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BOROUGH OF CHORLEY

ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

Medical Officer of Health

AND


Chief Public Health Inspector

FOR THE YEAR

1968







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BOROUGH OF CHORLEY

MEMBERS OF THE COUNCIL

1968

The Worhsipful The Mayor, Councillor W. Bleasdale

Alderman	W. CORCORAN	Alderman	W. RAWCLIFFE
"	D. DUNN	"	G.R. RIGBY
"	W. LOWE	"	W. WILCOCK
"	Mrs. C.M. MONKS	"	Miss A. FORSHAW
Councillor	J. AINSCOW	Councillor	M.C. LAMB
"	Mrs. M. AINSWORTH	"	J.A. LUCAS
"	A. BARNES	"	J.C. MCGINTY
"	Mrs. M.M. BLACKBURN	"	B.J. PILKINGTON
"	P.H. CRAIG	"	Mrs. B.J. RIGBY
"	H.V. DAVIES	"	R.H. RIGBY
"	W. FINCH	"	T. ROWLANDSON
"	J GLYNN	"	D.E.R. SEABROOK
"	W. HEAP	"	I. SELLERS
"	A HIGGINSON	"	T.C. SHORROCK
"	Mrs. G.E. HOBAN	"	M.A. THOMPSON
"	J. HODSON		

Chairman of the Health Committee:

Alderman 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:

J. L. FEAR, M.A.P.H.I. (a) (b) (from February 1968)

Additional Public Health Inspectors:

F. MYERS, M.A.P.H.I.,
K.W. TITTENSOR, M.A.P.H.I., (b) (d)
W.J. THORNTON, M.A.P.H.I., (d)

- (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 K. GARDINER.

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 1968.

In accordance with my usual practice 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 1968 was, according to the Registrar General's estimate, 31,100. This, rather surprisingly is 70 fewer than the estimate for mid 1967. The number of live births assignable to the Borough was 516 of which 248 were males and 268 were females and of the total 35 (the same number as in the previous year) were illegitimate. The number of live births in the previous year was 559 so that there were 43 fewer births in the past year. The crude birth rate for the year 1968 was 16.6 (adjusted 17.8) per 1,000 estimated population whilst the birth rates for England and Wales and the County of Lancaster were 16.9 and 17.32 (adjusted 17.84) respectively. The ratio of the Borough's adjusted birth rate to the national rate was 1.05.

The number of deaths assigned to the Borough for the year 1968 was 410 which is 34 fewer than in the previous year. The crude death rate for the Borough was 13.2 (adjusted 13.5) per 1,000 estimated population. The death rate for the country as a whole and for Lancashire were 11.9 and 12.28 (adjusted 13.26) respectively. The ratio of the Borough's adjusted death rate to the national rate was 1.13.

The Registrar General provides a table giving the causes of death in age groups and this table is reproduced in the Report. The International Classification of Diseases and Causes of Death has been revised and the table uses the new classification which makes an accurate comparison with the previous years figures difficult in some instances. It will be seen from the table, however that of the total 410 deaths, 171 were persons 75 years of age or over and a further 115 were between 65 and 75 years of age. These two groups account for 70% of the deaths in the Borough during the year.

In regard to causes of death during 1968 one finds that heart diseases as usual caused the greatest number, 162 as compared with 140 in the previous year. Of these 133 were classified as due to Ischaemic Heart Disease (Coronary Disease) which is 35 more than in 1967. Next to heart disease as a cause of death comes malignant diseases with a total of 66 which represents a reduction of 5. This gives a death rate from Cancer for the Borough of 2.1 per 1,000 population as compared with the national figure of 2.3. A close third in regard to frequency is cerebro-vascular disease (strokes) with 65 as compared with 78. Respiratory diseases accounted for 47 in the past year, the corresponding number in 1967 being 64. The number of infants who died before reaching one year of age was 9 which is a reduction of 2 from the previous year's figures. The Infantile Mortality Rate for the Borough was, therefore, 17 per 1,000 live births. The corresponding figure for England and Wales and Lancashire was 18 and 19.4 respectively. It is pleasing to note that once again there were no deaths in 1968 attributable to child-birth or abortion, there have been no such deaths since 1958. As in the previous year tuberculosis was responsible for only one death - a man over 65 years of age. All in all I feel that it should be said on this occasion that the Vital Statistics for the Borough are favourable but when dealing with relatively small figures compared with those for the country as a whole one must expect fluctuations both favourable and otherwise. The present trend, however, is encouraging and I think that tribute should be paid to the Medical and Nursing profession and to those responsible for the general improvement in environmental conditions.

Regarding the incidence of infectious disease it is found that the total number of notifications was 398 including two cases of tuberculosis as compared with 422 including 5 cases of tuberculosis in 1967. It must be noted however, that these two figures are not strictly comparable as certain important changes were made regarding notifications procedure, in the list of notifiable diseases and in the provisions applicable to each disease. These changes were brought about by the coming into operation of the Public Health (Infective Jaundice) Regulations 1968, on 15th June, 1968, and the Health Services and Public Health Act 1968 (Part III) and the Public Health (Infectious Diseases) Regulations 1968, on 1st October, 1968. Measles accounted for 325 of the 398 notifications received during the year. In this connection, attention must be drawn to the introduction of a general scheme of Vaccination against measles during the year.

Vaccination against measles involves only one injection and is available from general medical practitioners, child welfare centres and school clinics for children 1-15 years of age. Parents are urged to take advantage of this protection for children who have not had measles but it must be stressed that vaccination and immunisation against smallpox, diphtheria, poliomyelitis, tetanus and whooping cough are still as virtually important as ever.

Housing conditions in the Borough continue to improve as a result of the repair and clearance of unfit dwellings and the erection of new ones. Two small clearance areas comprising 36 houses were officially represented and a further 11 individual houses were dealt with as unfit for human habitation. A total of 199 new dwellings were completed during the year comprising 56 by the Council and 143 by private enterprise.

The Council's scheme of flatlets for the elderly who are under the supervision of a resident warden is proving so beneficial that it is expected that another scheme of a similar kind will be commenced early in 1969.

Reference must be made once again to the problem of atmospheric pollution from domestic premises. There seems to be a growing awareness amongst the public of the benefits to be derived from a smoke control policy. Financial considerations, however, seem always to stand in the way of the necessary progress being made. As Medical Officer of Health, however, I feel that I would be failing in my duty if I did not continue to press the Council to face up to its responsibilities under the Clean Air Act of 1956.

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 modernisation and extension of the Common Bank Sewage Disposal Works continued during the year and may be completed sometime in 1969.

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 part of the parishes of Euxton and Heath Charnock. The Borough has been included in the proposals for the New City of Central Lancashire.

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 in the centre of the town are of the terraced type and there are several municipal housing estates, but much new housing development has taken place in recent years. 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, manufacture of floor coverings, laundries and the assembly of telecommunication equipment. A large proportion of female labour is normally employed.

VITAL STATISTICS

The following is a summary of the principal statistics for the years 1967 and 1968.

	1967	1968
Population (estimated)	31,170	31,100
Number of Deaths (corrected)	444	410
Death Rate (per 1,000 population)	14.2	13.2
Live Births	559	516
Live Birth Rate (per 1,000 population)	17.9	16.6
Still-births	5	9.0
Still-births (per 1,000 live and still births)	9.0	17.0
Total live and still births	564	525
Infant deaths (deaths under 1 year)	11	9
Infant mortality rate per 1,000 live births total	20.0	17.0
Infant mortality rate per 1,000 live births ...		
legitimate	18.0	17.0
Infant mortality rate per 1,000 live births ...		
illegitimate	2.0	-
Neo Natal Infant Mortality Rate per 1,000 live		
births (first-four weeks)	13.0	12.0
Early Neo-Natal Mortality Rate per 1,000 live		
births (under one week)	11.0	10.0
Perinatal Mortality Rate (Still-births and deaths		
under 1 week combined per 1,000 live and still-		
births)	20.0	27.0
Illegitimate live births per cent of total live		
births	6.3	6.8
Maternal deaths (including abortion)	-	-
Maternal mortality rate per 1,000 live and still		
births	-	-
Number of deaths from Respiratory Tuberculosis	1	1
Death Rate per 1,000 population from Respiratory		
Tuberculosis	0.03	0.03
Number of Deaths from all forms of Tuberculosis	1	1
Death Rate per 1,000 population from		
all forms of Tuberculosis	0.03	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)	11,114	11,131
Rateable Value of the Borough	£988,214	£1,014,577
Product of 1d Rate	£3,800	£3,999

CAUSE OF DEATH	Sex	Total All Ages	Under 4 wks.	4 wks. and under 1 year	AGE IN YEARS								
					1-5	5-15	15-25	25-35	35-45	45-55	55-65	65-75 and over	
B4 Enteritis and other Diarrhoeal Diseases	M F	- 1	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- 1	- -
B5 Tuberculosis of Respiratory System	M F	1 -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	1 -	- -
B18 Other Infective and Parasitic Diseases	M F	- 1	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- 1
B19 (1) Malignant Neoplasm - Stomach	M F	4 9	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- 2	1 -	2 2	1 5
B19 (2) Malignant Neoplasm - Lung, Bronchus	M F	15 1	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	1 -	2 -	8 -	3 -	1 1
B19 (3) Malignant Neoplasm - Breast	M F	- 5	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- 3
B19 (4) Malignant Neoplasm - Uterus	F	5	-	-	-	-	-	1	2	1	-	-	1
B19 (5) Leukaemia	M F	1 2	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- 1	- 1	1 1	- -
B19 (6) Other Malignant Neoplasms Etc.	M F	12 12	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- 1	1 -	4 2	4 4	1 -	3 5
B20 Benign and Unspecified Neoplasms	M F	2 -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	1 -	1 -
B21 Diabetes Mellitus	M F	- 4	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- 3	- 1
B46 (1) Other Endocrine etc. Diseases	M F	2 -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -
B23 Anaemias	M F	- 1	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- 1

CAUSE OF DEATH	Sex	Total All Ages	Under 4 wks.	4 wks. and 1 yr.	1-5	5-15	15-25	25-35	35-45	45-55	55-65	65-75
B26 Chronic Rheumatic Heart Disease	M F	3 5	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	1 1	- 2	1 -	1 2
B27 Hypertensive Disease	M F	- 5	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	1 -	- -	- 4
B28 Ischaemic Heart Disease	M F	76 57	- -	- -	- -	- -	3 -	3 1	6 5	19 5	25 16	20 30
B29 Other Forms of Heart Disease	M F	5 11	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	1 -	1 1	3 10
B30 Cerebrovascular Disease	M F	16 49	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	1 4	3 3	3 14	9 28
B46 (5) Other Diseases of Circulatory System	M F	9 6	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	1 -	- -	2 -	4 2	2 4
B31 Influenza	M F	1 1	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	1 -	- 1
B32 Pneumonia	M F	4 15	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	1 2	1 2	2 11
B33 (1) Bronchitis and Emphysema	M F	14 3	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	2 -	3 -	5 1	4 2
B33 (2) Asthma	M F	- 2	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	1 1	- 1	- -
B46 (6) Other Diseases of Respiratory System	M F	4 3	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	1 -	2 3	1 -
B34 Peptic Ulcer	M F	2 -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	1 -	1 -	- -
B36 Intestinal Obstruction and Hernia	M F	2 1	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- 1	1 -
B37 Cirrhosis of Liver	M F	1 1	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	1 -	- 1	- -
B46 (7) Other Diseases of Digestive System	M F	2 1	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	2 -	- -	- -	- 1

[illegible]

TABLE 1

	Live Births	Deaths (All Causes)		Stillbirths	Maternal Mortality		Infant Mortality					
							Total		Neo-Natal			
							No. of Deaths	Rate per 1,000 Live Births	No. of Deaths	Rate per 1,000 Live Births		
	No. of Births	Rate per 1,000 Pop'n (crude)	No. of Deaths	Rate per 1,000 Pop'n (crude)	No. of Still Births	Rate per 1,000 Total Births	No. of Deaths	Rate per 1,000 Total Births	No. of Deaths	Rate per 1,000 Live Births		
Year 1968	516	16.6	410	13.2	9	17.0	Nil	Nil	9	17.0	6	12.0
Year												
1967	559	17.9	444	14.2	5	9.0	Nil	Nil	11	20.0	7	13.0
1966	504	16.2	454	14.6	10	19.5	Nil	Nil	13	25.8	9	17.9
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
Ave. 5 years 1963-67	529	17.0	421	13.5	8	15.8	Nil	Nil	12	23.3	7	14.1

* Adjusted

Live Birth Rate (Comparability Factor, 1.07) = 17.8 per 1,000
Death Rate (Comparability Factor, 1.02) = 13.5 per 1,000

* Adjusted Live Birth Rate (Comparability Factor, 1.07) = 17.8 per 1,000
 Death Rate (Comparability Factor, 1.02) = 13.5 per 1,000

TABLE 11
Infant Mortality Rates

Year	CHORLEY	England and Wales	Lancashire
1963	21.6	20.9	23.3
1964	35.3	20.0	21.4
1965	13.6	19.0	19.8
1966	25.8	19.0	19.9
1967	20.0	18.3	20.0
1968	17.0	18.3	19.4

TABLE 111
Birth Rates (Crude)

Year	CHORLEY	England and Wales	Lancashire
1963	17.8	18.2	18.28
1964	16.4	18.4	18.68
1965	16.5	18.1	18.20
1966	16.2	17.7	17.86
1967	17.9	17.2	17.55
1968	16.6	16.9	17.32

TABLE 1V
Death Rates (Crude)

Year	CHORLEY	England and Wales	Lancashire
1963	13.4	12.2	12.69
1964	11.7	11.3	12.09
1965	13.6	11.5	12.27
1966	14.6	11.7	12.73
1967	14.2	11.2	12.18
1968	13.2	11.9	12.28

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 Health 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 examination 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, Joint Divisional Offices, East Cliff, Preston, Tel. Preston 54868 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 Clinics

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.

Cervical Cytology

Facilities for its early ascertainment of cervical cancer are available for mature women, by appointment, at the School Clinic, Collison Avenue.

Vaccination and Immunisation

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

School Medical Service

Medical and hygiene inspections are carried out at all 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 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, Preston 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 Weldbank Lane, Chorley. A Youth Club for sub-normal children is held each Friday evening at Newtrees, Stump Lane, Chorley.

National Assistance Act 1948 (Sec. 47)

National Assistance (Amendment) Act 1951

No. of applications made during the year	1
No. orders made	1

This application concerned an elderly lady who was moved to a County Council Hostel, and later admitted to Whittingham Hospital.

PREVALENCE AND CONTROL OF INFECTIOUS DISEASES

Notification and Prevention of Infectious Disease

The statutory bases of notification and prevention of infectious disease was changed on the 1st October 1968, by the introduction of the Health Services and Public Health Act 1968. This act amended the list of notifiable diseases and certain relevant sections of earlier Acts. Under this Act, the Public Health (Infectious Diseases) Regulations 1968 were made and became operative also on 1st October.

These regulations apply specific sections of the Public Health Act 1936, Public Health Act 1961 and the Health Services and Public Health Act 1968 to a new list of diseases; prescribe the duties of a medical officer of health with respect to notifications and to returns and reports of disease; and authorise certain measures for preventing the spread of disease.

The diseases covered by these regulations are:-

Acute Encephalitis	Diphtheria	Paratyphoid Fever
Acute Meningitis	Infective Jaundice	Scarlet Fever
Acute Poliomyelitis	Leprosy	Tetanus
Amoebic Dysentery	Leptospirosis	Tuberculosis
Anthrax	Malaria	Typhoid Fever
Bacillary Dysentery	Measles	Whooping Cough
	Ophthalmia Neonatorum	Yellow Fever

plus any the local authority may add for its area by an Order made under Sec. 147 of Public Health Act 1956 or Sec. 52 of the Health Services and Public Health Act, 1968.

The principal changes from the earlier Regulations are:-

1. any obligation to notify a case of disease now rests solely on medical practitioners;
2. acute primary pneumonia, acute influenzal pneumonia, acute rheumatism and puerperal pyrexia are no longer to be notified; tetanus and yellow fever require to be notified for the first time;
3. infective jaundice which became notifiable by separate regulations earlier in the year is now included in the main list;
4. leptospirosis is now to be notified throughout England and Wales;
5. the powers of a medical officer of health of a district to vaccinate contacts of persons suffering from smallpox have been extended to other diseases; and
6. the power of a local authority to require a person to stop work in order to prevent spread of infection are extended to permit action in cases of food poisoning.

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

1968 and 1967.

1968

	1st Qr.	2nd Qr.	3rd Qr.	4th Qr.	Total Cases
Measles	131	132	56	6	325
Scarlet Fever	21	9	5	7	42
Diphtheria	-	-	-	-	-
Whooping Cough	13	2	-	2	17
Pneumonia	2	2	2	-	6
Erysipelas	-	-	-	-	-
Puerperal Pyrexia	-	-	-	-	-
Dysentery	-	1	-	1	2
Food Poisoning	1	2	1	-	4
Meningococcal Infection	-	-	-	-	-
Paratyphoid	-	-	-	-	-
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	-	-	-	-	-
Acute Poliomyelitis	-	-	-	-	-
Infective Jaundice	-	-	-	-	-

1967

	1st Qr.	2nd Qr.	3rd Qr.	4th Qr.	Total Cases
Measles	185	11	2	77	275
Scarlet Fever	28	13	4	10	55
Diphtheria	-	-	-	-	-
Whooping Cough	12	6	6	26	50
Pneumonia	3	2	1	15	21
Meningococcal Infection	-	-	-	-	-
Acute Poliomyelitis	-	-	-	-	-
Erysipelas	-	-	-	-	-
Puerperal Pyrexia	1	-	-	-	1
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	-	-	-	-	-
Food Poisoning	1	3	2	7	13
Dysentery	-	-	-	2	2
Paratyphoid	-	-	-	-	-

It will be observed that there was an increase in the number of notifications of measles but a decrease in whooping cough, scarlet fever and food poisoning notifications.

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'. The water is soft upland surface water, which is chlorinated and treated by the soda ash process prior to distribution.

There were 11,124 houses in the Borough on mains water supply at the end of the year, the remaining 7 being outlying farms and cottages. During the year water supplies were extended to new houses in Gillibrand Estate, Park Cottages Estate, Bagganley Estate, Bur A Lane, Bolton Road.

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 thirty samples for bacteriological examination and two samples for chemical analysis which were found to be satisfactory.

Typical results of chemical samples are as follows:-

Source of Sample: Chorley Treated Water.

(a) Physical Examination of water, colourless.

(b) Chemical Examination:

Reaction, pH 7.3

Results expressed in parts per million:

Total Solids in Solution	96
Oxygen absorbed from Permanganate	
in 15 mins	0.32
in 3 hours	0.68
Ammonia	Nil
Albuminoid Ammonia	0.025
Nitrogen as Nitrates	0.21
Nitrogen as Nitrites	Nil
Combined Chlorine	14
Free Chlorine	Nil
Total Hardness (as Ca CO ₃)	38
Carbonate Hardness (as Ca CO ₃)	18
Lead	0.02
Copper	0.02
Zinc	Nil
Total Iron	0.17
Apparent Colour	Colourless

Complaints are still received from time to time about the insufficiency of the water in various parts of the town particularly from properties on the higher ground, Hartwood Estate and Burgh Lane areas are examples. Discussions have been in progress with Liverpool Corporation with a view to improving the situation, and it is expected that the position in the northern part of the Borough should be dealt with by the middle of 1969. In fact the Water Engineer to the undertaking met the Health Committee in October on the subject.

Most complaints however, concern blocks of properties scattered throughout the town, which are served by one distribution pipe and these pipes are usually found to be partly blocked due to age, at other times houses in the blocks are using much more water than originally intended. In these cases action is taken under the Public Health Act 1936 to require the individual owners to provide a sufficient supply of wholesome water in pipes in the houses and the water undertaking agree to bring the main to suitably positioned stop taps on the pavement at their own expense so that owners' pipes can be connected to these. There are ofcourse other circumstances where junctions and ferrules merely require to be cleaned and flushed out.

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 still increasing about 45.2 gallons compared with 44.9 in 1967. (This figure includes main supplies used for industrial as well as domestic purposes).

Private Supplies - Drinking Water

7 dwelling houses including 4 farms are on private supplies which are mostly shallow wells or springs. Of 3 bacteriological samples taken during the year all 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 34 bacteriological samples were taken from the baths all of these proved generally satisfactory.

Two samples were taken from the paddling pool at Astley Park. This pool is thoroughly cleaned and chlorinated at intervals during the summer season

3. 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 199 new houses were connected to the sewerage system.

Sewage disposal is effected at the Common Bank Works. The first stage of the extension to the Common Bank Disposal Works is hoped to be completed in 1969.

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 1968.

The year continued to be busy in all the fields covered by the Department. On staff changes I was pleased to welcome Mr. John L. Fear from Wisbech B.C. to the post of Deputy Chief in February, who has proved a most valuable member of the Department.

Not long after the year opened, the Foot and Mouth Restrictions then affecting the Borough were lifted and there followed an uncertain period for the Meat Trade, for the farms and markets had been seriously hit by the outbreak. This was no doubt a contributory factor for the slight reduction in throughput at the Public Abattoir during the year.

The Slum clearance programme was maintained and in the latter half of the year a survey was commenced to determine further facts concerning housing and also home heating and refuse collection. This information should prove valuable in any reappraisal of housing policy that may be brought about by the passing of the Housing Bill now before Parliament.

I am pleased to report that the Refuse Collection service was maintained at a high level of efficiency throughout the year and for this I must thank all those concerned for their determination and hard work. The impact of the Civic Amenities Act increased our burdens but through some reorganisation and again more effort much was done.

Transport generally has produced a considerable amount of literature during the year including many regulations concerning construction and use. Although for the present the seven refuse collection vehicles are exempt from the Goods Vehicles (Plating and Testing) Regulations, the maintenance of Ministry of Transport standards in relation to them is very important. This will inevitably mean that the older vehicles will require replacement urgently and will involve further capital expenditure during the next two or three years.

On the subject of Clean Air, I am glad to say that further improvement was noted from industrial sources and also a realisation of the benefits of better home heating in new and existing dwellings. In this area where housing development is increasing rapidly it should be possible to cover undeveloped parts of the Borough by smoke control orders before a brick is laid and at little expenditure of public funds.

The Clean Air Act 1968, which is expected to come into operation early in 1969, will focus attention on the necessity to obtain formal approval for the heights of new chimneys; there are further provisions relating to grit and dust emission and amendments and modifications regarding smoke control areas.

The Food and Drugs field was given more than its usual attention particularly in view of the new meat products regulations that became operative during the year and considerable public relations work was done on the subject.

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 their co-operation and kind assistance and finally to the Chairman and Vice-Chairman and Members of the Health Committee for their support and encouragement throughout the year.

I am,

Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your Obedient Servant,

J.G. KELLY,

Chief Public Health Inspector.

Summary of Public Health Inspectors' Visits and Inspections:

Building Plans
Clean Air (including observations)	98
Diseases of Animals	30
Drainage (Inspections and Tests)	723
Entertainment Places	4
Factories	77
Food Premises	636
Food Inspection:-								
Routine and Condemnations	403
Sampling - Food and Drugs	85
Bacteriological	196
Public Abattoir (Days)	311
Housing:-								
Housing Acts - Repairs	15
Closing/Deml.	78
Slum Clearance	468
Overcrowding	23
Imprt. Grants	179
Houses in Multiple Occupation	61
Public Health - Repairs	378
Re-inspections	503
Vermin	58
Infectious Disease	196
Miscellaneous	2,265
Nuisances	473
Offensive Trades	14
Pet Animals Act	39
Public Cleansing	144
Public Conveniences	310
Rag Flock Act	4
Rodent Control	156
Schools	1
Shops Act	1
Swimming Baths	18
Tents, Caravans Etc.	33
Water Supplies	229
Workplaces	-
Offices, Shops and Railway Premises	116
Health Education	-
Interviews	486
Civic Amenities	188
Noise	65

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 regulations.

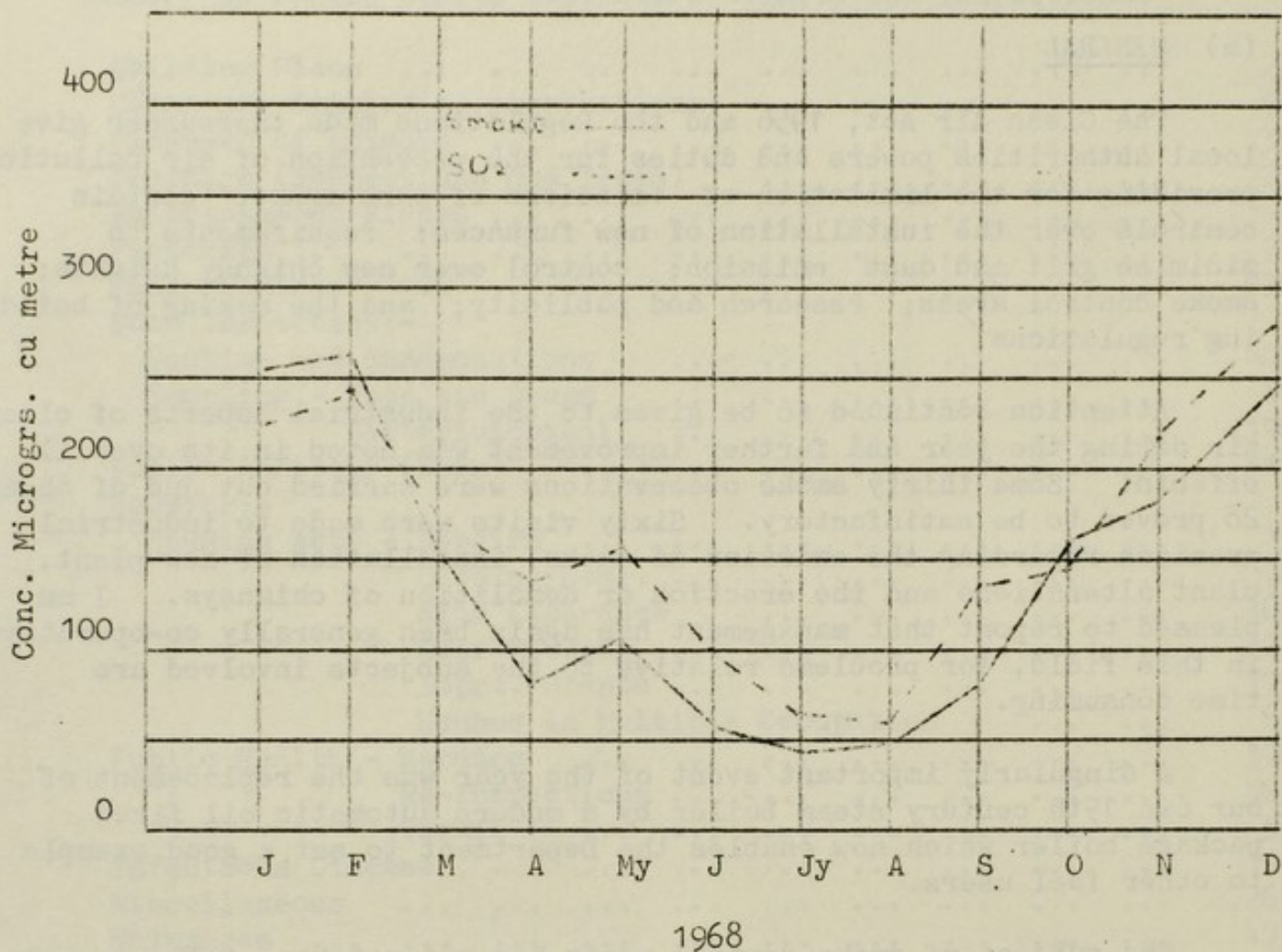
Attention continued to be given to the industrial aspects of clean air during the year and further improvement was noted in its overall effects. Some thirty smoke observations were carried out and of these 28 proved to be satisfactory. Sixty visits were made to industrial premises regarding the emission of smoke, installation of new plant, plant alterations and the erection or demolition of chimneys. I am pleased to report that management has again been generally co-operative in this field, for problems relative to the subjects involved are time consuming.

A singularly important event of the year was the replacement of our own 19th century steam boiler by a modern automatic oil fired package boiler which now enables the Department to set a good example to other fuel users.

The subject of smoke control areas has not yet been fully investigated although a survey is in progress concerned with a number of environmental problems, including that of clean air. I am pleased to be able to say that in the course of this survey support for a domestic smoke control policy from the householders in the Borough was not entirely lacking. However towards the end of the year all authorities in the North West were asked to consider the question of cleaning up the atmosphere and that they might use the present difficult period in the economy to make plans for the future. It may however be that a start could be made with areas of impending residential development where clean air and the efficient use of fuel would be welcomed.

(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 1968.



Ratio Smoke / Sulphur Dioxide
 1.13 1.07 0.89 0.66 0.70 0.55 0.65 0.76 0.57 1.14 0.8 0.9

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.

It has become evident that smoke concentration nowadays varies virtually in proportion to the population. The graph produced appears to give an indication of some reduction in smoke pollution particularly due to industrial improvements, although the figures in general remain high.

(c) INSTALLATION OF NEW FURNACES

No applications for prior approval were received during the year but there were 6 notifications of intention to install new furnaces.

Fuel Used	Notifications
Coal	Nil
Gas (Towns)	1 (1)
Oil	5 (5)

The number in brackets denotes the number of furnaces involved.

(d) NEW CHIMNEYS

A number of discussions took place during the year regarding the height of new chimneys and agreement was reached in all cases. The Clean Air Act 1956 provides that where plans submitted to the Council in accordance with the Building Regulations show an intention to erect a chimney, the height of the proposed chimney has to be approved for the purpose of the Act. It has been found anomalous in practice however that this requirement did not apply to dwellings, shops and offices, and to buildings exempted from the Building Regulations.

The Clean Air Act 1968, most of which is to become operative on the 1st April 1969, changes the position outlined above and requires chimney heights to be approved wherever the chimney is to serve any furnace, provided the rates of fuel burning in the furnace exceed certain minima. Prescribed forms are to be used for the formal application for approval of chimney heights and applications must be dealt with within a given period of time (usually 4 weeks). The Act of 1956, Section 10, however will continue to apply in relation to chimneys not serving furnaces.

To enable local authorities to judge the soundness of proposals concerning chimney heights the Ministry of Housing and Local Government has issued guidance notes, although the department endeavours to be realistic in the application of these recommendations when proposals are being considered.

2. FOOD CONTROL

(a) Milk Supply

Since 1956 Chorley and the surrounding districts have comprised a Specified Area, so that the only milk 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 103
Dealer (pasteuriser) licence -
Dealer (steriliser) licence -
156 visits were made on dairies and milk shops.
Dealers' licences provide for more than one designation in
many cases.

Bacteriological Examination of Milk

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

	No. of Samples	RESULTS		
		Satis.	Unsat.	Void Samples
UNTREATED MILK				
(a) Methylene Blue Test	56	42	12	2
HEAT TREATED MILK				
(b) Methylene Blue Test	16	15	1	-
(c) Phosphatase Test		16	-	-
(d) Turbidity Test	9	9	-	-
(e) Colony Count Test	-	-	-	-

BIOLOGICAL EXAMINATION OF MILK

Total number of Samples submitted - 97.

Results	Positive	Negative	No Result
(a) Tuberculosis	-	18	-
(b) Brucellosis - Ring Test ...	4	92	1
(c) Brucellosis - Culture Test	-	4	-
(d) Brucellosis - Biological Test	-	18	-

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.

Brucellosis - Sampling Scheme

Local arrangements continued to operate having regard to recommendations contained in the Ministry of Health Circular 17/66. Samples of milk from the producer-retailers situated in the Borough and samples from five producer-retailers situated in adjoining areas who retail milk within the Borough boundary have been taken bi-monthly and examined for brucella organisms. This scheme was intended to widen the scope of the original system, with a view to preventing the sale of infected untreated milk. Milk found to be infected e.g. culture positive, must be subject to heat treatment until the producers concerned have eliminated affected cows with the aid of their own veterinarians and the milk has satisfied a further series of tests.

Chemical Analysis

36 samples of milk were obtained for analysis under the Food and Drugs Act 1955, and submitted to the Public Analyst. Of these 35 have proved genuine. One sample was found to be deficient in fat and the producer was warned.

(b) Ice Cream

There are 189 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 produce is in fact, a milk ice, the prescribed standard of composition for which being much lower than that of ice-cream.

20 samples were taken for subjection to the methylene blue reduction test and the results were generally satisfactory, the provisional grading used being by nature of a guide to hygienic practices only.

(c) Food Hygiene

The routine inspection of food premises continued throughout the year and 41 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. Continued vigilance by the Public Health Inspectors is essential to maintain a high standard of food hygiene and no relaxation of effort can be acceptable. On the advice of the Department one retail shop was closed during the year.

(d) 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.

(e) Food Premises

	No. Premises	Fitted to comply Sec. 16	ESTIMATED	
			Sec. 19	
			To which apply	Fitted to comply with
General grocers and provision dealers	128	124	100	90
Greengrocers and fruiterers (including those selling wet fish, game etc.	13	13	4	4
Fishmongers (including those selling poultry, game etc.	2	2	2	2
Meat shops (butchers, purveyors of cooked and preserved meats, tripe etc.	31	31	31	31
Bakers and/or confectioners	26	26	26	26
Fried fish shops	22	22	22	22
Shops selling mainly sugar confectionery, minerals, ice-cream etc.	28	24	-	-
Licensed premises, clubs, canteens, restaurants, cafes, snack bars and similar catering ests.	119	118	118	118
Others	8	8	-	-

Number of Food Premises and Hawkers Registered

Section 16, Food and Drugs Act, 1955:-

Ice-Cream Premises	189
Potted and preserved food premises	41

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

Hawkers' premises	28
Hawkers	54

(f) Food and Drugs Act, 1955

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

During the year 91 samples were taken for analysis by the Public Analyst and of this number 75 were proved genuine. Of the other 16 samples, 1 sample of milk was found to be deficient in fat, 8 samples of meat products deficient in meat content, 3 contained foreign bodies and the remaining 2 were found not to be of good marketable quality.

The following table shows the variety of foods sampled:-

Onion Sauce	1
Charcoal Seasoning	1
Dehydrated Celery Flakes	1
Braised Steak	1
Plum Peeled Tomatoes	1
Meat and Potato Pie	6
Sausage Roll	1
Cornish Pastry	1
Jam Puff	1
Pork Sausage	3
Blackcurrant (Drink)	1
New Potatoes	1
Apple Filling	1
Whole Berry Cranberry Sauce	1
Blackcurrant in Syrup	2
English Chicken in Jelly	1
Rennet Essence	1
Fresh Cream Doughnut	1
Fresh Cream Cake	1
Hot Pot	1
Raspberry Jam	1
Aspirin Tablets	2
Lemonade	2
Steak & Vegetables	1
Garden Peas	1
Apple & Raspberry Jam	1
Lemon Curd	1
Strawberry Flavoured Milk	1
Meat Pies	1
Home Made Toffee	1
Cough Syrup	1
Swiss Dessert	1
Yoghourt (Orange Flavour)	1
Spirits	7

cont.....

Almond Marzipan	1
Dessert Custard	1
Mincemeat	1
Artificial Colouring	2
Milk	36
						<hr/>
						91
						<hr/>

It is interesting to note that the most significant Food Standard legislation that became operative during the year was the Meat Pie and Sausage Roll Regulations (31st May 1968), and in an area such as this where the traditional hot-pot and meat and potato pie are made to suit varied individual tastes and thus widely in demand, the first reactions to the new minimum meat content was to the effect that "my customers do not like too much meat." Samples were taken however and manufacturers advised on the subject. In most instances it would appear that they would resort to a change of name to that of "potato and meat pie." One wonders therefore whether the object of obtaining minimum standards for commonly named foods is in this case of such great public health significance!

Minimum standards for sausages and other meat products are expected to become law on May 31st 1969, so advice is currently being given to manufacturers in this area.

Complaints concerning food

Complaints concerning various foodstuffs varied only slightly from the figures for previous years, but the public continued to show concern about the quality of food they purchase. It was necessary to institute legal proceedings during the year in one case, but firm warnings were given in the remainder which are listed in the following table.

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. Investigations 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 considerable value in that food handlers are made to realise the trouble and inconvenience caused to many people by one careless act and I trust profit educationally from the experience.

It will be noted in the case of the sausages that the retailer was prosecuted under the Food & Drugs Act. From the investigation it was found that lack of care with coding and stock rotation was partly responsible for the food being exposed for sale and sold.

ARTICLE	NATURE OF COMPLAINT	ACTION
Potato and Meat Pie	Foreign Body	Firm concerned warned
Malt Loaf	Mouldy	" " "
Bottles Lemonade (2)	Foreign Body	" " "
Meat Pie	Mouldy	" " "
Chicken	Decomposed	" " "
Fruit Cocktail	Foreign Body	" " "
Sandwich	" "	" " "
Bottles Milk (4)	" "	"(s) " "
Sausages	Mouldy & Decomposing	Firm prosecuted (unfit)

(g) 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

(h) Public Slaughterhouse and Meat Inspection

In the Borough of Chorley all slaughtering of animals for human consumption is carried out at the Council's Public Abattoir.

Though the throughput for the year showed a fall compared with 1967 it was still comparatively high and again required the maintenance of strict management, supervision and high equipment efficiency.

Early in the year due to the Foot and Mouth Disease restrictions, animals had to be slaughtered within 24 hours of arrival and this required an extension of slaughtering hours on many occasions and a consequent increase in overtime work by the staff and employees.

The manual staff of one Abattoir Caretaker and three labourers was maintained during the year.

Repairs and alterations were carried out in the Slaughterhouse during the year which have greatly improved its appearance, constructional condition and the working conditions of our employees.

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 and management requirements were satisfied.

Slaughter of Animals Act, 1958

14 slaughtermen's licences were issued during the year.

The following table indicates the annual throughput at the Public Abattoir since the advent of the Meat Inspection Regulations in 1963.

Animals Slaughtered 1963-1968

	1963	1964	1965	1966	1967	1968
Cattle	7,482	6,789	6,151	8,681	12,166	11,390
Calves	48	16	14	59	349	122
Sheep	16,010	16,102	18,191	20,671	25,631	23,207
Pigs	3,133	2,646	2,350	2,364	1,938	1,472
Total	26,670	26,553	26,706	31,775	40,084	36,191
* Equiv. Cattle Units	12,267	11,338	10,969	14,017	18,377	16,808
* Av. Equiv. per week	236	218	211	270	353	323

- * One cattle unit is equivalent to one unit of cattle, three calves, five sheep or two pigs.

Animals Slaughtered and Inspected.

	Cattle Excl. Cows	Cows	Calves	Sheep	Pigs
Number killed	4,718	6,672	122	23,207	1,472
Number Inspected	4,718	6,672	122	23,207	1,472
All diseases except Tuberculosis and Cysticercosis --- Whole carcasses condemned	-	5	5	3	2
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	1,798	4,045	-	3,461	57
Percentage of the number inspected affected with disease other than Tuberculosis and Cysticercosis	38.1%	60.6%	4.1%	14.9%	3.9%
Tuberculosis only --- Whole carcasses condemned	-	-	-	-	-
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	-	-	-	-	1
Percentage of number inspected affected with Tuberculosis	-	-	-	-	0.07%
Cysticercosis --- Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	4	2	-	-	-
Carcasses submitted to treatment by refrigeration	4	2	-	-	-
Generalised and totally condemned	-	-	-	-	-

Disposal of Condemned Meat and Offal

Condemned Liver sold for pharmaceutical purposes is collected by an approved processor and the bulk of the income from this is repaid to the butchers concerned.

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

76,954 lbs. of meat and offal were disposed of in this way from the Abattoir plus 890 lbs. of home killed or imported meat from retail shops.

(j) Inspection of Other Foods

<u>Type of Food</u>	<u>Qty. Condemned (lbs)</u>
Ham (Canned)	1,537
Tongue (Canned)	201
Corned Beef (Canned)	40
Pork	848
Chicken	42
Turkey	13
Fruit	620
Cheese	14
Vegetables	498
Mussels	36
Flour	70
Jam	102
Tins, packets of other food (including frozen foods)	
2,340 in number.	

(k) Poultry Inspection

- (i) No. of poultry processing premises within the district 2
(1 closed in June)
- (ii) No. of visits to these premises 81
- (iii) Total No. of birds processed during the year 17,882
- (iv) Types of birds processed 1-2 year old hens
- (v) Percentage of birds rejected as unfit for human consumption Approx. 1.3%
- (vi) Weight of poultry condemned as unfit for human consumption None

- (vii) Comments on poultry processing and inspection:
Two premises until June when one closed down,
The spotter system was employed in both.

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. Efforts made by informal and statutory action have reduced the number of sub-standard houses and it is estimated that the proportion likely to become unfit over the next decade will be about 6% unless steps are taken to encourage the owner occupation of many of them and an improvement of their environment.

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 re-housed by the Corporation as a whole. The figures concern only houses in respect of which action has been taken under the Housing Act 1957 Part 11 and 111.

During the year 11 individual houses were represented as unfit for human habitation under the Housing Act, 1957 and 25 houses were officially represented in the following clearance areas:-

Borough of Chorley (Garden Street) Clearance Area 1968 (12 houses)
Borough of Chorley (Clover Road) Clearance Area 1968 (13 houses).

The total number of houses erected or otherwise acquired by the Council up to the end of 1968 was 2,256.

(b) Clearance Areas and Individual Unfit Houses Demolished.

Clearance Areas

	Houses Demolished	Persons Displaced
Houses Unfit for Human Habitation	26	76
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	2	78
Local Authority owned houses certified unfit	32	

(c) Unfit Houses Closed

	Houses Closed	Persons Displaced
Under Section 16 Housing Act 1957	1	1
Parts of buildings closed under Section 18 Housing Act 1957	-	-

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

(1) By the Local Authority 4 houses 52 flats	56
(2) By other bodies or persons	143

(e) Particulars of Housing Schemes

(i) In hand at end of the year.
62 dwellings Weldbank Lane Section 2.
36 Flats Hodder Avenue,
Infill sites 58 flats.

(ii) Contemplated
24 Flatlets Hodder Avenue.

(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)	518
(b) No. of inspections, formal or informal, made for the purpose	1,350
(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	275

(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)	112
(b)	Demolition, Clearance or Closing Orders have not yet been made	40
(g)	<u>Remedy of defects during the Year without service of Formal Notice</u>	
	No. of dwelling-houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or their Officers	243
(h)	<u>Action under Statutory Powers during the Year</u>	
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	107
(2)	No. of dwelling-houses in which defects were remedied	
(a)	by Owners	149
(b)	by Local Authority in default of owners	-

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

(1)	No. of dwelling-houses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made	26
(2)	No. of dwelling-houses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders	28
(3)	No. of dwelling-houses in respect of which undertakings have been received and accepted	1

D. Proceedings under Section 18 of the Housing Act.

(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 dwelling Houses or other Buildings	No. of Schemes	Local Authority No. of dwelling Houses or other Buildings affected.
(a) Submitted by private individuals to Local Authority	6	6	-	-
(b) Approved by Local Authority	6	6	-	-
(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	47
(b) Applications approved by Local Authority	41
(c) Work completed	37

(k) Rent Act 1957

No. of applications for certificates of disrepair ...	None
Certificates of disrepair issued	None
Certificates of disrepair cancelled	None
Undertakings given	None

(1) Houses in Multiple Occupation

61 visits were made to dwellings used for multiple occupation during the year and all of these were inspected for the purposes of the Housing Act, 1961. Persons intending to purchase houses for conversion to Multiple Occupation or self-contained flats are encouraged to obtain advice from the Department relating to their responsibilities under the Housing Acts.

Preliminary notices were served under Section 15 and 16 of the Act and co-operation with owners of the properties involved has been generally good, although difficulties are being experienced in obtaining agreement concerning means of escape in case of fire.

It is estimated that of the 21 properties known to be in multiple occupation the details regarding separate occupancies is as follows:-

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

An increase in lodging houses was noted towards the end of the year no doubt due to the presence of the College of Education and the motorway construction personnel, and it is necessary to prepare local standards to deal with this type of letting with reference in particular to the overcrowding of rooms for sleeping purposes.

(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 which became operative on 1st September, 1965 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.

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

The following table 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
	1965 to 1967	1968	Total to 31.12.68	
Offices	88	1	89	11
Retail Shops	195	10	205	58
Wholesale Premises and Warehouses	12	-	12	7
Catering Est. and Canteens	16	-	16	2
Fuel Storage Depots	-	-	-	-
Total	311	11	322	78

TABLE A

The number of premises registered to date totals 322. This figure may seem low in comparison with the number of these types of premises in the town, but it must be stressed that a large proportion of these are wholly family concerns and as such are not registerable 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.

(3) General Inspections

A total of 78 general inspections were made during the year and many re-inspections following the service of informal notices.

Attention will have to be given shortly to the position of market stallholders and the effect of the O.S.R.P. Act on their employees, particularly with regard to washing facilities and toilet facilities. At the present time the only facilities conveniently accessible are the Public Conveniences situated in the Market Place, and employees of stallholders have to pay for the use of toilet facilities. This payment is not reasonable having regard to the provisions of the Act. As the whole question of charges being made for facilities at Public Conveniences will have to be reconsidered because of the forthcoming change-over to decimal currency this matter must be dealt with at the same time. I feel though that some interim arrangement will have to be made.

(4) Visits of all kinds

A total of 116 visits of all kinds were 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	525
Retail Shops	561
Wholesale Depts.	
Warehouses	57
Catering Estabs. open to the Public	90
Canteens	6
Fuel Storage Depots.	-
Total	1,239
Total Males	491
Total Females	748

(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 12 informal notices in respect of contraventions found and a summary of these is given in the table as follows.

Contraventions Table

Contraventions	Offices	Retail Shops	Wholesale D & A Warehss.	Cat. Estds. & Canteens	Fuel St. Depots.	Total
Cleanliness (Sec. 4)	-	-	-	-	-	-
Overcrowding (Sec. 5)	-	-	-	-	-	-
Temperature (Sec. 6)	-	2	-	-	-	2
" Thermomtres.	-	9	-	-	-	9
Ventilation (Sec. 7)	-	1	-	-	-	1
Lighting (Sec. 8)	-	3	-	-	-	3
Sanitary Conveniences (Sec. 9)	-	3	-	-	-	3
Washing Facilities (Sec. 10)	1	-	-	-	-	1
Drinking Water (Sec. 11)	-	-	-	-	-	-
Acc. for Clothing (Sec. 12)	-	-	-	-	-	-
Sitting Facils. (Sec. 13)	-	-	-	-	-	-
Seats for Sed. Wrkrs. (Sec. 14)	-	-	-	-	-	-
Eating Facils. (Sec. 15)	-	1	-	-	-	1
Floors, Passages and Stairs (Sec. 16)	-	4	-	-	-	4
Safety of Machinery (Sec. 17)	-	1	-	-	-	1
First Aid (Sec. 25)	-	8	-	-	-	8
Info. for Employees (Sec. 50)	1	10	-	-	-	11

8. Accidents

Three accidents were reported to have occurred on registered premises during the year all concerning retail shops. One involved a butcher's cutter who cut his finger due to the slipping of his knife, one sustained injury through a splinter of wood entering the palm of his hand, and the third where the employee stumbled over an empty carton on the shop floor and twisted his knee.

I feel sure that these three cases were but a small proportion of accidents that actually occurred in our registered premises during the year. It is not fully realised that any accident resulting in an employee being away from work for more than three days must be reported to the registering authority.

9. 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			
		Inspac's	Written Notices	Occp's Prosecuted	
(i) Factories in which section 1, 2, 3, 4, & 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities	56	14	-	-	
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority	184	70	4	-	
(iii) Other Premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (Excluding out workers premises)	4	3	-	-	
TOTAL	244	87	4	-	

2. Cases in which defects were found.

Particulars	Number of cases in which defects were found				No. of Cases in which prosecutions were instituted
	Found	Remedied	Referred		
			to H.M. Inspector	by H.M. Inspector	
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)
Want of cleanliness (S.1.) ...	-	-	-	-	-
Overcrowding (S.2) ...	-	-	-	-	-
Unreasonable temperature (S.3) ...	-	-	-	-	-
Inadequate ventilation (S.4) ...	-	-	-	-	-
Ineffective drainage of floors (S.6)	-	-	-	-	-
Sanitary Conveniences (S.7) ...	-	-	-	-	-
(a) Insufficient ...	-	-	-	-	-
(b) Unsuitable or defective ...	4	1	-	2	-
(c) Not separate for sexes ...	-	-	-	-	-
Other offences against the Act (Not including offences relating to outworkers) ...	-	-	-	-	-
TOTAL ...	4	1	-	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 (Sections 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. Special arrangements were made however to accommodate employees connected with constructional engineering operations for the M.61 Motorway for a temporary period.

(e) Rodent Control

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 or Property	
Non Agricultural	Agricultural
12,906	18
431	4
290	4
138	-
26	18
3	-
-	-

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.

On the subject of mouse control however certain difficulties were encountered using warfarin and it has been found necessary to resort to other poisons to ensure adequate treatment. At the end of the year it was decided to use Alphachloralose although in certain situations one of the quick acting poisons such as Zinc Phosphide would be necessary.

Sewers

Sewer treatment was carried out in June but no takes were reported, which indicates a very satisfactory position.

(f) Disinfestation

Vermin

Infestations of bed bugs or fleas are now a comparatively rare occurrence but it was found necessary to disinfect 2 houses during the year. Modern insecticides have made this work easier and they are extremely effective, re-infestations being almost unknown. When necessary bedding and other suitable materials 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. It is hoped to re-organise this part of the Department concerned with Rodent Control and Pests so that it can carry out effectively the tasks expected of it in this modern age. The Council is virtually statutorily bound however to concentrate its efforts on those pests intimately concerned with public health, although the staff are always willing to give advice when problems are brought to them.

An interesting case relating to pigeons was drawn to the attention of the department and it was considered serious enough to obtain approval from the Council under the Public Health Act 1961, Section 74, to carry out some form of control. On this occasion after a very protracted survey and with the advice of the Divisional Pests Officer, M.A.G.F.F. it was decided that the use of a narcotised bait was appropriate. The licence to use such a method was obtained from the Ministry but the pigeons suddenly disappeared from the premises. However the department does now possess a trap which can be used for their control. One case of abandoned pigeons was dealt with during the year on an informal basis, but I regret to say that the pigeon problem particularly in residential areas about the town is brought about largely by those people who feed them and thus create a problem which grows daily.

(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)
13. " 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	10
Closets attached to above middens	13
Pail Closets	25
Waste Water Closets	220
Water Closets	11,925

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.

Two waste water closets were converted to water closets during the year.

(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 practically full-time on this work. A total of 914 stoppages being cleared in the year.

When it is found necessary to excavate and open a drain, a Statutory Notice is served on the owner under the Public Health Act 1961 and if this is not complied with, the work is carried out in default by the Borough Engineers Department and a charge is made.

(j) Infectious Diseases and Food Poisoning

Whenever necessary routine enquiries were made concerning all notified cases of infectious diseases and food poisoning, and 196 visits were made in this connection.

Of the four notifications of suspected food poisoning all were sporadic.

(k) Noise

Complaints concerning noise during the year entailed 65 visits being made to investigate the source and secure a reduction. 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 beyond the point where it is economically viable. This is usually 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. The terms of the Noise Abatement Act 1960 as they affect trade and industry are such as to recognise that all noise cannot be prevented.

Many difficulties arise because noisy plant is carelessly sited within works, or alternatively dwellings are erected adjacent to works where noisy operations are carried out, so much could be done therefore, by careful planning to avoid these problems 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

26 Licences from outside sources checked.

Fowl Pest

No Movement Licences were issued. One outbreak occurred in the Borough.

Foot and Mouth Disease

The Borough of Chorley became subject to Controlled Area Restrictions on the 30th October, 1967, and due to an outbreak confirmed near Feniscowles, Blackburn we were subject to Infected Area Restrictions on 16th November.

These Restrictions were lifted in March, 1969. During this period very strict measures were adopted on the advice of the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food concerning the movement of livestock in the Borough, in fact for the greater part of this period movements were for slaughter only.

In view of the existence of the Public Abattoir in the Borough considerable movement of animals for slaughter from many parts of the country were subject to movement licences and this materially increased the volume of work undertaken by the department in this form of control.

Stringent precautions were necessary to ensure the cleansing and disinfection of cattle transporters leaving the premises. On one occasion only was it necessary to issue a warning concerning livestock movement.

I would like to place on record my appreciation of the co-operation that existed between the County Land Agent's Office, the Chorley Police and the Department throughout this difficult period.

5 Controlled Area Orders were made, 383 Licences issued.
45 Infected Area Orders were made, 34 Licences issued.

Importation of Animals Act

No Licences issued. 9 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. The importance of these requirements are not fully realised until an outbreak of the kind experienced recently occurs.

(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. Advice was given during the year particularly in relation to hairdressers and Sunday trading.

(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 four 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.

(f) Scrap Metal Dealers Act, 1964

There were seven persons on the register at the end of the year.

6. PUBLIC CLEANSING

(a) Refuse Collection

Vehicles:-

The following diesel engined vehicles comprised the fleet engaged in Refuse Collection at the end of the year.

- One Shelvoke and Drewry Pakamatic 20, rear loading compression vehicle (September 1967).
- Two Karrier Ramillies 20 cu. yd. rear loading compression vehicles. (1966. 1965.)
- One Karrier Bantam 12 cu. yd. dual tip. (1964)
- One Karrier Bantam 10 cu. yd. side loader. (1962)
- One Karrier Bantam 7 cu. yd. side loader. (1961)
- One Karrier Bantam 7 cu. yd. side loader (spare). (1961)

Because of the changing nature of house refuse and the pattern of house development in the area it became 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. These vehicles of this type are now in service and have proved advantageous. Their increased capacity has resulted in a saving of lost time on tip runs and they are safer and easier for those employed on loading. From the public view-point it is comparatively dust free as no trimming of refuse is necessary and the contents are fully protected from the wind and rain.

A fourth vehicle of this improved type is now essential to enable the collection service as a whole to be balanced and it is hoped to purchase such a vehicle next year.

Labour

Until the end of September the establishment provided for 27 men including drivers to be employed on refuse collection, but this was increased by one on October 1st, being an establishment vacancy transferred from salvage of paper because of reorganisation.

4 teams of one driver and four collectors.	20
1 team of one driver and two collectors.	3
1 team of one driver/loader and two collectors	3
1 team of one driver and one collector (spare).	2
	<hr/>
	28

It will be seen from the table at the end of this report that the degree of absenteeism was an improvement on the figure for 1967, 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.

The fact that domestic refuse collection does not take place during the two Chorley holiday weeks e.g. July and September has resulted in few complaints, but in an effort to assist householders who have storage problems arrangements are to be made in the future whereby those with a problem may obtain from the department a paper refuse sack free of charge.

Bonus Scheme

I am pleased to report that the bonus scheme introduced in April 1966 operated successfully during the year, and achieved its main objects, 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 very satisfactory.

(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, continued to work well although it does not ensure that premises have a bin of standard size. The Report on Refuse Collection recommended that a Municipal Bin Provision Scheme is the most advantageous from all points of view. However with the changing character of refuse the $2\frac{1}{2}$ cu. ft. bin will have to give way to a bin of larger capacity e.g. $3\frac{1}{4}$ cu. ft. in the near future.

During the year twelve preliminary notices were served on the persons responsible to provide dustbins, all being complied with.

Galvanised Dustbins to BSS 792/1947 $2\frac{1}{2}$ 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.

A small quantity of $3\frac{1}{4}$ cu. ft. capacity Plastic bins were obtained during the year with a hope that they could be used in dwellings centrally heated by electricity, gas or oil. They are of larger capacity than the standard $2\frac{1}{2}$ cu. ft., light in weight and unlikely to be damaged by hot ashes in these types of premises.

During 1968 the following bins were sold:-

B.S.S. Rubbertex Lids.....	419 @ 40/-
Brockhouse type $3\frac{1}{4}$ cu. ft.....	5 @ 40/-

(c) Refuse Disposal and Salvage

All refuse is now disposed of by controlled tipping at Lower Burch Tip 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

Staff reduced to 1 employee 1.10.68.

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

The income from the sale of waste paper during 1967 returned to normal and was the only commodity salvaged by the Department. The sale of this material secured a gross income of £2,110 out of which £383 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.

In October the salvage section of the department was reorganised and the manpower in the baling shed was reduced to one employee, the salvage bonus scheme was modified slightly and weighted towards this man in order to increase his incentive to carry out the work required. In Chorley it has been noted that over the past four years the larger firms and supermarkets have installed baling machines and are deriving their own benefit from the sale of waste paper and cardboard. This has reduced our potential and thus thrown the department back on that produced principally by small businesses and householders. However the object of the reorganisation was to increase efficiency and reduce costs and I hope these advantages will be achieved. The establishment vacancy was transferred to refuse collection because of the increased work due to the Civic Amenities Act, 1967.

The Salvage of paper and cardboard however, does relieve expensive tipping space and contributes to a reduction in fire hazards.

(d) Civic Amenities Act 1967 (Part III)

This part of the Act received much publicity but one wonders if those to whom it was particularly directed had ever heard of its provisions.

A statutory duty was placed on local authorities to provide a place where local residents could dispose of refuse at all times free of charge. Power was given to us to deal with abandoned motor vehicles and other refuse including "things". It also increased the penalties for persons found guilty of dumping with the intention of abandonment. It was also to be noted that the Act applies to any land in the open air which is certainly supplementary to the restricted provisions of the Litter Act and the Public Health Act 1961. Unfortunately the Act did not provide for local authority expenditure in removing refuse etc., from occupied land to be recovered from the occupiers for I think that in many cases this would have stirred these occupiers into taking some form of action to prevent their land becoming an unauthorised tip.

I am pleased to report that the arrangements made in Chorley for local residents to deposit refuse, namely on a piece of land adjacent to the entrance to our Lower Burch Tip, has been used reasonably well although serious difficulties are still being caused by people dumping refuse at Birkacre and other open spaces in the Borough.

During the year considerable attention was given to the tidying up of various sites and the spare refuse collection vehicle was used whenever possible on this work. For example, from the grassed area between Grasmere Terrace and Troutbeck Road over 20 tons of rubbish were removed over a period of three days during the summer.

The number of requests from householders to remove bulky items increased in a startling fashion but nevertheless the department was always prepared to deal with these requests as soon as possible. It is fair to say that the department has improved its arrangements for the collection of unwanted articles from dwellings for which there is generally no charge. Charges will continue to be made however for the removal of accumulations on which significant time has to be spent and in every case where the refuse is of commercial or industrial origin. Commercial and industrial interests may dispose of trade refuse at the Tip for a reasonable charge.

Abandoned Motor Vehicles

The new law dealing with abandoned motor vehicles has proved reasonably straight forward to use and, although there are times when informal action is taken, it is essential that the provisions of the Act are always used in the first instance. One disadvantage of informal enquiries is where the owner states categorically that the vehicle is not abandoned notwithstanding that it must be obvious to all that it appears to be. It is the practice of the department that such vehicles are photographed for record purposes before being dealt with.

The place of safe custody for vehicles awaiting enquiries as to ownership etc., is situated in the Town's yard, Back Street, and arrangements for disposal are through the good offices of a local car breaker.

The following table shows the action taken during 1968 concerning abandoned vehicles:-

ABANDONED VEHICLES

(1)	No. found during year			112
(2)	No. dealt with informally		5	
(3)	No. otherwise removed		35	44
(4)	No. dealt with under the Act		4	
	(a) Wrecks	3		
	(b) Runners	1		
(5)	Disposal of (a) and (b)			
	(i) No. removed after action commenced	1		
	(ii) No. re-claimed	1		
	(iii) No. disposed of	2		
(6)	No. remaining at end of year			68
(7)	No. of private enquiries re disposal of vehicles.		4	

In connection with (3) above, the removal of many of these vehicles was due no doubt to knowledge that they were being kept under observation by the department.

(e) 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.

(f) Street Cleansing

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

(g) Public Conveniences

There were 9 public conveniences under the control of the Department. They were cleansed and maintained by a staff of 2 male (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 from time to time but it is difficult to produce a good image with old and unsatisfactorily-sited buildings. The market conveniences, however are well equipped, with wash and brush-up and free hand washing facilities and the premises in general are well used.

Because of the changes to decimal currency, consideration will have to be given to the future of the coin-operated locks fitted at the Market Place conveniences for it is likely that new locks and conversion kits will be available only to take the new penny. This in effect will more than double the charges involved!

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 installation which combined with new planning and design should ensure that future conveniences are less liable to human frailties. I regret however, to have to report that serious consideration is being given to the demolition of one of the older conveniences due to sheer vandalism.



