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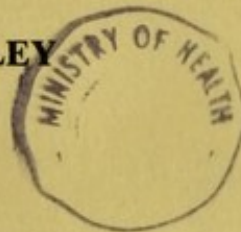
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BOROUGH OF CHORLEY



ANNUAL REPORTS

OF THE
Medical Officer of Health
AND THE
Chief Public Health Inspector
FOR THE YEAR
1960

HILLS PRINTERS (LANCASHIRE) LTD.
CHORLEY,
1961.

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BOROUGH OF CHORLEY

MEMBERS OF THE COUNCIL

1960

His Worship the Mayor, Councillor W. RAWCLIFFE.

Alderman Miss E. E. J. CUNLIFFE.	Alderman B. H. GASKELL.
„ R. EVANS.	„ T. HEATON.
„ T. GRIME.	„ J. B. HINDLE.
„ Mrs. B. M. GILLETT (Retired March).	„ W. WILCOCK.
	„ W. LOWE.
Councillor J. ASHTON.	Councillor W. BLEASDALE.
„ A. BARNES.	„ H. HEAP.
„ W. CORCORAN.	„ Mrs. C. M. MONKS.
„ J. CROASDALE.	„ M. NEWSOME.
„ G. CROOK.	„ B. RILEY.
„ H. B. DAVIES.	„ T. ROWLANDSON.
„ D. DUNN.	„ A. R. SHEPPARD.
„ Miss A. FORSHAW.	„ N. SMALLEY.
„ G. F. JONES.	„ I. SELLERS.
„ J. S. JORDAN.	„ T. C. SHORROCK.
„ P. KEANE.	„ R. HEYES.
„ G. R. RIGBY.	

Chairman of Health Committee:

His Worship the Mayor, Councillor W. RAWCLIFFE.

Vice-Chairman of Health Committee:

Councillor G. R. RIGBY.

PUBLIC HEALTH STAFF.

Medical Officer of Health:

J. WALKER, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H., L.D.S., D.P.D.

Divisional Medical Officer to the Health Division No. 4, Lancashire County Council; also Medical Officer of Health to the Urban District Councils of Adlington, Fulwood, Leyland, Longridge, Walton-le-Dale and Withnell, and to the Rural District Councils of Chorley and Preston.

Chief Public Health Inspector:

R. J. MORSE, M.A.P.H.I. (a) (b) (c).

Additional Public Health Inspectors:

H. WARD, M.R.S.H. (a) (b) (c).

F. MYERS, A.R.S.H.

G. H. WATCHORN, A.R.S.H. (a).

- (a) Also holds the Royal Society of Health Certificate as a Meat and Other Foods Inspector.
- (b) Also holds the Royal Society of Health Certificate as a Smoke Inspector.
- (c) Also holds the Royal Society of Health Certificate in Sanitary Science as applied to Buildings and Public Works.

Clerical Staff:

R. HEAPS. D. ASHCROFT (until April). Mrs. D. PROCTER (from May).

PART 1

NATURAL AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS AND VITAL STATISTICS.

GENERAL PROVISIONS OF THE HEALTH SERVICES.

PREVALENCE AND CONTROL OF INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA.

By

J. WALKER, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H., L.D.S., D.P.D.,

Medical Officer of Health.

To:

THE CHAIRMAN AND MEMBERS OF THE HEALTH COMMITTEE —
BOROUGH OF CHORLEY.

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have pleasure in presenting the Annual Report on the Health and Sanitary Circumstances of the Borough for the year ended 31st December, 1960.

The number of live births attributable to the Borough was 473, or 38 fewer than in the year 1959. This gives a birth rate of 15.1 (— adjusted) as compared with 17.1 for England and Wales. The number of still-births was 11 compared with 13 in the previous year.

Deaths attributable to the Borough were 406 or 51 fewer than in 1959. The death rate from all causes was accordingly 13.0 (— adjusted). The death rate for the Country as a whole was 11.5. The principal cause of death was heart disease which claimed 160 — 2 more than in the previous year. Of these deaths 72 were attributed to coronary disease of the heart — 13 more than in 1959. In spite of more knowledge as to the causes and the availability of more effective drugs for the treatment of this condition, the number of deaths in the prime of life remains all too high. Deaths from cancer were 71, or 9 fewer than in the previous year, and of these deaths 13 were from cancer of the lung or bronchus — 4 fewer than in the previous year. The number of deaths from bronchitis and pneumonia shows quite a marked fall from 52 in 1959 to 31 in 1960 probably due to the fact that influenza was less prevalent last year. It is pleasing to report that for the second year in succession there were no deaths attributable to pregnancy or childbirth. Another matter for satisfaction is that during the year under review there were no deaths from tuberculosis whereas there were 3 deaths from this cause in the previous year.

An unfavourable feature in the past year, however, was the fact that 14 infants died before reaching one year of age which was exactly twice the number in the previous year. At the same time it should be borne in mind that the infantile mortality rate in 1959 was the lowest ever recorded in the Borough and it was not anticipated that it could be maintained at that level. The number of deaths in the past year gives an infantile mortality rate of 29.6 as compared with 21.7 for England and Wales. Other causes of death show only comparatively slight variation from the previous year.

The number of notifications of acute infectious diseases was 477 as compared with 425 in the previous year. Measles which re-appeared in the last quarter of the year accounted for 186 of the notifications as against 300 in 1959. Scarlet fever was fairly prevalent throughout the year and there were 129 notifications, compared with 29 in the previous year. The number of notifications of whooping cough also went up from 9 in 1959 to 78 in 1960. Dysentery notifications numbered 56 as against 24 in 1959. It is a matter of satisfaction to report again that there were no notifications of diphtheria or poliomyelitis.

In my last report reference was made to the fact that Mr. H. Ward was promoted towards the end of 1959 to the post of Chief Public Health Inspector for the Borough. Unfortunately, Mr. Ward became ill shortly afterwards and, after several months off duty, decided in the interests of his health to revert to his previous duties of Additional Public Health Inspector. In August Mr. R. J. Morse was appointed Chief Public Health Inspector. Mr. Morse's previous appointment was that of Deputy Chief Public Health Inspector of Barrow-in-Furness. In Chorley he will find considerable scope for adding to his already varied experience gained in other parts of the country. For the greater part of the year there were therefore, only two Inspectors on duty — Mr. Myers and Mr. Watchorn — who ably supported by our Clerk, Mr. Heaps, did a wonderful job in keeping things going. Unfortunately Mr. Heaps too was forced to go off duty on account of illness for a short period.

In spite of all these occurrences, however, a very considerable amount of work was achieved and Mr. Morse very quickly got into harness.

The form of the Report has been somewhat altered this year and Mr. Morse, in his section, gives details of most of the matters relating to environmental hygiene. It is pleasing, however, to note here the steady progress that is being made in slum clearance and re-development of the areas. It is regretted that a scheme of houses for the aged with warden and call-bell system has not yet materialised. Aspects which call for further consideration and action are the implementation of the Clean Air Act and the Food Hygiene Regulations.

Reference is made in the Report to the progress which was made during the year on the East Valley Sewerage Scheme — a scheme which, when completed, will prove a vast improvement on previous conditions.

I should like in conclusion to express my sincere thanks to Dr. Black, Mr. Morse and the Staff of the Health Department and all the officers and staff of other Departments, who have so willingly given me assistance whenever required. I am most grateful to the Chairman and Members of the Committee for their continued support and consideration.

I am, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,

J. WALKER.

Medical Officer of Health.

NATURAL AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS

The Borough of Chorley is a compact industrial Lancashire town covering nearly 4,300 acres, of which about 680 acres were added, in 1934, from the surrounding rural area, including the Duxbury Estate (650 acres) and parts of the parishes of Euxton and Heath Charnock.

The town is situated approximately at the centre of a triangle formed by the County Boroughs of Preston, Wigan and Bolton, and is placed on elevated ground (average about 300 feet) at the approaches to the Pennine Range, which rises sharply to the East, the sea being located approximately 10 miles to the West. The subsoil is mainly clay, with outcrops of sand and gravel.

The majority of the houses are the terraced type in the centre of the town with municipal housing estates on the outskirts. The town is well provided with several small green recreation grounds, and possesses in Astley Park, near the centre of the town, a large natural parkland of much beauty, comprising nearly 100 acres.

The principal industries are cotton weaving, spinning and bleaching, motor works, floor-cloth manufacture, and steam laundries. A large proportion of female labour is normally employed.

VITAL STATISTICS

The following is a summary of the principal statistics for the years 1959 and 1960.

	1959	1960
Population (estimated)	31,440	31,320
Number of Deaths (corrected)	457	406
Death Rate (per 1,000 population)	14.5	13.0
Live Births	511	473
Live Birth Rate (per 1,000 population)	16.3	15.1
Still-births	13	11
Still-births (per 1,000 live and still births)	24.8	22.7
Total live and still births	524	417
Infant deaths (deaths under 1 year)	7	14
Infant mortality rate per 1,000 live births—total	13.7	29.6
Infant mortality rate per 1,000 live births legitimate	11.7	25.4
Infant mortality rate per 1,000 live birth illegitimate	2.0	4.2
Neo Natal Infant mortality rate per 1,000 live births (first four weeks)	5.9	23.3
Early Neo-Natal Mortality Rate per 1,000 live births (under 1 week)	3.9	19.0
Perinatal Mortality Rate (still-births and deaths under 1 week combined per 1,000 total live and still-births)	28.6	41.3
Illegitimate live births per cent of total live births	3.52	4.65
Maternal deaths (including abortion)	—	—
Maternal mortality rate per 1,000 live and still births	—	—
Number of Deaths from Pulmonary Tuberculosis	3	—
Death Rate per 1,000 population from Pulmonary Tuberculosis	0.10	—
Number of Deaths from all forms of Tuberculosis	3	—
Death Rate per 1,000 population from all forms of Tuberculosis	0.10	—

The Borough covers an area of 4,292 acres

Population (Census 1951)	32,636
No. of inhabited houses (Rate Books)	10,523
Rateable Value of the Borough	£306,012
Product of Id. Rate	£1,239

CAUSE OF DEATH

The following is a copy of the information supplied by the Registrar-General of the causes and sex distribution of deaths of Chorley residents.

	M.	F.	T.
1. Tuberculosis, respiratory	—	—	—
2. Tuberculosis, other	—	—	—
3. Syphilitic Disease	1	—	1
4. Diphtheria	—	—	—
5. Whooping Cough	—	—	—
6. Meningococcal infections	—	—	—
7. Acute Poliomyelitis	—	—	—
8. Measles	—	—	—
9. Other Infective and Parasitic Diseases	—	1	1
10. Malignant Neoplasm, Stomach	8	9	17
11. Malignant Neoplasm, Lung, Bronchus	12	1	13
12. Malignant Neoplasm, Breast	—	3	3
13. Malignant Neoplasm, Uterus	—	2	2
14. Other Malignant and Lymphatic Neoplasms	14	22	36
15. Leukaemia, Aleukaemia	1	—	1
16. Diabetes	1	—	1
17. Vascular Lesions of Nervous System	20	32	52
18. Coronary Disease, Angina	41	31	72
19. Hypertension with Heart Disease	2	4	6
20. Other Heart Diseases	30	52	82
21. Other Circulatory Disease	5	20	25
22. Influenza	2	—	2
23. Pneumonia	3	8	11
24. Bronchitis	12	8	20
25. Other Diseases of Respiratory System	6	—	6
26. Ulcer of Stomach and Duodenum	—	1	1
27. Gastritis, Enteritis and Diarrhoea	1	—	1
28. Nephritis and Nephrosis	3	3	6
29. Hyperplasia of Prostate	1	—	1
30. Pregnancy, Childbirth, Abortion	—	—	—
31. Congenital Malformations	1	2	3
32. Other Defined and Ill-defined Diseases	16	11	27
33. Motor Vehicle Accidents	1	3	4
34. Other Accidents	4	4	8
35. Suicide	—	4	4
36., Homicide and operations of war	—	—	—
	185	221	406

TABLE I.

	Live Births		Deaths (All Causes)		Stillbirths		Maternal Mortality		Infant Mortality			
	No. Registered	Rate per 1000 Pop'n	No. Registered	Rate per 1000 Pop'n	No. Registered	Rate per 1000 Total Births	No. of D'ths Registered	Rate per 1000 Total Births	Total		Neo-Natal	
									No. of D'ths Registered	Rate per 1000 Live Births	No. of D'ths Registered	Rate per 1000 Live Births
Year 1960	473	* 15.1	406	* 13.0	11	22.7	Nil.	Nil.	14	29.6	11	23.3
Year 1959	511	16.3	457	14.5	13	24.8	Nil	Nil	7	13.7	3	5.9
1958	459	14.6	437	13.9	8	17	2	4.28	17	37	13	28.3
1957	503	15.9	390	12.3	17	33	Nil	Nil	9	18	8	16
1956	492	15.5	402	12.7	12	24	Nil	2.04	10	20	10	20
1955	473	14.9	457	14.4	16	33	1	Nil	13	27	10	21
Avg. 5 years 1958-59	—	15.4	—	13.6	—	26.5	—	1.3	—	23.1	—	18.2

* Adjusted Live Birth Rate (Comparability Factor, 1.01) = 15.3 per 1000
 Death Rate (Comparability Factor, 1.07) = 13.9 per 1000

TABLE II.
Infant Mortality Rates.

Year	CHORLEY	England and Wales
1955	27	24.9
1956	20	23.8
1957	18	23.0
1958	37	22.5
1959	13.7	22.0
1960	29.6	21.7

TABLE III.
Birth Rates.

Year	CHORLEY	England and Wales
1955	14.9	15.0
1956	15.5	15.7
1957	15.9	16.1
1958	14.6	16.4
1959	16.3	16.5
1960	15.1	17.1

TABLE IV.
Death Rates.

Year	CHORLEY	England and Wales
1955	14.4	11.7
1956	12.7	11.7
1957	12.3	11.5
1958	13.9	11.7
1959	14.5	11.6
1960	13.0	11.5

TABLE V.

Birth and Death Rates in the Borough of Chorley since 1945.

	1946	1947	1948	1949	1950	1951	1952	1953	1954	1955	1956	1957	1958	1959	1960
Birth Rate	18.8	20.1	18.2	17.2	14.5	15.1	15.0	16.1	14.9	14.9	15.5	15.9	14.6	16.3	15.1
Death Rate	12.4	13.0	10.9	13.3	14.9	14.5	12.5	13.4	13.8	14.4	12.7	12.3	13.9	14.5	13.0
Infantile Mortality Rate	53.	50.	33.	32.	25.	33.	35.	31.	27.	27	20.	18.0	37.0	13.7	29.6
Maternal Mortality Rate	1.66	0.	0.	1.72	4.12	0.	0.	0.	0.	2.04	0	0.	4.28	0	0.
Natural Increase	+4.4	+6.9	+7.3	+3.9	-0.4	+0.6	+2.5	+2.7	+1.1	+0.5	+2.8	+3.6	+0.7	+1.8	+2.1

TABLE VI.
Birth and Death Rates through 5-Yearly Periods.

	1905-09	1910-14	1915-19	1920-24	1925-29	1930-34	1935-39	1940-44	1945-49	1950-54	1955-59	1960
Death Rate.....	16.5	15.3	15.3	12.5	12.3	13.0	13.7	13.4	12.7	13.8	13.6	13.0
Birth Rate.....	27.1	24.0	17.3	20.5	16.0	14.0	14.4	17.8	18.2	15.1	15.4	15.1
Infantile Mortality Rate	146	140	110	106	83	74.4	78.4	48.6	42.0	27.0	22.7	29.6
Natur'l Incre'se	+10.6	+8.7	+2.0	+7.6	+3.7	+1.0	+0.7	+4.4	+5.6	+1.3	+1.8	+2.1

GENERAL PROVISIONS OF HEALTH SERVICES

Since the National Health Service Act came into force the personal health services of the Borough have been administered by the Lancashire County Council, as the "Local Authority" under the Act. These services include the Ante-Natal Clinics, Child Welfare Clinics and the School Health Services—Medical and Dental, and the Home Nursing Services.

The Ambulance Service is also provided by the County Council.

The Hospital Services which include all the local and near-by hospitals, are now maintained by the Preston and Chorley Hospital Management Committee.

Laboratory Service

The Public Health Laboratory in Preston, which forms part of the nation's Public Health Laboratory Service, undertakes all the work of the Borough of Chorley in this field.

The Public Health Laboratory Service is directed by the Medical Research Council for the Ministry of Health, and caters for every aspect of the public health work of a local authority related to the bacteriological and biological examinations of samples and specimens.

DETAILS OF COUNTY HEALTH SERVICES

The following services are administered on behalf of Lancashire County Council by No. 4 Division Health Committee. The Divisional Medical Officer is Dr. J. Walker, 55, Victoria Road, Fulwood, Tel. Preston 77263 and the local Assistant Divisional Medical Officer of Health is Dr. D. J. Black, 2 and 4, St. Thomas's Square, Tel. Chorley 2709.

Ambulance Service

There are 4 ambulances, 1 sitting case car and 2 dual purpose cars stationed at the Ambulance Station in Pall Mall, Chorley. The work done by this station covers the area of the Borough and surrounding districts. All these vehicles are radio controlled from the County Ambulance Headquarters at Broughton.

By the end of the year arrangements were at an advanced stage for the erection of a new ambulance station in Preston Street and it was hoped that building would commence early in 1961.

Midwifery Service

There is one domiciliary Midwife in Chorley who attends expectant mothers who are confined at home.

Home Nursing Service

There are established in various parts of Chorley 4 female District Nurses, 2 State Enrolled Assistant Nurses and 2 male District Nurses. The duties of these nurses include nursing care of patients in their own homes and they arrange for the loan of nursing equipment in suitable cases.

Home Help Service

Home Helps are employed in Chorley and help a variety of cases including confinements, sickness, old age and infirmity, and Tuberculosis cases. Night Helps are also employed where needed.

Ante-Natal Clinic

There is a weekly session held at 2 and 4, St. Thomas's Square, Chorley, when a specialist, employed by the Preston and Chorley Management Committee, attends.

Child Welfare Centres

Three Child Welfare Centres are open each week in the district, one at Eaves Lane, each Wednesday afternoon, one at Cunliffe Street open on Tuesdays and Fridays, and All Saints, Moor Road, being open Thursday afternoons. A Doctor and Health Visitor attend each clinic and advice is readily given in infant care and management and baby foods sold.

Poliomyelitis Vaccination

Vaccination against poliomyelitis was available through doctors surgeries and the two school clinics in the Borough. Open sessions were held weekly in the clinics throughout the year.

School Medical Service

Medical and hygiene inspections are carried out at the schools and clinic sessions are held at 2 and 4, St. Thomas's Square and 20, St. Thomas's Road, Chorley, for a variety of treatments including minor ailments, dental care, orthopaedic and ophthalmic conditions. The County Council make special provision for residential schooling for various categories of handicapped children such as the blind, partially sighted, deaf and dumb, epileptics, delicate and backward.

At the end of the year approval was given for the commencement of building operations for a new school clinic and child welfare centre in Chorley.

Convalescent Care

In suitable cases arrangements are made for the admission of patients to convalescent homes.

Welfare Services

Residential homes are provided to accommodate elderly and infirm persons who have no longer any one to adequately care for them. Handicapped persons are also assisted.

Chiropody Service

Chiropody sessions were held at the School Clinic, 2/4 St. Thomas's Square, during the year for persons of pensionable age, expectant mothers, and registered handicapped persons. In addition a domiciliary service is available for those unable to attend the clinic.

A similar service was also available through the Chorley Voluntary Old Peoples' Welfare Committee.

PREVALENCE AND CONTROL OF INFECTIOUS DISEASES

Prevalence of Notifiable Infectious Diseases (except T.B.)

1960 and 1959.

1960							
Disease	1st Qr.	2nd Qr.	3rd Qr.	4th Qr.	Total Cases	Cases Admitted to Hospital	
Measles	2	2	3	179	186	—	
Scarlet Fever	48	45	12	24	129	38	
Diphtheria	—	—	—	—	—	—	
Whooping Cough... ..	24	45	7	2	78	—	
Pneumonia	1	7	1	8	17	—	
Erysipelas	2	—	—	2	4	—	
Puerperal Pyrexia... ..	2	2	1	—	5	5 *	
Dysentery	8	10	1	37	56	—	
Food Poisoning	1	—	—	—	1	—	
Meningococcal Infection	—	—	—	—	—	—	
Paratyphoid	—	—	—	—	—	—	
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	—	1	—	—	1	—	
Acute Poliomyelitis	—	—	—	—	—	—	
1959							
Measles	116	162	20	2	300	—	
Scarlet Fever	6	5	5	13	29	16	
Diphtheria... ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	
Whooping Cough	3	—	2	4	9	—	
Pneumonia	40	2	3	—	45	1	
Meningococcal Infection	—	—	—	—	—	—	
Acute Poliomyelitis	—	—	—	—	—	—	
Erysipelas	—	—	—	2	2	1	
Puerperal Pyrexia... ..	3	2	4	—	9	9*	
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	—	—	1	—	1	—	
Food Poisoning	—	2	4	—	6	1	
Dysentery	—	11	13	—	24	3	
Paratyphoid	—	—	—	—	—	—	

*—All these cases actually occurred in Hospital.

Scarlet Fever showed a large increase in the number of notifications especially in the first two quarters of the year, Dysentery also showing an appreciable increase.

Tuberculosis

New cases and Mortality during 1960.

Age Periods	New Cases				Deaths			
	Respiratory		Non-Respiratory		Respiratory		Non-Respiratory	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
Years.								
Under 5 years	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
5 — 14 years ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
15 — 24 years ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
25 — 44 years ...	2	2	—	+	—	—	—	—
45 — 64 years	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
65 and over.....	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Age unknown	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Totals.....	2	3	—	—	—	—	—	—
1959 Totals:—	10		2		3		—	
1958 Totals:	6		1		4		+	

One respiratory case was added to the register being a transfer from another authority.

No. of cases on the register at the end of the year were:—

Pulmonary	....	....	....	....	....	94
Non-pulmonary	....	....	....	....	....	39
Removal from Register	....	....	....	....	....	9

Notification of Anthrax

As from 1st December, 1960, all cases of Anthrax coming to the notice of general practitioners were required to be notified to the Medical Officer of Health in whose District the case occurred. A Circular which accompanied the new Regulations stated that the Ministry felt that this notification would allow investigations into the source of any infections and for whatever action was necessary to be taken. Previous to these Regulations cases of Anthrax were only notifiable if they were contracted inside a factory. A copy of the Regulations, the Circular and a covering letter were sent to all medical practitioners in the District in November.

Infective Hepatitis (Jaundice)

Eight cases of this disease were reported during the year from schools. Infective hepatitis is caused by a virus and is believed to be spread in much the same way as dysentery. A memorandum was prepared and issued to schools where cases occurred and the homes of the children were visited and advice given to parents.

Dysentery

Some reference should be made to the number of cases of notified Dysentery. This shows an increase from 24 the previous year to 56. The increased prevalence of Sonne dysentery became evident early in the year and was not confined solely to the Chorley area. As a result of this increase it was thought prudent to send a letter to all general practitioners in the District, drawing their attention to the disease and enclosing recommendations for dealing with the exclusion of cases and contacts in order to try and control its incidence, and also bring about some measure of uniformity in the area as a whole.

Brucellosis

The Laboratory continued to examine all raw milk for the presence of Brucella organisms which cause Undulant Fever in man. Pasteurisation renders the milk safe but it is possible for raw milks, i.e. Tuberculin tested, to contain the organisms. Laboratory examinations were made on fourteen samples of milk produced in the area, and two were found to contain these organisms. As a precaution all general practitioners in the area were circulated and asked to report any confirmed cases of Undulant Fever which they found in their practice.

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA

1. WATER SUPPLY

The town is supplied with water from the Liverpool Corporation Water Works at Rivington (the Chorley supply coming from filter beds at "The Nab") with the exception of some of the properties on the Duxbury Estate, whose supply is drawn from the Manchester supply, as the pipe lines to that city traverse the area on their way from Thirlmere. The water is soft, being upland surface water.

The water supply continues to be chlorinated, and treated by the soda ash process to prevent plumbo solvent action.

Weekly bacteriological and periodical chemical analyses are carried out by the Liverpool Corporation who forward copies of their analyses to the Public Health Department. Since these copies were requested in 1941 the results have proved invariably satisfactory.

In addition, the Department took two samples for bacteriological examination and three samples for chemical analysis from the Public Supply during the year. All results were satisfactory.

Practically all the houses within the Borough receive a mains water supply; the exceptions being the outlying farms and cottages. These number 16 dwelling-houses (including 7 farms).

In some cases a reasonably good water is rendered of doubtful quality by poor arrangements and conditions of pipes, or other extraneous cause.

There were 10,507 houses on a mains water supply in the Borough, at the end of the year. No houses are supplied by stand pipe.

The pressure of water in some parts of the town is not good and leads to consequent neglect of all those main cleansing functions for which water is used.

It is essential that a wholesome and sufficient supply of water is available to all householders, if a satisfactory standard of health is to be maintained.

The average daily consumption of water per head of population is about 34.6 gallons, compared with 36.7 gallons for the previous year. (This figure includes the town's use of water for industrial purposes, as well as domestic).

2. PUBLIC SWIMMING BATHS

There are two swimming baths in use in the Borough, the Corporation Swimming Baths and Hartwood Hall, an open-air pool, the latter being privately owned but open to the public in the summer months.

At both swimming baths the water used is from the Liverpool Corporation's mains supply, and it is treated by filtration and chlorination, the period of complete circulation or "change" of water being 4 hours at the Corporation baths and 5 hours at Hartwood Hall.

During the year 9 bacteriological and 4 chemical samples were taken. In the first half of the year the majority of samples from the Corporation Baths were unsatisfactory, but by the end of the year everything was satisfactory, although repeated visits by your Public Health Inspectors had been made necessary.

An unfortunate incident occurred in August when six children were apparently affected by chlorine gas while in the baths and had to be sent to hospital suffering from nausea, dizziness and coughing. Four of the children were discharged later the same day, but two were kept for a short period under observation before being discharged. None suffered any subsequent ill-effects.

The swimming baths were closed and the water sampled for bacteriological examination and chemical analysis, and the chlorination plant was stripped down and examined by the manufacturers. The results of the examination and analysis of the samples gave no clue as to what had occurred, and the chlorination plant and all other equipment in use were found to be in good order and working normally. All precautions having been taken and being satisfied that all the plant was working satisfactorily, the baths were re-opened and no further trouble was experienced.

3. SEWERAGE

The outlying farms and cottages in the Borough are parts not served by the water carriage system and houses in the Euxton Lane, Bolton Road, Wigan Lane and Carr Lane districts are drained to septic tanks, no sewers being available. The sewerage of the Preston Road district was carried out during the year.

Many small septic tanks give rise to nuisances by reason of blocked filters and the difficulty of ensuring that the effluent has been properly treated. Consideration should be given to sewerage of these houses where practicable.

Sewage disposal is effected at the works at Common Bank and Cowling.

The principal sewage works, serving more than three quarters of the area of the Borough, is situated at Common Bank at the lowest part of the Town. Cowling subsidiary installation deals with sewage from the eastern and southern parts of the Borough.

Sewage from Chorley is received at Common Bank through four trunk sewers at the north east of the works, and that from Euxton and the Royal Ordnance Factory is conveyed through two separate sewers on the westerly side. The works comprise mechanically operated screens, detritus channels, sedimentation tanks, storm water tanks, percolating bacterial filters, humus and sludge digestion tanks, and sludge drying beds.

During the year further discussions and consultations have taken place on the second section of the East Valley Main Drainage Scheme and it is hoped that contractors will commence work during the next financial year.

Consulting engineers have been engaged by the Council for the preparation of a Scheme for the extension of Common Bank Sewage Works.

4. RIVERS AND STREAMS

The Lancashire River Board has jurisdiction in regard to rivers and streams pollution in the Borough. The pollution of rivers and streams has become a national problem and stringent measures are required to combat this menace.

Factories Act 1937 to 1959

For the prescribed particulars on the administration of the Factories Act, 1937 see the Chief Public Health Inspector's Report. Page 48.

PART 2.

CLEAN AIR.

FOOD AND FOOD PREMISES.

HOUSING.

MISCELLANEOUS DUTIES.

PUBLIC CLEANSING.

PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTION (GENERAL).

By

R. J. MORSE, M.A.P.H.I., etc.

Chief Public Health Inspector.

TO THE CHAIRMAN AND MEMBERS OF THE HEALTH COMMITTEE.

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

It is with pleasure that I present my first Annual Report to you since commencing my duties in August, 1960, following the relinquishment of the post of Chief Public Health Inspector by Mr. H. Ward on health grounds.

As Mr. Ward had been on sick leave from January to September, 1960, and no appointment had been made to fill the vacancy for an additional public health inspector created by his promotion, the Department had to carry on without two of its establishment of Inspectors for eight months. Despite this, a commendable amount of work was carried out in that period, and with a complete establishment of Inspectors for the last four months of the year much was accomplished.

My first priority, of course, was to formulate a proposed future Slum Clearance Programme. With this done and 9 Clearance Areas comprising 112 houses and 51 individual unfit houses represented by the end of the year, apart from the large number of houses repaired following service of notices, I was able to concentrate on other problems.

A start has been made towards ensuring that all business premises and factories comply with the Clean Air Act, and some managements have already taken steps to have alterations made to their plant, or to install other means of providing power, in order to comply with the Act. A lot still remains to be done, however, if Chorley is to have clean air, and clean air is as important as clean food and water.

Unfortunately there was little time to spare for food hygiene duties, but in 1961 it is hoped to make time available to concentrate on inspections of food shops and food handling and preparing premises of all kinds, to ensure compliance with the Food Hygiene Regulations. Although the onus of complying with the regulations is, in general, on the management, the Inspector can do much during the course of his normal routine visits to explain the need for certain of the regulations to the staff, and so gain their good will and support, but this takes a lot of time. Such a visit, however, can be far more fruitful than a visit which has to be cut short because of pressure of other work.

Many features of environmental health problems are inter-related, although at first sight it may be difficult to see the connection between food hygiene and housing standards, but personal hygiene is at the whole root of food hygiene, and primarily personal hygiene should be taught in the home, from an early age. Many of the children in the town today will be the food handlers of tomorrow. Yet, although considerable efforts have been made to deal with slum clearance and build new houses, we cannot be complacent when so many houses still have an external water-closet (too often a waste-water closet), no bathroom, and no

hot water supply. It is a sad commentary on the prescribed standard of fitness for a dwelling house in the Housing Act, 1957, that these deficiencies cannot be rectified by statutory action. The habits of personal hygiene are not easily taught in such houses as these.

In conclusion, I must thank all the staff and employees of the Department for the conscientious and willing way in which they have carried out their duties. I thank also Mr. Potter, the Town Clerk, Dr. Walker, the Medical Officer of Health, Mr. Gregson, the Borough Treasurer, Mr. Shepherd, the Borough Engineer, and other colleagues for the kindly manner in which they have given their always ready co-operation, which has helped considerably in these my first few, and somewhat busy, months in office. Finally, my thanks to the Chairman, Vice-Chairman and Members of the Health Committee for their support and encouragement in a period when it was very much appreciated.

I am,

Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,

R. J. MORSE,

Chief Public Health Inspector.

CLEAN AIR

The Clean Air Act, 1956 and the Regulations made thereunder give local authorities powers and duties for the prevention of air pollution, providing for the limitation of emissions of dark smoke; certain controls over the installation of new furnaces; requirements to minimise grit and dust emission; control over new chimney heights; smoke control areas, research and publicity; and the making of building byelaws.

Much work remains to be done before the aims of this legislation are accomplished, but steady progress is being made, although air pollution in Chorley emanates more from domestic premises than from industry.

Unfortunately, there was little time to spare for these duties for most of the year, but 37 smoke observations were made, 11 excessive emissions being recorded, and this entailed 23 visits to industrial premises. Such visits take a lot of time, and often the amount of time taken does not appear to be justified by the small results achieved, but if problems are to be solved they must be discussed with the managements, their engineers and staff, and advice given where necessary. While the Department is always ready to do this, the managements must realise that asking for guidance for ways to use some existing plant so as to comply with the Act, or pleading "the human element," is merely avoiding the issue when what is required is modern equipment. In many cases conversion to mechanical stokers for solid fuel, or oil-burners, would pay for themselves over a short period of years by fuel savings.

Investigation of Air Pollution

The Department continues to participate in the Investigation of Air Pollution in co-operation with the Department of Scientific and Industrial Research, and the Air Pollution Standard Deposit Gauge was in operation throughout the year, its contents being measured and analysed each month. The following figures give some idea of the solids deposited over the past seven years.

Total solids deposited (in tons per sq. mile) :—

1954	1955	1956	1957	1958	1959	1960
146	112	168	162	121	73	110

Average deposit per month:—

14.6	9.3	14.0	13.5	12.1	6.7	10.0
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The nature and extent of pollution must be known for effective action to be taken to reduce it, and only by continuous recordings by scientific methods can the necessary knowledge be obtained. A large number of local authorities throughout the country participate in the scheme and the monthly figures are sent to the Warren Spring Laboratory of the Department of Scientific Research, who act in an advisory and co-ordinating capacity. At the Laboratory the results of the investigations are collated and circulated monthly to participating local authorities, so making available an overall picture of pollution throughout the country as well as the means of making comparisons between authorities.

Pollution by Road Vehicles

In a town with a traffic problem such as Chorley's the pollution of the air by road vehicles' exhaust gases gives much food for thought, but it is of interest to note that the Warren Spring Laboratory maintains a ten-ton diesel lorry instrumented and equipped to test devices for removing smoke from the exhaust gas. Investigation of a number of different methods at the Laboratory has demonstrated the essential difficulty of removing the smoke, once it is formed, and has emphasised that correct maintenance and operation of the engine provide the only practical means of preventing smoke. Work has now been started on methods of assessing the darkness of clouds of exhaust smoke as an aid to the setting and enforcement of reasonable standards.

Notifications of Proposals to Install New Furnaces

Notifications were received of proposals to install three new furnaces, and in the case of one of these "prior approval" was applied for and granted.

Approval of Heights of New Chimneys

Plans submitted relating to the proposed construction of a new chimney showed that the height of the chimney would not be sufficient to prevent the smoke, grit, dust or gases from becoming prejudicial to health or a nuisance. Following discussions with the applicant they agreed to increase the proposed height from 35 to 70 feet and the plans were approved.

FOOD AND FOOD PREMISES

1. Milk Supply

Since 1956 Chorley and the surrounding districts have comprised a Specified Area, so that the only milk now retailed within the Borough is designated milk, that is Tuberculin Tested, Pasteurised or Sterilised.

The Milk (Special Designation) Regulations, 1960, came into force on 1st October, 1960, revoking the previous regulations. The principal changes affecting this authority are that dealers' licences now permit sales outside as well as inside the area of the licensing authority; a dealer's (pre-packed milk) licence now permits the sale of all three kinds of specially designated milk where the milk is obtained by the dealer in the container in which it is to be supplied to the consumer; the period for which a dealer's licence will be granted is now five years instead of one year; and certain changes covering the sampling and testing of milk.

The following licences were issued under these Regulations:—

Dealers' licences for the sale of tuberculin tested milk	.... 31
Dealers' (pre-packed milk) licences for tuberculin tested, pasteurised and sterilised milk	.... 150
Dealer (pasteuriser) licence	.... 1
Dealer (steriliser) licence	.... 1

189 visits were made to dairies and milk shops.

Bacteriological Examination of Milk

38 samples of milk were submitted for bacteriological examination, and the results are shown in the following table:—

Type of Milk	No. of Samples	Meth. Blue Test		Phosphatase Test		Turbidity Test	
		Sat.	Unsat.	Sat.	Unsat.	Sat.	Unsat.
Tuberculin Tested (Farm bottled) Milk	14	11	3	—	—	—	—
Tuberculin Tested (Pasteurised) Milk	9	9	—	9	—	—	—
Pasteurised Milk	6	6	—	6	—	—	—
Sterilised Milk	9	—	—	—	—	9	—

Biological Examination of Milk

Samples submitted	....	....	....	....	....	....	14
Samples showing the presence of <i>B. tuberculosis</i>	....	....	....	....	....	....	—
Samples showing the probable presence of <i>Brucella abortus</i>							2

Chemical Analysis

24 samples of milk were obtained for chemical analysis under the Food and Drugs Act, 1955, and submitted to the Public Analyst.

(See Section 6 — “Food and Drugs Act, 1955” for details).

2. Ice Cream

There are 160 premises registered for the sale of ice-cream under the Food and Drugs Act, 1955. One of the premises is also registered for the manufacture of ice-cream, although within the meaning of the Food Standards (Ice Cream) Regulations, 1959, the product is, in fact, a milk-ice, the prescribed standard of composition for which being much lower than that for ice-cream.

3. Meat Inspection and the Public Abattoir

All slaughtering of animals for use as human food is carried on at the Corporation's Public Abattoir, there being no private slaughter-houses in the Borough.

Your Public Health Inspectors carry out all meat inspection duties, which necessitate a certain amount of over-time working, particularly on Bank Holidays, and 100 per cent inspection of carcasses and offals was maintained throughout the year despite staff shortages and an overall increase in the number of animals killed over the previous year. Complete and thorough inspection is, of course, vitally necessary whatever difficulties there may be, as meat inspection is a duty which must never be neglected.

The Slaughter of Animals (Prevention of Cruelty) Regulations, 1958

The Public Abattoir equipment and conditions generally comply with the provisions of the Regulations, but it will be necessary to provide feeding troughs in the pig lairage and two stunning pens for use in connection with the slaughter of cattle.

The Slaughterhouse (Hygiene) Regulations, 1958

In order that the Public Abattoir may be made to comply with these Regulations, the following works and equipment will be necessary:—

Extra wash-hand basins; sterilizing units for the sterilization of cloths, knives and other equipment; new condemned meat building; tiling of wall surfaces and repairs to existing tiled surfaces; improvement of artificial lighting; suitable area made available in the hanging hall for holding carcasses requiring further examination; provision of rust proofed offal hooks throughout; replacement of wooden items of equipment by metal ones.

Slaughter of Animals Act, 1955

Licences issued to slaughtermen during the year 13

Carcases and Offal Inspected and Condemned

	Cattle	Calves	Sheep and Lambs	Pigs
Number killed	2786	71	9615	3945
Number inspected	2786	71	9615	3945
All diseases except Tuberculosis and Cysticerci — Whole carcasses condemned	6	7	13	8
Carcase of which some part or organ was condemned	631	—	232	499
Percentage of the number inspected affected with disease other than Tuberculosis and Cystercercosis	22.8%	9.9%	2.5%	12.8%
Tuberculosis only — Whole carcasses condemned	2	—	—	2
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	70	—	—	54
Percentage of number inspected affected with Tuberculosis	2.2%	—	—	1.4%
Cysticercosis — Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	17	—	—	—
Carcases submitted to treatment by refrigeration	17	—	—	—
Generalised and totally condemned	—	—	—	—

The success achieved by the Tuberculosis Eradication Scheme can readily be seen from the annual figures of the percentage of cattle inspected affected with tuberculosis. In 1954 the figure was 32.2%. Last year, 1959, the figure was down to 9.1%, and this year it was down to the remarkably low figure of 2.2%. Expressed more simply, and approximately, in 1954 1 in every 3 cattle inspected had tuberculosis; last year only 1 in every 50 was so affected.

Disposal of Condemned Meat and Offal

All condemned meat and offal is stained green prior to being sold for processing.

9250 lbs. of meat and offal were disposed of in this way from the Abattoir, plus 120 lbs. of condemned imported and other meat from retail shops.

4. Inspection of Other Foods

Type of Food	Quantity Condemned (lbs).
Luncheon Meat (Canned)	154
Ham (Canned)	843
Tongue (Canned)	185
Corned Beef (Canned)	393
Gelatine	59
Scampi	3
Sausage	66
Haddock	28
Onions	32
Cucumbers	18
Sultanas	9
Ball Gum	400 (balls)
Tins, packets of other foods	2887

5. Food Premises

Number and Types of Food Premises

General grocers and provision dealers	162
Greengrocers and fruiterers (including those selling wet fish, game, etc.)	24
Fishmongers (including those selling poultry, game, etc.)	5
Meat Shops (butchers, purveyors of cooked and preserved meats, tripe, etc.)	44
Bakers and/or confectioners	43
Fried fish shops	26
Shops selling mainly sugar confectionery, minerals, ice-cream, etc.	33
Licensed premises, clubs, canteens, restaurants, cafes, snack bars and similar catering establishments	125
Others	13

Number of Food Premises and Hawkers Registered

Section 16, Food and Drugs Act, 1955:—

Ice-cream premises	....	....	....	....	....	....	160
Potted and preserved food premises	....	....	....	....	....	....	30

Section 14, Lancashire County Council (General Powers) Act, 1951:—

Hawkers' premises	....	....	....	....	....	....	31
Hawkers	....	....	....	....	....	....	36

Inspection of Food Premises

Food Hygiene Regulations, "Clean Food" Byelaws, etc.

As many inspections as possible were carried out during the year but the number was limited for the reasons previously stated.

It was necessary to serve 21 informal notices regarding contraventions of the Food Hygiene Regulations, and by the end of the year 15 of these notices were complied with. Other improvements were also secured following verbal notifications of contraventions.

The Food Hygiene (General) Regulations, 1960, came into operation on 1st October, 1960. These Regulations amend and consolidate the previous regulations.

Automatic Ball Gum Vending Machines

The condition of certain automatic ball gum vending machines caused concern towards the end of the year. The machines were stood outside various shops in all weather and many were in a dirty condition and obviously not weatherproof.

Two balls of gum were obtained from each of twelve of the machines, and the internal surfaces of the outlets of each of them were "swabbed." The balls of gum and swabs were submitted to the Public Health Laboratory for bacteriological examination.

Subsequent reports from the Laboratory showed that eleven of the machines were considered sterile, but heat resistant *Clostridium Welchii* were isolated from the swabs of one machine. Ten samples of ball gum were considered sterile, but in two cases culture growths of *Streptococcus faecalis* were obtained (The presence of *C. Welchii* and/or *Streptococcus faecalis* indicates faecal contamination).

Immediate steps were taken to contact the owners of the machines, but difficulty was experienced as most shop-keepers did not know who owned them. In almost all cases the machines were maintained and filled by the owners, who called at intervals of from two to six weeks to re-stock them and pay the shop-keeper a percentage of the takings. Eventually it was discovered that most of the 17 machines in the town were owned by one person. The results of the survey were explained to him and he was asked to surrender the ball gum remaining in the suspect machines. This he readily agreed to do and also voluntarily removed all his machines from use until some way of using them without risk to public health could be found.

The various owners of the other machines also voluntarily withdrew them from use when the significance of the results of the survey was explained to them.

6. Food and Drugs Act, 1955.

Sampling and Administration

The Corporation is the Food and Drugs Authority for the Borough.

This field also was somewhat neglected of necessity during the first half of the year, but by the end of the year 48 samples were taken, and of these 8, or 16.7%, were unsatisfactory in some particular. This is an unusually high percentage of unsatisfactory samples, and does perhaps reflect judicious means of sampling rather than an undesirable state of affairs in the food industry. Nevertheless, it does emphasise the fact that the utmost vigilance is still necessary in this branch of your Public Health Inspectors' duties.

Samples Found to be Genuine

Article	No. of Samples
Cake Mixture	1
Coffee and Chicory Essence	1
Crab Meat	1
Cream	1
Damson Jam	1
Fresh Cream Doughnuts	1
Fruit Sauce	1
Lard	1
Milk	22
Minced Chicken in Jelly	1
Peas-processed (Canned)	1
Pork Luncheon Meat	1
Rice	1
Rum Truffles	1
Sausages (beef)	1
Sausages (pork)	2
Stuffing	1
Table Jelly	1
Total	40

Samples Found to be Adulterated or Sub-Standard

Article	No. of Samples
Cream Cheese	1
Margarine	1
Milk	2
Milk Chocolate	2
Pork Luncheon Meat (Canned)	1
Savoury Steak Cutlets (Canned)	1
Total	8

Details of these 8 samples are as follows:—

Cream Cheese

An informal sample purchased as Cream Cheese was found to consist of Curd or Sour Milk Cheese.

The cheese was invoiced to the Manager of the shop as Cottage Cheese, a correct description. The Manager was cautioned.

Margarine

An informal sample of margarine was found to contain 16.4% moisture; 0.4% more than the maximum permitted.

A warning letter was sent to the manufacturers.

Milk

(1) An informal sample of milk proved to be genuine milk but deficient of 3.3% fat and slightly low in solids-not-fat. The farmer was cautioned.

(2) An informal sample of milk proved to be genuine but was slightly low in solids-not-fat. No action was taken.

Milk Chocolate

(1) This informal sample, purchased as a block of milk chocolate, was found to be devoid of significant quantities of cocoa butter (only 6%) and was deficient in milk fat. The vendor was cautioned and informed that the article should not be sold as milk chocolate, nor sold as milk block without declaring the presence of skimmed milk. The product was withdrawn from sale.

(2) An informal sample of a similar product was also found to contain little cocoa butter (only 5%), but it contained sufficient whole milk solids to warrant its sale as "Milk Block" or "Full Cream Milk Block." The Manager of the store concerned agreed to display and sell the product as "Milk Block" and no further action was taken.

Pork Luncheon Meat

An informal sample of canned pork luncheon meat had a meat content of 77.5% which was considered slightly low, but no action was taken.

Savoury Steak Cutlets

This informal sample of canned savoury steak cutlets contained only 40% meat, and the description was considered misleading since it was a "made-up" meat product.

The question was taken up with the manufacturers who stated that they had taken steps to have new labels printed with a new and suitable description. This was subsequently found to have been done.

HOUSING

1. General

The main type of house in the Borough is a terraced type with either 4 or 5 habitable rooms. The common defects are defective roofs, walls, gutters, spouts, windows and lack of damp-proof courses. These defects are very liable to produce excessive dampness.

The total number of houses erected by the Council up to the end of 1960 was 1,842.

In spite of the efforts made by informal and statutory action the number of sub-standard houses remains high.

During the year 162 houses were represented as unfit for human habitation under the Housing Act.

112 houses comprising the following areas were represented:—

1. Fleet Street Clearance Area
2. Moor Street Clearance Area
3. Hollinshead Street (No. 1) Clearance Area
4. Hollinshead Street (No. 2) Clearance Area
5. Crosse Hall Lane Clearance Area
6. Brown's Square Clearance Area
7. Tootell Street Clearance Area
8. Friday Street Clearance Area
9. Eaves Lane Clearance Area.

The houses comprising Areas 1, 2, 5, and 9 have been, or are being purchased by agreement and the Council resolved that a Compulsory Purchase Order be made on Area No. 7. Clearance Orders were made in respect of Areas 3, 4, 6, and 8.

2. Clearance Areas and Individual Unfit Houses Demolished

Clearance Areas

	Houses Demolished	Persons Displaced
Houses Unfit for Human Habitation	83	22
Houses on land acquired under Sec. 43(2)	1	—

Not in Clearance Areas

As a result of formal or informal procedure under Section 17, Housing Act 1957	3	—
Local Authority owned houses certified unfit	—	47

3. Unfit Houses Closed

	Houses Closed	
Under Section 16 Housing Act 1957	52	124

4. No. of new houses erected during the year

	1960
(1) By the Local Authority	77
(2) By other bodies or persons	99

5. Particulars of Housing Schemes

- (i) In hand at end of the year.
Burgh Lane Estate comprising 120 Houses and Flats.
- (ii) Contemplated.
Bolton Street.

6. Inspection of Dwelling-houses during the Year

1. (a) Total number of dwelling-houses inspected for housing defects (under the Public Health or Housing Acts)	888
(b) No. of inspections made for the purpose	3040
2. (a) No. of dwelling-houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation	—
(b) Total No. (or estimated No.) existing at end of year	501
3. No. of dwelling-houses (exclusive of those referred to under the preceding sub-head) found not to be in all respects fit for human habitation	584

7. Remedy of Defects during the Year without service of Formal Notice

No. of dwelling-houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or their Officers	547
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8. Action under Statutory Powers during the Year

A. Proceedings under Section 9, and 16 of Housing Act, 1957.

(1) No. of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs	....	....	....	....	....	—
(2) No. of dwelling-houses which were rendered fit after service of formal notice						
(a) by Owners	....	....	....	....	....	3
(b) by Local Authority in default of owners	....	....				—

B. Proceedings under Public Health Act.

(1) No. of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied	....	....	....			26
(2) No. of dwelling-houses in which defects were remedied						
(a) by Owners	....	....	....	....	....	29
(b) by Local Authority in default of owners	....	....				—

C. Proceedings under sections 16, 17 and 35 of the Housing Act 1957.

(1) No. of dwelling-houses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made	....	....	....	....	....	142
(2) No. of dwelling-houses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders	....	....	....	....	....	83
(3) No. of dwelling-houses in respect of which undertakings have been received and accepted	....	....	....	....		52

D. Proceedings under section 18 of the Housing Act, 1957.

(1) No. of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were made	....	....				2
(2) No. of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were determined, the tenement or room having been rendered fit	....	....				—

9, Housing Act, 1949 and Housing (Financial Provisions) Act, 1958 — Improvement Grants etc.:—

Action During Year:—	No. of Schemes	Private Bodies or Individuals	Schemes No. of	Local Authority
		No. of Dwelling Houses or other Buildings affected		No. of Dwelling Houses or other Buildings affected
(a) Submitted by private individuals to Local Authority	21	21	—	—
(b) Approved by Local Authority	19	19	—	—
(c) Submitted by Local Authority to Ministry	—	—	1	9
(d) Finally approved by Ministry	—	—	—	—
(e) Work Completed	18	18	—	—
(f) Additional separate dwellings included in (a) above	—	—	—	—

10. House Purchase and Housing Act 1959 — Standard Grants :—

(a) Applications submitted to Local Authority	21
(b) Applications approved by Local Authority	22
(c) Work completed	14

11. Rent Act 1957

No. of applications for certificates of disrepair	5
Certificates of disrepair issued	2
Certificates of disrepair cancelled	1

MISCELLANEOUS DUTIES

1. Diseases of Animals Act, 1950

The Department is responsible for the administration of the Act and the various Orders made thereunder, within the Borough. Any action taken under the various duties imposed is outlined below.

Swine Fever

79 Licences were issued and 358 Licences from outside sources checked.

Fowl Pest

No outbreaks occurred in the Borough, 14 Special Orders received and checked.

Foot and Mouth Disease

108 Movement Licences issued, 2 Licences checked from outside sources, 153 Special Orders received and checked.

Importation of Animals Act

No Licences issued, 3 from outside areas checked.

Transit of Animals Orders

These orders deal with the conveyance of animals to prevent unnecessary suffering. Several minor contraventions were dealt with and rectified by informal action.

Tuberculosis Area Eradication Order 1950

48 Notices prohibiting movement of bovine animals were received and checked.

Waste Foods Order 1957

This Order prohibits the feeding of unboiled waste foods to certain animals or to poultry and lays down other prohibitions and requirements in order to prevent the spread of foot and mouth and other diseases. Any person having 5 or more weaned pigs, or more than 50 head of poultry, who collects or receives waste foods for them must boil waste foods in plant for which he holds a licence from the local authority.

2. Shops Act, 1950

The enforcement of the provisions of the Act relating to closing hours, Sunday trading, and the employment of young persons, as well as those relating to health, is the responsibility of the Department.

Few visits were made to shops for the purpose of enforcing hours of closing and Sunday trading restrictions, due to lack of staff for most of the year and pressure of other work.

3. Rag Flock and Other Filling Materials Act, 1951

The purpose of this Act is to secure the proper cleanliness of filling materials used in manufacturing bedding, toys, baby carriages and other articles of upholstery.

There are three registered premises where filling materials of the type listed are used in manufacturing articles of upholstery, and 9 inspections were made during the year.

4. Heating Appliances (Fireguards) Act, 1952

This Act prohibits the sale or letting of unguarded electric fires, gas fires or oil heaters.

Most manufacturers now fit guards of an approved type to their appliances, so it is unusual to find new articles not properly equipped. Vigilance is still necessary, however, particularly in the case of second-hand dealers, and householders are frequently advised to fit guards to their fires when unguarded ones are noticed during the course of inspections for other purposes.

5. Pet Animals Act, 1951

This Act provides that no person shall keep a pet shop without a licence, so as to ensure that animals in such shops are kept under suitable conditions and that mammals will not be sold at too early an age. 3 licences have now been issued.

PUBLIC CLEANSING

Refuse Collection

House and trade refuse is collected by a fleet of six Karrier Bantam, side-loading, end-tipping vehicles.

In all 26 men (including drivers) are employed in collecting refuse as follows:—

- 1 Foreman refuse collector.
- 4 teams of 4 collectors and 1 driver on 4 vehicles.
- 1 team of 2 collectors and 1 driver on 1 vehicle.
- 1 team of 1 collector and 1 driver/loader on 1 vehicle.

A weekly collection service is maintained generally, but a number of breaks occurred in this routine during the year, due to national holidays and sickness, and changes in staff. Many of the shops and other trade premises are given a twice-weekly collection service, and one collection vehicle is largely engaged on this work.

In common with most local authorities, considerable difficulty is experienced in finding suitable men for these duties. A number of the refuse collectors have given the Corporation many years of excellent service, but they will not be easy to replace. Too often a replacement is started who only works for a week at most, sometimes only a few hours, when he discovers that it is not the job for him, probably because he did not expect to find it such hard work.

The development of new housing estates is also bringing its attendant difficulties, as the overall length of carry is tending to increase. In the older properties the dustbins are usually sited very near to the road or back lane, but this is not so in the case of most new houses. In consequence the districts allocated to the various teams are in need of re-organisation, but a complete survey of the service will be necessary to make this possible.

Storage of Refuse

The system whereby the owner or occupier of any dwelling-house and certain business premises can be required to provide a suitable dustbin, under the Chorley Corporation Act, 1926, continues to work well and ensures that all premises in the town have a suitable bin of standard size.

During the year 109 preliminary notices were served on the persons responsible to provide bins and in only 11 cases was it necessary to serve a statutory notice to secure the provision of a suitable dustbin.

Dustbins of an excellent quality are purchased for sale to the public at 45/- each, 359 being sold in the year. With reasonable use these bins appear to have a life on average, of over 10 years.

Refuse Disposal

All refuse, with the exception of condemned meat and offal and those articles recovered under the salvage scheme, is disposed of by tipping at Lawnwood.

Salvage

There was an increased income from the sale of waste paper during the year, waste paper being the only material salvaged by the Department. The sale of 370 Tons of this commodity secured a gross income of £2,802, out of which £512 was distributed in the form of an incentive bonus amongst the refuse collectors and disposal staff.

Protective Clothing and Welfare

Each refuse collector is issued with overalls, gloves and goggles. At present the men are responsible for washing their own overalls, but it is hoped to start a laundering service for them next year.

A room equipped with hot and cold water, a gas cooker and a heating stove is available for the use of men staying for mid-day meals. The condition of the building used for this purpose is far from satisfactory, but in view of the uncertain future of the buildings in the Town's Yard the expenditure necessary to carry out the required repairs could not be justified.

As a number of the refuse collectors have no fixed bath in their houses, they are allowed free use of the slipper bath facilities at the Public Baths.

Street Cleansing

The Borough Engineer is responsible for the cleansing of streets and snow clearance.

Public Conveniences

There are 17 public conveniences under the control of the Department, cleaned and maintained by a staff of one male (full-time) and one female (part-time). Other conveniences provided at Astley Hall and the Recreation Grounds are under the supervision of the Parks Department.

The insufficiency of public conveniences throughout the Borough is noticeable, and some existing conveniences urgently need modernisation, although arrangements are already in hand for the modernisation and extension of the General Market public conveniences.

Regretfully, it must be recorded that damage to locks, fittings and buildings was again prevalent throughout the year.

PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTION (GENERAL)

1. Summary of Public Health Inspectors' Visits and Inspections:

Houses Inspected (Routine)	212
Houses Found Defective	156
Houses Inspected re Nuisance	668
Houses re-inspected re Nuisance or Defect	1597
Premises Inspected re Nuisance	84
Overcrowding Inspections	8
Factories Inspected	121
Workplaces Inspected	10
Means of Escape in Case of Fire	25
Bakehouses Inspected	54
Milk Vehicles and Dairies Inspected	39
Offensive Trade Inspections	22
Shops Act Inspections	122
Ice Cream, Potted Meat Premises	33
Food and Drugs Visits	207
Infectious Disease Visits	374
Tents, Vans, Caravans, etc., Inspected	24
Inspections for Vermin	100
Investigation of Water Supplies	25
Market Inspections	217
School Inspections	10
Public Sanitary Conveniences	291
Butchers' Shops	228
Licensed Premises	9
Miscellaneous Visits	846
Diseases of Animals (Days)	4½
Cinemas — Inspections	2
Clearance Areas (Days)	102

2. Offensive Trades

There are 3 premises registered for the purpose of carrying on trade classified as "offensive" namely Tripe dressing 2, and Gut scraping 1.

These premises are all inspected to see that they conform to the bye-laws.

No. of visits made	22
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3. Moveable Dwellings

Under the Chorley Corporation Act, 1926 (section 92-3) no tent, caravan, or similar structure is permitted to remain within the Borough, nor is it permitted for any land to be used to provide accommodation for such, without the consent of the Council.

During the year 24 visits were made to such dwellings to ensure that they were moved from unsuitable sites as soon as possible.

4. Rodent Control

Apart from the enormous amount of damage caused by rodents to food-stuffs, other materials, and to the fabric of buildings, they are potential food poisoning organism carriers. Most rat infestations originate from rats gaining access to buildings by way of defective drains from the public sewers, and to control the rat population in the sewers an annual treatment by laying poison bait in the manholes is carried out. It is hoped to carry out this treatment bi-annually in future as these treatments have a considerable effect in reducing the rat population in the sewers, and consequently reduces surface infestations.

	TYPE OF PROPERTY		Agricultural
	Non-agricultural		
	Dwelling-houses	All others	
(a) No. of properties in district	10479	1466	44
(b) No. of properties inspected	234	299	44
(c) No. of properties inspected which were found to be infested by:—			
Rats — major	—	—	—
minor	144	29	7
Mice — major	—	—	—
minor	90	16	—
(d) No. of infested properties treated	234	45	7
(e) No. of "Block" control schemes carried out	—	—	—

(f) Any other action — Sewer treatment carried out during the year.

5. Disinfestation

Vermin

Infestations of bed bugs or fleas are now a rare occurrence and it was found necessary to disinfest only 3 houses during the year.

Modern insecticides have made this work much easier and they are extremely effective, repeat disinfestations being almost unknown.

When necessary bedding and other suitable material is treated by steam in the Department's own steam disinfector.

Other Pests

The advice of the Department is frequently sought concerning the eradication of many types of insect pests, and in some cases treatment is carried out.

6. Schools

1.	Chorley	All Saints' C.E.
2.	„	Duke Street County (Junior)
2.	„	Duke Street County (Infants')
3.	„	Highfield County (Junior)
3.	„	Highfield County (Infants')
4.	„	Hollinshead Street Congregational (Junior & Infants')
5.	„	Parochial (Boys')
5.	„	Parochial (Girls')
5.	„	Parochial (Infants')
6.	„	Sacred Heart R.C. (Mixed)
6.	„	Sacred Heart R.C. (Infants')
7.	„	St. George's C.E. (Junior & Infants)
8.	„	St. James' C.E. (Mixed)
8.	„	St. James' C.E. (Infants')
9.	„	St. Joseph's R.C.
10.	„	St. Mark's C.E.
11.	„	St. Mary's R.C. (Mixed)
11.	„	St. Mary's R.C. (Infants')
12.	„	St. Peter's C.E. (Mixed)
12.	„	St. Peter's C.E. (Infants')
13.	„	Weld Bank R.C. (Mixed)
14.	„	Weld Bank R.C. (Infants')
80.	„	Duke St. Practical Instruction Centre
81.	„	Highfield Practical Instruction Centre
101.	„	Southlands County Secondary
104.	„	St. Augustine's R.C. Secondary (Boys')
105.	„	St. Alban's C.E. Secondary
130.	„	Grammar, Union Street
132.	„	Grammar, Southport Road
150.	„	Highfield Nursery School
151.	„	Duke Street Nursery School

Progress is still being made with improvements to the older schools and heating, lighting and other facilities are generally satisfactory.

Urinal accommodation in some schools is not satisfactory, however, and in a number of schools hand-washing facilities are still below the prescribed standards.

7. Water Supply

In a number of cases where the water supply has proved to be inadequate due to low pressure, and with several houses sharing a common service pipe, the owners have been requested to provide a sufficient supply.

This has mostly been accomplished by running a new service pipe or pipes from the street main. The provision of a new piped supply from the street main is a costly item, and the Water Undertaking have now agreed to bring the rising main to the stop taps on the pavements at their expense. This should encourage more owners to re-lay the pipes for which they are responsible, so providing an adequate supply at a reduced cost.

8. Sanitary Accommodation

The various types of closets in the Borough are as follows:—

Privy middens	....	....	....	....	18
Closets attached to above middens	....	....	....	....	20
Pail closets	....	....	....	....	30
Waste water closets	....	....	....	....	486
Water closets	....	....	....	....	10877

The privy middens and pail closets are located amongst the farm and outlying properties near the Borough boundary, and none exist where sewers are available. They are mostly emptied by the owners, but the Corporation undertakes the emptying of some privy middens and pail closets.

The number of waste water closets was further reduced during the year, 29 having been converted to water closets.

The grant of £7 10s. 0d. made by the Council towards the cost of each conversion has not proved as successful as was hoped in encouraging owners to carry out conversions voluntarily. Almost all conversions are secured by the service of a notice on the owner when waste water closets are found to be in some way defective.

Drain Clearing

A free service is provided for the clearing of stoppages in drains where simple "rodding" or "plunging" is effective, one man being employed part-time on this work.

When it is found necessary to excavate and open the drain then a charge is made, the work being carried out by the Borough Engineer's Department.

9. Infectious Diseases and Food Poisoning

Whenever necessary routine enquiries were made concerning all notified cases of infectious diseases and food poisoning, necessitating 374 visits.

Disinfection of 134 houses was carried out following cases of infectious diseases, and numerous books and other articles were disinfected.

10. Factories Act, 1937 to 1958

1. Inspections for purposes of provisions as to health.

Premises	No. on Register	Number of		
		Inspections	Written Notices	Occupiers Prosecuted
(i) Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4 & 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities.	52	62	1	—
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority.	154	123	34	—
(iii) Other Premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding out workers premises)	—	—	—	—
TOTAL	206	185	35	—

2. Cases in which defects were found.

Particulars (1)	Number of cases in which defects were found				No. of cases in which prosecutions were instituted (6)
	Found (2)	Remedied (3)	Referred		
			to H.M. Inspector (4)	by H.M. Inspector (5)	
Want of cleanliness (S.1)	4	5	—	1	—
Overcrowding (S.2)	—	—	—	—	—
Unreasonable temperature (S.3)	—	—	—	—	—
Inadequate ventilation (S.4)...	—	—	—	—	—
Ineffective drainage of floors (S.6)	—	—	—	—	—
Sanitary Conveniences (S.7)					
(a) Insufficient	—	—	—	1	—
(b) Unsuitable or defective...	30	16	—	9	—
(c) Not separate for sexes ...	—	—	—	—	—
Other offences against the Act (not including offences relating to outworkers)	—	—	—	—	—
	34	21	—	11	

NEW LEGISLATION

The following legislation came into force during 1960, except where otherwise stated:—

Radioactive Substances Act, 1960

An Act to regulate the keeping and using of radioactive material, and to make provision as to the disposal and accumulation of radioactive waste. The Act requires that any person using radioactive material should be registered, such registration being with the Ministry of Housing and Local Government. The Act provides that, where radioactive material is deposited or accumulated, the Minister shall consult with the Local Authority in whose area the place is situated, and with any other such public or Local Authority as appears to him ought to be consulted.

Public Health Laboratory Service Act, 1960

This Act establishes a Public Health Laboratory Service Board to exercise functions with respect to the administration of the bacteriological service provided by the Minister of Health as part of the National Health Service.

Caravan Sites and Control of Development Act, 1960

The above Act, which came into force on the 29th August, 1960, gave Local Authorities more power for controlling caravan sites. Part of the Act concerns planning authorities but in addition a new licensing system for sites only was introduced to be operated by County District Councils. The Act required occupiers of every caravan site to apply for a new Site Licence within a stated time. The Act differentiates between those sites which have specific planning consent and those which were established before planning control. The local planning authority had to review the position of all the sites and no site licence could be issued until the planning position had been established. Accompanying the Act was a set of Model Standards with which, it was recommended, all caravan sites should comply.

Oil Burners (Standards) Act, 1960

This Act, which came into operation on 1st January, 1961, makes it an offence to sell an oil burner which does not comply with the relevant British Standard Specification. The duty of enforcing its provisions is placed on the local authority.

Offices Act, 1960

This Act, which is to come into operation on 1st January, 1962, makes provision for regulations to be made for securing the health, safety and welfare of persons employed in offices, and, in particular, with regard to sanitary accommodation, washing facilities, heating, lighting, ventilation, prevention of overcrowding, clothing accommodation, cleanliness, means of escape in case of fire, drinking water supply, first aid equipment, inspection and maintenance of electrical equipment, and the fencing off of dangerous machinery.

Noise Abatement Act, 1960

This Act makes new provisions in respect of the control of noise and vibration with a view to their abatement, and provides that noise or vibration which is a nuisance shall be a statutory nuisance for the purposes of Part III of the Public Health Act, 1936. Specific restrictions are placed on the operation of loud speakers on highways and other places open to the public.

The Meat (Staining and Sterilization) Regulations, 1960

These regulations require all butchers' meat and imported meat which is unfit for human consumption to be sterilized, and all knacker meat to be stained or sterilized, before entering the chain of distribution. Provision is made, with certain safeguards, whereby zoos, mink farms, etc., may obtain such meat unstained and unsterilized, and supplies of such meat for medical and pharmaceutical purposes is unaffected.

The Authorised Officers (Meat Inspection) Regulations, 1960

These regulations prescribe a new qualification, the holder of which will be eligible to be appointed as an authorised officer in relation to the examination and seizure of meat.

The Milk (Special Designation) Regulations, 1960

The Milk (Special Designation) Regulations, 1960 came into force on 1st October, 1960 revoking the previous regulations. The principal changes affecting this authority are that dealers' licences now permit sales outside as well as inside the area of the licensing authority; a dealer's (pre-packed milk) licence now permits the sale of all three kinds of specially designated milk where the milk is obtained by the dealer in the container in which it is to be supplied to the consumer; the period for which a dealer's licence will be granted is now five years instead of one year; and certain changes covering the sampling and testing of milk.

The Food Hygiene (General) Regulations, 1960

These regulations amend and consolidate the previous ones.

The Food Hygiene (Docks, Carriers, etc) Regulations, 1960

These regulations prescribe new requirements to secure the hygienic handling of food at docks, warehouses, cold stores, carriers' premises and a number of other special types of premises which were excluded from the ambit of the Food Hygiene Regulations, 1955, now revoked, and of the Food Hygiene (General) Regulations, 1960.

The Arsenic in Food (Amendment) Regulations, 1960

These regulations increase the maximum amount of arsenic permitted in brewers' yeast intended for use in the manufacture of yeast products.

The Skimmed Milk With Non-Milk Fat Regulations, 1960

(Come into operation on the 19th September, 1961).

These regulations impose requirements as to the labelling and advertising of certain specified foods having the appearance of milk, condensed milk or dried milk and which contain skimmed milk and non-milk fat.

The Public Health (Infectious Diseases) Amendment Regulations, 1960

These regulations make anthrax notifiable, and any medical practitioner attending on or called in to visit a patient suffering from anthrax is required to send notification thereof to the Medical Officer of Health.

The Food Hygiene (General) Regulations, 1955

The Food Hygiene (General) Regulations, 1955, were made under the Food Act, 1954, and came into force on 1st January 1956. They replaced the Food Hygiene Regulations, 1953, and the Food Hygiene (General) Regulations, 1954.

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