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CHEADLE
Rural District Council



ANNUAL REPORT

of the

Medical Officer of Health



Library

1965



CHEADLE RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL

REPORT

OF THE


MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

For the Year ending 31st December, 1965

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.

CONTENTS:

1. Introduction.
2. General Information.
3. Social Conditions in the District.
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1. INTRODUCTION.

To the Chairman and Members of the Cheadle Rural District Council.

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have pleasure in presenting my report for the year ending 31st December, 1965.

This year was one of changes. Weston Coyney became a part of the City of Stoke-on-Trent. Private enterprise building again was increased, and with it came the problems of expanding services to meet the needs of new communities. The routine work of the Health Department met many interruptions and was inevitably slowed down by the staff changes referred to in the Chief Public Health Inspector's report.

In the body of the report I would especially draw your attention to the following matters:—

1. The Meals on Wheels Service and a proposed Day Rest Centre in Cheadle (Section 3).
2. The low illegitimacy rate (Section 4).
3. An outbreak of dysentery and diarrhoea (Section 5).
4. The high nitrate content of Cheadle water (Section 8).
5. The working of the Shops and Railways Premises Act (Section 11).
6. The re-commissioning of Cheadle Sewage Disposal Works (Section 12).

I would conclude by offering my thanks to both Council Members and colleagues for their help and advice throughout the year.

I am,

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,

E. H. TOMLIN,

Medical Officer of Health.

*Council Offices,
Leek Road,
Cheadle, Staffs.*

Telephone: Cheadle 2157.
Private Telephone: Leek 948.

2. GENERAL INFORMATION.

Chairman of the Rural District Council:

MR. J. J. JOHNSON.

Vice-Chairman of the Rural District Council:

MR. W. PODMORE.

Clerk of the Council:

MR. H. W. HENSON, Barrister at Law.

PUBLIC HEALTH COMMITTEE, 1965.

Chairman: MR. N. HEATHCOTE.

Members: Mrs. E. Barnett, 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. J. Ainsworth, S. Alexander, R. Barnes, F. Bartlett, J. A. Berresford, A. Bevington, F. J. Blakeman, J. E. Brassington, W. Brown, B. O. Buckle, R. T. Buckle, J. W. Burton, J. Byatt, R. L. Carr, P. Clowes, J. C. Cope, F. H. Dale, S. Dawson, A. Dulson, G. S. Eyre, W. Fanthom, J. W. Forbes, F. R. Ford, A. E. Foreman, J. R. Goodwin, S. E. Goodwin, J. E. Halliwell, H. Haynes, T. P. Horon, J. E. Horton, J. Johnson, J. Jones, J. A. Keates, J. T. Martin, W. Podmore, R. Porter, J. Price, J. A. Rushton, J. Shirley, J. H. Simcock, G. Snow, F. G. Taylor, P. Tonkinson, W. A. Townson, W. C. Washburn, R. White, 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 Housing Officer.

B. R. NELSON, M.A.P.H.I., Public Health Inspector. (Commenced 10/1/66).

W. D. DAVIES, M.A.P.H.I., Public Health Inspector (Resigned 31/10/66).

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

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

S. R. CHAPMAN, Clerk (Resigned 5/2/65).

B. HURST, Clerk (Commenced 5/4/65).

M. J. PARRY, Clerk (Resigned 23/5/65).

P. BALL, Clerk (Commenced 2/8/66).

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.
 P. THORP, A.M.I.Mun.E., Deputy Engineer and Surveyor.
 H. POINTON, Senior Architectural and Town Planning Assistant.
 H. F. PARRINGTON, A.I.M.S., Town Planning Assistant.
 G. D. BIRKS, Architectural Assistant.
 G. GIBSON, Building Inspector.
 E. CHALLINOR, A.M.I.S.P., M.R.S.H., Senior Engineering Assistant.
 M. H. J. EVANS, Grad.I.C.E., A.M.C.T., Stud.I.Mun.E., Engineering Assistant.

W. LOCKER, Pro. R.I.C.S., Engineering Assistant.
 G. GOODALL, Junior Engineering Assistant.
 W. HARRISON, Junior Engineering Assistant.
 W. H. HOBSON, Clerk.
 J. W. SHAW, Clerk.
 T. W. EARDLEY-COOKE, Clerk (Resigned 26/9/65).
 V. BUTTRESS, Clerk (Commenced 1/11/65).
 R. GRICE, Clerk.
 M. JACKSON, Shorthand Typist.
 J. LOVATT, Shorthand Typist (Resigned 12/6/65).
 J. A. HARRISON, Shorthand Typist (Resigned 28/2/65).
 J. BARKER, Shorthand Typist (Commenced 5/4/66) (Resigned 30/9/65).
 G. TWIGGE, Shorthand Typist (Commenced 19/7/65).
 V. GOODWIN, Shorthand Typist (Commenced 28/6/65).
 E. BARKER, Shorthand Typist (Commenced 15/11/65).

CIVIL DEFENCE.

G. HETHERINGTON, Administrative Assistant.

GENERAL STATISTICS.

Area in acres	.. .. .	59,843
Registrar General's Estimate of Population	..	36,050
Number of inhabited houses according to Rate Book	.. .. .	10,459
Rateable Value	.. .. .	£1,049,726 0s. 0d.
Sum representing a penny rate	.. .. .	£4,406 0s. 0d.

3. SOCIAL CONDITIONS IN THE DISTRICT.

Considering "health" not simply as "absence of illness" but in its more widely defined aspect as "a complete state of physical, mental and social well being" the factors in everyday life which may affect health are countless and I can only touch on those which seemed prominent in 1965.

Prosperity and Employment.

The general level of prosperity and employment remained satisfactory.

Although in 1965 with the closure of Foxfield Colliery, Cheadle ceased to be a coal mining area, most Coal Board employees were found work in pits outside the rural district. All that remains to remind us of Cheadle's coal mining history is some open-cast working and the scars of many little mine workings in the villages around.

The Cheadle Industrial Site at last had a factory in production. The Surveyor refers to this in his report.

Changes in Population Distribution.

The cessation of the village of Weston Coyney to the City of Stoke-on-Trent took place during the year. While the village had a well developed community life, new building estates within the City and the Rural District had made it difficult to see a natural boundary between the two.

Elsewhere new housing estates continued to grow and increase both our population and rateable value.

Voluntary Bodies contributing to the District's Welfare.

During the year the Meals on Wheels service, organised through the W.R.V.S., really got going. A van was provided through the efforts of the Round Table. By the end of the year the service was covering Cheadle, Cresswell and Draycott and fifty-eight persons were receiving good hot meals.

Sponsored by the Rural District Council and with the help of the County Area Welfare Officer, a voluntary Committee was set up to enquire into the possibility of establishing a Rest Centre or Old Persons' Day Club in Cheadle. The outcome of this is a matter for next year's report, but I may say a Rest Centre is now in being where elderly people can relax and enjoy social intercourse with light refreshments on the afternoon of market day.

The existence of a Leek and Cheadle Local Committee as a working Committee to further the aims of the North Staffs. Branch of the National Association for Mental Welfare has been referred to in other years. In 1965 the Cheadle Council were asked to nominate two persons to serve on this Committee.

Bodies to which the Council gave some financial support include the Central Council for Health Education, the Royal Society for Prevention of Accidents, the North Staffs. Marriage Guidance Council, the Family Planning Association and the Citizens' Advice Bureau.

Persons in Need of Care and Attention.

On the advice of the Council it proved necessary in two cases to seek either removal to hospital or detention in hospital of persons in need of care and attention. In each case the Court granted an Order.

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) ..	37,670
LIVE BIRTHS.	
Number — 347 males, 318 females	665
*Rate per 1,000 population	18.0
Illegitimate Live Births per cent of total live births ..	2.4
STILLBIRTHS.	
Number	19
Rate per 1,000 total live and still births	28.0
TOTAL LIVE AND STILLBIRTHS	684
INFANT DEATHS (under 1 year)	12
INFANT MORTALITY RATES.	
Total infant deaths per 1,000 total live births	17.5
Legitimate infant deaths per 1,000 legitimate live births ..	18.6
Illegitimate infant deaths per 1,000 illegitimate live births ..	Nil
NEO-NATAL MORTALITY RATE (deaths under 4 weeks per 1,000 total live births)	11.1
EARLY NEO-NATAL MORTALITY RATE (deaths under 1 week per 1,000 total live births)	9.3
PERINATAL MORTALITY RATE (stillbirths and deaths under 1 week combined per 1,000 total live and stillbirths) ..	34.9
MATERNAL MORTALITY (including abortion).	
Number of deaths	Nil
Rate per 1,000 total live and stillbirths	Nil
DEATHS AT ALL AGES — 215 males and 241 females ..	456
*Death rate per 1,000 of population	12.2

* Registrar General's Comparability Factor used in estimation of this rate: Births 1.02; Deaths 0.86.

TABLE II.
DEATHS FROM SPECIFIC DISEASES.

	<i>Male</i>	<i>Female</i>
Infectious diseases other than Tuberculosis ..	1	2
Cancer of stomach	8	12
Cancer of lung	12	2
Cancer of uterus	—	3
Cancer of breast	—	8
Leukaemia	1	1
Other malignant disease	11	17
Diabetes	1	—
Strokes, etc.	26	39
Coronary heart disease and angina	54	29
Other heart diseases	36	76
Pneumonia	13	17
Bronchitis	16	4
Other respiratory diseases	—	3
Nephritis	2	1
Congenital malformations	—	2
Motor accidents	3	1
All other accidents	5	3
Suicide	2	1

Comment on Health Statistics.

The figures in Tables I and II taken by themselves tell us something about the health and well being of the community, for example, that we are more than ten times more likely to die from heart disease than from cancer of the lung.

Their main value for a community the size of our rural district is that we can make comparisons of our health as shown by statistics with that of other areas and with our own health at other times.

For example, in compiling Table I, I found we had twice as many stillbirths as in the previous year. If this had significance a cause would have to be sought. On looking back, however, I found that the yearly figures had a chance variation between ten and twenty and it had so happened that a high year had followed a low one.

In 1965, however, the statistics have lost some of their value for purposes of comparison in that at the end of March we lost the population of Weston Coyney, and the figures for this year cannot compare exactly with either those of 1964 or 1966.

I would therefore only offer brief comment on all aspects of our statistics except one.

Our mid-year population dropped from 41,680 to 37,670.

Our births rate rose from 16.8 per 1,000 to 18.0 per 1,000 and our death rate from 11.0 per 1,000 to 12.2 per 1,000.

The infant mortality rate of 17.5 deaths under one year per 1,000 live births was an improvement on that of the previous year but probably of no significance.

We again had no maternal deaths from child-birth.

The year 1964 had been a bad one for deaths from accidents with twenty-nine.

The year 1965 was a good one with only twelve.

The one thing in our statistics which I would this year draw attention to is our comparatively low percentage of illegitimate births. The figure is 2.4%, as it was in the year 1964.

A review published during the year by the Welsh National School of Medicine set out the illegitimacy rates of different parts of the country. They varied between 4.5% in one part of Wales to 9.1% in London and the South-East. The area styled "North Midlands" had a rate of 6.1%.

Turning to past Cheadle R.D. "Annual Reports", I found our illegitimacy rate had been falling steadily since 1910. In the period 1910-1914 it was 3.8%. In 1920-1924 it was 3.7%. In 1940-1944 it was 3.3%, and in 1960-1964 it was 2.8%.

The elders amongst us may be tempted to criticise modern youth, but there is no doubt that the Cheadle Rural District is bringing far fewer fatherless babies into the world than in the past and far less than in other communities.

STATISTICAL TABLE III.

	<i>Scarlet Fever</i>		<i>Whooping Cough</i>		<i>Measles (excluding Rubella)</i>		<i>Dysentery</i>	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
NUMBERS ORIGINALLY NOTIFIED (all ages) ..	21	22	2	2	221	237	28	26
FINAL NUMBERS AFTER CORRECTION:								
Under 1	—	—	1	1	13	5	3	4
1	1	2	—	—	22	24	1	—
2	—	1	1	—	22	35	—	2
3	1	2	—	—	16	34	1	1
4	4	3	—	—	28	24	2	—
5-9	10	10	—	—	112	111	5	5
10-14	5	2	—	1	7	4	2	1
15-24	—	—	—	—	—	—	4	2
25 and over ..	—	2	—	—	1	—	10	10
Age unknown ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Total (all ages) ..	21	22	2	2	221	237	28	25

							<i>Acute Pneumonia</i>		<i>Food Poisoning</i>	
							M.	F.	M.	F.
NUMBER ORIGINALLY NOTIFIED (all ages)							3	1	1	-
FINAL NUMBERS AFTER CORRECTION:										
Under 5	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	1	-	-
5-14	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	-	1	-
15-44	..	..	..	..	..	..	-	-	-	-
45-64	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	-	-	-
65 and over	..	..	..	..	..	..	-	-	-	-
Age unknown	..	..	..	..	..	..	-	-	-	-
Total (all ages)	..	..	..	..	..	..	3	1	1	-

							<i>Respiratory Tuberculosis</i>		<i>Puerperal Pyrexia</i>	
							M.	F.	F.	
NUMBERS ORIGINALLY NOTIFIED (all ages)							6	1	1	
FINAL NUMBERS AFTER CORRECTION:										
Under 5	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	-	-	
5-14	..	..	..	..	..	..	-	-	-
15-24	..	..	..	..	..	..	-	-	-
25-44	..	..	..	..	..	..	5	1	-	
45-64	..	..	..	..	..	..	-	-	-
65 and over	..	..	..	..	..	..	-	-	-
Age unknown	..	..	..	..	..	..	-	-	-
Total (all ages)	..	..	..	..	..	..	6	1	1	

5. PREVENTION AND CONTROL OF DISEASE.

The Road Ahead.

In the past the factors chiefly responsible for preventable disease and death were bad sanitation, poor housing, poverty and malnutrition. These could be dealt with in relatively small communities by local action, and the Medical Officer of Health had an obvious role in pointing the way.

These threats still exist and must be guarded against. A reminder of this is that, although not occurring in the year under review, an outbreak of smallpox in the Rural District interrupted all work on this report.

But as the years pass, I am increasingly coming to the view that we are due for a change in the organisation of preventive medicine within the structure of local government.

Having more or less learned how to prevent most of the serious infectious diseases we must look elsewhere. I think first of chronic bronchitis.

We know of many factors which predispose to this disease. But the District Council M.O.H. has not the information, nor the time to obtain it which would enable him to evaluate the relative importance of these factors. In this disease, research which might lead to prevention demands a population large enough to afford the use of a computer.

Next I think of rarer preventable diseases. We know of the tragedy of the "thalidomide babies". Children born without limbs as a result of taking the drug thalidomide. In a community the size of a District Council the birth of a limbless deformed baby might be accepted as due to chance. In a large community the birth of a number of such babies would leave one to look for, and it is hoped find, a possible cause.

I offer these opinions only to suggest to the Council that in the field of preventive medicine and public health changes are inevitable, and that I think these will call for changes in either size or functions of Local Authorities.

What these changes are to be I would leave to the Royal Commission on Local Government and to others better informed than myself.

Incidence of Infection as shown by Notification from General Practitioners.

The incidence of notifiable infectious disease is shown in Statistical Table III which precedes this section.

Measles, with 458 cases shows the alternate year epidemic trend but is far from the high incidence figure which for our district would be twice this number.

Scarlet fever with 43 cases shows more cases than we have had since 1955, a reminder that an infectious disease can be dormant for a number of years and then come to life again both in incidence and virulency.

Information as to Infection received from Schools.

Reports from head teachers showed the following cases of non-notifiable infectious disease:

Chicken pox	..	..	..	..	23
Mumps	..	..	..	..	3
German measles	..	..	..	..	9
Influenza	..	..	..	..	6
Impetigo	..	..	..	..	2
Ring worm	..	..	..	..	1

Dysentery and Diarrhoea in Weston Coyney.

In my report for 1964 I remarked on an outbreak of dysentery which commenced in late November of that year and carried over into 1965, but reserved detailed comment for this 1965 annual report.

I would express my thanks here to the Council's Public Health Inspectors on whom fell the burden of routine visits in which they made the initial enquiries as to the circumstances of the infected households and many subsequent calls to collect specimens for bacteriological investigations.

Although I speak of these visits as "routine", it should not be forgotten that at each visit besides asking stereotyped questions and giving stereotyped instructions, the Public Health Inspectors were both giving advice on the problems which might arise in each individual household and were offering "health education" in the prevention of diarrhoeal disease which would be of value even when the particular outbreak came to an end.

The first case of notified "Dysentery" or "Suspected dysentery" was on 19th November, 1964, and the last on 24th February, 1965. In all, 133 notifications were received involving 95 households.

Three hundred and three bacteriological examinations were carried out. Besides the actual bacteriological work at the Area Public Health Laboratory in Stafford, this involved for us in each case the collecting of the specimens, parcelling them up and subsequently informing the patient and the family doctor in each case, and in perhaps a third the school teacher or employer.

In the course of the outbreak, it soon became apparent that we were dealing not with dysentery alone but with dysentery and a non-specific infectious diarrhoea.

Bacteriological confirmation of dysentery was obtained in 27 cases involving 15 households.

Bacteriological confirmation was NOT obtained in 106 cases involving 80 households, and though some of these may have been due to a dysentery which had been cured before sampling took place it would seem the very great majority were non-specific infective diarrhoea.

It is interesting to note that the dysentery cases gave rise to an average of about one secondary case in every household, while the "diarrhoea" cases gave rise to a secondary case in only one household in four.

The fact that the duration of infectivity in dysentery cases is measured in weeks while that in "diarrhoea" cases is measured in days may well account for this.

So far as the dysentery cases were concerned, there did not appear to be any initial focus of infection, such as a particular class in a particular school, and I am glad to say that none developed during the outbreak.

Infection in each case was more or less smothered as it came to light by the prompt notification and good advice of the family doctors, the reinforcing of advice by your public health staff, the co-operation of the parents, and the watchfulness and good standard of hygiene in the schools.

Immunisations and Vaccinations in 1965.

(Figures in brackets are those for 1964).

Diphtheria	Primary immunisations ..	531	(413)
	Reinforcements	968	(245)
Whooping cough ..	Primary immunisations ..	433	(387)
	Reinforcements	73	(63)
Tetanus	Primary immunisations ..	564	(295)
	Reinforcements	947	(304)

Poliomyelitis	..	Primary immunisations	..	662	(not
		Reinforcements	..	123	available)
Smallpox	..	Primary immunisations	..	263	(281)
		Reinforcements	..	12	

(Of primary immunisations against smallpox, sixty-one were under the age of one year and 188 were of ages 1-4).

Although these figures show an improvement on the previous year in every instance except those for smallpox, they are still far lower than is desirable.

6. GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES.

These were dealt with at length in my report for 1964 and have remained unchanged. An abbreviated account is as follows:—

General, Medical, Dental and Pharmaceutical Services.

- (a) Fourteen general medical practitioners resident in the District — others from Lee, Stoke-on-Trent, Uttoxeter and Ashbourne have patients in the Rural District. Cover adequate.
- (b) Two dental surgeons in Cheadle. Also School Dental Clinic. Cover better than in recent years but inevitably much travelling is needed to obtain dental treatment.
- (c) Dispensing chemists in Cheadle and Cheddleton.
- (d) Opticians in Cheadle.

Local Health Authority Services (Staffs. County Council).

DOMICILIARY NURSING AND MIDWIFERY — Twelve District Nurse/Midwives.

HEALTH VISITORS — Four full-time and five part-time Health Visitors who also act as School Nurses.

INFANT WELFARE CENTRES — In Cheadle, Blythe Bridge, Tean, Werrington and Cheddleton.

CHIROPODY — At Cheadle Clinic and home visiting.

ANTE-NATAL CLINIC AND RELAXATION CLASSES in Cheadle.

HOME HELP SERVICE — Throughout the district.

CARE AND AFTER-CARE SERVICE — With nursing appliances made available through depots maintained by the St. John and Red Cross organisations.

WELFARE FOODS available from Clinics and by van delivery in remoter areas.

AMBULANCE SERVICE — Station at Cheadle, wireless control.

Hospital Consultant Services.

Hospitals for acute cases in the Potteries.

St. Edward's Mental Hospital at Cheddleton.

Chronic sick at Bucknall and in the Cheadle and Rakeway Hospitals.

Maternity cases must go to the Potteries or Leek.

Laboratory Facilities.

Public Health Laboratory Service, Area Laboratory, Stafford.

The County Analyst, Stafford.

This summary is by no means comprehensive.

7. FOOD AND NUTRITION.

Nutrition.

As stated in previous years we have at present no real problems. A few elderly people through habit and indifference do not get a balanced diet. A few young people present a problem by over-eating.

So long as our financial position allows us to buy what is available in the shops there is no worry.

Should we ever be faced with poverty we would have to think again as to how best to use our income to obtain a balanced and acceptable diet at the least cost.

Food Inspection and Food Premises.

For details of inspections I would refer you to the Chief Public Health Inspector's Report.

My only comment is that while we are able to maintain 100% inspection of meat at slaughter houses our inspection of other food premises, is, through lack of manpower, less than might be desired. It is not regular and consistent.

Routine visiting of premises with good hygiene is often a waste of time.

Selective frequent visiting of premises with a doubtful standard of hygiene is what we should aim at.

Complaints from the public are of the greatest help in determining where we should concentrate our efforts. Such complaints will not involve the complainants in any trouble.

During the year we have had complaints of mouldy beef sausages, perspex in butter, oily milk bottles, tobacco ash in a sausage roll and a brass nut in chocolate.

All these complaints have been welcomed both by our Inspectors and by the producers and distributors of the food concerned.

Safety and Cleanliness of Milk.

	<i>Satis- factory</i>	<i>Unsatis- factory</i>
Samples tested for tuberculosis	41	—
Samples methylene blue tested	307	8
Samples phosphatase tested	265	—
Samples turbidity tested	112	—

The Ministry of Agriculture is responsible for cleanliness of the farm.

The collection of samples is done by the County Council. Testing of these samples is done by the Area Public Health Laboratory.

The Rural District Council is responsible for controlling the sale of milk which is suspected of being liable to transmit infectious disease to man.

8. WATER SUPPLIES.

Adequacy of Supply.

No major crisis occurred during the year but as can be gathered from the Surveyor's Report (Section 12), increased building and increased use of water is calling for search for new sources of supply and for provision of larger mains and new reservoirs. At times pressures have been low in some localities.

Purity of Supplies.

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

High Nitrate Content of Cheadle Waterworks Company's Supply.

During the year the County Analyst made the following comment: "This water is chemically satisfactory except for the amount of nitrates present which is just above the maximum permissible limit for water to be used in the preparation of foods for infants under one year of age".

The nitrate content of this sample was 12.5 parts per million, and in the past ten years it has varied between 8 and 25 parts per million.

Prior to 1945 a high nitrate content of drinking water was considered of no significance, but in that year a Dr. Comly, in America, reported two cases of a disease METHAEMOGLOBINAEMIA and referred to 19 others which were due to a high nitrate content of water. This disease is commonly met with in aniline workers and has also been caused by a wide variety of drugs ranging from headache powders to sulphonamides although in normal doses of drugs it only appears in the very occasional person who has an idiosyncrasy to them.

A review of the literature available at the North Staffs. Medical Institute's Library suggested to me that throughout the whole world there were only perhaps about fifty cases due to nitrates in water reported in a ten-year period.

No general practitioner in Cheadle had ever come across such a case. They were advised of the lines of treatment to be adopted should one occur.

I advised the Council and the Cheadle Waterworks Company that there was a risk, but an extremely small one. There was also a similar risk from the taking of drugs generally accepted as safe. It would be possible to get over the slight risk by diluting the Cheadle Waterworks Company's water with Cheadle R.D.C.'s water. This might more easily be done after the amalgamation of water undertakings in North Staffordshire. Meanwhile, the nitrate content would be kept in mind.

New Works.

These are described in detail in the Surveyor's Report (Section 12).

Re-grouping of Water Undertakings.

It was at last decided that the Council's water undertakings should be amalgamated with the Staffordshire Potteries Water Board.

CHEMICAL ANALYSIS OF WATER 1965.

<i>Parts per million</i>	<i>Blackbank</i>	<i>Cauldon</i>	<i>Cheadle</i>	<i>Ganderwell</i>	<i>Teanford</i>	<i>Sheepwash/ Wallmyres</i>	<i>Staffs. Potteries Water Board</i>
p.H. Value	6.9	7.1	7.1	6.5	7.5	7.4	7.2
Total Solids dried at 212°F.	195.0	140.0	385.0	140.0	275.0	255.0	260.0
Free and Saline Ammonia	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	.012	Nil	0.016
Albuminoid Ammonia	Nil	.012	Nil	Nil	Nil	.012	0.008
Nitric Nitrogen	3.0	Nil	12.5	Nil	Nil	1.5	2.5
Chlorine	15.0	14.0	30.0	13.0	35.0	14.0	21.0
Oxygen absorbed in 4 hours at 80°F.	Nil	.08	Nil	Nil	Nil	.20	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	Nil	.35 Copper	.07 Copper	Nil	Nil	Nil

BACTERIOLOGICAL EXAMINATION - WATER SAMPLES 1965.

	<i>Blackbank</i>	<i>Cauldon</i>	<i>Cheadle</i>	<i>Ganderwell</i>	<i>Teanford</i>	<i>Sheepwash/ Wallmyres</i>	<i>Staffs. Potteries Water Board</i>
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

9. DISPOSAL OF WASTES.

New Sewerage Projects.

Details of these are included in the Surveyor's Report. They include a new Sewage Disposal Works to serve Ash Bank and Werrington and the recommissioning of the Cheadle Disposal Works for temporary use until extensions can be made to the Disposal Works at Deadman's Green. This last step was taken in order to avoid holding up extensive private enterprise building projects.

It is pointed out that work on the Whiston Sewerage scheme was held up at the request of the Ministry because of the existing financial situation.

Refuse Collection and Disposal.

A much wanted step was the approval of purchase of a mechanical excavator which will undoubtedly add to more effective covering of refuse at our "controlled tipping" sites.

Air Pollution.

Complaints were again received, including one from Cotton Parish Council, of dust nuisance from quarries within the district and the cement works at Waterhouses.

At the Wardlow quarry it seemed that the management were working towards a quarry where dust would be kept to a minimum but there would always be some.

At Waterhouses dust control at the Cement Works is the concern of the Alkali Inspector of the Ministry of Housing and Local Government.

A number of different sources of dust emission were found at the Cement Works and the management had proposals for the control of these.

Public Conveniences.

The Council erected a Public Convenience at Kingsley. With those at Cheadle and Tean this makes the third owned and maintained by the Council.

10. HOUSING.

I would again bring up to date the table which shows the trend of housing activities in the district.

	1965	1964	1963	1952	1951	1950
1. Population of District ..	37,670	41,680	41,120	40,130	38,660	37,760
2. Number of inhabited houses	10,459	12,099	12,009	11,887	11,109	10,702
3. Total built during year ..	495	356	314	329	517	435
4. Number built by Council ..	48	21	26	8	50	18
5. Number built by Private enterprise	447	335	288	321	476	417
6. Number of improvement grants made	99	67	53	53	80	77
7. Number of houses repaired following action by Health Department under Public Health Acts	116	132	235	129	157	203
8. Number of grants for closet conversion	41	66	59	79	117	45
9. Number of unfit properties dealt with by Demolition Orders, Closing Order or Undertaking	21	28	29	23	19	49
10. Guarantees to Building Societies	70	45	102	87	—	—

The Surveyor's report gives details of whereabouts building has taken place, and the Chief Public Health Inspector writes of his work in the capacity of Housing Officer.

11. REPORT OF THE CHIEF PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR.

I have pleasure in submitting my report for the year 1965.

There have been several changes in staff during the year. Miss S. Chapman left the employment of the Council on the 5th February, 1965, after 6 months' leave of absence. Miss B. Hurst commenced on the 5th April, 1965. Miss M. Parry left on the 23rd May, 1965. Mrs. P. Ball commenced on the 2nd August, 1965, and left on the 7th January, 1966. Mrs. S. Harrison commenced on the 7th February, 1966. Mr. W. D. Davis, one of the Assistant Inspectors, left to take up employment with Stone Rural District Council on the 31st October, 1965. Mr. B. R. Nelson commenced as Senior Additional Inspector on the 10th January, 1966.

Public Health Act, 1963.

REPAIR OF HOUSES.

116 houses have been repaired; 93 as a result of informal action and 23 as a result of formal action. The Council carried out work in default in respect of 7 properties.

Public Health Act, 1963—Section 47.

41 houses have had privies replaced by water closets, the majority of these in Alton Parish.

The total grant paid in respect of these replacements was £1,210 1s. 6d., an average of £29 10s. 3d. per property.

A small length of sewer was laid at a cost of £352 and 3 properties were connected by the Council under contract.

Rent Act, 1957.

One application was received for a Certificate of Disrepair. No Certificates were cancelled.

Housing (Financial Provisions) Act, 1958.

House Purchase and Housing Act, 1959.

Housing Act, 1961-1964.

101 applications were received; of these, 54 for Discretionary Grant, two of which were refused on the grounds of the proposals being uneconomic, 47 Standard Grants were approved. The amount of grant undertaken to be paid in respect of Discretionary Grants was £12,927, an average of £248 per property. This compares with £247 last year.

For Standard Grants, as is known the grant is based on a maximum restricted to half the proved expenditure below that maximum.

The total agreed to be paid was £7,035 in respect of 47 grants, an average of £149 per property. I ought to mention that the number of Standard Grants approved has risen to 47 as compared with 12 in the previous year.

Housing Act, 1957-1961.

Demolition Orders have been made in respect of 16 properties and Closing Orders, 5.

The properties affected are:—

3 cottages, Blacksmith's Arms Cottages, Kingsley Holt
Woodcock Cottage, Froghall

2 houses, Green Lane, Tean

2 cottages, Rectory Cottages, Draycott
Nairobi Cottage, Brookhouses, Cheadle

4 cottages, The Firs, Hollington
No. 6 Caverswall Old Road, Forsbrook
New Tree Cottage, off Eaves Lane, Bucknall
The Bungalow, Battlesteads, Alton

Closing Orders:—

370 Uttoxeter Road, Blythe Bridge

The Green, Alton

Home Farm Cottage, Dilhorne

Cottage, Castlehill, Alton

The Bungalow, Major's Barn, Cheadle

The Demolition Order in respect of Fireman's Rest, Cellarhead, and the Closing Order in respect of Hazles Farm Cottage, have been rescinded, the properties having been reconditioned.

SLUM CLEARANCE.

Circular 11/65 was received from the Ministry of Housing and Local Government and dated the 10th February, 1965.

The circular stated that the Minister had decided to take a fresh look at the problem of identifying slums, and asked authorities to make a final estimate of the total number of houses considered to be unfit for human habitation. The Council considered a report from me on this subject and the figure supplied to the Minister was 188. The majority of these being in Cheadle and Werrington.

Food and Drugs Act, 1955.

We have had complaints concerning sausage rolls contaminated with tobacco ash, mouldy sausages and a dirty milk bottle.

I feel I might comment on the mouldy sausage.

A $\frac{1}{2}$ -lb. packet of sausages was purchased on the 20th November. The store code number indicated that the sausage had been put on display on Friday, the 19th November, and was from a delivery received on the 18th November. Further investigation by my Department disclosed from the manufacturer that the sausage had been manufactured on the 4th November.

A meeting was held with a representative of the manufacturers, the retailer and my Department.

The outcome of the meeting was that:—

- (1) The store's system of daily coding did not guarantee to which week the day code referred.
- (2) The shop manager had been coding products when put on display and not on delivery to the premises.

The errors of system were corrected by the insertion of a weekly code as well as a daily code and all perishable items were to be coded on delivery.

Offices, Shops and Railway Premises Act, 1963.

To quote the Act, "this is an Act to make fresh provisions for securing the Health and Safety and Welfare of Persons employed to work in office or shop premises and provision for securing the Health, Safety and Welfare of Persons employed to work in certain railway premises".

The Act came into force on 1st August, 1964, and during that year 172 premises were registered and 296 visits were made.

The table below indicated the number of type of premises registered, Table 'C' gives the number of persons employed in the different types of premises.

TABLE 'A' Registrations and General Inspections.

<i>Class of Premises</i>	<i>Number of premises registered during the year</i>	<i>Total No. of registered premises at end of year</i>	<i>Number of registered premises receiving a general inspection during the year</i>
Offices	1	25	4
Retail shops	5	125	19
Wholesale shops, warehouses	4	4	4
Catering establishments open to the public, canteens	6	21	10
Fuel storage depots	—	—	—

TABLE 'B' Number of visits of all kinds made by Inspectors to registered premises 107

TABLE 'C' Analysis of persons employed in registered premises by workplace.

<i>Class of workplace</i>	<i>Number of persons employed</i>
Offices	345
Retail shops	448
Wholesale departments, waterhouses	13
Catering establishments open to the public	190
Canteens	—
Fuel storage depots	—
Total	996
Total Males	334
Total Females	662

A special report was submitted in connection with standards of lighting and is quoted below.

Offices, Shops and Railway Premises Act, 1963.

SPECIAL REPORT ON LIGHTING STANDARDS.

(L.A. Circular 9, Supplement No. 1, December, 1965).

2. (1) A general impression of the standard of lighting in Offices and Shops.

Generally, lighting is of a good standard in all the offices and shops examined in my area. Any readings of less than 15 to 20 ft. candles seemed to have brought corresponding complaints from the office workers working in that area.

Average readings in the sixteen offices reviewed were mainly of between 20 and 50 ft. candles on working areas (clerks, typists and comptometer operators) and up to 15 ft. candles in passages and staircases. It was found, however, that readings varied considerably from desk to desk and from one position in the room to another, and a more diffused and generally good lighting is thought to be desirable in several offices.

It was also noticed when complaints concerning bright lighting were examined, that the trouble could be attributed to glare from unsuitably placed light sources rather than to overpowered lighting.

2. (3) Examples of unsatisfactory lighting.

A female shorthand-typist complained of lack of suitable lighting. A reading taken on the working surface showed 25 ft. candles. The rest of the room varied from 5 to 15 ft. candles. The lighting consisted of very little natural light (5 ft. candles on working area unassisted by artificial light), a 4 ft. warm light fluorescent tube and a 60 watt electric bulb. The decoration of the room was drab and the ceiling height was only 8 ft. The photometer when placed immediately under the fluorescent tube at desk height, showed a fluctuating reading varying by 3 to 4 ft. candles. This was put down to a defective light unit.

It was felt that any eye strain felt by this particular worker was probably due more to the flickering of the light source, which was undetectable by the unaided eye, than to insufficient lighting. This light unit has not been replaced to date, so no verification of this finding is available.

A female comptometer operator had complained in the past that the lighting over her desk was too bright and had had the fluorescent tube removed. When this case was examined, she was working quite happily and with no eye strain or fatigue, to her knowledge, with a maximum reading of 7 ft. candles on her desk and a range of 2 to 5 ft. candles on her comptometer. She wore glasses at home for close work or reading, but never wore them at work in the office. It seemed likely this was another case of "glare" rather than a too bright light source.

2. (3) No specific standards of lighting have been suggested or recommended.

2. (4) There were no cases of excessive glare noticed.

3. (1) Premises inspected during November, 1965.

(a) Less than 5	1
(b) More than 5 but less than 10 ..	2
(c) More than 10 but less than 15 ..	3
(d) More than 15 but less than 25 ..	3
(e) More than 25	7

(2) Shop lighting varied between 7 ft. candles in customer areas to 22 ft. candles over counter and serving areas. Maximum reading obtained in passageways and storerooms was 14 ft. candles. However, minimum readings were in excess of 4 ft. candles and no cases of insufficient or unsuitable passage lighting were found.

Housing.

Again, this year has seen a considerable amount of staff time spent on Housing. Each member of the Council has been provided with a report on all applicants for rehousing. The list took longer to prepare this year as included in the report were the sizes of all bedrooms and this entailed visiting all applicants and taking measurements of bedrooms.

The Council have provided 24 houses, 10 two-bedroom type bungalows and 8 Welfare bungalows at Tean, all of which were occupied this year.

The Welfare bungalow scheme is similar to that provided at Forsbrook. Each bungalow is connected to a Warden's house by a bell system and the old people occupying the bungalows are visited each day by the Warden. The Warden is under my supervision as Housing Officer.

I saw that the need for Welfare Assisted Bungalows at Tean was going to far exceed the supply, and on reporting this to the Council it was decided to build a further six.

There is no doubt in my mind that all the occupants of the Welfare assisted bungalows have found great comfort in them and the bungalows are fulfilling a very useful purpose with the Warden providing a certain feeling of security to the old people.

The caravan site with 20 plots has been reconstructed, the Committee have given me delegated responsibility to let the plots with a condition that I be satisfied that all caravans allowed on the site are of satisfactory construction and appearance.

New 2-bedroomed bungalows..	..	10
New bungalows (Welfare)	.. ..	8
New houses	.. .. .	32
Houses re-let	.. .. .	29
Houses exchanges	.. .. .	24
Lodgers	.. .. .	42
Caravan lettings	.. .. .	10
Garages	.. .. .	32

The Petroleum (Regulation) Acts, 1928-1936.

Following the intensive visiting last year to all premises with the enforcement of the provision of a plan of each installation, this year has mostly been routine check on conditions, 56 visits have been made and 8 notices have been issued for non-compliance with the conditions of licence.

Theatres Act, 1843.

Cinematograph Acts, 1909-1952.

Responsibility for the licensing of the Theatres and Cinemas in this 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 year and visits have been made together with the representative of the Chief Fire Officer to all licensed premises, both for routine annual licence renewal purposes and during the course of the use of the premises in the evening.

Slaughterhouses Act, 1958.

There are now 15 slaughterhouses in the District, one having been transferred to Stoke-on-Trent under the Boundary Revision.

The Veterinary Officer of the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food has visited all the slaughterhouses and only minor defects have been found. 100% meat inspection continues to be carried out.

The pattern of diseased conditions closely follows that of last year, cysticercosis accounting for 17 instead of 19 beasts with one cow affected as compared with 5 last year.

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

	<i>Cattle excluding Cows</i>	<i>Cows</i>	<i>Calves</i>	<i>Sheep and Lambs</i>	<i>Pigs</i>
Number Killed	1,723	328	862	10,397	2,266
Number Inspected	1,723	328	862	10,397	2,266
ALL DISEASES EXCEPT TUBERCULOSIS AND CYSTICERCOSIS.					
Whole Carcases condemned	1	0	10	7	1
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned ..	201	148	12	522	244
Percentage affected with disease other than Tuber- culosis or Cystercercosis ..	11.67	45.12	1.39	5.02	10.77
TUBERCULOSIS ONLY.					
Whole Carcases condemned	—	—	—	—	—
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned ..	—	—	—	—	17
Percentage infected with Tuberculosis	—	—	—	—	.75
CYSTICERCOSIS.					
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned ..	16	1	—	—	—
Carcases submitted to treat- ment by refrigeration ..	16	1	—	—	—
Generalised Cysticercosis and Carcases totally con- demned	—	—	—	—	—

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.

	<i>Local Authority</i>	<i>Dwelling Houses</i>	<i>Business Premises</i>	<i>Agricultural</i>
Number of Properties in Local Authority's District	29	9,580	1,337	879
Number of Properties inspected as a result of notification	3	222	44	21
Number of such properties found to be infested by				
Common Rat—Major ..	—	—	—	—
Minor ..	2	170	38	10
House Mouse—Major ..	—	—	—	—
Minor ..	1	9	4	—
Number of properties inspected in the course of survey under the Act	74	484	60	170
Number of such properties found to be infested by				
Common Rat—Major ..	—	—	—	—
Minor ..	74	277	46	23
House Mouse—Major ..	—	—	—	—
Minor ..	—	3	5	1
Number of infested properties treated by the Local Authority ..	77	459	93	34

Number of "Block" control
scheme carried out 12 covering 96 properties

Number of Contracts 31
Amount of Contracts £192
Number of properties treated
(chargeable) 12
Amount of Charge £18

FACTORIES AND WORKSHOPS.

Number on Register	131
Number using Mechanical Power ..	77
Number of Inspections	13

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

<i>Premises</i>	<i>Number on Register</i>	<i>Inspections</i>	<i>Number of Written Notices</i>	<i>Number of Occupiers Prosecuted</i>
(1) Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authority	54	—	—	—
(2) Factories not included in (1) in which Section 7 is enforced by Local Authority	77	11	2	—
(3) Other premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding outworkers' premises)	—	—	—	—
Total	131	11	2	—

- (2) Cases in which defects were found to exist.

<i>Particulars</i>	<i>Found</i>	<i>Remedied</i>	<i>Referred to H.M. Inspector</i>	<i>Referred by H.M. Inspector</i>	<i>Cases in which prosecutions were instituted</i>
Ineffective drainage of floors	—	—	—	—	—
Sanitary Conveniences (S7)	—	—	—	—	—
(a) insufficient	—	—	—	—	—
(b) unsuitable or defective	2	2	—	—	—
(c) not separate for sexes	—	—	—	—	—
Other offences against the Act (not including offences relating to out-work) ..	—	—	—	—	—
Total	2	2	—	—	—

STATISTICAL SUMMARY.

NUMBER OF HOUSES MADE FIT:							TOTAL
After Informal Action	..	..	..	..	..	..	93
By Owner after Statutory Notice	..	..	..	..	..	..	16
By Council after Statutory Notice	..	..	..	..	..	..	7
VISITS:							
Complaints—Houses	..	..	..	..	..	..	103
Complaints—Others	..	..	..	..	..	..	66
First Visits, Conversions	..	..	..	..	..	..	27
Revisits, Conversions	..	..	..	..	..	..	185
Number Conversions completed	..	..	..	..	..	..	35
First Visits, Drainage	..	..	..	..	..	..	87
Revisits, Drainage	..	..	..	..	..	..	277
Levelling	..	..	..	..	..	..	18
Water Samples—Public	..	..	..	..	..	..	53
Water Samples—Private	..	..	..	..	..	..	25
Water Supplies	..	..	..	..	..	..	—
Deposit Gauges	..	..	..	..	..	..	20
Bacteriological Specimens	..	..	..	..	..	..	119
Infectious Disease	..	..	..	..	..	..	122
Food Samples	..	..	..	..	..	..	—
Improvement Grants	..	..	..	..	..	..	733
Completed Standard	..	..	..	..	..	..	21
Completed Discretionary	..	..	..	..	..	..	52
Unfit Food	..	..	..	..	..	..	17
Revisits and Other Visits	..	..	..	..	..	..	449

<i>Special Inspections</i>					<i>Contraventions</i>		
					<i>Visits</i>	<i>Abated</i>	<i>Found</i>
Housing Applicants	..	..	..	..	195	—	—
Tenancy Exchange	..	..	..	..	18	—	—
Tenancy Transfers	..	..	..	..	13	—	—
Lodgers	..	..	..	..	10	—	—
Theatres and Cinemas	..	..	..	..	14	7	6
Hairdressers	..	..	..	..	—	—	—
Tips	..	..	..	..	—	—	—
Pet Shops	..	..	..	..	1	—	—
Boarding Kennels	..	..	..	..	26	—	2
Petroleum	..	..	..	..	56	—	—
Caravan Site	..	..	..	..	7	2	—
Clean Air	..	..	..	..	—	—	—
Clean Air (Factory)	..	..	..	..	1	—	—
Gut Scraper	..	..	..	..	2	—	—
Knacker	..	..	..	..	1	—	—
Rodent Control	..	..	..	..	27	—	—
Infestation	..	..	..	..	13	—	—
Scrap Metal	..	..	..	..	2	—	—

<i>Food Premises</i>	<i>Contraventions</i>		
	<i>Visits</i>	<i>Abated</i>	<i>Found</i>
Butchers	27	3	3
Bakeries	6	—	1
Canteens	8	2	3
Confectioners	5	—	—
Fishmongers	4	—	—
Fish Fryers	10	—	—
Gocers	88	13	11
Greengrocers	4	—	1
Ice Cream	2	2	—
Licensed Premises	40	17	23
Market	15	—	—
Mobile Shops	—	—	—
School Canteens	2	—	—
Slaughterhouses	56	12	23
Warehouses	2	—	—
Restaurants	18	3	1

<i>Housing Act</i>									<i>Total</i>
Unfit Houses .. .. .	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	21
Revisits .. .. .	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	18
Interviews .. .. .	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	—
Certificate of Disrepair .. .. .	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1
Houses—Multiple Occupation .. .. .	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	—
<i>Food Inspection</i>									
Meat at Slaughterhouses .. .. .	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	2,012
Meat at Shops .. .. .	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1
Canned Goods .. .. .	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1
Fish .. .. .	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	2
Fruit and Vegetables .. .. .	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	2

<i>Notices</i>	<i>Served</i>		<i>Completed</i>	
	<i>Formal</i>	<i>Informal</i>	<i>Formal</i>	<i>Informal</i>
Public Health Act	30	76	32	66
Housing Act	1	—	—	—
Food and Drugs Act	—	10	—	15
Shops Act	—	3	—	—
O.S.R. Act	—	4	17	—
Factory Act	—	11	—	11
Petroleum Regulations	—	8	—	8
Cinemas and Theatres	—	—	—	—
Rent Act	2	—	—	—
Slaughterhouse Regulations	—	—	—	—
Animal Boarding Establishments	—	4	—	4

12. SURVEYOR'S REPORT.

Housing.

The number of houses completed during the year was:—

by Local Authority	..	..	..	48
by Private Enterprise	..	..	..	447
				<hr/>
Total	..			495
				<hr/>

Local Authority Housing.

TEAN.

Building operations are proceeding on the erection of 42 dwellings on the Council's site off Hollington Road, Tean, prepared by a private firm of architects on behalf of the Council.

In addition, a contract for 6 bungalows for aged persons has also been accepted. At the present time 40 dwellings have been completed and 8 are under construction.

WESTON COYNEY.

The Council decided to build 9 bungalows on land in Princess Drive and the tender has been accepted. However, this site has been transferred to the City of Stoke-on-Trent following the boundary revisions which became operative on the 1st April, 1965.

KINGSLEY.

A contract for 8 houses at Barnfields Lane has been completed and the houses are now tenanted.

CHEADLE.

The Council acquired a site of 2.28 acres at Keeling Road and a contract for 24 bungalows for aged persons has been accepted and work on 22 of the bungalows is under construction, of these 24 bungalows 16 are one-bedroom welfare bungalows.

One of the bungalows is to be let to a Warden and it is proposed to fit a night call system.

The estate is to be developed by a cul-de-sac road with the bungalows set back in the form of a large rectangle with open grass frontages which will be maintained by the Council. The small rear gardens will be the responsibility of the tenants.

Garages.

- (1) A block of six lock-up garages were erected at Attlee Road, Cheadle.
- (2) A block of eight garages with screen walls were erected at Tean Road, Cheadle, to serve the requirements of the Mackenzie Crescent Housing Estate.
- (3) A new car park for the employees' vehicles has been provided at the Council's Depot, off Allen Street, Cheadle, together with the erection of a block of four garages.

Private Enterprise Housing.

Private Enterprise building completed 447 dwellings during 1965 and at the end of the year there are 419 still under construction.

Planning Department.

During the year a total of 1,085 plans were submitted for the consideration of the Council as required by the provisions of the Town and Country Planning Acts and the Building Byelaws. Of this total, 491 were planning applications considered jointly by this Council and the Staffs. County Council.

The number of plans approved was 970

The number of plans refused was 115

WATER SCHEMES.

Total Amount of Water Pumped during the year ended 31st December, 1965.

CHEDDLETON WATER SUPPLY (Wallmyers and Sheepwash Pumping Station).

The amount of water pumped from 1st January, 1965, to 31st December, 1965, was 185,500,000 gallons, which gives a daily consumption of 508,000 gallons.

TEAN WATER SUPPLY (Teanford Pumping Station).

The amount of water pumped from 1st January, 1965, to 31st December, 1965, was 30,660,000 gallons, which gives a daily consumption of 84,000 gallons.

HOLLINGTON WATER SUPPLY (Teanford Pumping Station).

The amount of water pumped from 1st January, 1965, to 31st December, 1965, was 68,150,000 gallons, which gives a daily consumption of 186,000 gallons.

CAULDON LOW SUPPLY (Cauldon Pumping Station).

The amount of water pumped from 1st January, 1965, to 31st December, 1965, was 33,500,000 gallons, which gives a daily consumption of 92,000 gallons.

FOXT AND IPSTONES SUPPLY (Black Bank Pumping Station).

The amount of water pumped from 1st January, 1965, to 31st December, 1965, was 18,400,000 gallons, which gives a daily consumption of 50,000 gallons.

Cheddleton Area Water Scheme.

1. RANGEMOOR RESERVOIR.

The new 1,000,000 gallon capacity reservoir at Rangemoor was commissioned in April, 1965. This will supplement the existing reservoir supplying the Cheddleton area water scheme. The cost of this reservoir is £46,000.

2. SHEEPWASH BOREHOLE.

A duplicate trial borehole is proposed to be sunk near the existing Sheepwash Pumping Station. This, if successful, will enable the source and pumping machinery to be duplicated as a safeguard against mechanical breakdown.

Tenders for this work are being obtained and it is anticipated that work will be commenced in the early part of 1966.

Cauldon Area Water Scheme.

3. EASTWALL BOREHOLE.

A borehole has been put down at Eastwall, Oakamoor, and a satisfactory pumping test of 10,000 gallons per hour carried out. A licence to abstract water from this source has been received and a scheme is being prepared to bring this supply into commission to augment the Cauldon supply. The estimated total cost of this scheme, including the construction of an additional service reservoir at Cauldon, is £85,000.

4. WATER SUPPLY MAINS TO SERVE PRIVATE HOUSING DEVELOPMENT.

Over two miles of water main have been laid by the Council's Water Department on various private housing estates being built in the district. The estimated cost being approximately £12,000.

5. MINOR WATER MAIN EXTENSIONS.

(a) *Totmonslow, Breach Lane.*

A scheme is being prepared to extend the water main in Breach Lane to link up with the existing water main at Totmonslow to improve the supply to the Totmonslow area.

Tenders for this work have been received and it is anticipated that work will be commenced in the near future. The estimated cost is £2,000.

(b) *Rangemoor, Richmoor Hall.*

A scheme for the laying of a duplicate water main to improve the supply to Richmoor Hill and to provide for future development at Dilhorne and Kingsley has been prepared.

Tenders for the scheme will be invited on receipt of Ministry approved. The estimated cost is £2,000.

SEWERAGE AND SEWAGE DISPOSAL SCHEMES.

Ash Bank Sewage Disposal Works.

The Ash Bank Purification Works have been commissioned during the year. The works have been designed to deal with six times the dry weather flow of 240,000 gallons per day. The scheme has obviated surcharging of the Ash Bank sewers in times of storm. A link sewer to the City has been laid as part of this contract to deal with properties below Metal House Farm, which formerly were connected to the old Ash Bank Works.

The site of the old works is in the area transferred to the City of Stoke-on-Trent under the Boundary Review and is being filled in and reclaimed by the City Authority.

The total cost of this scheme is expected to be within the tender figure of £114,235.

Froghall Sewage Disposal Works.

The Froghall Sewage Purification Works were brought into operation this year. The approximate cost is £34,126. These Works were designed to deal with a flow of six times dry weather flow from the village drainage area, together with the flow of domestic sewage from Boltons. The old Purification Works were partially renovated in order to deal with flows in excess of six times dry weather flow in order to give maximum protection to the River Churnet.

Oakamoor Sewerage and Sewage Disposal Works.

Work on this scheme is progressing satisfactorily. The majority of the sewers have been laid and work on the Purification Works has commenced.

The estimated cost of this scheme is £80,000.

Waterhouses Sewerage and Sewage Disposal Scheme.

Approval to advertise for tenders has now been received from the Ministry of Housing and Local Government for this comprehensive drainage scheme which embraces Waterhouses, Cauldon, Stoney Lane and Hoftens Cross, and it is anticipated that the Consulting Engineers will be in a position to invite tenders in the early part of 1966.

The estimated cost of this scheme is £98,000.

Cheadle Sewage Purification Works.

Due to the overloaded condition of the Deadmans Green Sewage Purification Works at Checkley, which is under the control of the Blithe Valley Joint Management Committee and which receives the soil drainage from the Tean and Blithe Valley areas, the Trent River Authority implied that further housing development in those areas of Stoke-on-Trent, Cheadle and Stone which would drain to Deadmans Green should be held in abeyance until the extension to the Purification Works had been carried out.

The Cheadle Rural District Council, anticipating that it would be at least two years before the Checkley Works would be completed, considered it advisable to give consideration to bringing back into full use the Cheadle Sewage Purification Works. These Works have been in partial use since 1960 for the treatment of storm water involving storm tank treatment, and in order to prevent the retarding of housing development it has been decided to bring the Purification Works back into full operation in order to deal with an estimated 600 properties which could be built during the two years envisaged for the extension to take place.

The Trent River Authority, although stating that this is a retrograde step, agreed to the re-opening of the Works in order that residential development in the Cheadle Rural District could take place and conditions as to the standard of the final effluent discharging into the Cheadle Mill Brook have been laid down.

As a result, £1,400 0s. 0d. has been spent on the Cheadle Sewage Works by this Council in the form of two new bacteria bed distributors, pumping equipment, pipe lines and other ancillary works in order to enable the Works to deal with the flow of sewage from 600 houses within the Cheadle District which amounts to 72,000 g.p.d. dry weather flow.

The Works were brought into operation on 3rd May and produce an effluent well within the standards laid down by the Trent River Authority.

Whiston Sewerage Scheme.

A sewerage scheme has been prepared to serve the scattered community of Whiston. The scheme will be connected to the new Froghall Purification Works and is estimated to cost £34,000.

The proposals have been submitted to the Ministry of Housing and Local Government who have approved the scheme but have deferred construction during the present period of financial restriction.

Dilhorne Sewerage Scheme.

Preliminary investigations are being made into a main drainage scheme for Dilhorne. It is proposed to connect this scheme to the Regional Blithe Valley Scheme at Brookhouses. A detailed scheme will be prepared in the near future and submitted to the Ministry of Housing and Local Government.

Minor Sewerage Schemes.

1. WETLEY ROCKS.

The sewer extension to serve the Police house and seven adjoining properties has been completed at a cost of £2,370.

2. BROOKHOUSES.

The relaying of the sewer at Brookhouses affected by mining subsidence has been completed at a cost of £3,580. This work will be recharged to the National Coal Board.

3. FORSBROOK.

A relief sewer has been laid to reduce surcharging of the Chapel Street sewer at a cost of £510.

4. OSTLERS LANE, CHEDDLETON.

A sewer extension has been completed at Ostlers Lane to serve five properties. The cost of this is £2,050.

5. IPSTONES.

The surface water sewer has been extended at the above to prevent discharge of water on to agricultural land at a cost of £369.

6. HAZLES CROSS, KINGSLEY.

Tenders have been invited for the laying of 780 yards of sewer to be connected to the Kingsley Sewerage Scheme and it is anticipated that work will be commenced in the early part of 1966. The scheme will serve 13 properties and the estimated cost is £3,580.

7. TOTMONSLOW SEWERAGE.

Work on the above sewer extension has been commenced and will be completed early in 1966. The scheme will serve eight properties and the estimated cost will be £5,200.

Caravan Site.

The sites for fifteen caravans have been completed and occupied. A further five sites are being prepared to meet the demand.

Household Refuse Collection.

Every effort has been made for the weekly collection to be maintained to all but the isolated properties, but absenteeism amongst the collectors following Christmas and extending well into the New Year has been particularly high with the result that in some cases the service has been irregular.

To further improve refuse collection, an additional "Pakamatic" S. & D. compression type vehicle has been purchased and is now operating with the two similar vehicles in the built-up areas of the District.

Consideration is being given to the purchase of a mechanical excavator for use on levelling, consolidating and covering over the refuse tips to minimise the risk of nuisance from exposed refuse.

Industrial Estate.

As part of the Development Plan for Cheadle Town, eleven acres of land have been purchased by the Council at Brookhouses, for use as an Industrial Estate to attract industry to the town and so provide some local employment for people moving into the residential areas now being developed.

The construction of roads and sewers to serve the site have been commenced and a considerable number of enquiries are being received from Industrialists who are considering factory development on this site. Definite proposals have been received from three firms and one factory is now in course of erection. This venture has, I believe, every indication of proving successful, in an endeavour to provide employment in step with the new residential development which is proving attractive to persons wishing to reside in a rural area.



