

[Report 1959] / Medical Officer of Health, Congleton R.D.C.

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Congleton (England). Rural District Council.

Publication/Creation

1959

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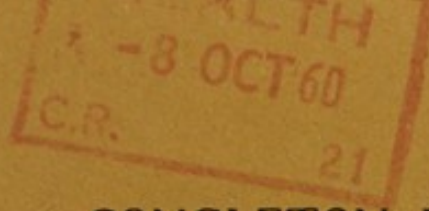
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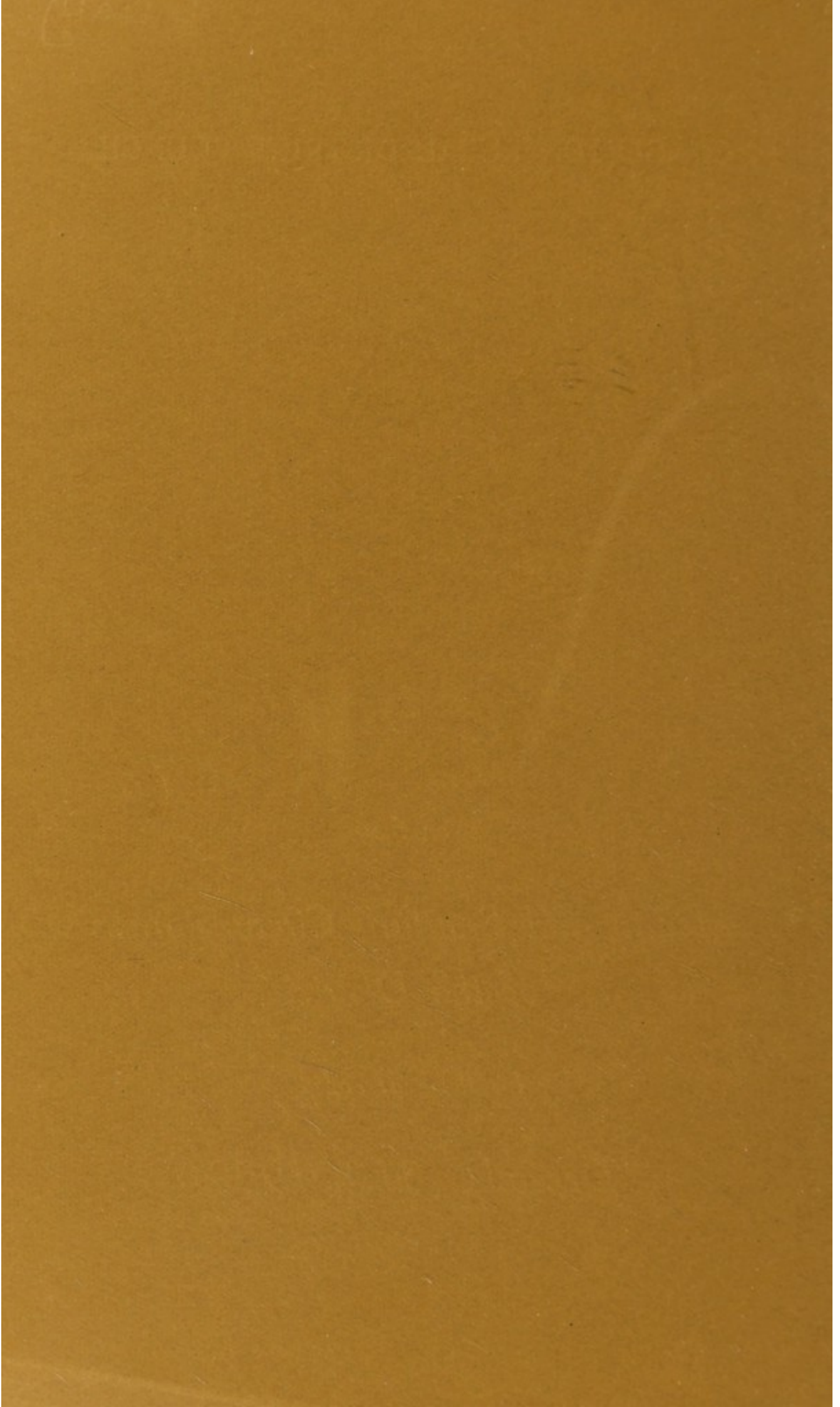
Report

on the

*Health and Sanitary Circumstances
of the District*

for the year ended

December 31st, 1959



Medical Officer of Health

L. RICH, M.B., CH.B., M.R.C.O.G., D.P.H.
11 West Street, Congleton (Congleton 3655/6)

Public Health Inspector

P. KIRKHAM, M.P.H.I.A.

Engineer and Surveyor

R. O. BIRTWISTLE, M.I.MUN.E., A.R.I.C.S.

To the Chairman and Members
of the Congleton Rural District Council

Mr. Chairman, Lady and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to present to you the Annual Report for the year 1959.

There has been a rise of 100 in the estimated population which now stands at 13,840.

Once again it is satisfactory to record that there was no maternal death during the year. Indeed, the last occasion when this happened was in 1950 which means that there have been nearly 1000 births without the death of a single mother. This is certainly not fortuitous and reflects great credit on all branches of the maternity services. However we must not be too complacent and there is still room for closer co-operation between the Local Health and Hospital Authorities particularly at the lower administrative levels.

Of the known causes of death the high incidence has moved away from Infectious Diseases towards Malignancy and Cardio-Vascular conditions. There is no doubt that much good can be done in the early detection of Cancer by a well-planned and careful campaign in educating the public. In this respect the work of the Manchester Committee on Cancer whose pioneer efforts in education are proving successful has much to commend it and deserves support. It is hoped that in the near future trained speakers will visit our District to talk to small groups of people. I have investigated the methods they use and I am convinced that there is little danger of creating fear and distress by these methods and indeed experience gained so far has shown that these talks dispel many unfounded fears as well as achieving positive results.

During the year measles continued to be very prevalent and although it is satisfactory to note that no deaths occurred, this disease causes much distress and may be the precursor of lung disease in later life. It also results in great dislocation in school attendances and is one of the major causes of absenteeism. It is satisfactory to note therefore that the Measles virus has at last been isolated and experiments are going on in the preparation and use of Measles Vaccine. Preliminary trials so far have proved

promising, the vaccine definitely confers protection which appears to be of long duration. It is to be hoped that in the near future this will become generally available thus assisting in removing one of the scourges of childhood.

There was also towards the end of the year a small epidemic of Sonne Dysentery mainly confined to school children in the Parish of Brereton. As this occurred just before the Christmas break and because the families were scattered widely over a rural area it was considered advisable to close the Primary School involved. The lesson learned from this outbreak was that it is most essential that all cases of diarrhoea should be seen by the family doctor, adequately treated and not returned to school until bacteriological tests have shown the child to be free of infection. As a result of thorough testing and regular disinfection it was possible to re-open the school in time after the holiday.

A great amount of time was spent during the year in connection with the Poliomyelitis Vaccination both by your Medical Officer and his Staff as well as by the Family Doctors. Large numbers of children and adults were dealt with and there is no doubt that the vaccination does appear to be having the effect of reducing both the incidence and severity of Poliomyelitis. The vaccination is now available to all below the age of 40 and despite the fact that it is a relatively painless and minor procedure there are still many thousands of people not making use of this valuable preventive measure.

Progress with the Council's scheme for the provision of Flatlets with Warden service for old people has gone on steadily and attention is drawn to that section of the Engineer's report on this important subject. It is hoped that the first block of flats will be available for occupation towards the end of 1960. Good co-operation between the various Welfare and Health services and the Housing Authority should ensure the success which this scheme deserves.

Once again, I wish to thank your Clerk and his staff for the help and guidance in enabling me to carry out my duties. I wish to record also, the excellent work being carried out by our Public Health Inspector, Mr. P. Kirkham, and the assistance given me by him and your Engineer and Surveyor, Mr. R. O. Birtwistle, in the preparation of this report.

I beg to remain,

Your obedient servant,

L. RICH,

Medical Officer of Health

Throughout this report, the figures in brackets are for the year 1958 and are for purposes of comparison

STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS

Extracts from Vital Statistics

Estimated Population 13840 (13740)

Births—

Live Births :

		<i>Total</i>	<i>Male</i>	<i>Female</i>
Legitimate	... 183	(185)	92 (89)	91 (96)
Illegitimate	... —	(9)	— (4)	— (5)

Still Births :

Legitimate	... 5	(6)	2 (2)	3 (4)
Illegitimate	... —	(1)	— (—)	— (1)

Live birth rate per 1000 estimated average population mid-1959 13.8 (14.8)

Live birth rate for England and Wales per 1000 of the population 16.5 (16.4)

Still birth rate per 1000 total (live and still) births 26.6 (34.8)

Still birth rate for England and Wales per 1000 total (live and still) births 20.7 (21.6)

Still birth rate per 1000 total population36 (.5)

Still birth rate for England and Wales per 1000 total population35 (.36)

Infantile Mortality—

The total number of deaths is shown as follows :

		<i>Total</i>	<i>Male</i>	<i>Female</i>
Legitimate	... 4	(4)	3 (3)	1 (1)
Illegitimate	... —	(1)	— (—)	— (1)

Infantile mortality rate per 1000 live births... 21.8 (25.7)

Infantile mortality rate for England & Wales 22.0 (22.5)

Legitimate infants per 1000 legitimate live births 21.8 (21.6)

Illegitimate infants per 1000 illegitimate live births — (111.1)

Deaths—

		<i>Total</i>	<i>Male</i>	<i>Female</i>
Deaths (all ages)	... .. 240	(235)	123 (118)	117 (117)

Death rate per 1000 estimated average population 11.7 (10.4)

Death rate for England and Wales per 1000 of the population 11.6 (11.7)

The following table shows the deaths from all causes within the district during the year.

CAUSE						Total	M.	F.
1.	Tuberculosis, respiratory	...	...	...	...	3	2	1
2.	Tuberculosis, other forms of	...	...	...	...	—	—	—
3.	Syphilitic disease	...	...	...	...	—	—	—
4.	Diphtheria	...	...	...	...	—	—	—
5.	Whooping Cough	...	...	...	...	—	—	—
6.	Meningococcal infection	...	...	...	...	—	—	—
7.	Acute poliomyelitis	...	...	...	...	—	—	—
8.	Measles	...	...	...	...	—	—	—
9.	Other infective and parasitic diseases	...	...	...	...	2	2	—
10.	Malignant neoplasm, stomach	...	...	...	...	7	1	6
11.	Malignant neoplasm, lung, bronchus	...	...	...	...	1	1	—
12.	Malignant neoplasm, breast	...	...	...	...	2	—	2
13.	Malignant neoplasm, uterus	...	...	...	...	1	—	1
14.	Other malignant and lymphatic neoplasms	...	...	...	...	12	6	6
15.	Leukaemia, aleukaemia	...	...	...	...	—	—	—
16.	Diabetes	...	...	...	...	5	1	4
17.	Vascular lesions of nervous system	...	...	...	...	24	10	14
18.	Coronary disease, angina	...	...	...	...	25	14	11
19.	Hypertension with heart disease	...	...	...	...	1	—	1
20.	Other heart disease	...	...	...	...	16	10	6
21.	Other circulatory disease	...	...	...	...	9	4	5
22.	Influenza	...	...	...	...	2	1	1
23.	Pneumonia	...	...	...	...	9	6	3
24.	Bronchitis	...	...	...	...	9	7	2
25.	Other diseases of respiratory system	...	...	...	...	1	1	—
26.	Ulcer of stomach and duodenum	...	...	...	...	2	2	—
27.	Gastritis, enteritis and diarrhoea	...	...	...	...	2	2	—
28.	Nephritis and nephrosis	...	...	...	...	3	1	2
29.	Hyperplasia of prostate	...	...	...	...	1	1	—
30.	Pregnancy, childbirth, abortion	...	...	...	...	—	—	—
31.	Congenital malformations	...	...	...	...	1	1	—
32.	Other defined and ill-defined diseases	...	...	...	...	94	44	50
33.	Motor vehicle accidents	...	...	...	...	5	4	1
34.	All other accidents	...	...	...	...	1	1	—
35.	Suicide	...	...	...	...	1	—	1
36.	Homicide and operations of war	...	...	...	...	1	1	—
TOTAL						240	123	117

Deaths from Puerperal and Maternal causes :

Puerperal Sepsis	...	...	...	...	...	0	(0)
Other Maternal Causes	...	...	...	...	...	0	(0)
Maternity Mortality rate per 1000 live and still births	...	...	...	...	...	0	(0)

GENERAL PROVISIONS OF HEALTH SERVICES FOR THE AREA

Care of Mothers and Young Children

As can be seen from the figures of attendances at the various **Infant Welfare Clinics** the degree of activity continues to increase. It is of particular interest to note for example the figures at Goostrey. Some years ago this clinic was closed down through lack of interest but since it was reopened it has gone from strength to strength. There is no doubt that this in a large measure is due to the enthusiasm of the Health Visitor and the very strong support she receives from the Voluntary Workers. The fact also that the same doctor is always in attendance helps considerably. In every clinic we rely greatly on the help given by volunteers and throughout the Division support from this source is encouraged as much as possible.

Welfare Centre	New cases			Total Attendances			No. of Clinics held	Cases seen by Doctor	Average per Clinic seen by Doctor
	0-1	1-2	2-5	0-1	1-2	2-5			
Goostrey	52 (26)	— (—)	— (—)	339 (327)	160 (149)	191 (265)	24 (24)	287 (278)	11.9 (11.5)
Holmes Chapel	37 (39)	— (—)	— (—)	380 (498)	169 (89)	70 (77)	24 (24)	263 (313)	10.9 (13.0)
Mow Cop ...	10 (11)	— (—)	— (—)	94 (140)	33 (55)	46 (50)	24 (24)	145 (208)	6.0 (8.6)
Rode Heath ...	21 (17)	— (—)	— (—)	249 (262)	158 (114)	83 (101)	23 (24)	118 (155)	5.1 (6.4)
Scholar Green...	81 (28)	— (—)	— (—)	325 (327)	155 (95)	97 (82)	24 (23)	143 (126)	5.9 (5.4)

The names of the Health Visitors covering the Rural District are as follows :

<i>Name</i>	<i>Address</i>	<i>Districts</i>
Dawson, H. M.	Bollin Grove, Prestbury	Goostrey
Barlow, M.	15 Thirlmere Road, Wistaston, Nantwich. Tel. Crewe 55697.	Church Hulme, Cranage, Tetton
Richardson, B.	White House, Crewe Road, Alsager. Tel. Alsager 395.	Church Lawton, Odd Rode, Smallwood.
Smith, E. G.	15 Centre Court, Alsager. Tel. Alsager 628.	Betchton, Hassall
Williams, N. R.	Ivy Cottage, Snelson, Chelford.	Hulme Walfield, Somerford, Somerford Booths, Swettenham, Twemlow.

Slack, M. E.	Castle View, Astbury Lane Ends, Congleton. Tel. Sandbach 309	Arclid, Brereton
Jacks, L.	Abbey Croft, Abbey Road, Sandbach. Tel. Sandbach 309	Bradwall, Elton.
Corbishley, M.	The Clinic, Park Street, Congleton. Tel. Congleton 2095.	Moreton-cum-Alcumlow, Newbold Astbury.

Home Nursing—

The District Nurses serving our area act in double capacity as Home Nurses and Midwives. They are as follows :

V. SPENCER, Black and White Cottages, Astbury	Congleton 3451
G. MAGEE, Booth Bank Road, Goostrey	Holmes Chapel 3244
L. B. BLUNSUM, 19 West Way, Holmes Chapel	Holmes Chapel 2226
H. BARRY, 2 Drenfell Road, Scholar Green	Kidsgrove 2929
I. HOYLE, 9 Offley Avenue, Sandbach	Sandbach 852
M. WAINWRIGHT, 87 Platt Avenue, Sandbach	Sandbach 256

Once again it is satisfactory to report that no complaints were received during the year of the work done by the Home Nurses. More and more work is being given to these nurses particularly in connection with old people, particularly as Hospital accommodation becomes more difficult to obtain.

Births, 1959—

Hospital		Home		Private Nursing Home	
Live	Still	Live	Still	Live	Still
133 (134)	5 (4)	53 (59)	— (—)	— (1)	— (—)

Meals on Wheels

We have now developed in South East Cheshire Division three areas where meals are provided, Poynton, Sandbach and Congleton. These are operated by the W.V.S. and in the case of Sandbach and Congleton the cost of meals is subsidised by the Local Authority. The vehicles at Sandbach and Congleton were generously donated.

It has been found even with this short experience that the value of this service goes beyond that of providing hot meals, important as that is.

The actual visiting by the ladies of the W.V.S. with the meals is something positively looked forward to by the recipients. In many instances the members of the W.V.S. have been so impressed

by the help these old people need that they have paid additional visits of a social nature ; have provided clothing and blankets when necessary and in several cases have actually assisted with the moving of these people when allocated a Council bungalow.

There appears to be a need in our Rural District for such a service both in the Odd Rode and Church Hulme parishes, but initiative must come from the voluntary workers who are prepared to operate the scheme. Once this is obtained most of the other difficulties and problems seem to sort themselves out fairly rapidly.

Chiropody

During the year the County Health Committee brought in the Chiropody service made free to all those whose income consisted solely of the old age pension and those in receipt of National Assistance. Lately the free service has been extended to include all those whose income does not exceed £4 per week if single or £6 per week if a couple. People whose income is between £4 and £5/10/0 if single will receive treatment at half cost and if between £6 and £8 for a couple also at half cost. This will take in a very considerable number of old people who are really in need of this service. In addition we are continuing the facilities made available in our Clinics and are also operating the scheme through recognised old peoples associations who have operated a Chiropody Scheme.

Unfortunately we are hampered by the no availability of registered Chiropodists in the Rural District. However in cases of necessity arrangements can be made for transport.

VACCINATION AND IMMUNISATION

Statistics—

Diphtheria Immunisation—

Pre-school children	3	(9)
School children	3	(2)
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	6	(11)
	<hr/>	<hr/>
Reinforcing injections	33	(53)

Whooping Cough Immunisation—

Pre-school children	1	(9)
School children	—	(3)
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	1	(12)
	<hr/>	<hr/>

Combined Immunisation (Diphtheria, Whooping Cough and Tetanus)—

Pre-school children	154	(172)
School children	8	(16)
	<hr/> 162	<hr/> (188)

Primary Vaccination—

Pre-school children	114	(111)
School children	—	(7)
Adults	4	(5)
	<hr/> 118	<hr/> (123)

Re-Vaccination—

Pre-school children	—	(1)
School children	—	(—)
Adults	10	(7)
	<hr/> 10	<hr/> (8)

Public Health Laboratory Service

A close working liaison exists between the Council's Health Department and the Public Health Laboratory Service, Manchester. Samples are submitted whenever necessary and the service obtained is highly satisfactory.

Ambulance and Sitting Case Car Transport

Satisfactory cover for all types of cases is carried out by Ambulance Stations in Congleton, Sandbach and Alsager. During the year all commitments were satisfactorily fulfilled and a 24 hour service maintained.

No complaints of any description were received during the year.

All drivers and attendants are trained in first aid and are in possession of the St. John First Aid Certificate.

Domestic Help Service

Statistics

Home Helps employed during 1959—

Full time	—	(—)
Temporary	28	(17)
Casual	6	(1)
	<hr/> 34	<hr/> (18)

Home Helps employed at December 31st, 1959—

Full time	...	...	...	...	...	—	(—)
Temporary	...	...	...	...	...	21	(15)
Casual	...	...	...	...	...	1	(—)
						<u>22</u>	<u>(15)</u>

Applications received during 1959—

Confinement	...	...	...	...	...	3	(—)
Sickness	...	...	...	...	...	9	(5)
Tuberculosis	...	...	...	...	...	—	(—)
Aged and Infirm	...	...	...	...	...	9	(15)
						<u>21</u>	<u>(20)</u>

Cases attended during 1959—

Confinement	...	...	...	...	...	2	(—)
Sickness	...	...	...	...	...	6	(6)
Tuberculosis	...	...	...	...	...	—	(—)
Aged and Infirm	...	...	...	...	...	30	(29)
						<u>38</u>	<u>(35)</u>

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA

Water Supply

I am indebted to Mr. Delwyn G. Davies, Engineer and Manager of the Mid- and South-East Cheshire Water Board for the following information.

This district is supplied partly from the Mow Cop Borehole, partly from the Delamere Boreholes via the Allostock Booster and partly by a bulk supply purchased from Congleton Borough. A temporary booster station at present under construction at Oak-hanger will enable water from Hurleston and Bearstone to be pumped through Alsager into parts of the district and when completed will displace part of the water from Congleton Borough.

I am indebted to the Council's Engineer and Surveyor, Mr. R. O. Birtwistle, for the reports on Sewerage and Housing.

Sewerage

Brereton Green—

The sewerage scheme for this village was completed in 1958. During the year a sample of the effluent as discharged from the disposal works was submitted for analysis. The analyst reported on the sample that it was a "well oxidised and stable sewage effluent".

In the interest of reducing capital expenditure when the scheme was enquired into by the Ministry, that part of the scheme serving Back Lane and also the sewer in Hazelshaw Lane were deleted.

As the work proceeded it was found desirable to lay the sewers in Hazelshaw Lane since planning approval had been given for the development of the land on one side of the road.

With the lifting of the financial restrictions application was made to the Ministry for approval of the proposal to complete the scheme. This was given and it is expected that the work will be put in hand early in 1960.

The Elizabethan building known as Brereton Hall is now a private school. Drainage is to a septic tank installation which is far from satisfactory. At the request of the owner, the possibility of draining the property to the Council's sewage disposal works was explored. As a result it is expected that a scheme will be approved for this desirable improvement in the drainage arrangements at the school.

Church Hulme—

Considerable progress was made during the year in the preparation of the scheme for enlargement of the disposal works and improvement of the system of sewers. The proposals in outline were submitted to the Ministry for comment. After discussion with Inspectors, work proceeded on the scheme in greater detail.

Further meetings took place with the three firms discharging trade wastes to the Council's sewers. In the case of the wallpaper printing works plans were submitted and approved for a pre-treatment plant incorporating the means for effecting deposition of the china clay by the addition of precipitants. In the case of the drugs laboratory, possible sites for disposing of the fructose waste were considered. As an alternative to disposal to a tip, the possibility of discharge to the River Weaver at Runcorn or Widnes was also considered. The site suggested was not favoured by the Cheshire River Board and it was in due time agreed that enquiries be made as to discharging the waste to the Mersey. With a view

to effecting some improvement in the effluent, remedial measures were decided upon having regard to the limited capacity of the works. These included the treatment of the raw sewage by a precipitant and the construction of a sludge lagoon. The sludge drying bed capacity is too small in any circumstances and the increased sludge precipitation could only be removed by providing such a lagoon.

Church Lawton—

Agreement was reached as to the siting of the pumping station required in connection with the scheme for the draining of the Red Bull area of the parish. The owners agreed to sell the land and the preparation of the scheme was completed.

In the Lawton Gate vicinity the development of a housing site commenced, drainage being to the Council's sewers. Arrangements were made with the building developer for him to deepen his sewers so that they could be extended to serve Massey's Yard—a small community of about 10 houses all drained to septic tanks.

Goostrey—

The disposal works which were completed in May, 1958, have produced a satisfactory effluent during the year. Until June, 1959, while properties were being drained to the new sewers and conversions to the water carriage system were undertaken the sewage flow to the works was comparatively low. By the year's end about 200 properties had been connected and with a recorded flow to the disposal works of 20,000 gallons per day the sewage discharge per house is averaging 100 gallons per day.

There are now only eleven properties on the lines of the sewers still to be connected.

Five properties in Harrison Drive in the Northwich Rural District are now drained to the Goostrey sewers and the nuisance in the New Platt Lane area of the two districts no longer exists.

Council Houses

The Council's building programme is now easing off. At the commencement of the year building was proceeding on only two sites—Meadow Bank (6 bungalows) and Hassall Green (4 bungalows). Both contracts were completed during the year.

In August a further contract commenced for the erection of nine bungalows at Goostrey.

By December, 1959, the Council had built 825 dwellings since 1945 and with the 186 erected prior to 1939 and adjustments for purchases and sales their total ownership is 1018. The following table gives details :

Dwellings are owned by the Council in every Parish

<i>PARISH</i>	<i>Pre-1939</i>	<i>Post-1939</i>
Arclid	4	4
Betchton	12	67
Bradwall	—	8
Brereton	14	34
Church Hulme	22	233
Church Lawton	6	63
Cranage	15	12
Elton	—	2
Goostrey	12	70
Hassall	3	—
Hulme Walfield	4	6
Moreton	—	11
Newbold Astbury	10	25
Odd Rode	29	253
Smallwood	22	8
Somerford	10	—
Somerford Booths	6	14
Swettenham	12	4
Tetton	—	8
Twemlow	3	12
TOTALS ...	184	834

A block of three substandard cottages called Mill Terrace in the Parish of Hassall was bought and improved by the Council.

Schemes considered during the year and projected for 1960 include 35 dwellings and 24 flatlets.

The number of dwellings built per 1000 head of population has increased from 56.36 in 1958 to 58.30 in 1959.

Garages

There is a growing demand for garages and more have been built during the year.

The following table sets out the Council's ownership.

Betchton (Hassall Green)	6
Church Hulme (Holmes Chapel) ...	46
Church Lawton (Lawton Gate) ...	6
Cranage (Knutsford Road)	4
Goostrey (Booth Bed Lane)	8
Odd Rode (Meadow Bank)	19
TOTAL ...	89

In addition the Council have rented plots on two sites so that tenants can build their own temporary garages.

Three tenants have been provided with individual temporary garages but this arrangement is not particularly favoured in view of the possibility of the tenant leaving the house and the ingoing tenant not requiring the garage.

Maintenance of Council Houses

Reports of defects in council houses are made by tenants completing specially printed cards. During 1959, 1600 cards were received showing an increase of 2.4% on 1958.

The subdivision of these reports according to trades is approximately :

Plumber	39.40%
Joiner	14.14%
Bricklayer	22.22%
Electrician	21.21%
Labourer	3.03%

Painting

The painting of houses proceeded during the year with satisfactory results although due to changes in staff and staff deficiency the number painted was not sufficient to keep pace with the requirements if all houses are to be painted on a five year's cycle.

With the number of dwellings now having passed one thousand 200 must be painted each year. In order to accomplish this during a painting season of about 30 weeks a staff of six to seven men is required, assuming that the weather during the whole period is suitable for outdoor work. With the vagaries of the English climate this is not always the case and other work has then to be found. A carry over to the next year often results.

Improvements

In the matter of improving their older houses the Council is replacing all coal fired wash boilers in favour of electric, gas or calor gas boilers. All except 20 of the cast iron portable boilers have been replaced and these are in outlying villages and they will be taken out very shortly now that electricity is available in those villages. There are still 141 brick built boilers in existence but it is the intention to replace these also as soon as possible. Those tenants who wish to remove them themselves are given permission so to do.

Some years ago the Council adopted a scheme whereby tenants could hire a refrigerator for a weekly rent. A further scheme has now been agreed and is proving popular with tenants. Seventy five are already installed and a further forty will be provided in the near future.

Grass Mowing

In a rural district it is very desirable that new development should be planned with open spaces and grassed verges to the roads and if they are to look presentable they must be regularly cut. To leave them un-cut or to cut them only at infrequent intervals fails to set the good example required.

The Council with this in mind, authorised the regularly cutting of all grass plots on their housing sites and although the grass did not grow during the dry summer as it does in the normal English summer, one man was employed for 23 weeks on the work and good results were achieved.

Sewage Treatment Plants

Council dwellings having been built on 56 sites many of which are in very rural parishes, septic tank sewage treatment plants have had to be constructed. Of these only 18 sites are drained to public sewers, the remaining 38 are drained to small septic tank installations.

These are maintained by the Housing Repair Staff, the sludge being removed by the cesspool emptier.

Flatlets

Consideration was given during the closing months of the year to a proposal to build blocks of flatlets for old people. It was, in due time, decided to build two blocks, one at Holmes Chapel in the Parish of Church Hulme, and one at Meadow Bank, Scholar Green in the Parish of Odd Rode.

Each block will contain nine single person flatlets and three two person flats with Warden's accommodation attached. The flatlets will contain a living room with bed recess and a small kitchen. A communicating passage will enable the occupants to pass undercover into the common sitting room. Communal bathrooms are to be provided. The three two person flats will contain a larger living room and bed recess, kitchen and bathroom. Attached to and in the front of these will be an open glass roofed verandah.

All flats and flatlets will be linked to the warden's rooms by means of a warning system so that any occupant wishing for assistance can easily call the Warden.

Heating is to be by electricity—the floors of all habitable rooms will be heated so as to maintain a background temperature of 55°F. Higher temperatures will be possible to suit the tenant's individual needs by switching on electric fires.

Private Development

There was almost a 25% increase in the number of plans deposited for consideration by the Council under Building Byelaws and the Town and County Planning Acts. Details are set out in the following table.

			<i>Byelaws only</i>	<i>Byelaw & Planning</i>	<i>Planning only</i>	<i>Outline Planning</i>	<i>Total</i>
January	...	...	6	9	5	7	27
February	...	...	9	16	1	7	33
March	...	...	9	14	11	6	40
April	...	...	6	18	7	4	35
May	...	...	5	14	3	12	34
June	...	...	5	12	2	12	31
July	...	...	2	14	3	10	29
August	...	...	5	15	4	7	31
September	...	...	4	17	8	7	36
October	...	...	3	14	2	9	28
November	...	...	9	10	7	10	36
December	...	...	6	10	26	12	54
			<hr/> 69	<hr/> 163	<hr/> 79	<hr/> 103	<hr/> 414

Litter Bins

It is the Council's practice to provide litter bins where they are considered to be necessary. The Parish Council usually makes the request for them and after arrangements are made with the County Council as to their siting, they are fixed and the responsibility for emptying them rests with the Cleansing Department.

PREVALENCE OF AND CONTROL OVER INFECTIOUS DISEASE

Tuberculosis

One new case was notified and the number of people on register at December 31st, 1959 is shown below.

	Up to 1 yr.	1-5	5-15	15-25	25-35	35-45	45-55	55-65	65 & over	Total
Male Pulmonary	—	—	1	—	5	6	4	2	3	21
Female Pulmonary	—	—	2	3	4	5	2	—	—	16
Male Non-Pulmonary	—	—	2	3	4	—	1	—	—	10
Female Non-Pulmonary...	—	—	1	6	4	2	1	2	—	16

For comparative purposes, I have recorded the notifications of Tuberculosis during 1959 in conjunction with the notifications of this disease received each year since 1950.

Notifications — 1950 to 1959

	1950		1951		1952		1953		1954		1955		1956		1957		1958		1959	
	P	NP	P	NP	P	NP	P	NP	P	NP	P	NP	P	NP	P	NP	P	NP	P	NP
MALE																				
Up to 1 year			1																	
1- 5							1	1		1										
5-15								1		1		1								
15-25			1		1										1					
25-35	1		1		2			1						1						
35-45	1																			
45-55												1	2							
55-65	3		1			1					1	1								
65 and over			1		1															
FEMALE																				
Up to 1 year																				
1- 5					1		1													
5-15			2	1	1										1					
15-25	1		3	1			2		2	2										
25-35			1		1	1			1	1										
35-45						1							1							
45-55																		1		
55-65								1												
65 and over																				
TOTAL	6	1	7	4	4	4	3	2	3	2	4	3	4	1	6	1	0	0	1	0

Deaths — 1950 to 1959

	1950	1951	1952	1953	1954	1955	1956	1957	1958	1959
	P NP	P NP	P NP	P NP	P NP	P NP	P NP	P NP	P NP	P NP
MALE										
Up to 1 year	1									
1- 5					1					
5-15										
15-25										
25-35										
35-45		1								
45-55	1				1			1		2
55-65	1			1			1			
65 and over			1					1		
FEMALE										
Up to 1 year										
1- 5										
5-15			1							
15-25										
25-35						1				
35-45		1				1				
45-55										
55-65										
65 and over										1
TOTAL	2	1	2	0	1	1	1	0	2	0

NOTIFIABLE DISEASES (other than Tuberculosis) during the year 1959

DISEASE	AGE DISTRIBUTION													Total cases notified	Cases admitted to hospital
	Under 1	1- 2-	2- 3-	3- 4-	4- 5-	5- 10-	10- 15-	15- 20-	20- 35-	35- 45-	45- 65 & over				
Dysentery ...	—	2	2	2	1	13	4	—	3	1	1	—	29	—	
Measles ...	2	7	7	12	9	69	10	—	1	—	1	—	118	1	
Pneumonia ...	—	2	—	—	—	2	—	—	1	1	—	2	8	2	
Puerperal Pyrexia	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	1	—	
Scarlet Fever...	—	—	—	—	1	6	3	—	—	—	1	—	11	2	

The following sections of this report cover the work of the Public Health Inspector's Department and have been compiled by Mr. P. Kirkham, the Public Health Inspector.

Public Cleansing

No change has occurred in the number of men employed, i.e. fifteen. Five are full time drivers, one a spare driver and nine are loaders.

Refuse Collection Disposal and Night Soil Collection

The Council has now been successful in acquiring 15.379 acres of land adjoining the Central Cleansing Depot at Arclid for use as a central refuse tip. Nuisance occurred from paper at one tip blowing on to an adjoining main road. It is not intended to site tips in such a position in future. Generally, the tips were maintained satisfactorily, and were found to be free of any serious infestation by rodents or insects.

Septic Tank Service

The Council continued to charge at 10/- per load (650 gallons) or part load for desludging in respect of tanks taking domestic effluent only. Tanks receiving effluent from farm shippens or other trade or business premises are now charged on a cost basis, approximately £1/0/8d. per hour, when one driver and one loader are employed. The retention of the minimum charge of 10/- for domestic premises, whilst still giving a service, discourages frivolous requests for the work. The following are details of the work carried out :

<i>Type of Tank</i>	<i>No. of Loads</i>	<i>No. of Hours</i>	<i>No. of Visits</i>	<i>No. of diff. tanks</i>
Non-Domestic ...	154	174	57	7
Council Houses	143	187½	67	32
Domestic	231	304	139	128
Outside Area ...	8	13	8	7
Sewage Install. ...	79	81½	26	12
TOTAL	615	760	297	186

Salvage

The merchants have required the separation of newspapers and magazines from the mixed paper on the grounds of poor quality for board making. The following details are given of the work over the year :

Receipts

	Weight tons cw's qtrs	Revenue £ s d
Container Waste	16 0 3	152 7 1
Mixed Baled Paper	16 17 1	118 0 9
Newspapers and Magazines	13 1 2	47 2 3
	<hr/> 45 19 2	<hr/> £317 10 1

Expenditure

Labour	£184 1 2
Materials	£15 10 6
	<hr/>
TOTAL	£199 11 8

Vehicles and Maintenance

A further new Gamecock refuse vehicle was obtained—a 12 cubic yard side loader in lieu of 10 cubic yard. The Council disposed of the old Fordson vehicle. All minor repairs are carried out by the foreman/driver, and very little work is put out to contract. The following are the details of the mileage and petrol during the year :

Number	Make	Duty	Mileage	Petrol	m.p.g.
PMB 601	Karrier	Gamecock Refuse Collection	5796	886	6.5
PMB 602	Karrier	Gamecock Refuse Collection	6567	1200	5.4
PMB 603	Karrier	Gamecock Refuse Collection	6834	1037	6.4
WMA363	Karrier	Gamecock Refuse Collection	8602	1259	6.8
743 NFM	Karrier	Gamecock Refuse Collection	617	144	5.2
PMB 604	Karrier	Cesspool Night Soil and Septic Tanks	9287	1807	5.1
KMA 128	Fordson	Spare Vehicle			
		Refuse or Nighsoil	344	81	4.1
		TOTALS	38947	6414	5.9

Food and Food Premises

The work of routine inspection of food premises continued with a steady improvement in hygiene standards. There is certainly however, no need for complacency, and regularly it is found necessary to request alterations in methods of food handling and improvement of premises. The following is a summary of the items brought to notice :

No. 6	(Table tops, etc. with which food is liable to come into contact to be covered with impervious mat.)	5
No. 8	(Placing of food as to prevent risk of contamination)	2

No. 9e	(Prohibition of smoking)	2
No. 14	(Notice to be placed near sanitary convenience) ...	3
No. 15	(Water supply to be provided)	2
No. 16	(Wash-hand basin to be provided, with soap, nail-brush and towel)	6
No. 17	(First aid materials to be provided)	2
No. 18	(Accommodation for clothing, etc.)	1
No. 19	(Facilities for washing food and equipment)	5
No. 23	(Cleanliness and repair, etc. of food room)	11
No. 25	(Temperature at which certain foods to be kept) ...	1

The following are the particulars of the food premises in the Council's area :

Grocers and General	46
Public Houses and Licensed Clubs ...	36
Cafes	13
Village Halls, etc.	11
School Canteens	17
Factory Canteens	5
Bakehouses	3
Sweets and Confectionery	3
Butchers	7
Chemists	2
Fish and Chips	3
Canning Factory	1
Dairy	2
TOTAL	149

37 premises are registered under section 16(1)(a) of the Food and Drugs Act, 1955, for the sale of ice cream and one for the manufacture by the complete cold mix method. There are 10 other premises registered under section 16(1)(b). 3 Fish and Chips, 6 Sausage and Meat Pies and 1 Food Canning Factory.

A complaint was received of dirty milk bottles at a school—three bottles being involved in one day's delivery of milk. After a full investigation, the Council resolved to draw the supplier's attention to the seriousness of the complaint but not to institute proceedings.

Slaughterhouses and Meat Inspection

Two private slaughterhouses operate in the Council's area, and slaughter only for sale from the shops attached to them. The licences were renewed to expire on June 30th, 1960, when the matter will be reviewed in light of the new Slaughterhouse Regulations. The following table gives details of the work carried out :

Carcases and Offal Inspected and Condemned in whole or in part

	Cattle excluding Cows	Cows	Calves	Sheep and Lambs	Pigs	Horses
Number killed	66	42	—	296	29	—
Number Inspected	66	42	—	296	29	—
<i>All diseases except Tuberculosis and Cysticerci:</i>						
CONDEMNATIONS						
Whole carcases condemned	—	—	—	—	—	—
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	14	11	—	1	2	—
Percentage of the number inspected affected with disease other than tuberculosis and cysticerci	21.2%	26.2%	—	0.37%	6.9%	—
<i>Tuberculosis only:</i>						
Whole carcases condemned	—	—	—	—	1	—
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	8	8	—	—	1	—
Percentage of the number inspected affected with Tuberculosis	12.1%	19.0%	—	—	6.9%	—
<i>Cysticercosis:</i>						
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	—	—	—	—	—	—
Carcases submitted to treatment by refrigeration	—	—	—	—	—	—
Generalised and totally condemned	—	—	—	—	—	—

Slaughter of Animals Act, 1953-1954

4 licences were issued to people residing in the area.

Milk Regulations, 1949-1954

The following table shows the number of licences issued during the year :

Dealers—	No.
Pasteurised	13
Sterilised	20
Tuberculin Tested	13

Supplementary—

Pasteurised	...	...	...	...	...	...	6
Sterilised	...	...	...	...	...	...	3
Tuberculin Tested	...	...	...	...	...	...	7

Factories and Work Places

The following table gives information as to the number of registered factories and inspections made :

	No. on register	No. of inspections	No. of written notices
(1) Factories in which Section 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities	3	2	—
(2) Factories not included in (1) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority ...	41	31	1
(3) Other premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding out-worker's premises)	—	—	—
TOTAL	44	33	1

Cases in which defects were found

Sanitary Conveniences (S.7)	Found	Remedied	Referred by H.M. Inspector
Unsuitable or defective	2	1	—

Outworkers

Wearing Apparel (making, etc. cleaning and washing) ... nil

SANITARY INSPECTIONS

Summary of Visits

Animals, Keeping of	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	16
Conversions	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	68
Drainage—including septic tanks, etc.	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	158
Dustbins	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	5
Factory—with Mechanical Power	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	31
Factory—without Mechanical Power	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
Food Premises—General	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	35
Food Premises—Bakehouses	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
Food Premises—Butchers	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	15

Food Premises—Cafes and Canteens	64
Food Premises—Dairy, etc.	12
Food Premises—Fish and Chips	2
Food Premises—Ice Cream	10
Food Premises—Hotels and Public Houses	51
Food Premises—Unsound Food	115
Food Premises—Slaughterhouses	2
Housing—General	309
Housing—Council House Applications	4
Housing—Housing Act, 1949, Grants	227
Infectious Disease	70
Infectious Disease—Disinfection	4
Insect Pests	33
Insect Pests—Disinfestation	1
Nuisance—General	28
Nuisance—Housing	17
Petroleum	46
Rodent Control	29
Scavenging—General	47
Scavenging—Tips	18
Scavenging—Teams at Work	24
Scavenging—Garages	175
Smoke Observations	9
Tents, Vans and Sheds	46
Water Supply	33
Miscellaneous—Interviews, etc.	48
	<hr/>
TOTAL	1756
	<hr/>

Number of complaints received	97
Number of Informal Notices served	59
Number of Informal Notices complied with	72
Number of Statutory Notices served	3
Number of Statutory Notices complied with by owner	26
Number of Statutory Notices complied with by Local Authority in default of owner	—

Conversions

Conversion of the closets in the parish of Goostrey has proceeded, and only five dwelling houses now require attention. The Council have paid half the cost of the approved cost of the conversions, and the full cost of the works found necessary to separate foul from surface water. Connection to the sewer of the

properties having water closets to septic tanks, etc. also continued satisfactorily, and only six properties have failed to take advantage of the sewer.

Clean Air Act, 1956

No statutory action has been found necessary, and no serious contravention of the Act has been noted on industrial premises. All new properties are required to fit approved appliances, the Council having adopted the appropriate Byelaw. In addition, in connection with the Council's improvement Grant scheme, many properties have had firegrates fitted with approved appliances. The building trade remains very ignorant of what is implied by "approved appliances" and this is often understood to mean an "all-night burner".

Moveable Dwellings

Eight Public Health Licences for caravans were issued during the year. Of these, six applicants had no other home at the time of the application, one was awaiting completion of a house, and one was for recreational purposes.

At the end of the year, there were 8 caravans occupied on single sites. In addition, there are two licensed sites in the area, one for thirty caravans, April to October only, and the other for twenty-five of which ten may be permanently occupied.

Water Supply

Water is supplied to domestic premises mainly by the Mid-and South-East Cheshire Water Board. Approximately fifty houses have a private supply, and fourteen samples were taken during the year. Of these, only three proved satisfactory. Statutory Notices were served in two instances requiring connection to the Board's main. In two other instances, alternative sources of supply were obtained. In the remaining cases, advice has been given regarding sterilisation or boiling, and the possibility of connecting to the main pursued wherever practicable.

Rodent Control

One full time Operative is employed, and is provided with a van for the work. Seventy farms and industrial premises have contracts for this work.

The following details are given of the work carried out :

	<i>Number Treated</i>	<i>Number of visits</i>
Private Houses	50	181
Refuse Tips and Sewage Works	23	872
Industrial and Trade Premises...	21	299
Farms	58	878
	<hr/> 152	<hr/> 2230

In addition, seven private houses and six farms were surveyed during the year. Sewers again proved negative after test baiting.

Petroleum (Regulation) Acts

56 premises are licensed.

Close liaison continues with the Fire Preventive Officers of the Cheshire County Council, and the Principles of Construction and Conditions of Licence are being enforced as recommended by the Home Office. Some difficulty is experienced in ascertaining whether the electrical wiring complies with requirements, and advice on this point is not available from the Fire Preventive Officers.

Housing

During 1959, 9 families (49 persons) were rehoused from unfit houses. 8 unfit houses were closed, 17 demolished and 25 made fit, of which 2 had Demolition Orders revoked, 3 Closing Orders determined and 20 had Undertakings cancelled. Since commencement of the five year programme, 208 houses have been dealt with resulting in 54 demolitions, 87 closures, 9 undertakings not to re-use, and 58 houses being made fit. 34 unfit properties, additional to those found at the time of the survey, are included in these figures, and it is estimated that about a further 11 properties require attention. Only 57 houses have not been dealt with of the original 231 houses found to be unfit at the time of the housing survey in 1954-55.

10 Bungalows for old people were completed in 1959, and 32 bungalows, 3 houses and 2 blocks of 12 Flatlets for old people are to be started in 1960.

Improvement Grants—Discretionary Grant

The Council pursued an active interest in Discretionary Grants encouraging applications and resulting in 32 houses receiving improvement with a total grant of £9537. Since 1954, the number of houses improved is 144 with a total of over £36,000 given in grants.

Standard Grant

The majority of requests for improvements occur from houses not having main drainage, and the expense of a septic tank places the application in the higher maximum of the Discretionary Grant. Nine applications were received and approved, however, for Standard Grants and one case completed with a grant of £55/13/0.

Certificates of Disrepair

Four Certificates of Disrepair were issued in each case for some of the defects listed. No applications for cancellation were received, and nine Certificates were outstanding in the register at the end of the year.



