

[Report 1966] / Medical Officer of Health, Chorley Borough.

Contributors

Chorley (England). Borough Council.

Publication/Creation

1966

Persistent URL

<https://wellcomecollection.org/works/w46hbkas>

License and attribution

You have permission to make copies of this work under a Creative Commons, Attribution license.

This licence permits unrestricted use, distribution, and reproduction in any medium, provided the original author and source are credited. See the Legal Code for further information.

Image source should be attributed as specified in the full catalogue record. If no source is given the image should be attributed to Wellcome Collection.



Wellcome Collection
183 Euston Road
London NW1 2BE UK
T +44 (0)20 7611 8722
E library@wellcomecollection.org
<https://wellcomecollection.org>



T



BOROUGH OF CHORLEY

ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

Medical Officer of Health

AND


Chief Public Health Inspector

FOR THE YEAR

1966

HILLS PRINTERS (LANCASHIRE) LIMITED
CHORLEY
1967





Digitized by the Internet Archive
in 2017 with funding from
Wellcome Library

<https://archive.org/details/b29111055>

BOROUGH OF CHORLEY

MEMBERS OF THE COUNCIL

1966

His Worship the Mayor, Councillor G. F. JONES.

Alderman	W. CORCORAN	Alderman	Miss A. FORSHAW
„	R. EVANS	„	D. DUNN
„	T. GRIME	„	W. WILCOCK
„	W. RAWCLIFFE	„	W. LOWE
Councillor	A. BARNES	Councillor	W. BLEASDALE
„	D. CROFT	„	G. HUTCHINSON
„	G. CROOK	„	J. A. LUCAS
„	H. V. DAVIES	„	Mrs. C. M. MONKS
„	W. FINCH	„	H. A. PARKINSON
„	H. HEAP	„	B. RILEY
„	J. HODSON	„	T. ROWLANDSON
„	P. KEANE	„	Mrs. B. J. RIGBY
„	I SELLERS	„	G. R. RIGBY
„	D. E. R. SEABROOK	„	A. R. SHEPHERD
„	T. C. SHORROCK	„	T. WOOSEY
		„	M. A. THOMPSON

Chairman of the Health Committee :

Councillor G. R. RIGBY

Vice-Chairman of the Health Committee :

Alderman D. DUNN

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.

Deputy Medical Officer of Health :

N. T. W. POVER, L.R.C.S., L.R.F.P.S., L.M.S.S.A., D.P.H.

Also Senior Assistant Medical Officer, Health Division 4.

Chief Public Health Inspector :

J. G. KELLY, M.A.P.H.I., M.Inst.M. (a) (b) (c)

Deputy Chief Public Health Inspector :

G. W. ARMITAGE, M.A.P.H.I., M.Inst.M. (a) (b).

Additional Public Health Inspectors :

P. FIRTH, M.A.P.H.I., (a) (b) to June 1966

F. MYERS, M.A.P.H.I., A.R.S.H.

F. SWINSON, M.A.P.H.I. (a) to July 1966.

K. W. TITTENSOR M.A.P.H.I., (d) from September 1966.

W. J. THORNTON, M.A.P.H.I., (d) from October 1966.

- (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.
- (d) Holds the Diploma of Public Health Inspectors' Examination Board.

Pupil Public Health Inspector:

E. R. KING

Clerical Staff :

R. HEAPS. Mrs. D. PROCTER. Miss C. A. COOPER from April 1966

General Foreman :

A. PRETTY

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.

BOROUGH OF CHORLEY

TO THE CHAIRMAN AND MEMBERS OF THE HEALTH COMMITTEE,

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have much pleasure in presenting the Annual Report on the Health and Sanitary Circumstances of the Borough for the year ended 31st December, 1966.

As in previous years I should like in this introduction to refer to some of the matters dealt with in the body of the Report.

Regarding vital statistics the population of the Borough at the middle of 1966, according to the Registrar General's estimate, was 31,170 which is 40 more than the estimate for mid-year 1965. The number of live births assignable to the Borough was 504 of which 260 were males and 244 females and of the total 29 were illegitimate. The number of live births in the previous year was 515 so that there were 11 fewer births in the past year. The crude birth rate for the year 1966 was 16.2 (adjusted 17.3) per 1,000 estimated population whilst the birth rates for England and Wales and the County of Lancaster were 17.7 and 17.86 (adjusted 18.21) respectively.

The number of deaths assigned to the Borough for the year 1966 was 454 which is 26 more than in the previous year. The crude death rate for the Borough was 14.6 (adjusted 14.3) per 1,000 estimated population. The death rates for the country as a whole and for Lancashire were 11.7 and 12.73 (adjusted 13.49) respectively.

The Registrar General provides a table giving the causes of deaths in age groups and this table is reproduced in the Report. Comparing the figures in this table with those for 1965 it is found that the increase in deaths is spread over all the age groups from 35 years of age upwards with the exception of that between 55 — 65 years where there was a decrease of 1. The number of infants who died before reaching one year of age was 13 which is an increase of 6 over the previous year. The Infantile Mortality Rate for the Borough was, therefore, 25.8 per 1,000 live births. The corresponding figure for England and Wales and Lancashire was 19.0 and 19.9 respectively. After the record low infantile mortality rate of 13.6 in the Borough in 1965 the figure for 1966 is disappointing although not altogether unexpected.

Turning to the causes of death it is not difficult to suggest how some of these might have been avoided. No fewer than 19 deaths were due to lung cancer — an increase of 9 over the previous year's figure. The association of cancer of the lungs with cigarette smoking has been firmly established so the remedy is largely within our own hands. Our main hope in this direction would seem to lie in the

discouragement of youngsters from starting the habit. Accidents accounted for 15 deaths in 1966, 6 of these being motor vehicles accidents. The corresponding figures for the previous year were 8 and 3. These causes of death must be regarded as preventable although the risk of accidents seems steadily to outstrip preventive measures. There were 5 suicides in the Borough in 1966 as compared with 2 in the previous year. Such deaths are a sad reflection on our modern society. If, therefore, the foregoing comments on causes of death are considered reasonable, 39 or 8.7% of the 454 deaths in the Borough last year might have been avoided.

There would seem to be a tendency to expect medical research to come forward with miraculous cures for all illnesses whilst little effort is made to apply known means of promoting health particularly if they demand some will power or self denial. Drug addiction is a menace to health and recent reports of an increase in drug-taking particularly by adolescents in this country are rightly causing much concern. Every possible effort to deal with this problem should be taken before it becomes any larger. The simple rules for health on such matters as sleep, personal hygiene, exercise, diet etc., are commonly ignored or flouted and reliance is being placed on aspirins, "pep" pills and other remedies or on visits to or from already hard-pressed doctors.

Returning to a consideration of the causes of death during 1966 one finds that heart diseases as usual caused the greatest number — 155 as compared with 162 in the previous year. Of these 100 were classified as due to coronary disease which is 1 fewer than in 1965. Next to heart diseases as a cause of death comes malignant diseases with a total of 80 which represents an increase of 16. This gives a death rate from cancer for the Borough of 2.57 per 1,000 population which is above the national figure of 2.25. Vascular lesions of the nervous system which includes all forms of strokes ranks next with 71 deaths as compared with 68 in 1965. Tuberculosis, which not so long ago was a major killer caused only one death in 1966 as compared with 3 in the previous year. It is pleasing to note that once again there were no deaths in 1966 attributable to childbirth or abortion — there have been no such deaths since 1958 when there were two.

Regarding the incidence of infectious diseases it is found that the total number of notifications was 616 including 6 cases of tuberculosis as compared with 365 including 7 cases of tuberculosis in 1965. Most of this considerable increase is accounted for by 112 cases of food poisoning arising from outbreaks at the local hospitals and 134 more cases of measles. Vaccines for protection against measles are now available and although the Ministry of Health has not yet recommended the general use of these vaccines they can be used at the discretion of medical practitioners. No cases of poliomyelitis or diphtheria were notified during the year but it is of paramount importance that full advantage should be taken of the means of protection readily available against these diseases and others such as whooping cough, tetanus and tuberculosis. A

mass radiography unit of the Regional Hospital Board carried out a survey in the Borough and as is customary school children over 15 years of age were included in the survey. At one of the schools two pupils were found to be infected and in view of this, arrangements were made for the Unit to visit the school again to X-ray the remaining pupils and staff. Tuberculin skin testing was also carried out. On this occasion at least two more cases were discovered. Arrangements were made for the unit to pay another visit to the school in 1967 in order to make sure that nothing further developed. Further details are included in the body of the Report.

Housing conditions in the Borough continue to improve as a result of clearance or repair of unfit dwellings and the erection of new ones. Three small clearance areas comprising 26 houses were officially represented and a further 13 individual houses were represented as unfit for human habitation. A total of 147 new dwellings were completed during the year comprising 46 by the Council and 101 by private enterprise. The scheme of flatlets for the elderly who will be under the supervision of a resident warden was well advanced at the end of the year.

A study of Mr. Kelly's sections of the Report will show that the Public Health Inspectors have been active in a wide variety of aspects all of which are of great importance in the maintenance of a healthy environment.

The drainage scheme known as the East Valley Main Drainage Scheme on which the Borough Engineer and his staff have been engaged since 1956 was completed and officially opened on the 12th October, 1966. The approximate total cost of the scheme to the Corporation was £220,000. The next stage is the modernisation and extension of the Common Bank Sewage Disposal Works and this matter is in the hands of Consultants and about to be put out to tender.

In conclusion I must express my sincere thanks to Dr. Black, Assistant Divisional Medical Officer, Mr. Kelly and the Staff of the Health Department for their willing assistance and co-operation at all times. My thanks are also due to other officers and staff of the Council for their ready help whenever it is required.

I am very grateful indeed to the Chairman and Members of the Health Committee for their continued support and encouragement.

I have the honour to be,

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, but much new housing development has taken place recently. 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 laundries. A large proportion of female labour is normally employed.

VITAL STATISTICS

The following is a summary of the principal statistics for the years 1965 and 1966.

	1965	1966
Population (estimated)	31,130	31,170
Number of Deaths (corrected)	428	454
Death Rate (per 1,000 population)	13.6	14.6
Live Births	515	504
Live Birth Rate (per 1,000 population)	16.5	16.2
Still-births	8	10
Still-births (per 1,000 live and still births)	15.3	19.5
Total live and still-births	523	514
Infant deaths (deaths under 1 year)	7	13
Infant mortality rate per 1,000 live births, total	13.6	25.8
Infant mortality rate per 1,000 live births		
legitimate	11.7	21.8
illegitimate	1.9	4.0
Neo Natal Infant Mortality Rate per 1,000 live		
births (first four weeks)	5.8	17.9
Early Neo-Natal Mortality Rate per 1,000 live		
births (under one week)	5.8	15.9
Perinatal Mortality Rate (still-births and deaths		
under 1 week combined per 1,000 live and		
still-births)	21.0	35.0
Illegitimate live births per cent of total live		
births	5.4	5.7
Maternal deaths (including abortion)	—	—
Maternal mortality rate per 1,000 live and still		
births	—	—
Number of deaths from Pulmonary		
Tuberculosis	2	1
Death Rate per 1,000 population from		
Pulmonary Tuberculosis	0.06	0.03
Number of Deaths from all forms of		
Tuberculosis	3	1
Death Rate per 1,000 population from all		
forms of Tuberculosis	0.09	0.03
The Borough covers an area of 4,292 acres		
Population Census, 1951	32,636	
Population Census, 1961	32,262	
No. of inhabited houses (Rate Books)	10,987	11,098
Rateable Value of the Borough	£963,997	£979,981
Product of Id. Rate	£3,721	£3,788

TABLE I.

Year	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 1966	504	* 16.2	454	* 14.6	10	19.5	Nil.	Nil.	13	25.8	9	17.9
Year 1965	515	16.5	428	13.6	8	15.3	Nil	Nil	7	13.6	3	5.8
1964	510	16.4	363	11.7	9	17.3	Nil	Nil	18	35.3	8	15.7
1963	555	17.8	418	13.4	10	17.7	Nil	Nil	12	21.6	10	18.0
1962	560	17.9	443	14.2	20	34.5	Nil	Nil	15	26.8	12	19.6
1961	546	17.6	431	13.9	10	18.0	Nil	Nil	18	33.0	14	18.3
Avg. 5 years 1961-65	537	17.2	417	13.4	11	20.4	Nil	Nil	14	26.1	9	15.5

* Adjusted Live Birth Rate (Comparability Factor, 1.07) = 17.3 per 1000
 Death Rate (Comparability Factor, 0.98) = 14.3 per 1000

TABLE II.
Infant Mortality Rates.

Year	CHORLEY	England and Wales
1961	33.0	21.4
1962	26.8	21.4
1963	21.6	20.9
1964	35.3	20.0
1965	13.6	19.0
1966	25.8	19.0

TABLE III.
Birth Rates (Crude)

Year	CHORLEY	England and Wales
1961	17.6	17.4
1962	17.9	18.0
1963	17.8	18.2
1964	16.4	18.4
1965	16.5	18.1
1966	16.2	17.7

TABLE IV.
Death Rates (Crude)

Year	CHORLEY	England and Wales
1961	13.9	12.0
1962	14.2	11.9
1963	13.4	12.2
1964	11.7	11.3
1965	13.6	11.5
1966	14.6	11.7

TABLE V.
Birth and Death Rates in the Borough of Chorley since 1952.

	1952	1953	1954	1955	1956	1957	1958	1959	1960	1961	1962	1963	1964	1965	1966
Birth Rate (Crude)	15.0	16.1	14.9	14.9	15.5	15.9	14.6	16.3	15.1	17.6	17.9	17.8	16.4	16.5	16.2
Death Rate (Crude)	12.5	13.4	13.8	14.4	12.7	12.3	13.9	14.5	13.0	13.9	14.2	13.4	11.7	13.6	14.6
Infantile Mortality Rate	35.	31.	27.	27.	20.	18.0	37.0	13.7	29.6	33.0	26.8	21.6	35.3	13.6	25.8
Maternal Mortality Rate	0.	0.	0.	2.04	0	0	4.28	0.	0.	0.	0.	0.	0.	0.	0.
Natural Increase	+2.5	+2.7	+1.1	+0.5	+2.8	+3.6	+0.7	+1.8	+2.1	+2.5	+3.7	+4.4	+4.7	+2.9	+1.6

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	1960-64
Death Rate (Crude)	16.5	15.3	15.3	12.5	12.3	13.0	13.7	13.4	12.7	13.8	13.6	13.2
Birth Rate (Crude)	27.1	24.0	17.3	20.5	16.0	14.0	14.4	17.8	18.2	15.1	15.4	17.0
Infantile Mortality Rate	146	140	110	106	83	74.4	78.4	48.6	42.0	27.0	22.7	29.3
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	+3.8

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, School Clinic, Collison Avenue, Tel. Chorley 2709.

Ambulance Service

There are 4 ambulances and 4 dual purpose cars stationed at the Ambulance Station in Preston Street, Chorley. The work done by this station covers the area of the Borough and surrounding districts. All these vehicles are fitted with radio, and are in direct contact with the County Ambulance Headquarters at Broughton.

Midwifery Service

There are two domiciliary Midwives serving Chorley who attend expectant mothers who are confined at home.

Home Nursing Service

There are established in various parts of Chorley 5 District Nursing Sisters, 2 District Nurses and 2 male District Charge 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 The School Clinic, Collison Avenue, Chorley when a Consultant Obstetrician, employed by the Preston and Chorley Hospital 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 Collison Avenue 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.

Vaccination and Immunisation

Vaccination and Immunisation of children against Smallpox, Poliomyelitis, Diphtheria, Whooping Cough and Tetanus are available free of charge at County Council Clinics.

School Medical Service

Medical and hygiene inspections are carried out at the schools and clinic sessions are held at Collison Avenue, Chorley, for a variety of treatments including minor ailments, dental care, speech therapy, 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.

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. One such home is Coniston House, Tootell Street, Chorley. Handicapped persons are also assisted.

Short term care for elderly people was available during the year, mainly to give a respite for persons caring for elderly relatives at home, or to allow them to take a holiday.

Chiropody Service

Chiropody sessions were held at the School Clinic, Collison Avenue, 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.

Mental Health Service

Mental Welfare Officers serving the area are based at the Divisional Health Office, Fulwood and are available to give advice. A Social Centre for persons requiring rehabilitation following mental illness operates each Tuesday afternoon in Crown Street, Chorley. For mentally sub-normal children there is a Junior Training Centre at "Mayfield", Stratford Road, Chorley and a Training Centre and Hostel for mentally sub-normal adults in Weld Bank Lane, Chorley. A Youth Club for sub-normal children is held each Friday evening at Newtrees, Stump Lane, Chorley.

PREVALENCE AND CONTROL OF INFECTIOUS DISEASES

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

1966 and 1965

1966

	1st Qr.	2nd Qr.	3rd Qr.	4th Qr.	Total Cases
Measles	272	2	16	78	368
Scarlet Fever ...	45	19	9	26	99
Diphtheria ...	—	—	—	—	—
Whooping Cough...	—	2	5	2	9
Pneumonia ...	16	1	1	1	19
Erysipelas	—	—	—	—	—
Puerperal Pyrexia...	1	—	—	1	2
Dysentery ...	—	—	—	—	—
Food Poisoning ...	—	—	3	109	112
Meningococcal Infection ...	1	—	—	—	1
Paratyphoid ...	—	—	—	—	—
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	—	—	—	—	—
Acute Poliomyelitis ...	—	—	—	—	—

1965

Measles ...	86	17	14	117	234
Scarlet Fever ...	7	20	7	54	88
Diphtheria...	—	—	—	—	—
Whooping Cough ...	1	—	1	1	3
Pneumonia ...	5	7	3	3	18
Meningococcal Infection ...	1	—	—	—	1
Acute Poliomyelitis ...	—	—	—	—	—
Erysipelas ...	—	—	—	—	—
Puerperal Pyrexia...	—	—	—	1	1
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	—	—	—	—	—
Food Poisoning ...	1	—	—	—	1
Dysentery ...	3	5	2	2	12
Paratyphoid ...	—	—	—	—	—

It will be observed from the above tables that there was a considerable increase in the number of notifications of measles. In regard to the 112 notifications of food poisoning 109 of these arose from outbreaks at both the local hospitals. In both outbreaks the Consultant Pathologist was of the opinion that the causative organism was heat resistant C1. Welchii. Meat and meat products should be eaten whilst hot or if to be eaten cold should be cooled quickly and not permitted to remain at kitchen temperature. If these rules were observed such outbreaks of food poisoning would be prevented. Fortunately both were of a mild nature.

Manchester Regional Hospital Board
No. 1 MASS RADIOGRAPHY UNIT
FINAL REPORT ON THE SURVEY HELD IN CHORLEY
7.3.66 to 15.4.66

This was the fourth survey carried out in Chorley and central accommodation was provided by the Corporation at the Civil Defence Headquarters in St. Thomas's Road.

The thanks of the Unit are due to the Mayor and Officers of the Chorley Corporation, Dr. J. Walker, the Divisional Medical Officer of Health and his staff, for the co-operation we received from them during the survey.

COMMENTS

Response :-

During the recent survey we X-rayed 7,423 people as against a figure of 7,943 in 1962 and 7,380 in 1958. Although this shows a decrease on the previous figure, there was in fact increased attendance in the number of school-children over 15 years of age and of Hostel residents. The significant decrease in the Industry / Offices group can be accounted for by the fact that there is a considerable decrease in places of employment. The very cold weather for the time of year no doubt resulted in the decrease in attendances by the General Public.

Findings :-

During the survey 8 cases of active tuberculosis requiring treatment were discovered, giving a rate of 1.08 per thousand X-rayed, 5 cases of tuberculosis requiring supervision, showing a rate of 0.67 per thousand examined, and 3 cases of bronchial carcinoma, 0.40 per thousand.

It was noted that two of the cases of active tuberculosis requiring treatment were school children and a subsequent contact survey was carried out, when at least two more cases were discovered, but this was treated as a separate survey. Follow-up Xrays will be carried out in 1967 to make sure nothing further has developed.

Thirty-two abnormalities of the Heart and Vascular System were found.

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 the filter beds at "The Nab") with the exception of some properties on the Duxbury Estate, whose water is drawn from the Manchester supply. The water is soft upland surface water, which is chlorinated and treated by the soda ash process prior to distribution.

There were 11,068 houses in the Borough on mains water supply at the end of the year, the remaining 11 being outlying farms and cottages. During the year water supplies were extended to new houses in Great Knowley, Gillibrand Estate, Weldbank Lane and Bagganley Lane Estate.

Weekly bacteriological and periodical chemical analyses are carried out by the Liverpool Corporation who forward copies of the results to the Public Health Department. The results are invariably satisfactory. In addition the Department took eight samples for bacteriological examination and 4 samples for chemical analysis which were found to be generally satisfactory.

Typical results of chemical samples are as follows:-

Source of Sample : Chorley Treated Water.

(a) Physical Examination of water, practically colourless.

(b) Chemical Examination :

Reaction, pH 7.0

Results expressed in parts per million :	
Total Solids in Solution	88
Oxygen absorbed from Permanganate	
in 15 mins.	0.32
in 3 hours	0.64
Ammonia	Nil
Albuminoid Ammonia	0.02
Nitrogen as Nitrates	0.37
Nitrogen as Nitrites	Nil
Combined Chlorine	13
Free Chlorine	Nil
Total Hardness (as Ca CO ₃)	39.5
Carbonate Hardness (as Ca CO ₃)	15
Lead	Nil
Copper	0.05
Zinc	Nil
Total Iron	0.08
Apparent Colour	Practically Colourless

Source of Sample. Manchester Corporation Waterworks.

(a) Physical Examination. Satisfactory.

(b) Chemical Examination.

Reaction pH 7.4

Results expressed in parts per million :-

Total solids in Solution	....	....	....	72
Oxygen dissolved from Permanganate				
in 15 mins.	....	....	....	0.76
in 3 hours	....	....	....	1.44
Ammonia	....	....	....	Nil
Albuminoid Ammonia	....	....	....	0.035
Nitrogen as Nitrates	....	....	....	0.28
Nitrogen as Nitrites	....	....	....	Nil
Combined Chlorine	....	....	....	14
Free Chlorine	....	....	....	0.02
Total Hardness (as Ca CO ₃)	....	....	....	38
Carbonate Hardness (as Ca CO ₃)	....	....	....	16
Lead	....	....	....	Nil
Copper	....	....	....	0.01
Zinc	....	....	....	0.01
Total Iron	....	....	....	0.19

On a number of occasions during the year our attention was drawn to the inadequacy of the water supply to some dwelling houses. This has been indicated by the very low pressure and the fact that several houses share a common service pipe which had become obstructed over the years or in other cases where additional fittings have been provided to the extent that the original pipe became of insufficient size. In these cases the owners of the properties concerned were requested to provide a sufficient supply. This has been accomplished in many cases by running the new service pipe or pipes from the street main, which is a costly item, but the Water Undertaking now agree to bring the main to stop taps on the pavements at their expense, thus encouraging owners to re-lay the pipes for which they are responsible and therefore provide a sufficient supply at a reduced cost.

It is essential that a wholesome and sufficient supply of water is available in the town if a satisfactory standard of health is to be maintained. However, it is interesting to note that the average daily consumption of water per head of population is about 44.1 gallons compared with 43.05 in 1965. (This figure includes mains supplies used for industrial as well as domestic purposes).

Private Supplies — Drinking Water.

11 dwelling houses including 5 farms are on private supplies which are mostly shallow wells or springs. Of four bacteriological samples taken during the year two were unsatisfactory, however, the persons concerned were advised to boil the water prior to using it for human consumption.

2. PUBLIC SWIMMING BATHS

There are two swimming baths in the Borough, the Corporation swimming bath and Hartwood Hall which is a privately owned open air pool. This private pool was closed throughout the whole of the year.

Corporation Baths

The water used is from the Liverpool Corporation mains supply. It is filtered and chlorinated by mechanical means and has proved very satisfactory.

During the year 54 bacteriological samples were taken from the bath and 15 of these proved unsatisfactory, one chemical sample taken was satisfactory. Notwithstanding the unsatisfactory results the general bacteriological standard of the water is very good. It must be appreciated that samples are taken at various intervals when the bath may or may not be in full use thus varying the state of the water.

Hartwood Hall Open Air Pool

The water used is from the Liverpool Corporation mains supply but is only filtered by mechanical means, chlorination is carried out by hand dosing and has proved unsatisfactory. Negotiations were in progress, to secure the provision of an automatic chlorination plant before the pool is again opened to the public, but due to various circumstances these have temporarily ceased.

SEWERAGE

The outlying farms and cottages in the Borough are parts not served by the water carriage system and houses in Euxton Lane, Bolton Road, Wigan Lane and Carr Lane districts are drained to septic tanks, no sewers being available, but the new East Valley Main Drainage Scheme will enable properties in some of these districts to be connected to the main system. During the year 147 new houses were connected to the sewerage system.

Sewage disposal is effected at the Common Bank Works. The scheme for the extension to the Common Bank Disposal works is in the hands of the Consultants and contracts were expected to be put out to tender early in 1967.

Sewerage 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.

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 being implemented to improve and control the situation.

PART 2.

CLEAN AIR.

FOOD AND FOOD PREMISES.

HOUSING.

MISCELLANEOUS DUTIES.

PUBLIC CLEANSING.

PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTION (GENERAL).

by

J. G. KELLY, M.A.P.H.I., M.Inst.M.,

Chief Public Health Inspector

BOROUGH OF CHORLEY

TO THE CHAIRMAN AND MEMBERS OF THE HEALTH COMMITTEE

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I am pleased to present my Annual Report to you for the year ending 31st December, 1966.

The year commenced steadily but became a particularly busy one in all fields covered by the Department. Staff shortages occurred during the summer months when in June, Mr. P. Firth, additional Public Health Inspector was appointed Deputy at Hemsworth U.D.C., Yorks., and a month later Mr. W. F. Swinson, additional Public Health Inspector, was appointed to Fulwood U.D.C. In September Mr. K. W. Tittensor joined the Department from Stafford, followed a month later by Mr. W. J. Thornton from Skipton, Yorks.

Progress with slum clearance was maintained and some long term programming was carried out. The Council's programme for the next five years was laid down and further information was collated concerning the decade after that. This is particularly useful for decisions involving the expected life of properties.

General Inspections under the Offices, Shops and Railway Premises Act were practically completed by the end of the year and routine district work on Food Hygiene, Factories and sampling was co-ordinated.

I am pleased to report an improvement in the Refuse Collection Service which was no doubt due in part to the advantages of the bonus scheme introduced in April. The recommendations of the Working Party on Refuse Collection are expected early in 1967, though it is doubtful, whether from a long term view point the service in Chorley will fall far short of them.

As I have commented upon later in the report there was a significant increase in through put at the abattoir thus enabling it to become self supporting. It is also interesting to note that quite a large proportion of local butchers are now supplied from the premises.

In conclusion, I would like to thank Dr. J. Walker, Medical Officer of Health, my Deputy and all the Staff and Employees of the Department for their keenness and excellent co-operation, the Chief Officers and Heads of all Departments, for

Public Conveniences	....	....	....	....	....	77
Rag Flock Act	....	....	....	....	....	3
Rodent Control	....	....	....	....	....	6
Schools	....	....	....	....	....	12
Shops Act	....	....	....	....	....	—
Swimming Baths	....	....	....	....	....	30
Tents, Caravans etc.	....	....	....	....	....	73
Water Supplies	....	....	....	....	....	91
Workplaces	....	....	....	....	....	—
Offices, Shops and Railway Premises	....	....	....	....	....	239
Health Education	....	....	....	....	....	—
Interviews	....	....	....	....	....	271

1. CLEAN AIR

(a) GENERAL

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.

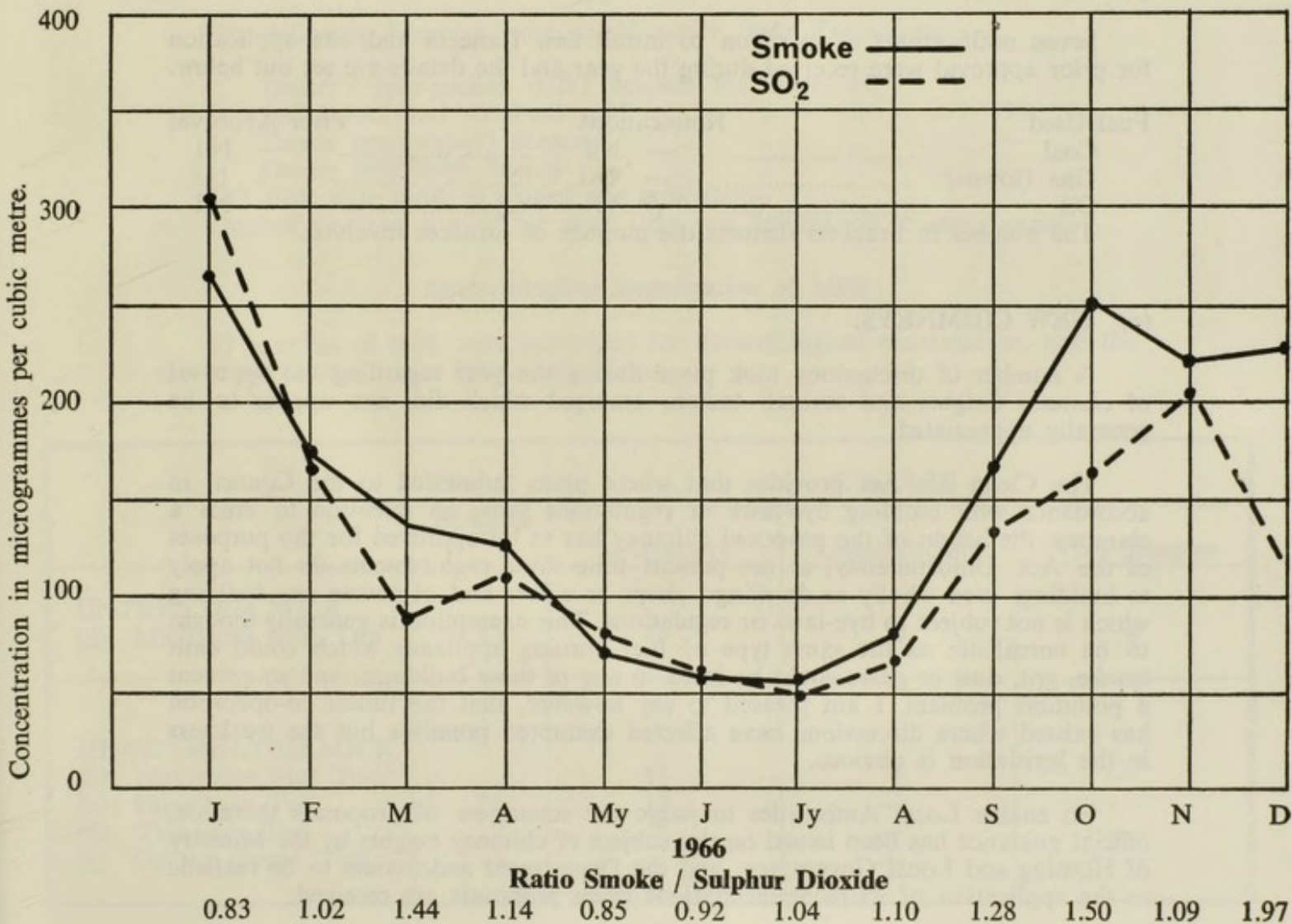
Attention was given to the industrial aspects of clean air and it is pleasing to note a considerable improvement in atmospheric pollution from this source. During the year 14 smoke observations were made and only 4 of these proved unsatisfactory. Some 59 visits were made to industrial premises regarding smoke emission, installation of new plant, alterations or improvements to existing plant and the erection of new chimneys. I am pleased to report the management has been in general very co-operative in this field. Many problems relating to smoke emission are very time consuming and not easily remedied and this sometimes gives complainants the impression that no progress is being made. Problems still exist, however, relating to wood burning furnaces.

The question of smoke control has not yet been fully investigated but with the increase in single-storey development the benefits of reduced domestic smoke have to be seen to be appreciated. The objects of smoke control are to reduce industrial smoke to a practicable minimum and to do away altogether with domestic smoke and activity towards this goal is necessary in any urban area industrial or otherwise.

Clean air and fuel efficiency are, therefore, complimentary and have become basic essentials in the present day world not only in industry but also in the domestic household where improved heating standards are becoming the rule rather than the exception.

(b) INVESTIGATION OF AIR POLLUTION

The Department continues to participate in the Investigation of Air Pollution in co-operation with the Ministry of Technology by an apparatus measuring the average daily amount of smoke and sulphur-dioxide in the air. The following graph shows the average daily values per month for the year 1966.



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 Ministry of Technology, 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 as well as making comparisons between different areas.

(c) INSTALLATION OF NEW FURNACES

Seven notifications of intention to install new furnaces and one application for prior approval were received during the year and the details are set out below.

Fuel Used	Notifications	Prior Approval
Coal	— Nil	— Nil
Gas (towns)	— Nil	1 (1)
Oil	7 (9)	— Nil

The number in brackets denotes the number of furnaces involved.

(d) NEW CHIMNEYS.

A number of discussions took place during the year regarding the approval of chimney heights and several factors emerged which did not appear to be generally appreciated.

The Clean Air Act provides that where plans submitted to the Council in accordance with building bye-laws or regulations show an intention to erect a chimney, the height of the proposed chimney has to be approved for the purposes of the Act. Unfortunately, at the present time these requirements do not apply to buildings used wholly as dwellings, shops or offices and of course any building which is not subject to bye-laws or regulations. This exemption is generally thought to be unrealistic as the same type of fuel burning appliance which could emit smoke, grit, dust or gases could be fitted in any of these buildings, and so present a pollution problem. I am pleased to say however, that the fullest co-operation has existed where discussions have affected exempted premises but the weakness in the legislation is obvious.

To enable Local Authorities to judge the soundness of proposals therefore, official guidance has been issued on the subject of chimney heights by the Ministry of Housing and Local Government and the Department endeavours to be realistic in the application of its recommendations when proposals are received.

2. FOOD CONTROL

(a) 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 Untreated, Pasteurised or Sterilised.

The Milk (Special Designation) Regulations 1963 came fully into force on the 1st October, 1964 revoking the previous regulations. The principal change from the Council's view relates to the use of the new special designation "Untreated" for raw milk, instead of the previous designation "Tuberculin-Tested."

The following Licences were issued under these Regulations :—

Dealer's (pre-packed milk) licences for untreated, pasteurised and sterilised milk	....	...	....	....	96
Dealer (pasteuriser) licence	....	...	....	....	—
Dealer (steriliser) licence	....	....	...	....	—

122 visits were made to dairies and milk shops
Dealers' licences provide for more than one designation in many cases.

Bacteriological Examination of Milk

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

	No. of Samples	RESULTS		
		Satisfactory	Unsatisfactory	Void Samples
UNTREATED MILK (a) Methylene Blue Test	53	43	4	6
HEAT TREATED MILK (b) Methylene Blue Test	} 12	11	1	—
(c) Phosphate Test		12	—	—
(d) Turbidity Test		2	—	—
(e) Colony Count Test		—	—	—

Biological Examination of Milk

Total number of Samples submitted — 53.

Results	Positive	Negative	No result
(a) Tuberculosis	—	43	10
(b) Brucellosis — Ring Test	7	44	2
(c) Brucellosis — Culture Test	2	5	—
(d) Brucellosis — Biological Test	—	44	9

The ring test for Brucellosis is essentially a screening test so it is the practice to subject ring test positive samples to culture in order to confirm the presence of the organisms. In all cases of confirmed brucellosis in milk samples the local authority in whose area the farm is situated is informed so that investigations can be made. The information is also passed to the producer.

Chemical Analysis

39 samples of milk were obtained for analysis under the Food and Drugs Act, 1955 and submitted to the Public Analyst, all the samples were found to be genuine.

(b) Ice Cream

There are 179 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.

Sixteen samples were taken for subjection to the methylene blue reduction test and the provisional grades were satisfactory.

(c) Food Premises

Number and Types of Food Premises

	No. Premises	ESTIMATED		
		Fitted to comply Sec. 16	Sec. 19	
			To which apply	Fitted to comply with
General grocers and provision dealers	132	126	100	87
Greengrocers and fruiterers (including those selling wet fish, game, etc).	14	13	4	3
Fishmongers (including those selling poultry, game, etc).	3	3	3	3
Meat Shops (butchers, purveyors of cooked and preserved meats, tripe, etc).	31	31	31	31
Bakers and/or Confectioners	27	27	27	27
Fried fish shops	22	22	22	22
Shops selling mainly sugar confectionery, minerals, ice-cream etc.	24	20	—	—
Licensed premises, clubs, canteens, restaurants, cafes, snack bars and similar catering establishments	124	120	120	118
Others	9	9	—	—

Number of Food Premises and Hawkers Registered

Section 16, Food and Drugs Act, 1955:—

Ice-Cream premises	179
Potted and preserved food premises....	35

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

Hawker's premises	27
Hawker's	49

General Markets and Cattle Market

The standard of food hygiene on the General Market and Cattle Market continues to remain high. This position is eminently satisfactory when the market generally has a high reputation in the area. All stall holders selling open food sell from built-in stalls provided with all facilities in accordance with the Food Hygiene Regulations.

(d). Food Hygiene.

The routine inspection of food premises continued throughout the year and 42 informal notices were served regarding contraventions of the Food Hygiene Regulations. Whilst it is satisfactory to report a continued improvement in the methods of handling and storage of foods in the great variety of premises in the town, much more has to be done about the insufficiency of storage premises.

The only way to maintain high standards of food hygiene generally is by constant vigilance and no local authority can afford to ignore the importance of this role of the Public Health Inspector.

(e) Food and Drugs Act, 1955.

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

During the year 83 samples were taken and all were found to be genuine with the exception of one sample which contained saccharin without declaration. The following table shows the variety of foods sampled.

Samples found to be genuine

Nescafe Instant Coffee	....	....	....	....	....	1
Pure Essence Flavour (Strawberry)	....	....	....	....	....	1
Marshall's food colour	....	....	....	....	....	4
Pork Sausage	....	....	....	....	....	4
Beef Sausage	....	....	....	....	....	1
Milk Ice	....	....	....	....	....	1
Ice Lollies	....	....	....	....	....	2
Cadbury's Bournville Cocoa	....	....	....	....	....	1
Society Instant Coffee	....	....	....	....	....	1
Whiskey flavoured Marmalade	....	....	....	....	....	1
Jelly Quick Jel	....	....	....	....	....	1
Birds Dream Topping	....	....	....	....	....	1
Armain Cheese Spread	....	....	....	....	....	1
Tin Jersey Cream	....	....	....	....	....	1
Tin Cornish Pastry Filling	....	....	....	....	....	1
Tin Ground Almonds	....	....	....	....	....	1
Ground Coffee	....	....	....	....	....	1
Peeled Potatoes	....	....	....	....	....	1
Sterilised Cream	....	....	....	....	....	1
Instant Coffee	....	....	....	....	....	1
Whitworths Pure Almond Marzipan	....	....	....	....	....	1
Marzipan	....	....	....	....	....	1

Peppermint Flavouring	....	....	....	....	1
Cochineal Extract Colouring	....	....	....	....	1
Groundnut Oil	....	....	....	....	1
Mincemeat	....	....	....	....	1
Christmas Puddings	....	....	....	....	2
Redi-Milk	....	....	....	....	1
Dessicated Coconut	....	....	....	....	1
Spirits	....	....	....	....	7
Milk	....	....	....	....	39
					—
					83
					—

Complaints concerning food

Complaints concerning various foodstuffs showed a slight decrease on the 1965 figure but the public continued to show concern about the quality of food they purchase. It was not found necessary, however, to institute legal proceedings during the year but firm warnings were given in a number of cases, listed below.

In all cases a thorough investigation was carried out, often involving the co-operation of Public Health Inspectors in other towns, before a complete picture could be presented. All too often it was impossible on the evidence offered, to pin-point the blame. Investigation of all food complaints, however trivial, must be pursued with the utmost diligence at all times. The resultant visits and investigations do, I feel, have some value in that food handlers are made to realise the trouble and inconvenience caused to many people by one careless act.

Article	Nature of Complaint	Action
Bottle of Milk	Foreign Body	Firm concerned warned
Loaf of Bread	Brown discolouration	Manufacturerer warned
Bottle of Milk	Foreign Body	Firm concerned warned
Swiss Slice	Mouldy	Firm concerned warned
Piccallili	Foreign Body	Firm concerned warned

(f) Liquid Egg (Pasteurisation) Regulations, 1963

- (i) No. of egg pasteurisation plants in district at end of year — None.
- (ii) No. of samples of liquid egg submitted to Alpha-Amglaze test and their results None

(g) Public Slaughterhouse and Meat Inspection.

All slaughtering of animals for human consumption is carried out at the Council's Public Abattoir, there being no private slaughterhouses in the Borough.

It will be noted from the table that there was a considerable increase in the number of animals slaughtered compared with 1965, which resulted in the necessity for stricter management and supervision. The maintenance of equipment was stepped up and kept at a high level of efficiency and of course meat inspection duties were also greatly increased. During part of the summer due to staff shortage my Deputy and myself completely covered these duties in addition to other departmental responsibilities. It was necessary to increase the manual staff during the year and it now consists of one abattoir caretaker and three labourers. The labour turnover however is high.

I am again pleased to report that 100% meat inspection was maintained throughout the whole of the year, although regular overtime by Public Health Inspectors was necessary to ensure that the Meat Inspection Regulations were complied with.

The Public Abattoir has been made to comply with the Regulations with the exception of certain items of repair and maintenance which still require attention.

Slaughter of Animals Act, 1958.

12 slaughtermen's licences were issued during the year.

Animals Slaughtered and Inspected.

	Cattle Excl. Cows	Cows	Calves	Sheep	Pigs
Number killed	3568	5113	59	20671	2364
Number inspected	3568	5113	59	20671	2364
All diseases except Tuberculosis and Cysticercosis — Whole carcasses condemned	—	4	3	4	11
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	374	1342	3	1210	147
Percentage of the number inspected affected with disease other than Tuberculosis and Cysticercosis	10.5	26.2	5.1	5.9	6.2
Tuberculosis only — Whole carcasses condemned	—	—	—	—	—
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	—	1	—	—	15
Percentage of number inspected affected with Tuberculosis	—	0.02	—	—	0.6
Cysticercosis — Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	4	13	—	—	—
Carcasses submitted to treatment by refrigeration	4	3	—	—	—
Generalised and totally condemned	—	—	—	—	—

Disposal of Condemned Meat and Offal

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

51,972 lbs. of meat and offal were disposed of in this way from the Abattoir plus 1,932 lbs. of home killed or imported meat from retail shops.

(h) Inspection of Other Foods

Type of Food		Qty. Condemned (lbs.)				
Luncheon Meat	(Canned)	....	....	....	....	80
Ham	(Canned)	....	....	....	....	7509
Tongue	(Canned)	....	....	....	....	185
Corned Beef	(Canned)	....	....	....	....	127
Pork		....	....	....	....	1358
Beef		....	....	....	....	547
Lamb		....	....	....	....	27
Kidneys		....	....	....	....	12
Fish		....	....	....	....	71
Fruit		....	....	....	....	258
Cheese		....	....	....	....	10
Vegetables		....	....	....	....	3743
Chicken		....	....	....	....	11
Jam		....	....	....	....	6
Tins, packets of other foods (including frozen foods)						3,419 in number.

(j) Poultry Inspection.

(i) No. of poultry processing premises within the district	NIL
(ii) No. of visits to these premises	.... NIL
(iii) Total No. of birds processed during the year —
(iv) Types of birds processed —
(v) Percentage of birds rejected as unfit for human consumption —
(vi) Weight of poultry condemned as unfit for human consumption —

(vii) Comments on poultry processing and inspection. Two premises within the district slaughter and pluck poultry only. No evisceration takes place. Hence these are not included in the "processing" table above.

HOUSING

(a) General

The main type of house in the Borough is a terraced type with either 4 or 5 habitable rooms. The common defects concern roofs, walls, gutters, windows, and the absence of damp-proof courses. These defects are very liable to produce excessive dampness. In spite of the efforts made by informal and statutory action the number of sub-standard houses remains relatively high, although it is estimated that the proportion likely to become unfit over the next decade is about 6%.

It is important to note that the figures given for displaced persons in the tables that follow bear no relation to the number of persons rehoused by the Corporation as a whole. The figures concern only houses in respect of which action has been taken under the Housing Act 1957 Parts II and III.

During the year 13 individual houses were represented as unfit for human habitation under the Housing Act, 1957 and 26 houses were officially represented in the following clearance areas:- Astley Street, Gaskell Street, and Nichol Street.

The total number of houses erected or otherwise acquired by the Council up to the end of 1966 was 2,263.

(b) Clearance Areas and Individual Unfit Houses Demolished

Clearance Areas

	Houses Demolished	Persons Displaced
Houses Unfit for Human Habitation	35	63
Houses on land acquired under Sec. 43(2)	—	—

Not in Clearance Areas

	Houses Demolished	Persons Displaced
As a result of formal or informal procedure under Section 17, Housing Act 1957	1	1
Local Authority owned houses certified unfit	—	—

(c) Unfit Houses Closed

	Houses Closed	Persons Displaced
Under Section 16 Housing Act 1957	6	16
Parts of buildings closed under Section 18 Housing Act 1957	—	—

(d) No. of new houses erected during the year

(1) By the Local Authority	46
(2) By other bodies or persons	101

(e) Particulars of Housing Schemes

- (i) In hand at end of the year.
- 25 Flatlets Weldbank Lane North.
 - 60 Dwellings Weldbank Lane North Sec. 1.
 - 62 Dwellings Weldbank Lane Section 2.
 - 4 Bungalows Eaves Lane C.A.C.P. No. 1.

(ii) Contemplated

- 4 Flats, Eaves Lane Site.
- 14 Flats, Gaskell Street Re-development Site.
- 6 Flats, Tootell Street Site.
- 4 Flats, Moor Road Site.
- 34 Flats, Black Horse Street Site.

(f) Inspection of Dwelling-houses during the Year

- (1) (a) Total No. of dwelling-houses inspected formally or informally for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts). 572
- (b) No. of inspections, formal or informal, made for the purpose 1406
- (c) No. of dwelling-houses in (a) above found to be not in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation but capable of being rendered fit. 286
- (2) Total No. of dwelling-houses existing at end of year which were unfit for human habitation and not capable at reasonable expense of being rendered fit and in respect of which :-

(a) Demolition, Clearance or Closing Orders have been made (at any time) 38

(b) Demolition Clearance or Closing Orders have not yet been made 160

(g) 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 276

(h) Action under Statutory Powers during the Year

A. Proceedings under Section 9, and 16 of the 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 —

(b) by Local Authority in default of owners —

B. Proceedings under the Public Health Act.

(1) No. of dwelling houses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied 49

(2) No. of dwelling-houses in which defects were remedied

(a) by Owners 35

(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 —

(2) No. of dwelling-houses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders 36

- (3) No. of dwelling-houses in respect of which undertakings have been received and accepted 6

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

(i) **Housing Act, 1949 and Housing (Financial Provisions) Act, 1958 —**

Improvement Grants etc.:—

Action During Year:—	No. of Schemes	Private Bodies or Individuals	No. of Schemes	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	5	5	—	—
(b) Approved by Local Authority	4	4	—	—
(c) Submitted by Local Authority to Ministry	—	—	—	—
(d) Finally approved by Ministry	—	—	—	—
(e) Work Completed	3	3	—	—
(f) Additional separate dwellings included in (a) above	—	—	—	—

(j) **House Purchase and Housing Act 1959 — Standard Grants:**—

- (a) Applications submitted to Local Authority 59
- Applications approved by Local Authority 53
- (c) Work completed 56

(k) Rent Act 1957

No. of applications for certificates of disrepair	....	....	....	1
Certificates of disrepair issued	....			1
Certificates of disrepair cancelled				—
Undertakings given	....	....		—

(l) Houses in Multiple Occupation

9 houses were found to be used or intended to be used for multiple occupation during the year and all of these were inspected for the purposes of the Housing Act, 1961.

So far preliminary notices have been served under Section 15 and 16 of the Act and co-operation with owners of the properties involved has been generally good.

It is estimated that of the 22 properties known to be in multiple occupation the detail regarding separate occupancies is as follows :-

No. of separate occupancies	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
No. of houses involved	5	2	1	1	2	-	9	2

(m) Prosecutions — None.

4. PUBLIC HEALTH GENERAL**(a) Offices, Shops and Railway Premises Act, 1963****(1) Introduction.**

The Offices, Shops and Railway Premises Act, 1963 makes provision for the health, welfare and safety of persons employed in these types of premises. Its requirements are very similar to those of the Factories Act and include provisions relating to cleanliness, overcrowding, temperature, ventilation, lighting, sanitary conveniences, washing facilities, drinking water, seats, safety of machinery, first aid and fire precautions.

The Act became fully operative on the 1st September, 1965 with the exception of Section 51 relating to covered markets.

This report relates to the work carried out by the Borough Council acting as the Local Authority in offices and shops where it has enforcement responsibilities. The requirements regarding fire precautions in these premises are dealt with by the Lancashire County Council acting as the Fire Authority. Offices and shops within the curtilage of factories, and railway premises in the vicinity of the permanent way are the responsibility of H.M. Factory Inspectorate.

(2) Registration of Premises

Table A below shows the number of registrations made since the Notification of Employment of Persons Order 1964 became operative. This Order required employers of persons already employed in offices, shops and railway premises on 31st July, 1963 to register those premises between 1st May and 31st July, 1964, and also requires employers intending to employ persons after that date to register with the appropriate authority. Notifications must be made on the prescribed form O.S.R.1., copies of which may be obtained from the Public Health Department.

Class of Premises	Number of Premises Registered			No. General Inspections made
	1964 and 1965	1966	Total to 31.12.66	
Offices	75	3	78	36
Retail Shops	155	10	165	123
Wholesale Premises and Warehouses	11	—	11	8
Catering Establishment and Canteens	11	—	11	12
Fuel Storage Depots	—	—	—	—
Total	252	13	265	179

TABLE A

The number of premises registered to date totals 265 and is thus the total number requiring registration as far as is known. Whilst this figure may seem low in comparison with the number of these types of premises in the town, it must be stressed that a large proportion of these are wholly family concerns and as such are not registrable under the Act. However the employment of one person who is not a close relative on these premises may bring the whole premises within the scope of the Act.

General Inspections

I am pleased to report that practically all the registrable premises had received a general inspection by the end of the year. The inspections are carried out by districts in a routine manner so that employers of registrable premises who have not notified the Council on the prescribed form are advised to do so without delay.

(4) Visits of all kinds

A total of 239 visits of all kinds was made by inspectors to registered premises during the year.

(5) Analysis of persons employed

An analysis of the persons employed in registered premises by the class of workplace is given in Table C below :-

Class of Workplace	Number of persons employed
Offices	454
Retail Shops	431
Wholesale Depts.	
Warehouses	53
Catering Estabs. open to the Public	33
Canteens	6
Fuel Storage Depots	—
Total	977
Total Males	424
Total Females	553

(6) Exemptions

No applications for exemptions from either Section 5 (2) (Space), Section 6 (Temperature), Section 9 (Sanitary Conveniences) or Section 10 (Washing facilities) were made during the year.

(7) Contraventions found

In the course of the general inspections carried out it was necessary to serve 110 informal notices in respect of contraventions found and a summary of these is given in the table below. The following factors however were borne in mind :-

(a) The provisions for overcrowding in premises which were used for purposes covered by the Act on 31st July 1963 do not come into operation until 1st August, 1967: and

(b) The provisions relating to Sanitary Conveniences and Washing Facilities came into operation on 1st January, 1966.

Contraventions Table

Contravention	Offices	Retail Shops	Wholesale D & Warehss.	Cat. Ests. & Cants.	Fuel St. Depots	Total
Cleanliness (Sec. 4).	2	3	—	—	—	5
Overcrowding (Sec. 5).	—	1	—	—	—	1
Temperature (Sec. 6).	2	15	—	—	—	17
" Thermomtrs	12	50	—	5	—	67
Ventilation (Sec. 7).	11	7	—	—	—	18
Lighting (Sec. 8).	7	8	—	—	—	15
Sanitary Conveniences (Sec. 9).	16	73	2	4	—	95
Washing Facilities (Sec. 10).	8	44	—	1	—	53
Drinking Water (Sec. 11).	1	1	—	—	—	2
Acc. for Clothing (Sec. 12).	2	6	—	1	—	9
Sitting Facils. (Sec. 13).	—	3	—	—	—	3
Seats for Sed. wkrs. (Sec. 14).	1	—	—	—	—	1
Eating Facils. (Sec. 15).	—	4	—	—	—	4
Floors, Passgs. and Stairs (Sec. 16).	5	45	—	1	—	51
Safety of Machinery (Sec. 17).	—	3	—	—	—	3
First Aid (Sec. 25).	12	33	1	3	—	49
Info. for Employees (Sec. 50).	14	54	1	6	—	75

Prosecutions

No prosecutions were instituted during the year.

(b) Factories Act 1961**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.	56	3	—	—
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority.	185	49	9	—
(iii) Other Premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding out workers premises).	4	—	—	—
TOTAL	245	52	9	—

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)	—	—	—	—	—
Overcrowding (S.2)	—	—	—	—	—
Unreasonable temperature (S.3)	—	—	—	—	—
Inadequate ventilation (S.4)	—	—	—	—	—
Ineffective drainage of floors (S.6)	—	—	—	—	—
Sanitary Conveniences (S.7)					
(a) Insufficient	—	—	—	—	—
(b) Unsuitable or defective	9	2	—	—	—
(c) Not separate for sexes	—	—	—	—	—
Other offences against the Act (not including offences relating to outworkers)	—	—	—	—	—
TOTAL	9	2	—	—	—

(c) Offensive Trades

There are two premises registered for the purpose of carrying on trade classified as "offensive," under the Public Health Act, 1936 namely tripe dressing (one) and gut scraping (one). The premises are regularly inspected to ensure that the bye-laws referring to them are complied with.

(d) Movable 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.

(e) Rodent Control

Apart from the enormous amount of damage caused by rodents to foodstuffs, 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.

Properties other than Sewers

1. Number of properties in district
2. (a) Total number of properties (including nearby premises) inspected following notification.
 - (b) Number infested by (i) Rats
 - (ii) Mice
3. (a) Total number of properties inspected for rats and/or mice for reasons other than notification.
 - (b) Number infested by (i) Rats
 - (ii) Mice

Type of Property	
Non-Agricultural	Agricultural
12818	20
340	4
288	4
52	—
160	16
5	1
4	—

(f) Disinfestation**Vermin**

Infestations of bed bugs or fleas are now a rare occurrence but it was found necessary to disinfest 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.

(g) 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 (Infants')
5. „ Parochial (Junior)
5. „ Parochial (Infants')
6. „ Sacred Heart R.C. (Junior and Infants')
7. „ St. George's C.E. (Junior and Infants')
8. „ St. James C.E. (Junior)
8. „ St. James' C.E. (Infants')
9. „ St. Joseph's R.C. (Junior and Infants)
11. „ St. Mary's R.C. (Junior)
11. „ St. Mary's R.C. (Infants')
12. „ St. Peter's C.E. (Junior)
12. „ St. Peter's C.E. (Infants')
13. „ St. Gregory's R.C. (Junior)
14. „ St. Gregory's R.C. (Infants')
101. „ Southlands County Secondary
104. „ St. Augustine's R.C. Secondary (Boys')
105. „ St. Alban's C.E. Secondary
107. „ St. Michael's C. E. Secondary
108. „ St. Hilda's R.C. Secondary (Girls).
130. „ Grammar, Southport Road
150. „ Highfield Nursery School
151. „ Duke Street Nursery School
200. „ Astley Park School

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

(h) Sanitary Accommodation

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

Privy Middens	....	....	....	....	....	....	11
Closets attached to above middens				....	....	....	15
Pail closets	....	....	....	....	....	....	25
Waste water closets		....	....	....	....	....	291
Water closets	....	....	....	....	....	....	11717

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, 19 having been converted to water closets.

(i) Drainage

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. A total of 908 stoppages being cleared in the year.

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.

(j) Infectious Diseases and Food Poisoning

Whenever necessary routine enquiries were made concerning all notified cases of infectious diseases and food poisoning, necessitating 189 visits.

It is regretted that two outbreaks of suspected food poisoning occurred during the year in hospitals in the Borough and although only one was actually notified as such, both would appear to have been attributable to C1. Welchii and involved

slow cooling and re-heating of meat. I think it indeed fortunate that so few outbreaks of this nature occur having regard to what is in fact a mal-practice, that of pre-cooking meals in many catering establishments without effectual provision being made for adequate cooling and storage.

Disinfection of 2 houses was carried out following cases of infectious diseases.

(k) Noise

Complaints concerning noise during the year entailed 111 visits being made to investigate the source and cause. These visits usually take considerable time and many have to be carried out outside normal working hours particularly at night. The problems encountered require thorough investigation by the department and the firms concerned, so that the most effective way of reducing the noise can be decided without reducing the efficiency of the plant. This is a compromise which is most difficult to achieve and very often the improvement secured seemed very small to the complainants, who are only satisfied by the complete elimination of the sound.

Many difficulties experienced in Chorley arise either because noisy plant is carelessly sited within works or dwellings are erected adjacent to works where noisy operations are carried out. Much could be done therefore, by careful planning so that these problems do not occur in the future.

5. MISCELLANEOUS DUTIES

(a) 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

2 Licences were issued and 139 Licences from outside sources checked. 11 Special Orders received and checked.

Fowl Pest

No Movement Licences were issued. No outbreaks occurred in the Borough.

Foot and Mouth Disease

Nine special orders were received.

Importation of Animals Act

No Licences issued, 44 from outside sources checked.

Transit of Animals Order

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

No notices prohibiting movement of bovine animals were received.

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. Only one licence is in force in the Borough.

(b) Shops Act, 1950

The enforcement of the provisions of the Act relating to closing hours, Sunday trading, and the employment of young persons, is the responsibility of the Department. The health, safety and welfare of shop employees is now covered by the Offices, Shops and Railway Premises Act 1963 which is reported on earlier in this Report.

(c) 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 3 inspections were made during the year.

(d) Heating Appliances (Fireguard) 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.

(e) 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. 4 licences have now been issued.

PUBLIC CLEANSING**(a) Refuse Collection****Vehicles :-**

The following diesel-engined vehicles comprise the fleet engaged in Refuse Collection :-

- Three (1 spare) Karrier Bantam 7 cu. yd. side loaders
- One Karrier Bantam 10 cu. yd. side loader
- One Karrier Bantam 12 cu. yd. dual tip
- Two Karrier Ramillies 20 cu. yd. rear loading compression vehicles

Because of the changing nature of house refuse and the pattern of house development in the area it has become necessary to embark on a programme of vehicle replacement to provide those of larger capacity and of the rear loading compression type. The maximum vehicle size is restricted however at the present time by the large number of narrow passage ways throughout the town which dictate vehicle types having a small wheelbase.

The Karrier Ramillies 20 cu. yd. vehicle is therefore the first of this type to be brought into service to Chorley and the second was brought into service in September. Its increased capacity has resulted in a saving of lost time on tip runs and it is safer and easier for those employed on loading. From the public viewpoint it is comparatively dust free as no trimming of refuse is necessary and the contents are fully protected from the wind and rain.

Labour

The establishment at present provides for 27 men including drivers to be employed on refuse collection, made up as follows :-

- 4 teams of one driver and four collectors.
- 1 team of one driver and three collectors.
- 1 team of one driver/loader and one collector.
(one spare man).

It will be seen from the table at the end of this report that the degree of absenteeism was much improved on the figure for 1965, particularly from March onwards, and whilst there was still a high turnover of employees the position appeared to be getting more stable.

As the service of refuse collection in any town is all important and one which is under daily scrutiny by the rate payers it must be of the highest calibre. The number of premises to be served in Chorley is increasing steadily accompanied by the factor relating to the length of carry. For example to replace a block of old terraced houses by the same number of detached or semi-detached properties increases the time involved on collection and therefore the effort involved to maintain the service.

Bonus Scheme

I am pleased to report that the bonus scheme introduced in April was well received and my thanks are due to all who have contributed to its success in achieving its main objects, namely the incentive to increased efficiency and quality of service. A weekly collection has been maintained since its introduction and the quick return to normal after holidays has been gratifying.

(b) 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 twelve preliminary notices were served on the persons responsible to provide dust bins and in only five cases was it necessary to serve statutory notices to secure the provision of a suitable dust bin.

Galvanised Dustbins to BSS 792/1947 2½ cu. ft. capacity with noiseless Rubbertex lids are purchased for resale to the public and with reasonable use should have an average life of 10 years. During 1966 the following bins were sold:-

B.S.S. Rubbertex Lids 296 @ 40/-

(c) Refuse Disposal and Salvage

All refuse is disposed of by controlled tipping at Lawnwood, where the salvage depot is also situated. Five men are engaged in this work as follows:—

- 1 Tractor driver
- 2 Tip men
- 2 Paper salvage balers

An International B.100 Loader was employed during the whole of the year.

Lawnwood Tip which was first commenced in 1957 was nearing completion by the end of the year and expected only to last a few months of 1967. Much effort was made during the period to extend its expected life due to the difficulty of finding suitable alternative sites in the Borough. However, notwithstanding my general opinion concerning the necessity for refuse disposal plant erected either by ourselves or jointly with other Local Authorities, I am pleased to report that arrangements are in hand for a future tipping site which should cater for the next few critical years in which the whole of this area may be re-organised. I must add however that even with refuse disposal plant, land is required for the satisfactory disposal of residues etc., but of course this is usually of an entirely different character to house refuse.

There was a decreased income from the sale of waste paper during the year. this being the only commodity salvaged by the Department. The sale of this material secured a gross income of £1,774 out of which £343 was distributed in the form of an incentive bonus amongst the collection and disposal staff. The price for mixed paper was £8/15/0d. per ton.

It is hoped that with the large capacity trailers being purchased to replace the old models this section can be built up to become self supporting. The important factor however, in my opinion, is the relief of expensive tipping space which the salvage of paper allows.

(d) Protective Clothing and Welfare

All employees are issued with overalls and in April, 1961 a laundering service for them was commenced, so that the men could hand in a dirty pair of

overalls at the end of each week and collect a clean pair. Despite the obvious advantages of this system to the men the majority have continued to have their own overalls washed at home. Few make regular use of the laundering service.

In addition to overalls and waterproof clothing, gloves and goggles are issued to refuse collectors if requested, and rubber boots and donkey jackets are issued to men employed on the tip.

All men engaged on refuse collection are allowed free use of the slipper bath facilities at the Public Baths

(e) Street Cleansing

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

(f) Public Conveniences

There were 11 public conveniences under the control of the Department but this figure was reduced to 9 after the Eaves Lane Conveniences had been demolished later in the year. They were cleaned and maintained by a staff of 2 males (full-time) 1 male (part-time) and 1 female (full-time) and 2 females (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, but certain improvements to existing conveniences are carried out time to time but it is difficult to produce a good image with old and unsatisfactorily-sited buildings. The recently erected market conveniences, however are well equipped, with wash and brush-up and free hand washing facilities and the premises in general are well used.

Regretfully, it must be recorded that damage to locks, fittings and buildings was again prevalent throughout the year. However, the manufacturing industry have now concentrated on near vandal-proof installations, which combined with new planning and design should ensure that future conveniences are less liable to human frailties.

(g) Refuse Collection and Disposal 1966
Monthly Statistics of Time Lost Due to Sickness, Accidents and Casual Absence.

	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	Jun.	July	Aug.	Sep.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.
No. Working Days in month.	21	20	23	19	21	22	21	23	22	21	22	21
Possible No. man/days per month	714½	659	759	627	682	704	662	736	689	683	697	684
Average strength of section	34.0	33.0	33.0	33.0	32.5	32.0	31.5	32.0	31.3	32.5	31.7	32.6

Days lost due to

(a) Sickness/Accident	77	77	25	26	28	26	22	30	28	67	54	31
(b) Casual Absence	34.0	17	9	3	10	11	14	22	8	8	35	12

57

Percentage Loss due to

(a) Sickness/Accident %	10.8	11.6	3.3	4.1	4.1	3.7	3.3	4.1	4.1	9.8	7.7	4.5
(b) Casual Absence	4.8	2.6	1.2	0.5	1.5	1.6	2.1	3.0	1.1	1.2	5.0	1.8
Percentage Total Loss %	15.6	14.2	4.5	4.6	5.6	5.3	5.4	7.1	5.2	11.0	12.7	6.3

Average Strength of Section	....	32.4	Average monthly loss %									
Established Strength	....	32	(a) Sickness/Accident									
	....	32	(b) Casual Absence									
	....	32	Total									
	....	32	5.9									
	....	32	2.2									
	....	32	8.1									

... of the ... of ... and ...

In addition to ...

All ...

The ...

Public ...

... of ...

... of ...

... of ...

