





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REPORT

OF THE

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

for the year ending December 31st, 1963

1. A record of the year's events and achievements.
2. A chapter in the history of the community.
3. A source of information of the local affairs connected with the promotion of health and prevention of disease.

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21. Surveyor's Report.

I would conclude my introduction by offering my thanks to my colleagues and also to both present and past members of the Council for the help they have extended to me.

I am,

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,

E. H. TOMLIN,

Medical Officer of Health.

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Leek Road,
Cheadle, Staffs.

Telephone : Cheadle 2157.

Private Telephone : Leek 948.

Chairman of the Rural District Council, MR. J. A. BERRESFORD

Vice-Chairman of the Rural District Council,

MR. N. HEATHCOTE

Clerk of the Council, MR. H. W. HENSON.

Barrister at Law

Public Health Committee, 1963

Chairman : MR. R. L. CARR.

Members:— Mrs. H. M. Gardner, Mrs. M. K. Harris, Mrs. D. Horton, Miss A. S. Makeig-Jones, Mrs. S. A. Ratcliffe, Mrs. J. C. Slinn, Messrs. J. H. Aberley, F. Bartlett, J. A. Berresford, J. E. Brassington, T. P. Brindley, W. Brown, J. Byatt, J. J. Chapman, P. Clowes, R. Clowes, J. C. Cope, J. W. Crossley, F. H. Dale, G. S. Eyre, W. Fanthom, F. R. Ford, A. E. Foreman, J. R. Goodwin, N. Heathcote, J. E. Horton, J. Johnson, W. Jones, J. A. Keates, W. S. Lees, D. McWhirter (resigned November, 1963), J. Moreton, H. C. Mountford, H. L. Podmore, J. Price, J. Shirley, J. H. Simcock, A. Smith, G. Snow, D. G. Spooner, F. G. Taylor, P. Tonkinson, W. C. Washburn, R. White, F. Williams, T. H. Willis, S. Worsdale.

Public Health Staff

E. H. TOMLIN, M.D., Ch.B., D.P.H., Medical Officer of Health

R. COMLEY, M.R.S.H., M.A.P.H.I., Chief Public Health Inspector
and Food Inspector.

D. N. DUNLOP, M.A.P.H.I., Public Health Inspector.

W. D. DAVIES, M.A.P.H.I., Public Health Inspector and Food
Inspector.

A. RYLAND, M.R.S.H., M.A.P.H.I., Public Health Inspector and
Food Inspector.

S R. CHAPMAN, Clerk.

M. J. PARRY, Clerk.

H. E. MOSLEY, Rodent Operative.

Staff—Engineer and Surveyor's Department

J. W. BURTON, M.I.P.H.E., M.R.S.H., Engineer and Surveyor

A. GRANT, A.M.I.Mun.E., Deputy Engineer and Surveyor.

H. POINTON, Architectural and Town Planning Assistant

H. F. PARRINGTON, A.I.M.S., Town Planning Assistant.

G. D. BIRKS, Architectural Assistant

E. CHALLINOR, A.M.I.S.P., M.R.S.H., Engineering Assistant

M. H. J. EVANS, Grad.I.C.E., A.M.C.T., Stud.I,Mun,E., Engineer-
ing Assistant

G. GIBSON, Building Inspector.

R. L. DAVIES, Junior Engineering Assistant.

F. J. CARR, Junior Engineering Assistant. (Resigned 25.8.63).

G. GOODALL, Junior Engineering Assistant. (Commenced
4.12.63).

W. H. HOBSON, Clerk.

J. W. SHAW, Clerk.

T. W. EARDLEY-COOKE, Clerk.

R. GRICE, Clerk.

M. REEVES, Shorthand Typist.

J. A. EDWARDS, Shorthand Typist.

J. MORRIS, Shorthand Typist.

Civil Defence

G. HETHERINGTON, Administrative Assistant.

General Statistics

Area in acres	60,291
Registrar General's Estimate of Population	41,120
Number of inhabited houses according to Rate Book	12,099
Rateable Value	£1,104,291 0. 0.
Sum represented by a penny rate	£1,505 10s. 3.75d.

3. SOCIAL CONDITIONS IN THE DISTRICT

General

The level of prosperity and employment showed no obvious changes and remained satisfactory.

No major changes occurred in facilities for employment in industry within the district.

Provision for the Older Generation

The Council's first experiment in grouped bungalows for old persons at Forsbrook who need some special degree of help and supervision proved so successful that the Council decided to set up a second group at Tean. A warden was appointed to the Forsbrook group and was sent on a short residential course of training. The Chief Public Health Inspector was given the responsibility of supervision of the scheme as he in the first place had come to know the bungalow occupants in his capacity of Housing Officer when letting was being considered. His comments on the scheme in Section II of this report are instructive, and his criticisms valuable.

These grouped bungalows are a joint venture between the District Council and the County Welfare Department and we are fortunate in having the County Area Welfare Office based on Cheadle as this facilitates liaison in letting and other matters.

For the aged who are unable or unwishful to maintain their own homes, even with help and supervision, work was commenced on the County Old Persons Home in Cheadle.

And for those who neither need nor wish for any sort of help or supervision the Council continued its policy to build bungalows for the independent older persons.

Family Planning

This is a subject which is always a matter of controversy. My own feelings are that the bringing into being of a family is a primary object in life and a responsibility gladly accepted, but that every married couple would, if possible, wish to say when their children should arrive. I am sure that now and in the past married couples have done the best they could to plan their families for reasons which for the most part were not those of self interest.

I am glad to report that this year the Council decided to give financial support to the Family Planning Association, a national voluntary body whose object is to give advice on family planning on a scientific basis to those who seek it and

who would otherwise probably attempt some form of contraceptive which was unreliable, frustrating or even detrimental to health.

Persons found to be in need of Care and Attention

No application to court for the compulsory removal under the National Assistance Acts of persons in need of care and attention were made during the year.

4. HEALTH STATISTICS

These statistics as in previous years are as called for by the Ministry of Health.

Table I comprises statistics supplied by the Registrar General with various birth and death rates based thereon.

Table II lists deaths from certain specified causes.

Table III shown later in the report lists the numbers, sex and age incidences of cases of notifiable disease.

TABLE I

POPULATION OF RURAL DISTRICT (Mid Year estimate) 41,120 LIVE BIRTHS

Number—367 males, 355 females...	722
*Rate per 1,000 population ...	16.8
Illegitimate Live Birth per cent. of total live births ...	3.0

STILLBIRTHS

Number ...	13
Rate per 1,000 total live and still births ...	17.9
TOTAL LIVE AND STILL BIRTHS...	735
INFANT DEATHS (under 1 year) ...	22

Infant Mortality Rates

Total infant deaths per 1,000 total live births ...	33.3
Legitimate infant death per 1,000 legitimate live births	29.8
Illegitimate infant deaths per 1,000 illegitimate live births	47.5
Neo-natal Mortality Rate (deaths under 4 weeks per 1,000 total live births)...	21.2
Early neo-natal Mortality Rate (deaths under 1 week per 1,000 total live births) ...	15.4
Perinatal Mortality Rate (stillbirths and deaths under 1 week combined per 1,000 total live and still births)...	33.2

MATERNAL MORTALITY (including abortion)

Number of deaths ...	Nil
Rate per 1,000 total live and still births ...	Nil

DEATHS AT ALL AGES 254 males and 216 females...

*Death rate per 1,000 of population ...	10.6
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*Registrar General's Comparability Factor used in estimation of this rate—Births 0.97. Deaths 0.96.

TABLE II. DEATHS FROM SPECIFIC DISEASES

Respiratory tuberculosis...	1	0
Cancer of stomach ...	9	2
Cancer of lung ...	11	2
Cancer of uterus ...	0	3
Cancer of breast ...	0	1
Leukaemia ...	3	2
Other malignant disease ...	18	17
Diabetes ...	1	5
Strokes, etc. ...	34	39
Coronary heart disease and angina ...	57	23
Other heart diseases ...	38	57
Influenza ...	0	2
Pneumonia ...	9	9
Bronchitis ...	12	8
Other respiratory diseases ...	1	1
Ulcer of stomach, etc....	3	1
Gastro-enteritis ...	0	1
Nephritis ...	3	0
Disease of Prostate ...	1	0
Congenital malformations ...	6	5
Motor Accidents ...	5	2
All other Accidents ...	9	5
Suicide ...	3	3

Comment on Health Statistics

The trend for a rise of population of the Rural District continued, mainly as a result of immigration but partly due to the increasing birth rate within the district.

Total deaths at all ages in 1963 fell from 505 to 470, having in 1961 been 464. The year 1962 had an exceptionally cold winter, and 1963 was much more clement. Most people nowadays die of old age and it is the winter night temperature which tips the balance between death and surviving for another summer.

I am sure that in many cases a better heated bedroom might give another summer to the lives of many people.

Apart from this our statistics have little to tell us. Our infant mortality figure was up, probably by chance, but the total numbers are too low to be of significance.

5. PREVENTION AND CONTROL OF DISEASE.

Incidence of the Common Infectious Diseases

During the year we had nothing really unexpected.

Measles is a disease in which the numbers are high one year and low the next. The year 1963 was a high one, but by no means exceptionally so. Prevention of this disease by immunisation is on its way but has not yet reached us.

Whooping cough in 1962 showed no notifications at all, and my comment was "this means we must have had very few cases". In 1963 we had 164 notifications, again by no means an exceptionally high number.

After some years without a case of polio one arrived at Cheddleton quite out of the blue. No other cases had been reported in North Staffordshire and we have no clue as to where it might have come from. Such occurrences are not uncommon and serve as a reminder that we should not regard any of the serious infectious diseases as conquered for all time.

The Polio Case at Cheddleton

In 1958 poliomyelitis hit our village of Waterhouses heavily with six cases. At this time immunisation was being introduced as a defence. In 1959 we have two cases in the whole Rural District, in 1960 and 1961 no cases, and in 1962 one case.

In 1958 the occurrence of a single case of polio would have been regarded as an act of God about which we could have done little.

In 1963 the disease was so rare that the Ministry of Health had advised on a quite expensive procedure which should be carried out on the first appearance of the disease.

We could stamp it out by immunisation and should try to do so.

In September 1963 a case of paralytic polio was reported from Cheddleton.

The Ministry's advice was that all school contacts and "neighbourhood" contacts should be offered immunisation regardless of their age or previous state of immunity. The new oral vaccine was to be offered.

The child affected was an only child and under school age, so the question of "school contacts" did not arise.

It was decided that "neighbourhood contacts" should be confined to the village of Cheddleton. Open sessions for polio vaccination were laid on in the village hall, and vaccination teams visited the two village schools.

The response was interesting. At this time poliomyelitis vaccination had not been made available to persons over the age of forty. Very few people over that age came for protection at the open immunisation sessions. There was no atmosphere of scare or panic among those who did come. Perhaps a quarter of the village's population sought protection either through the "open sessions" or from their family doctor. There was little to suggest that a "scare" had been started in the outside areas.

No further cases occurred, but how far this was due to limitation of movements among the original case and direct contacts and how far the 25 per cent. reinoculation may have set up a community resistance to infection remains problematical.

Immunisations and Vaccinations, 1963

Diphtheria	Primary immunisations	357
	Reinforcements... ..	58
Whooping Cough	Primary immunisations	326
	Reinforcements... ..	22
Smallpox	Primary immunisation under 2 years	151
	Primary and re-vaccination over 2 years ...	237
Tetanus	Primary immunisation	300
	Reinforcements... ..	26

Poliomyelitis With regard to this disease figures obtainable from the County Council do not allow a breakdown to show what has been done in the Cheadle Rural District, but since the ease of oral immunisation became apparent the level of protection against poliomyelitis is thought to be satisfactory.

It was to be expected but is none the less regrettable that in the absence of any local or national publicity of epidemic dangers there was an all round fall in the numbers of children receiving protection.

People still are inclined only to lock the stable door after the horse has got out.

For the first year details of immunisation against tetanus are given. This follows the County Council's acceptance of the policy of giving a combined immunisation against diphtheria, whooping cough and tetanus with one jab of the needle.

Tetanus, or lock-jaw, is not an epidemic disease but one which can follow an accidental wound. It is a disease which can be killing, and in the absence of a known record of immunisation must be guarded against by the giving of an anti-serum which in itself can cause a lesser degree of illness.

To avoid this all parents should keep a record of immunisation of their children against tetanus which they can show to their family doctor or hospital following any accidental wound.

Parents having their children immunised against tetanus should ask the doctor for a record card.

Pollution of the River Tean

To the Health Department this year's moment of high drama occurred when the C.W.S. Dairy at Fole reported that as a result of routine sampling of the River Tean water they had found this was polluted with the germs of paratyphoid fever.

I would say here that there is no question of danger from the C.W.S. Dairy's milk. Water from the River Tean is not in way used in their plant. The testing was only being done as at one time it was thought river water might in emergency be used for cooling processes. Water from the Company's wells has, however, proved adequate for this purpose, and though the River Tean flows past the Fole Dairies they make no use of it whatsoever.

But the position was that a hundred yards or so below Fole a clear and pleasant looking water was flowing across the boundary into the Uttoxeter Rural District, a water which tempted children to bathe and paddle, and a water which contained germs of a disease which could be a killer.

Almost the same distance upstream of Fole effluent from the Blythe Valley Sewerage Works was being discharged into the stream.

The Blythe Valley Sewerage Works deals with sewage from a population of approximately 16,000 in the Cheadle Rural District and also sewage from a part of the City of Stoke-on-Trent and from Stone Rural District. It covers the upper part of the Blythe Valley drainage area of 11,500 acres and the Tean Valley drainage area of 12,398 acres.

Somewhere among these thousands of population and these thousands of acres might be just one person responsible for the danger—an unrecognised case of para-typhoid or an unwitting carrier of the disease.

The tracing of such a person might be, and indeed proved to be, impossible, but we could not neglect it.

The steps taken initially were five fold. First, the Medical Officer of Health of Uttoxeter Rural District was warned of the danger and subsequently kept informed of developments.

Secondly general practitioners were warned of the danger, given a map of the Blythe Valley and Tean Valley drainage area and asked to send in any information as to possible "missed cases" or carriers.

Thirdly Medical Officers of Health in Stoke-on-Trent and Stone Rural District and the Medical Superintendent of the local fever hospital were advised of the situation, given maps of the areas concerned, and asked to send in information as to any known cases in recent years who might be carriers.

Fourthly, after consultation with the Director of the Area Public Health Laboratory we adopted a plan for progressive up-stream bacteriological testing whereby we might limit the area of the case first to Main Branch sewer, then to street sewer, and then to house drain.

Fifthly, as it was possible that the pollution might be directly into the River Tean, Cecilly Brook, or other tributaries rather than indirectly from the Blythe sewerage outfall, a survey was made of these rivers with a view to finding where public access was easy, bathing or paddling was possible, and warning notices might have to be erected.

This plan of defence was, I think, comprehensive and beyond criticism. It might well have done all that was possible to minimise or prevent a large scale out-break of disease. In fact it did nothing.

No missed cases or carriers were reported by the general practitioners.

The Medical Officers of Health of Stoke-on-Trent and Stone Rural District know of ten human cases of para-typhoid fever and one dog within the previous ten years, two living within the sewer drainage area. None proved to be carriers.

The Infectious Diseases Hospital had in the past two years only had one case of the type concerned. She lived in Newcastle Borough and on follow up was found still to be living there.

The Area Public Health Laboratory confirmed that there was a para-typhoid pollution of the sewer outfall, but was unable to isolate the germ from the river water. A second sampling from the effluent failed to show that even this was polluted. At the same time the C.W.S. Dairy's samplings again became negative.

So before we could really launch our attack the danger had disappeared as mysteriously as it had arisen.

A bacteriological watch was kept for four weeks, and then the "all clear" signal was given.

Whether there is a lesson to be learned from this little alarm I would not like to say. We know there is a risk that dangerous germs can pass through the most effective sewage "purification" plants without being rendered harmless. We know that tests for purity of sewage effluent do not normally include a search for para-typhoid germs or the like. We suspect that if they did we would find much which would cause alarm and which we could not control. I personally would regard even the best of sewage effluents as suspect, and think that we in the Cheadle Rural District are fortunate in not being dependent on our rivers for our supply of drinking water.

Fluoridation of Water Supplies

At the start of the year the Council had resolved "That the fluoridation of water supplies be approved in principle but the matter be left in abeyance until details of any scheme prepared by the County Council have been approved."

In the summer the County Council, advocates of fluoridation, held a meeting of County District Council representatives to discuss the matter.

After this meeting the County Council wrote asking the District Council whether it would consider fluoridation.

The District Council resolved to "defer this decision for a year!"

I record this as a matter of history, but at the same time I would record my disappointment that the Council had apparently viewed the matter so lightly.

Here we had a matter of controversy, with both sides claiming it was of the greatest importance. On the one side it was contended that fluoridation would make a great contribution to dental and general health and a great economic saving. On the other side it was contended that fluoridation besides infringing the rights of the individual might well cause a wide variety of diseases. And yet in combination both sides decided to defer for a year the consideration of the matter!

We had pounds in weight of written evidence if we wished really to make our own decision. We had been given a lead by the government and Ministry of Health, and we failed to get down to talking the matter out.

Statistical Table III

	Scarlet Fever		Whooping Cough		Measles (excluding rubella)		Dysentery		Paralytic Polio	
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
Numbers originally notified (all ages)	5	3	75	89	314	294	10	14	1	0
Final numbers after correction										
Under 1	0	0	5	6	9	10	0	1	0	0
1	0	0	4	4	23	19	1	0	1	0
2	0	0	7	9	38	34	1	1	0	0
3	1	0	12	11	34	31	0	0	0	0
4	1	0	6	7	42	32	1	0	0	0
5—9	2	2	38	48	147	147	2	4	0	0
10—14	0	1	2	4	3	2	0	2	0	0
15—24	1	0	0	0	18	19	3	2	0	0
25 and over	0	0	1	0	3	2	0	2	0	0
Age unknown	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total (all ages)	5	3	75	89	314	292	10	14	1	0
Acute Pneumonia										
	M	F								
Numbers originally notified	2	1								
Final numbers after correction										
Ages—										
Under 5	0	1								
5—14	0	0								
15—44	0	0								
45—64	1	0								
65 and over	1	0								
Age unknown	0	0								
Total (all ages)	2	1								
TUBERCULOSIS										
	Respiratory		Meninges C.N.S.		Others					
			M	F	M	F				
Numbers originally notified (all ages)	2	7			0	1				
Final numbers after correction										
Under 5	0	1								
5—14	0	1								
15—24	0	1								
25—44	1	3								
45—64	1	0								
65 and over										
Age unknown										
Total (all ages)	2	6			0	1				

6. GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES

The Cheadle Clinic

For upwards of forty years Infant Welfare Clinics have been held throughout the District in rented premises—usually Church Halls or Village Halls.

This year saw the opening of a specially built Clinic in Cheadle provided by the County Council. The Clinic is an up to date building planned I think to deal with the needs of a growing population. It provides a centre which is at present providing for Infant Welfare Sessions, School Minor Ailment Clinics, Eye and Ear, Nose and Throat Clinics, Midwives Ante-Natal Clinics and Relaxation and Mothercraft Classes, Chiropody Clinics, Speech and Therapy Clinics. Breathing exercise classes and a Dental Clinic. Its main hall will serve as a room for small meetings or as a lecture room with facilities for cinema projection. It has a kitchen to provide amenities of a social nature. It has a room for the sale of Infant Foods, and a room for the meeting and clerical work of County nursing and other staff. It is, I am sure a building the town and district can be proud of.

The Junior Training Centre, Leek

Until 1963 children in the Rural District who were so retarded as to be unable to benefit from teaching in a school had either to stay at home or in a few cases to travel by devious means to the Occupational Centre at Newcastle.

From the Autumn of 1963 such children were able to attend a new Junior Training Centre which had been built by the County Council at Leek.

Transport facilities to this centre had been arranged by two bus routes, one through Weston Coyney and Cellarhead and the other through Tean and Cheadle.

The improvement in abilities of these children through the specialist teaching at the Junior Training Centre has been remarkable.

Although the centre is not in the Rural District its alliance with the Rural District has been emphasised by the setting up of a "Leek and Cheadle Voluntary Committee" as a branch of the Staffordshire Association for Mental Welfare which is very much concerned with the Centre's activities.

Paediatric Liaison

In my last report I touched on the establishment of a system of liaison through Health Visitors between Hospital and County Home Care services for the Elderly.

In 1963 a similar system for exchange of information was set up between the Hospital Paediatric (Children's Diseases) Department and those responsible for home care of the young (i.e. family doctor and County services).

This system is still in its infancy but its inception is an indication that something is being done to break down the gaps which resulted from the National Service Acts apportioning responsibility for care between Hospital Board, Executive Council, and Local Health Authority.

Other Provisions of Health Services

These remained as outlined in my report for 1956 with subsequent years comments.

7. FOOD AND NUTRITION

A New View Point

Until this year I had increasingly felt that problems of nutrition had disappeared, largely due to our wider economic prosperity, partly through better understanding of needs for a "balanced diet" and partly through better preservation, marketing and easier cooking of food-stuffs.

In 1963 I came rather reluctantly to accept medical opinion that we had to deal with and guard against a new problem in nutrition, or rather a problem to which not much attention had been paid in years gone by.

This is the problem of over-feeding. We have always known that grossly over-weight elderly people would be better for dieting—they would have more energy to enjoy life if they had two stones less weight to carry about all day.

But we regarded the fat child as one "fat by nature", or thought the obesity was "puppy fat" which would disappear as the child grew older.

Sometimes we have been right, but recent research had suggested we are getting an increasing number of children who are fat by reason of excess eating, and who would benefit in health by a lower food intake.

I can offer no proof but during 1963 I got the impression I was seeing a larger number of fat children than before.

Any habit is easier to break when it is young, and for this reason it would be wise to attempt to break the over-eating

habit before it produces definite illness.

In the past various religions had customs which called for the discipline of fasting, and religious customs usually were of practical benefit to the community even though their whys and where-fores could not be explained.

I have come to think that it would be no bad thing to make more widely known the possible dangers to the over-fat child even though we may not have much success in dealing with the individual case.

Some parents might be led to worry unnecessarily, but I am certain they would be many less than at present worry unnecessarily over the over-thin child !

Management of the over-fat child would call for lengthy and time taking co-operation between child, parent and doctor, and perhaps school teacher.

The results as shown by the weighing scales would in many cases prove disappointing but the child would have perhaps grown to accept that excessive weight was undesirable and that the discipline of dieting was not unbearable. In later years should dieting become essential to counter-act positive illness it would be accepted and carried out more easily and more effectively.

Food Inspection and Food Premises

Having for the past three years pointed out that I felt our inspections of food premises were, through staff shortage, far too few to allow us to discharge our statutory obligations I am glad to draw your attention to your Chief Public Health Inspector's comment that he now finds himself in a position of aiming at six monthly inspections of all food premises in the district, with increased inspections where experience shows they are necessary.

I would too, refer you to the Chief Public Health Inspector's account of our satisfactory system of meat inspection, and of the implications of the new Meat Inspection Regulations 1963.

Safety and Cleanliness of Milk

The number of samples of milk taken within the Rural District by the County Council are as follows :—

Samples tested for Tuberculosis	46
Samples proved to be infected	Nil
Samples tested for general cleanliness	466
Samples found to be not satisfactory	12
Samples showing test indeterminable or void	12

Adequacy of Water Supplies

(a) *Search for new sources to meet increasing needs*

In his report the Surveyor comments on the yield from the new Ramsor bore-hole. In July the Ministry gave assent to the sinking of a trial bore-hole at Key Wood, Oakamoor.

(b) *Water Shortage at St. Edward's Hospital, Cheddleton*

This hospital gets its water in part from the Rural District supply at Cheddleton and in part from two of its own wells. It makes use of the Crown Point Service reservoir owned by the District Council.

In the spring it was found that the yield from the two wells was decreasing and the water of unsatisfactory purity.

The District Council was unable to spare water equivalent to that which might be lost by the closure of the wells.

The Council offered to hand over the Crown Point Reservoir to the Regional Hospital Board and suggested it could easily be fed by a short length of main from the Potteries Water Board supply at Wall Grange.

The matter was still under discussion at the year end.

(c) *Roughcote Lane, Caverswall*

Properties here were receiving an intermittently inadequate supply from the Potteries Water Board. The Council requested the Water Board to remedy this, but the matter had not been put right by the year end.

Purity of Water Supplies

Chemical and bacteriological testing of our public supplies showed these to be satisfactory. A table giving details is shown.

New Works

The Surveyor's report comments on increased storage capacity at the Counslow and Rangemore reservoirs and on mains extensions.

Regrouping of Water-undertakings

The Council considered the Financial Consultant's report on the possible effects of re-grouping of water undertakings, and this appeared to show no reason why the Council should not continue to seek amalgamation with the Potteries Water Board rather than with a new North East Staffordshire Board.

Chemical Analysis of Water

	Blackbank	Cauldon	Cheadle	Ganderwell	Teanford	Wallmyres	Staffs. Potteries Water Board
p.H. Value	6.7	6.3	7.0	6.3	7.2	7.3	7.2
Total solids dried at 212°F	20.0	13.0	38.0	13.0	29.0	26.0	26.0
Free and Saline Ammonia	.0004	Nil	Nil	Nil	.0008	Nil	.0016
Albuminoid Ammonia	.0008	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	.0004	.0008
Nitric Nitrogen	.3	Nil	1.54	.2	.35	.25	.25
Chlorine	1.5	1.6	2.6	1.5	2.5	1.6	2.1
Oxygen absorbed in 4hrs at 80° F.	.0021	Nil	.01	Nil	Nil	.008	Nil
Appearance	Clear and Colourless	Clear and Colourless	Clear and Colourless	Clear and Colourless	Clear and Colourless	Clear and Colourless	Clear and Colourless
Injurious Metallic contamination	Nil	.03	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil

Bacteriological Examination—Water Samples, 1963

	Blackbank	Cauldon	Cheadle	Ganderwell	Teanford	Staffs Potteries Water Board	Wallmyres
Probable number coliform bacilli, MacConkey 2 days 37 deg. C.	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Probable number of faecal coli.	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil

New Sewerage Projects.

With two schemes nearing completion, four more completed or virtually completed are waiting approval and a seventh in the offing it is obvious that it is here that the Council is following up the development of its water schemes, and in doing so the Council is following a planned programme.

Details are given in Section 12, the Engineer and Surveyor's report.

Staff shortages in the Surveyor's Department had made it impossible for these works to be put in hand as quickly as the Council would have wished, and it was for this reason alone that two of the projects were put out to Consultant Engineering firms.

Also in the Surveyor's report are given details of sewer extensions.

Air Pollution

During the year there were complaints of dust nuisance from the Wardlow Quarries and from Messrs. G. and T. Earle's Cement Works at Waterhouses.

Both these concerns will, I think, co-operate in attempting to minimise dust nuisance and both I think can afford to do so. In both cases however I think that from time to time fresh complaints will arise. The two firms contribute to national production and offer local employment. Co-operation I think is all we can hope for.

Complaints were also received about black smoke from the Berry Hill Brickworks at Kingsley.

Here the Council can do little as some smoke is unavoidable in the production of "blue bricks."

Responsibility for supervision rests not with the Rural District Council but with H.M. Alkali Inspector.

In contrast with the dust nuisance from quarries I think the smoke nuisance from the brick works is far more dependent on the human element. Minimisation depends not so much on installation of plant as on the human factor of timing firing to coincide with favourable meteorological conditions. With the general complaint made to the R.D.C. from time to time I think we can do nothing. With detailed complaints of dates, times of nuisance, and meteorological conditions we might be able to pass on something to H.M. Inspector of Alkalis which would enable him, and perhaps the firm, to do something which would lessen the nuisance.

Cleansing of Bus Shelters

With 75 bus shelters provided by the Rural District a new problem has arisen in keeping them in repair and clean.

It is regrettable that complaints have in the main been occasioned by the fact that they have in a few instances been the object of vandalism or of misuse as public conveniences.

The result of these two practices of social misbehaviour is that the Council is compelled to spend about £10 a year on the maintenance of each bus shelter which really should be self-cleaning and to require a much less sum in repair.

10.

HOUSING

In recent years my report has dealt quite extensively with housing needs and national and local policy for meeting them. This year I would refer the reader to the Public Health Inspector's and the Surveyor's reports for information on the year's achievements in improvement, repair, and new construction.

I would, however, bring up to date the table first given last year which shows the trend of our housing activities.

	1963	1962	1961	1960	1959
1. Population of District ..	41,120	40,130	38,660	37,760	36,790
2. Number of inhabited houses	12,009	11,887	11,109	10,702	10,446
3. Total built during year..	314	329	517	435	276
4. Number built by Council	26	8	50	18	2
5. Number built by private enterprise	288	321	467	417	274
6. Number of improvement grants made	53	53	80	77	42
7. Number of houses repaired following action by Health Department under Public Health Acts	235	129	157	203	143
8. Number of grants for closet conversion	59	79	117	45	63
9. Number of unfit properties dealt with by Demolition Order, Closing Order or Undertaking	29	23	19	49	44
10. Guarantees to Building Societies	102	87			

11. REPORT OF THE CHIEF PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR.

I have pleasure in submitting my report for the year 1963.

This year has seen the department with a settled staff although Mr. A. Ryland only commenced in November, 1963, and is taking some time to settle down in a new district. I believe that any Inspector coming from a Borough or Urban District finds the work of a Rural District very different from that to which he has become accustomed. The main difference is the amount of contract work done by the department and the preparation of and supervision of Improvement Grants. Complaints are not so numerous in a district of this nature and more responsibility rests with the individual Inspector to carry out routine Public Health work on his own initiative.

Looking back over the year the most important piece of Legislation to affect the department has been the Meat Inspection Regulations 1963, more will be said on this in my paragraph on Slaughterhouses.

PUBLIC HEALTH ACT, 1963

Repair of Houses

235 Houses have been repaired, 63 as a result of informal action and 172 as a result of formal action. It has not been found necessary to take action in Court.

RENT ACT, 1957

Only one application was received for a Certificate of Disrepair, this was granted. No applications were received for cancellation of Certificates.

As I have remarked before, the Act is just not being used by tenants in the District.

HOUSING (FINANCIAL PROVISIONS) ACT, 1958

HOUSE PURCHASE AND HOUSING ACT, 1959

HOUSING ACT, 1961

Discretionary Improvement Grants.

50 applications were received for Discretionary Grant, 43 approved, 4 refused and 3 deferred. The amount of grant

undertaken to be paid in respect of the 43 approved amounted to £10,502 12s 0d., an average of £246 11s. 5d. per property. This compares with an average of £229 per property for last year.

The number of applications received for Standard Grants was 14, of these 10 were approved and 4 refused. The total grant on the 10 approved was £1,175. The amount paid during the year was £821 in respect of 9 properties, an average of £91 per house.

PUBLIC HEALTH ACT, 1963 — Sections 39 & 47

I include under this section numerous works of redrainage, provision of sink waste drainage and the replacement of privies by waterclosets.

Details of work carried out under Contract are listed:		
5, 6 and 7 Kilncroft, Tean—replacement of privies by waterclosets	£160	16 0
Mill Lane, Lower Tean—4 cottages—New sewer, connection of sink waste gullies and provision of junctions for waterclosets... ..	£86	18 0
Lane Head Cottages, Lower Tean—3 cottages—New length of sewer... ..	£184	11 0
Cottage, Huntley—Replacement of privy by water-closet and drainage... ..	£99	10 0
Stacks Green, Ipstones— Main drainage and replacement of six privies by waterclosets	£373	6 4
High Street, Hall Yard and Hall Meadow, Tean—Resewering of 14 properties	£863	5 0
3 Cottages, Gorsty Hill Road, Tean—Redrainage, provision of waterclosets, and internal water supplies	£254	10 6
4 Cottages, Lower Tean—Drainage & water supplies	£253	12 0
4 Properties, Riverside Road, Tean—Construction of main drain	£150	12 0
6, 8, 10 and 12 Trimpos, Cheadle—Main drain and conversion of three waterclosets	£313	17 0
Hillside, Washerwall Lane, Werrington — Replacement of privies at six properties	£413	0 0
Lawns Cottage, Trimpos, Cheadle—drainage	£115	13 6
14 and 16 Trimpos, Cheadle—Drainage	£155	16 0
The Bungalow, Trimpos, Cheadle—Drainage	£104	12 0
1, 2 and 3 Gorstyhill Cottages, Gorstyhill Road, Tean—Provision of waterclosets	£819	0 0
12 New Road, Tean—Provision of drainage and water closets		
4 Properties, Uttoxeter Road, Checkley—Provision of drainage		

2 Properties, Uttoxeter Road, Forsbrook—Provision of drainage	
Privies replaced by owners	33
Privies replaced by Council	26

PUBLIC HEALTH ACT, 1963

WATER ACT, 1945 — Section 30

Notice was served requiring the supply of water to a house as a result of which it was necessary to carry out the work in default at a cost of £56 1s. 7d.

HOUSING ACT, 1957 — 1961

Demolition Orders have been made in respect of 26 houses and Closing Orders in respect of 3.

The properties affected are :

36 Uttoxeter Road, Draycott

38 Uttoxeter Road, Draycott

40 Uttoxeter Road, Draycott

The Bungalow, Keepers Lane, Blythe Bridge.

346 Uttoxeter Road, Blythe Bridge

9 Well Street, Forsbrook.

11 Well Street, Forsbrook

15 Chapel Street, Forsbrook.

17 Chapel Street, Forsbrook

33 Cheadle Road, Forsbrook

Ship Inn Cottages, Teanford (2 cottages)

30 Chapel Street, Forsbrook.

The Stepps, Boundary

3 Cottages, Rectory Road, Hollington

Springfield Farm, Chapel Street, Forsbrook

Rosedale, Brookhouse Lane, Bucknall.

18 High Street, Alton

3 Cottages, Sheepwash, Caverswall.

Fireman's Rest, Cellarhead.

19 and 21 Chapel Street, Forsbrook—previously reported Closed.

Closing Orders :

20 Bank Street, Cheadle.

The Stepps, Boundary.

1 Star Bank, Cotton, Oakamoor.

Cheadle No. 3 Compulsory Purchase Order, 1962

This Order made by the Council on the 19th October, 1962, was approved by the Ministry of Housing and Local Gov-

ernment in August, 1963. The Order required the demolition of Numbers 6 to 32 Cheadle Road, Tean, a block of properties known as Double Row, Tean.

This is of a peculiar construction in that there are six dwellings on the ground floor and eight dwellings on the first floor.

REHOUSING

Again a considerable amount of time has been spent on housing and it has become my practice each year to provide all members of the Council, together with representatives of the Parish Councils on the House Letting Committee, with a complete report on all applicants for rehousing.

68 houses have been let during the year. Of these 42 were re-lettings of older houses and 26 new houses or bungalows.

The year saw a new venture by the Council in the provision of bungalows for the aged and infirm and a scheme has been provided at Blythe Bridge of 16 Bungalows with a Warden housed in a nearby house. The Warden's house is connected to each bungalow by a bell system and each day the old people are visited by the Warden. This is an excellent scheme and one which I know is appreciated greatly by the old people in the bungalows. From my experience older people do not want anything more than the facilities provided in these bungalows—a livingroom, one bedroom, bathroom and kitchen. I have one criticism in that the bedroom ought to have a radiator to provide some warmth in the winter months. An electrically heated radiator has been supplied to the tenants but this is far too expensive for a person living on pension whereas a radiator fed from the existing grate would entail no expense and provide permanent warmth. During construction of the bungalows I also drew attention to the need for a fitment to the bath to assist the old people to pull themselves out of the bath, this has been fitted. I also consider that there should be a concrete walk under each window in order that the tenants do not have to stand on wet grass or soil when cleaning the windows. No doubt, in erection of future schemes of this nature, we shall learn from this one original scheme.

The Council are fortunate in the Warden they have appointed for this scheme, Mrs. Adams, who has been made a member of my Department.

The position with regard to re-housing in the area is not a very good one, although we have had 42 vacancies occur during the year there are 500 on the waiting list for houses or bungalows.

CARCASSES AND OFFAL INSPECTED AND CONDEMNED IN WHOLE OR IN PART.

	Cattle excluding Cows	Cows	Calves	Sheep and Lambs	Pigs
Number Killed	1807	641	1377	9547	2100
Number Inspected	1807	641	1377	9547	2100
ALL DISEASES EXCEPT TUBERCULOSIS AND CYSTICERCOSIS.	—	—	3	6	1
Whole Carcasses condemned					
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemn- ed.	204	212	2	336	136
Percentage affected with disease other than Tuber- culosis or Cystercercosis.	11.3	33.1	0.4	3.6	6.5
TUBERCULOSIS ONLY					
Whole Carcasses condemned	—	—	—	—	—
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemn- ed.					36
Percentage infected with Tuberculosis					1.7
CYSTICERCOSIS					
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemn- ed.	8	1			
Carcasses submitted to treatment by refrigeration.	2				
Generalised Cysticercosis and Carcasses totally con- demned.	—	—	—	—	—

SLAUGHTERHOUSES ACT, 1958 and FOOD INSPECTION

There are 16 Slaughterhouses in the District. All have been inspected by the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food Veterinary Officer and minor defects have been remedied.

All the defects are those of maintenance which cannot help but arise in slaughterhouses in continuous use. There will always be times when walls require decoration or repair.

The Meat Inspection Regulations, 1963, came into operation on 1st October, 1963. The main provision of the Regulations are :—

- (a) meat at slaughterhouses must be inspected;
- (b) meat must not be removed from a slaughterhouse until it has been inspected;
- (c) meat inspected and passed as fit for human consumption must be marked;
- (d) local authorities may charge for the inspection;
- (e) The minimum period of notice of slaughter is extended from 3 hours to 24 hours.

These are most important requirements, fortunately the provision had been anticipated and the staffing position of the department enabled us to carry out the inspection with very little change in routine already established. I have always placed meat inspection as first priority in the duties of the department. Standard procedure of inspection has been set out in Schedule 1 of the Regulations and the Council's staff have had firm instructions to follow the procedure in every detail. One of the most remarkable of the new Regulations is the provision that Local Authorities may charge for the meat inspection service. I recommended the Council that if a charge is to be made it should be the maximum permissible and this was accepted. On this basis of charge the income this year is approximately £670.

The diseased conditions found call for little comment except that there has been a reduction in the numbers of beef carcasses affected with cysticercosis. Having seen pigs being reared under the intensive system I cannot help but wonder what the effect will be on the incidence of tuberculosis in pigs in the future.

SLAUGHTER OF ANIMALS ACT, 1958

43 Slaughterman's Licences have been issued during the year.

FOOD AND DRUGS ACT, 1955

With the more settled staff I am aiming at inspection of the food premises at least twice a year. As our knowledge builds up of the conditions of food premises some will receive more frequent inspection.

PETROLEUM CONSOLIDATION ACT, 1958

The Council have now adopted new conditions of licence. All premises storing petrol have been visited at least once and we shall in the future require the production of plans of all existing establishments and of new establishments, also an electrical certificate is to be required which will indicate the electrical safety of all pumps. The Council is a Member of the Midlands Petroleum Acts Administration Group and I have attended most of the meetings of this Group. I have found the meetings of the greatest possible help. Members of the Group are drawn from all types of Authorities and we who have to administer the Petroleum Acts in the smaller areas can learn a considerable amount from those officers from the larger Authorities, who spend a large part of their time on the administration and enforcement of the Acts.

Two of my assistants have now attended a short residential course organised by this Group at Attingham Park, near Shrewsbury, and they have also each spent a week with the Fire Department of Stoke-on-Trent with the officer concerned in administering the Petroleum Acts. I believe this a good thing as the District borders Stoke-on-Trent and the closer we can get to a uniformity of requirements of petrol installations, the better for all concerned. I would like to express my appreciation of the ready help offered by the Chief Fire Officer.

THEATRES ACT, 1843

CINEMATOGRAPH ACTS, 1909 - 1952.

Responsibility for the licensing of the Theatres and Cinemas in the District has been delegated by the County Council to the District Council and it is my duty to act as authorised officer for the Council. There has been little cause for complaint during the years and visits have been made together with the Fire Officer to all licensed premises both for routine annual licence renewal purposes and during the course of use of the premises in the evening.

FACTORIES AND WORKSHOPS

Number on Register 122

Number using Mechanical Power... .. 68

Number of Inspections 17

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

PREMISES	Number on Register	Inspections.	Number of Written Notices	Number of Occupiers Prosecuted
1.—Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4, and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authority	54	7	..	..
2 Factories not included in (1) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority	68	10	..	..
3. Other premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding outworkers premises)	..	..	..	..
TOTAL	122	17	..	..

2. Cases in which defects were found to exist.

PARTICULARS	Found	Remedied	Referred To H.M. Inspector	Referred By H.M. Inspector	cases in which prosecutions. were instituted
Want of cleanliness (S1) ..	1	1	..	..	..
Overcrowding (S2)	..	..	..	..	..
Unreasonable Temperature — (S3)	..	..	..	..	..
Inadequate ventilation (S4)..	..	..	..	..	..
Sanitary Conveniences (S7).	..	..	..	..	..
(a) insufficient	1	1	..	..	..
(b) unsuitable or defective	1	1	..	..	..
(c) not separate for sexes..	..	..	..	..	..
Ineffective drainage of floors	..	..	..	..	..
Other offences against the Act (not including off- ences relating to out- work)	..	..	..	..	..
TOTAL	3	3	..	..	..

PREVENTION OF DAMAGE BY PESTS ACT, 1949

The following Table shows the number of inspections carried out to the various types of properties within the District.

	Local Authority	Dwelling Houses	Business Premises	Agricultural
No. of Properties in Local Authority's District	28	10,027	1,046	860
No. of Properties inspected as a result of notification	1	86	18	11
No. of such properties found to be infested by—				
Common rat ... Major	—	—	—	—
Minor	1	82	11	11
House Mouse ... Major	—	—	—	—
Minor	—	4	15	2
No. of Properties inspected in the course of survey under the Act	87	582	77	103
No. of such properties found to be infested by—				
Common rat ... Major	—	—	—	—
Minor	81	316	58	13
House mouse ... Major	—	—	—	—
Minor	2	—	15	—
No. of infested properties treated by the Local Authority	83	402	95	24
No. of "Block" control schemes carried out ...	14 covering 167 properties.			
Number of Contracts ...	29			
Amount of Contracts ...	£159. 10s. 0d.			
Number of properties treated (chargeable) ..	36			
Amount of Charge	£65. 8s. 0d.			

SURVEYOR'S REPORT, 1963

Housing.

The number of houses completed during the year was :—

by Local Authority	26
by Private Enterprise... ..	288
Total... ..	314

Local Authority Housing :

BLYTHE BRIDGE

The preliminary street works and services have been laid and a contract for 16 old age persons bungalows have been erected. The scheme provides for warden supervision of the aged persons. The layout is in the form of a square at the end of a cul-de-sac with grass lawns at the front and the scheme as a whole presents a very attractive addition to the Council's existing housing estate.

In addition a further contract has been under construction and partially completed as an extension to Bridgwood Road. This scheme provides for 12 dwelling houses and 6 bungalows. The 6 bungalows are completed and occupied by old age persons and also 2 of the houses are occupied.

ALTON

A pair of bungalows have been erected at Castle Hill and these are now occupied.

OAKAMoor

A contract has commenced for the erection of 5 bungalows at School Lane on a site opposite to the existing council houses.

GARAGES

A range of ten lock-up garages commenced in 1962 have been completed at the Wentlows Housing Site, Tean.

Also three garages have been erected at Kingsway, Weston Coyney for the benefit of the shops and flats.

PUBLIC CONVENIENCES

The Council required a site at the rear of the Reading Room, High Street, Kingsley for the provision of a public convenience. Work has been started and when completed will provide separate accommodation for both men and women.

PRIVATE ENTERPRISE HOUSING

The number of houses and bungalows within the Rural District being erected by private enterprise and now under construction at the end of the year is 238.

During the year there have been 288 dwellings erected for private ownership. Extensive building estates were completed in Weston Coyney, Werrington and Blythe Bridge having a final total of 240, 175, and 130 dwellings respectively on the estates.

Several large sites have been commenced in the Rural District during 1963 including sites at Forsbrook, Cheadle, and Werrington which when completed will provide approximately 550 new dwellings.

PLANNING DEPARTMENT

The number of plans submitted for approval under the provisions of the Town and Country Planning Acts and the Council's Building Byelaws for the year 1963 was 1,006. Of these plans, 920 were approved under the Town and Country Planning Acts or Byelaws, as the case may be and 86 were refused.

In the case of plans submitted under the Town and Country Planning Acts, numerous consultations have taken place between the officers of this Council and the officers of the County Council's Northern Area Planning Department.

Where agreement is not reached between the Council and the Northern Area Planning Office, the applications concerned were referred to the County Council's 'Excepted' Applications Planning Committee for a final decision.

Water Schemes

COUNSLOW RESERVOIR

The new 200,000 gallon reservoir is under construction and nearing completion. This additional storage capacity will provide one and a half day's supply for the Hollington Water Scheme in case of breakdown of the pumping equipment.

RANGEMOOR RESERVOIR

An additional 1,000,000 gallon reservoir is being designed by the Council's Consulting Engineers to supplement the storage capacity in this rapidly developing area and will shortly be put out to tender.

RAMSOR BOREHOLE

This Borehole has been put down and the pumping test carried out. The estimated output from the borehole is 20,000 gallons per day, which is rather disappointing but when commissioned will supplement the supply to the Cauldon Low Scheme. A request has now been made to the Ministry of Housing and Local Government for permission to construct the Pump House and install the necessary pumping equipment.

WATER MAIN EXTENSION—FROGHALL TO HERMITAGE FARM

400 yards of 3-in. dia. water main has been laid from Froghall to serve Hermitage Farm and four private houses. Two of the properties supplied had existing lead service pipes, however, as these were a constant source of trouble and the cause of large quantities of water being wasted each year, they were connected to the new supply.

The water from this extension is supplied from the Hollington Scheme.

WATER MAIN EXTENSION—HOLLINGTON

The 3-in. dia. water main at Freehay Wood has been extended 175 yards to serve one smallholding and two cottages.

WALLMYRES TO WERRINGTON

A 6-in. dia. water main has been laid from Wallmyres Pumping Station to the site of Moss Park Farm Estate. This will supply 210 new properties in the Werrington area. The length of this 6-in. main is 2,000 yards and the water is supplied from the existing 10-in. dia. rising main from Sheepwash Pumping Station.

WATER MAIN EXTENSION TO NEW HOUSING ESTATES

A number of water main extensions have been provided in various parts of the Rural District where housing development is carried out by Private Enterprise. These are as follows

Teanford Road, Tean ...	150 yds.	1-in. of 3-in. dia. main.
Huntley Close, Cheadle ...	320-yds.	1-in. of 3-in. dia. main
Moss Park Farm, Werrington ...	Approximately 100-yds.	of 3-in. dia. main laid with another 1,500 yards to be laid as the estate develops

WATER SUPPLY

*Record of Amount of Water pumped from 1st January to
31st December, 1963*

Water Scheme	Pumping Stations	Quantity Pumped in galls	Average daily consumption in gals.
Cheddleton	Wallmyres and Sheepwash	195,889,000	536,682
Teaen	Teaenford	35,603,000	97,542
Hollington	Teaenford	61,180,000	167,616
Cauldon Low	Cauldon	34,095,000	93,411
Foxt&Ipstones	Black Bank	19,113,000	52,364

SEWERAGE AND SEWAGE DISPOSAL SCHEMES

ALTON SEWERAGE AND SEWAGE DISPOSAL SCHEME

Construction of the Sewers and Purification Works are virtually complete and it is anticipated that the Works will be commissioned in the spring of 1964; the severe winter of 1962/63 having retarded progress on the Contract considerably.

A Diverter Station has been installed at Tithebarn to enable the sewage from this area to be pumped into the main drainage system, leaving the existing small works for use in the case of mechanical or electrical breakdown.

FROGHALL SEWAGE DISPOSAL SCHEME

The construction work on this new Purification Works is 50 per cent. complete and it is anticipated that the works will be completed and commissioned at the latter end of 1964.

ASH BANK SEWERAGE AND SEWAGE DISPOSAL SCHEME

Tenders for the above Scheme have been received, the lowest having been submitted to the Ministry of Housing and Local Government for approval. It is expected that approval will be received to enable the Contractors to commence in the early part of 1964.

WATERHOUSES SEWERAGE AND SEWAGE DISPOSAL SCHEME

This scheme has been prepared by Messrs. C. Lomax and Sons and has been submitted to the Ministry of Housing and Local Government for approval.

The Purification Works have been designed to treat 31,000 gallons per day.

Ministry approval for the laying of certain lengths of sewers in conjunction with the road improvement scheme has been received.

OAKAMoor SEWERAGE AND SEWAGE DISPOSAL SCHEME

This Scheme is being prepared by Messrs. C. J. Lomax and Sons and will be the subject of an enquiry by the Ministry of Housing and Local Government early in 1964. The purification Works are designed to deal with a flow from a population of 640 persons.

HOFTENS CROSS SEWERAGE AND SEWAGE DISPOSAL SCHEME

A Scheme has been prepared for the above small community consisting of 30 houses. The scheme has been designed to deal with 50 houses and the effluent will be discharged into a fissure in the rock.

Following the submission of the Scheme to the Staffs. County Council, doubts have been expressed by the County Medical Officer on the means of disposal of the final effluent and the possibility of pollution of underground water supplies. Investigations are being carried out by the Public Health Department to ascertain the ultimate out-fall from the fissure concerned.

WHISTON SEWERAGE SCHEME

Preliminary investigations are being carried out on the above scheme with a view to draining the area into the Froghall Purification Works.

The following Sewer Extensions have been carried out during the year :

ROUGHCOOTE LANE, CAVERSWALL

This extension will serve 23 properties and will be connected to the Blythe Valley Sewer. Work on the Scheme is now virtually complete. This Scheme involved the laying of 1,200 lin. yds. of 6-in. Sewer and 16 manholes.

DRAYCOTT OLD ROAD, FORSBROOK

A short extension of the sewer in Draycott Old Road serving four properties has been completed.

GODLEY LANE, DILHORNE

A short extension of the sewer to serve five properties has been completed.

HOUSEHOLD REFUSE COLLECTION

A direct labour refuse collection service is in operation for the whole of the Rural District on a weekly basis to all but the isolated premises, where a fortnightly collection is arranged.

An order has been placed for a new compression type refuse vehicle which has a large capacity and which will reduce the amount of travelling from collection area to tip. Delivery of the vehicle is expected in the New Year and it will be used in the more densely populated areas, particularly Cheadle Town.

'BUS SHELTERS

The total number of 'bus shelters erected in the District is 75 and in order to carry out regular cleaning and maintenance thereof a van has been purchased and an operative appointed. Requests for additional shelters are being received and will be dealt with on a priority basis.







