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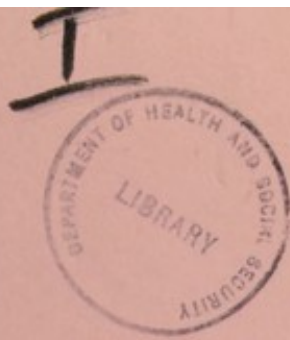
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BOROUGH OF DARWEN

ANNUAL REPORT
OF THE
MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH
INCLUDING THE ANNUAL REPORT OF THE
CHIEF PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR
FOR THE YEAR 1968



*With the Compliments
of the
Medical Officer of Health*

*Public Health Dept.
Darwen*



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B O R O U G H O F D A R W E N

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ANNUAL REPORT

of the

MEDICAL OFFICER of HEALTH

and

CHIEF PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR

For the Year

1968

MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC HEALTH COMMITTEE

1968 - 1969

COUNCILLOR C. R. GRILLS, J.P., MAYOR

CHAIRMAN :

COUNCILLOR DR. H. W. LEES, M.R.C.S.

VICE-CHAIRMAN:

COUNCILLOR J. McGLYNN

ALD. P.S. HUNT

ALD. C.W.JONES, J.P.

COUN. W.F. BIRCH

COUN. DR. R. GREGORY Ph.D.

COUN. G. HARWOOD

COUN. B. LAWRENCE

COUN. J.M. LONGWORTH

COUN. MISS. C. MARSDEN

COUN. J.H. SWANTON

COUN. G. THOMPSON

JOHN CHADWICK FIELDING, LL.B.,

CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER AND TOWN CLERK

STAFF OF THE PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT

=====

Medical Officer of Health.....	(R. C. Webster, T.D., B.Sc.
Divisional Medical Officer,	(M.D., D.P.H., D.C.H.
Lancashire County Council.....	(
Deputy Medical Officer of Health.....	(Sheila M. Hutchinson,
Senior Assistant Divisional	(L.R.C.P., L.R.C.S.,
Medical Officer, Lancashire County Council.....	(L.R.F.P.& S., D.R.C.O.G.,
	(D.P.H.
Chief Public Health Inspector.....	(H.Ramsbottom, C.S.I.B., Cer
	(Insp. Meat and Other Foods
	(M.A.P.H.I.
Deputy Chief Public Health Inspector.....	(P.H. Watson, C.S.I.B., Cer
	(Insp. Meat and Other Foods
	(M.A.P.H.I.
District Public Health Inspectors.....	(T.Gregson, C.S.I.B., Cert.
	(Insp. Meat and Other Foods
	(M.A.P.H.I.
	(B. Taylor, Diploma in Publ
	(Health.
Technical Assistant.....	(V.Griffiths (Resigned
	(31.1.1968)
	(J.F. Oxford (Commenced
	(19.2.1968)
Chief Clerk.....	(J. Bolton.
Clerical Staff.....	(Miss. M. Duckworth.
	(Miss. M. A. Hoyle.
Rodent Operator.....	(H. Brady.
Municipal Hostel, Warden.....	(R. W. Kilpatrick.
Matron.....	(Mrs. P. Kilpatrick.
Mortuary Attendant (Part-time).....	(A. Bowcock.

CLINICS and TREATMENT CENTRES

NAME OF CLINIC OR CENTRE	SITUATION	DAY AND TIME	BY WHOM PROVIDED
Child Welfare & Diphtheria Immunisation	Civic Health Centre	Monday..... 2 p.m.	Lancashire County Council
	St. Chad's Clinic	Wednesday..... 10 a.m.	
	Spring Vale Clinic	Wednesday..... 9.30 a.m.	
Ante-Natal	Civic Health Centre	Wednesday..... 2 p.m.	Lancashire County Council
		Friday..... 2 p.m. (Specialist)	
Ante-Natal Relaxation	Civic Health Centre	Wednesday..... 2 p.m.	Lancashire County Council
Speech Therapy	Civic Health Centre	Tuesday a.m. and p. m. Friday a.m. and p. m. (by appointment)	Lancashire County Council
Maternity & Child Welfare Dental and School Dental	Civic Health Centre	Tuesday to Friday 9 a.m. to 12. 30 p.m. and 1.30 p.m. to 4.30 p.m.	Lancashire County Council
School Clinics	Civic Health Centre	Minor Ailments	Lancashire County Council
		Monday to Friday 9 a.m. & 4 p.m.	
		Friday..... 2 p.m. (by appointment)	
Ophthalmic	Civic Health Centre	Monday a.m. (by appointment)	Lancashire County Council

... continued over...

... Continued...

CLINICS and TREATMENT CENTRES

NAME OF CLINIC OR CENTRE	SITUATION	- DAY AND TIME	BY WHOM PROVIDED
Ear, Nose and Throat	Civic Health Centre	Tuesday p.m. (by appointment)	Lancashire County Council
Orthopaedic	Civic Health Centre	Wednesday 10 a.m. (by appointment)	Lancashire County Council
Chiropodist	Civic Health Centre	Monday to Friday a.m. and p.m. Except Wednesday a.m. only (by appointment)	Lancashire County Council
Cardiac Clinic for Expectant and Nursing Mothers	Queen's Park Hospital, Blackburn	1st Tuesday in every month 11 a.m. (by appointment)	Blackburn & District Hospital Management Committee
Tuberculosis Dispensary	Royal Infirmary, Blackburn	Tuesday 8.50 a.m. to 12 noon Wednesday 10 to 11.15 a.m. and 1.40 p.m. to 4.30 p.m. Friday 8.50 a.m. to 12 noon	Manchester Regional Hospital Board
Venereal Diseases	Royal Infirmary, Blackburn	Males & Females Monday 2 p.m. to 4 p.m. Tuesday 10 a.m. to 12 noon Wednesday 5 p.m. to 7 p.m. Thursday 2 p.m. to 4 p.m.	Manchester Regional Hospital Board
B.C.G. Vaccination Prevention of Tuberculosis	Royal Infirmary, Blackburn	By appointment	Manchester Regional Hospital Board
Poliomyelitis	Civic Health Centre St. Chad's Clinic Spring Vale Clinic	Monday p.m. Thursday p.m. Wednesday 10 a.m. Wednesday 9.30 a.m.	Lancashire County Council

CIVIC HEALTH CENTRE,
DARWEN.

July, 1969.

TO THE CHAIRMAN and MEMBERS of the PUBLIC HEALTH COMMITTEE

Lady and Gentlemen,

I have pleasure in presenting to you the Annual Report of the Public Health Department for 1968.

The general health statistics are very satisfactory. Infectious disease presented no significant problems. There was a moderate amount of sonne dysentery, but this has a "nuisance value" rather than being a serious matter. There were seventeen cases of food poisoning but these were due to various organisms and were not a single outbreak. This does show the importance of care in selecting and preparing food and the need for constant vigilance: This point is also borne out by the cases noted by the Chief Public Health Inspector in which action was taken on unsatisfactory food stuffs.

One can say a satisfactory year in which as always I have enjoyed the friendly co-operation of my colleagues and the kindness and interest of the committee.

I am, Lady and Gentlemen,
Your Obedient Servant,

R. C. WEBSTER,
Medical Officer of Health.

PART 1.

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Statistics and Social Conditions

General Provisions of the Health Services

Prevalence and Control of Infectious Diseases

BY

R. C. WEBSTER, T.D., B.Sc., M.D., D.P.H., D.C.H.

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

SUMMARY of STATISTICS and SOCIAL CONDITIONS, 1968

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GENERAL INFORMATION

Geographical Position.....	Lat. 53° 41' 25" N Lon. 2° 28' 32" W
Elevation above sea level.....	500 ft. to over 800 ft.
Geological formation.....	Boulder clay and sand over coal measures.
Area (in acres).....	5,959
Population - Census, 1961.....	29,452
Population - Registrar General's Mid-year Estimate for 1968.....	28,740
Number of Inhabited Houses - Census 1961.....	10,532
Number of Inhabited Houses at end of 1968.....	10,752
Number of Families or Separate Occupiers at Census, 1961.....	10,532
Rateable Value.....	£905,000
Sum represented by a Penny Rate.....	£ 3,646

The inhabitants are mainly of the artisan, or working class, and the principal industries are cotton weaving, paper making and staining, plastic and paint manufacturing and engineering trades.

SUMMARY OF VITAL STATISTICS

		MALES	FEMALES	TOTAL	
LIVE BIRTHS	{ Legitimate	219	202	421	Birth-rate per 1,000 Estimated Home Population mid 1968 Crude 16.2 Adjusted 18.0
	{ Illegitimate	26	20	46	
	{ Total	245	222	467	
STILL BIRTHS	{ Legitimate	8	2	10	Rate per 1,000 total Births : 21
	{ Illegitimate	0	0	0	
	{ Total	8	2	10	
DEATHS	{ 232	189	421	Death-rate per 1,000 estimated home population mid 1968 Crude 14.6 Adjusted 14.5	
MORTALITY RATES PER 1,000 EST. POPULATION	{ Respiratory T.B.....			0.03	
	{ Malignant Neoplasms, etc.....			2.47	
MATERNAL MORTALITY	{ Deaths from Pregnancy, Childbirth and Abortion			Nil	
	{ Mortality Rate per 1,000 total Births.....			Nil	
INFANTILE MORTALITY (Infants under the age of one year)		MALES	FEMALES	TOTAL	
	{ Legitimate				
	{ Infants....	4	6	10	
	{ Illegitimate				
	{ Infants....	0	0	0	
	{ Total Deaths	4	6	10	
Rate per 1,000 Live Births.....					21

INFANTILE MORTALITY RATES

=====

YEAR	DARWEN	ENGLAND AND WALES
1959	28.4	22.0
1960	30.6	21.7
1961	16.0	21.4
1962	6.2	21.4
1963	30.7	20.9
1964	23.7	20.0
1965	10.5	19.0
1966	27.7	19.0
1967	19.0	18.3
1968	21.0	18.0

OTHER INFANT DEATHS

TOTAL

RATE PER 1,000 POPULATION

Deaths from Measles (at all ages)...	Nil	0,000
Deaths from Whooping Cough (at all ages).....	Nil	0,000
Deaths from Diarrhoea (under two years).....	1	0.035

NEO-NATAL MORTALITY

Deaths of Infants under 4 weeks of age.....	5
Mortality Rate per 1,000 Live Births.....	11

EARLY NEO-NATAL MORTALITY

Mortality Rate per 1,000 Live Births.....	9
---	---

PERINATAL MORTALITY

Mortality Rate per 1,000 Total Births.....	29
--	----

Please Note:-

"Perinatal Mortality" shows the total number of stillbirths and total number of Infant Deaths during the first week of age".

BIRTHS. The number of live births registered during the year was 467, giving a birth-rate adjusted by comparison with the estimated home population of 18.0 per 1,000. The trend of this rate over the past ten years in comparison with the rate for England and Wales is shown in the following table -

YEAR	DARWEN			ENGLAND AND WALES	
	NUMBER OF BIRTHS			RATE PER 1,000	RATE PER 1,000
	MALE	FEMALE	TOTAL		
1959	238	220	458	16.8	16.5
1960	235	222	457	16.8	17.1
1961	250	250	500	18.2	17.4
1962	232	253	485	17.7	18.0
1963	255	266	521	19.6	18.2
1964	258	249	507	19.3	18.4
1965	246	228	474	18.1	18.1
1966	269	237	506	19.4	17.7
1967	260	255	515	19.9	17.2
1968	245	222	467	18.0	16.9

ILLEGITIMATE BIRTHS - The following table shows the number of illegitimate births and deaths for the past ten years :-

YEAR	NUMBER OF BIRTHS	RATE PER CENT OF LIVE BIRTHS	NUMBER OF DEATHS UNDER 1 YEAR	DEATH RATE PER 1,000 ILLEGITIMATE LIVE BIRTHS
1959	18	3.93	Nil	Nil
1960	19	4.15	Nil	Nil
1961	28	5.60	Nil	Nil
1962	32	6.59	Nil	Nil
1963	35	6.71	1	28
1964	34	6.70	2	59
1965	32	6.75	Nil	Nil
1966	32	6.32	Nil	Nil
1967	49	9.51	3	61
1968	46	9.85	Nil	Nil

STILLBIRTHS - The table given below sets out details relating to stillbirths for the past ten years :-

YEAR	NUMBER OF STILLBIRTHS			RATE PER 1,000 BIRTHS	RATE PER 1,000 POPULATION	
	LEGITIMATE	ILLEGITIMATE	TOTAL		DARWEN	ENGLAND & WALES
1959	14	Nil	14	29.7	0.47	0.35
1960	16	Nil	16	33.8	0.54	0.34
1961	10	4	14	27.2	0.47	0.33
1962	5	2	7	14.2	0.23	0.33
1963	10	3	13	24.3	0.44	0.32
1964	7	3	10	19.3	0.34	0.31
1965	13	1	14	28.7	0.48	0.29
1966	9	1	10	19.4	0.34	0.28
1967	5	1	6	12.0	0.20	0.26
1968	10	Nil	10	21.0	0.34	0.24

DEATHS - The number of deaths of Darwen residents which occurred during the year was 421, representing an adjusted death-rate per 1,000 of the population of 14.5

The trend of the death-rate of the Borough for the past ten years is shown below in comparison with the rate for England and Wales :-

YEAR	DARWEN		ENGLAND AND WALES
	TOTAL DEATHS	RATE PER 1,000	RATE PER 1,000
1959	472	15.7	11.6
1960	430	14.3	11.5
1961	480	15.9	12.0
1962	462	15.2	11.9
1963	451	15.3	12.2
1964	377	13.0	11.3
1965	417	13.9	11.5
1966	470	15.9	11.7
1967	417	14.4	11.2
1968	421	14.5	11.9

The following is a copy of the Eighth Revision of the International Classification of Diseases supplied by the Registrar General of the causes and sex distribution of deaths of Darwen residents.

The information does not include non-civilian deaths :-

B.LIST NUMBER	CAUSE TITLE	MALES	FEMALES	TOTAL
B.1	Cholera.....	-	-	-
B.2	Typhoid Fever.....	-	-	-
B.3	Bacillary Dysentery & Amoebiasis.....	-	-	-
B.4	Enteritis & Other Diarrhoeal Diseases	-	1	1
B.5	Tuberculosis of Respiratory System...	1	-	1
B.6	Other Tuberculosis, incl. Late Effects.	-	-	-
B.7	Plague.....	-	-	-
B.8	Diphtheria.....	-	-	-
B.9	Whooping Cough.....	-	-	-
B.10	Streptococcal Sore Throat & Scarlet Fever.....	-	-	-
B.11	Meningococcal Infection.....	-	-	-
B.12	Acute Poliomyelitis.....	-	-	-
B.13	Smallpox.....	-	-	-
B.14	Measles.....	-	-	-
B.15	Typhus & Other Rickettsioses.....	-	-	-
B.16	Malaria.....	-	-	-
B.17	Syphilis & its Sequelae.....	-	-	-
B.18	All Other Infective & Parasitic Diseases.....	-	1	1
B.19 (PT)	Malignant Neoplasm- Stomach.....	7	3	10
" "	Malignant Neoplasm- Lung & Bronchus.	10	-	10
" "	Malignant Neoplasm- Breast.....	-	8	8
" "	Malignant Neoplasm- Uterus.....	-	6	6
" "	Leukaemia.....	1	-	1
" (REM)	Other Malignant Neoplasms, etc.....	19	17	36
B.20	Benign Neoplasms & Neoplasms of Unspecified Nature.....	-	-	-
B.21	Diabetes Mellitus.....	2	5	7
B.22	Avitaminoses & Other Nutritional Deficiency.....	-	-	-
B.46 (PT)	Other Endocrine, Nutritional and Metabolic Diseases.....	-	-	-
B.23	Anaemias.....	1	1	2
B.46 (PT)	Other Diseases of Blood and Blood - Forming Organs.....	-	-	-
B.46 (PT)	Mental Disorders.....	-	-	-
B.24	Meningitis.....	1	-	1
B.46 (PT)	Other Diseases of Nervous System and Sense Organs.....	2	-	2
B.25	Active Rheumatic Fever.....	-	-	-
B.26	Chronic Rheumatic Heart Disease.....	1	2	3
B.27	Hypertensive Disease.....	4	8	12

... continued over...

B. LIST NUMBER	CAUSE TITLE	MALES	FEMALES	TOTAL
B.28	Ischaemic Heart Disease.....	74	54	128
B.29	Other Forms of Heart Disease.....	10	8	18
B.30	Cerebrovascular Disease.....	26	31	57
B.46(PT)	Other Diseases of the Circulatory System.....	4	5	9
B.31	Influenza.....	1	-	1
B.32	Pneumonia.....	10	15	25
B.33(PT)	Bronchitis, Emphysema.....	28	4	32
B.33(REM)	Asthma.....	1	-	1
B.46(PT)	Other Diseases of the Respiratory System.....	3	2	5
B.34	Peptic Ulcer.....	2	-	2
B.35	Appendicitis.....	-	-	-
B.36	Intestinal Obstruction & Hernia....	1	2	3
B.37	Cirrhosis of Liver.....	-	-	-
B.46(PT)	Other Diseases of the Digestive System.....	2	5	7
B.38	Nephritis & Nephrosis.....	1	1	2
B.39	Hyperplasia of Prostate.....	2	-	2
B.46(PT)	Other Diseases of the Genito- Urinary System.....	1	4	5
B.46(PT)	Diseases of Musculo-Skeletal System.....	1	2	3
B.40	Abortion.....	-	-	-
B.41	Other Complications of Pregnancy, Childbirth & Puerperium.....	-	-	-
B.46(PT)	Diseases of the Skin & Subcutaneous Tissue.....	-	-	-
B.42	Congenital Anomalies.....	-	1	1
B.43	Birth Injury, Difficult Labour, & Other Anoxic & Hypoxic Conditions..	1	1	2
B.44	Other Causes of Perinatal Mortality	1	-	1
B.45	Symptoms & Ill-Defined Conditions..	-	-	-
BE.47	Motor Vehicle Accidents.....	4	1	5
BE.48	All Other Accidents.....	3	1	4
BE.49	Suicide & Self-Inflicted Injuries..	6	-	6
BE.50	All Other External Causes.....	1	-	1
TOTALS : -		232	189	421

GENERAL PROVISIONS OF HEALTH SERVICES.

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A comprehensive range of services is maintained by the Local Health Authority, Lancashire County Council, including Ante-Natal Clinics, Child Welfare Clinics, Speech Therapy Clinics and other School Health Services-Medical and Dental.

Ambulance service is provided by Lancashire County Council.

Hospital services are provided by Manchester Regional Hospital Board, including general hospital facilities in Blackburn and a Maternity Home in the former Darwen Infectious Diseases Hospital at Bull Hill.

LABORATORY FACILITIES

The Pathological and Bacteriological Department of the Blackburn and East Lancashire Royal Infirmary undertake the examination of pathological specimens for the Borough of Darwen, in accordance with the Government scheme now being officially carried out in this area by the Manchester Regional Hospital Board.

The bacteriological examination of food, water and other non-personal specimens is carried out by the Public Health Laboratory, Preston, acting for the Medical Research Council of the Ministry of Health.

PREVALENCE AND CONTROL OF INFECTIOUS DISEASES

The numerical and age incidence of infectious diseases, other than tuberculosis, is shown in the following tables, which includes particulars of Darwen cases notified and accepted. The so-called minor infectious diseases, other than measles and whooping cough, are not included in the tables, as they are not notifiable in Darwen and, therefore, statistics as to their incidence are not reliable.

	MEASLES (EXCLUDING RUBELLA)		DYSENTERY		SCARLET FEVER		DIPHTHERIA		ACUTE MENINGITIS (B)		ACUTE POLIOMYELITIS				MENINGOCOCCAL INFECTION (A)			
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	PARALYTIC		NON PARALYTIC		M	F		
UNDER 1 YEAR	3	2	2	6														
1 "	4	6	5	5														
2 YEARS	7	4	1	5		1												
3 "	4	2	10	7	2	1												
4 "	3		8	13	1	3												
5 - 9 "	8	3	14	13	9	6												
10 -14 "			2	2		1												
15- 24 "			1	3	1													
25 and Over			10	18														
AGE UNKNOWN																		
TOTAL	29	17	53	72	13	12	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-		
	ACUTE ENCEPHALITIS				LEPTO- SPIROSIS (B)		PARATY- PHOID FEVER		TYPHOID FEVER		FOOD POISONING		ACUTE PNEUMONIA (A)		PUERPERAL PYREXIA (A)		ERYSIP- ELAS (A)	
	INFECTIVE		POST INFECTIOUS															
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	F	M	F	
UNDER 5 YEARS											1	3						
5 - 14 "											4	2						
15 - 44 "											2	4			1			
45 - 64 "																		
65 and Over											1		1					
AGE UNKNOWN																		
TOTAL	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	7	10	-	1	1	-	-	

MALES	FEMALES
SMALLPOX	
-	-
OPHTHALMIA NEONATORUM	
-	-
ANTHRAX	
-	-
(B) YELLOW FEVER	
-	-

... continued over ...

CONTINUED

	TETANUS (B)		INFECTIVE JAUNDICE (C)	
	M	F	M	F
UNDER 1 YEAR				
1 "				
2 - 4 YEARS			1	1
5 - 9 "			1	1
10 -14 "			1	1
15 -19 "				1
20 -24 "				1
25 -34 "				
35 -44 "			1	
45 -54 "				
55 -64 "				
65 -74 "				
75 AND OVER				
AGE UNKNOWN				
TOTAL	-	-	4	5

AGE PERIODS	WHOOPIG COUGH	
	M	F
UNDER 3 MONTHS		
6 "		
9 "		1
1 YEAR		1
2 - 4 YEARS	2	2
5 - 9 "	3	3
10 - 14 "		
15 - 19 "		
20 - 24 "		
25 - 34 "		
35 - 44 "		
45 - 54 "		
55 - 64 "		
65 - 74 "		
75 AND OVER		
AGE UNKNOWN		
TOTAL	5	7

- (A) Notified to 30th September, 1968
 (B) Notified from 1st October, 1968
 (C) Notified from 1st June, 1968

CASES REMOVED TO HOSPITAL AND DEATHS FROM INFECTIOUS DISEASES

DISEASE	HOSPITAL		TOTAL DEATHS
	CASES REMOVED	DEATHS IN HOSPITAL	
Dysentery	1	-	-
Erysipelas	1	-	-
Food Poisoning	2	-	-
Infective Jaundice	1	-	-

The following table gives the comparative incidence of Infectious Diseases during the past five years :-

DISEASE	1964	1965	1966	1967	1968
Smallpox.....	-	-	-	-	-
Scarlet Fever.....	17	103	59	15	25
Diphtheria (including Membranous Croup).....	-	-	-	-	-
Enteric or Typhoid Fever (excluding Paratyphoid).....	-	-	-	-	-
Paratyphoid Fever.....	1	2	-	-	-
Measles (excluding Rubella)...	104	609	253	355	46
Whooping Cough.....	95	17	9	84	12
(A)Acute Pneumonia (Primary and Influenzal).....	2	1	-	-	1
(A)Puerperal Pyrexia.....	2	-	1	2	1
(A)Meningococcal Infection.....	-	-	-	-	-
ACUTE POLIOMYELITIS :-					
Paralytic.....	-	-	-	-	-
Non-Paralytic.....	-	-	-	-	-
ACUTE ENCEPHALITIS :-					
Infective.....	-	-	-	-	-
Post Infectious.....	-	-	-	-	-
Dysentery.....	76	7	8	60	125
Ophthalmia Neonatorum.....	1	-	-	-	-
(A)Erysipelas.....	1	-	2	-	-
(B)Leptospirosis.....	-	-	-	-	-
(B)Acute Meningitis.....	-	-	-	-	-
Anthrax.....	-	-	-	-	-
(B)Yellow Fever.....	-	-	-	-	-
Food Poisoning.....	3	2	2	-	17
(B)Tetanus.....	-	-	-	-	-
(C)Infective Jaundice.....	-	-	-	-	9
TOTALS :-	302	741	334	516	236

(A) Notified to 30th September, 1968.

(B) Notified from 1st October, 1968.

(C) Notified from 1st June, 1968.

TUBERCULOSIS

Cases of Tuberculosis were admitted to various Sanatoria under the Regional Hospital Board.

The Tuberculosis Scheme is administered by the Lancashire County Council and Regional Hospital Board, but the Area Tuberculosis Officer and Nurse maintain close co-operation with the Public Health Department, furnishing particulars about housing conditions and environment generally. The necessary disinfection is carried out by the Public Health Department.

The following table shows the age group incidence of new cases of tuberculosis notified, and the deaths from the disease during 1968:-

AGE PERIODS	NEW CASES				DEATHS			
	RESPIRATORY		NON - RESPIRATORY		RESPIRATORY		NON - RESPIRATORY	
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
Years								
0 - 1.....	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
1 - 2.....	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
2 - 5.....	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
5 -10.....	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
10 -15.....	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
15 -20.....	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
20 -25.....	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
25 -35.....	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
35 -45.....	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-
45 -55.....	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-
55 -65.....	-	-	-	-	*1	-	-	-
65 -75.....	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
75 & upwards.....	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
TOTALS:-	1	1	1	-	1	-	-	-
	2		1		1		-	

* Non-notified fatal case of Respiratory Tuberculosis

The following table shows the number of new cases of Tuberculosis placed on the Register during the last ten years :-

YEAR	RESPIRATORY		NON-RESPIRATORY		TOTAL
	MALE	FEMALE	MALE	FEMALE	
1959	7	3	2	2	14
1960	4	5	-	-	9
1961	5	2	-	-	7
1962	4	2	-	-	6
1963	11	2	-	-	13
1964	8	1	-	-	9
1965	3	2	-	2	7
1966	2	1	1	-	4
1967	3	2	-	2	7
1968	1	1	1	-	3

NATIONAL
ASSISTANCE
ACT, 1948
AND 1951
Section 47

One person was dealt with under this Section.

TO THE CHAIRMAN and MEMBERS of the HEALTH COMMITTEE

I beg to submit the Annual Report on the Environmental Health Services for the year 1968.

New Housing Schemes are now well under way and it is hoped that work will begin very shortly on large scale clearance and amenity areas.

In the meantime small pockets of property are being acquired and cleared where possible to prevent nuisance.

Smoke control areas are being accelerated and next year should see rapid progress on the south side of town.

During the year Mr. V. Griffiths, the Technical Assistant for smoke control, joined Manchester Corporation and was replaced by Mr. J.F. Oxford.

This was the only staff change during the year.

In conclusion I would like to thank Dr. Webster and Dr. Hutchinson for their help and also the staff and employees of the Department, particularly my Deputy, Mr. P.H. Watson, for their keenness and co-operation, and finally to the Chairman, Vice-Chairman and Members of the Health Committee for their continued support and encouragement.

I am Gentlemen,

Your Obedient Servant,

H. Ramsbottom,

Chief Public Health Inspector.

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA

=====

WATER SUPPLY

The town is served by the Fylde Water Board. Water is supplied as follows :-

- (a) The high level Sunnyhurst storage reservoir which was constructed in 1875. Situated over 900 ft. above sea level it has a capacity of 92 million gallons.
- (b) The lower level Earnsdale impounding reservoir constructed in 1863. Situated over 700 ft. above sea level it has a capacity of 100 million gallons.

When reservoir stocks are depleted to a level below the control line, the difference is made up by bringing water from the Fishmoor Treatment Plant at Blackburn.

Work completed in recent years to improve the Darwen supply system consists of :-

- (a) The construction at Sunnyhurst of a reinforced concrete clear water tank of 0.8 million gallons capacity, covered with an aluminium roof.
- (b) The construction of a similar type of tank at Earnsdale of 0.9 million gallons capacity.
- (c) The Earnsdale pump house, which is a brick built superstructure on a reinforced concrete sub-structure.
- (d) The renovation of two existing slow sand filters at Sunnyhurst.
- (e) The construction of a new building at Sunnyhurst to house lime dosing equipment, and a further building to house the ozone treatment plant, together with mess room accommodation.

The purpose of the pumps is to permit the transfer of Fishmoor filtered water from the Earnsdale clear water tank to the Sunnyhurst clear water tank. The raw water pumps are used to transfer raw water from the Earnsdale impounding reservoir to the Sunnyhurst storage reservoir.

Future works may include:-

- (a) the duplication of the ozone treatment plant, and
- (b) the construction at Earnsdale, within the walls of the old tank, of a further covered clear water tank of 0.6 million gallons capacity.

Regular bacteriological and periodical chemical analyses are carried out by the Board and occasional samples taken by the Health Department.

The approximate number of dwelling houses supplied direct with public water is 11,999.

In an effort to encourage owners of property to install separate service pipes where the pressure is low, the Corporation and the Fylde Water Board pay half the cost of the installation.

PRIVATE WATER SUPPLIES

There are still a number of dwellings in the town which because of their situation have to rely on private water supplies and these are sampled at regular intervals. Users are advised on precautionary measures while steps are being taken for permanent purification. In addition every effort is made to change these private supplies to the public supply where practicable.

TABLES

CHEMICAL EXAMINATION OF WATER

	TOTAL	SATISFACTORY	UNSATISFACTORY
Mains supply	1	1	0
Private supply	1	1	0

BACTERIOLOGICAL EXAMINATION OF WATER

	TOTAL	SATISFACTORY	UNSATISFACTORY
Mains supply	5	5	0
Private supply	5	5	0

BACTERIOLOGICAL EXAMINATION OF WATER (FYLDE WATER BOARD)

	TOTAL	SATISFACTORY	UNSATISFACTORY
Mains supply	78	77	1

SANITARY ACCOMMODATION

During the year a further 20 waste water closets were converted to the fresh water system. The total now remaining is 494.

Apart from farms pail closets total 35 in all, of which 5 are for cottages the rest being in use in the Parks and on building sites.

It is hoped that during the next twelve months the remaining 5 cottage pail closets will have been converted to fresh water closets as by then the main sewer will have been extended to within easy reach of the area.

It is interesting to note that in 1949, there were 1,798 waste water closets and 147 pail closets in the Borough.

The number of septic tanks is now 27.

The table below gives the closet accommodation in the Borough :

Pails	35
Water Closets.....	14, 293
Waste Water Closets.....	494
Total.....	14, 822

Conversions and Installations during 1968 :-

New Water Closets fixed.....	166
Waste Water Closets converted to Water Closets.....	20
Pail Closets converted to Water Closets.....	2
Baths installed during the year.....	43
Showers installed during the year.....	2
Waste Water Closets dismantled.....	0
Water Closets dismantled.....	64

RIVERS AND STREAMS

The river Darwen continues to be polluted by industrial waste effluents and used as a dumping ground for unwanted refuse.

Two cases of accidental contamination took place during the year.

In the first instance, about 50 gallons of fuel oil overflowed during the process of refilling fuel tanks at one factory and ran into the top water drainage system and thence to the river. Nuisance was caused to premises near the culvert due to the distinctive odour of fuel oil.

The firm were required to provide labour and materials to stem the flow and remove the oil from the river. A large interceptor has been built into the drainage system to prevent any recurrence of a similar nature.

The second involved spillage of petrol at a local garage, which ran into the same culvert as the previous case and resulted in a similar nuisance.

CLEAN AIR

The Clean Air Act, 1956, and the accompanying regulations give local authorities powers to limit the emissions of dark smoke, powers to make smoke control areas and control over the installations of new furnaces and the height of chimneys.

SMOKE CONTROL AREAS

The object of smoke control is to reduce industrial smoke to a minimum and to make domestic premises smokeless.

At the end of the year, Darwen (No.1), (No.2), (No.3) and (No.3A), Smoke Control Areas were in operation.

Smoke Control Area (No.4) is expected to be confirmed early in the New year.

It was becoming clear at the end of the year that costs were following on similar lines to previous smoke control areas, making it possible to increase the number of houses to be dealt with each year within the monies allocated.

This will enable the smoke control programme to be completed at an earlier date than anticipated.

A total of 1,401 visits were made during the year in connection with smoke control.

Details of Smoke Control Areas as at 31st December, 1968

Areas	No.1 (1962) 1/10/63	No.2 (1966) 1/7/67	No.3 (1967) 1/7/68	No.3A (1967) 1/10/68
Acreage	394	121	206	12
Private dwellings	551	401	418	242
Commercial premises	3	3	2	10
Industrial premises	6	4	6	7
Others	10	30	27	38

The discerning general public accept the principle of smoke control and with the odd exception co-operate to the full. Many householders indeed do not wait until their district is brought within a smoke control area but carry out work at their own expense well in advance of the programme as it would affect them. It would be advantageous if the Government would think again and enable Local Authorities to pay grants to householders in all areas, with certain restrictions, who are prepared to install smokeless burning appliances in advance of confirmed areas, carried out on similar lines to Improvement Grant system.

INVESTIGATION OF AIR POLLUTION

Factory chimneys are kept under constant observation and any unusual smoke emission is soon noted.

Industrial pollution from boiler plant is minimal. Occasional complaints are received of nuisances from burning by car dismantlers, scrap merchants and similar concerns.

Unofficial action has kept this nuisance under control and no prosecutions were instituted.

A total of 280 visits were made to factories during the year.

OFFICES, SHOPS AND RAILWAY PREMISES ACT, 1963.

The Offices, Shops and Railway Premises Act, 1963, makes provision for the health and welfare of the employees, other than members of the same family employed in certain types of premises.

At the end of the year 172 premises had been registered with the Local Authority in accordance with the Act and 231 visits made by Inspectors throughout the year.

Shops employing members of the same family and shops employing people part-time do not come within the scope of the Act.

In addition certain offices come directly under the jurisdiction of the Factory Inspector.

Persistent changes in staff and personnel in local commercial and business enterprises made the Act difficult to administer. The advent of the Selective Employment Tax appears to have some bearing on the changes in the smaller businesses of the town.

There is a good working liason with the Factory Inspector where dual responsibilities are encountered.

The requirements requesting fire precautions are dealt with directly by the Darwen Section of the Lancashire County Fire Brigade.

No informal notices were served throughout the year in respect of contraventions found.

No prosecutions were instituted during the year.

2 accidents were reported during the year and none were discovered.

Class of Premises	No. of Premises Registered	No. of Persons Employed
Offices	40	230
Retail Shops	105	412
Wholesale Shops and Warehouses	9	43
Catering Establishments and Canteens	16	94
Fuel Storage Depots	2	23
	172	802

FACTORIES ACT, 1961

Inspections for the purposes of provisions as to health.

Premises	Number on Register	Number of Inspections	Written Notices	Occupiers Prosecuted
Factories in which Sections, 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities	11	2	Nil	Nil
Factories not included in above in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority	151	278	1	1
Other premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding out-workers' premises)	19	18	Nil	Nil
Total:-	181	298	1	1

PART VIII of the Act - Outwork

Nature of Work	Section 133			Section 134		
	No. of out-workers in August list required by Section 133(1)(c)	No. of cases of default in sending lists to the Council	No. of prosecutions for failure to supply lists	No. of instances of work in unwholesome premises	Notices served	Prosecutions
Wearing Apparel (making etc.)	1	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Cosques, Christmas Stockings etc.	4	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil

In all a total of 278 visits were made to Factories throughout the year and the defects found mainly in connection with the cleanliness of sanitary conveniences were quickly remedied and did not require official action.

No prosecutions were instituted during the year.

OFFENSIVE TRADES

The following are established in the district :-

Two tripe boilers, one fat extractor and one fat melter.

MUNICIPAL HOSTEL

This is the only common lodging house in the town and is municipally owned and managed. The average daily number of lodgers for the year was:-

Males.....	97.21
Females.....	13.01

92 visits were made to the Hostel throughout the year.

Over the years, the Hostel has built up a permanent number of residents, besides catering for the itinerant visitors who only wish accommodation for the night. Although an old fashioned building, it was constructed in 1897, the Hostel is being run on business lines, is self-supporting, and the conditions laid down by the Council are strictly enforced and any person not conforming is speedily given notice to quit.

Difficulties are experienced from time to time as the institution has not the facilities for catering with the permanently ailing and chronic sick, and delay is experienced in removing occupants to institutions where they can be properly cared for.

RODENT CONTROL. DISINFESTATION OF RATS AND MICE.

RATS

This section of the Department had another busy year. Apart from the dangers of food poisoning, rats cause enormous destruction of foodstuffs and materials, and as most infestations can be traced to broken and settled drains, it is essential that the sewer population of rats is controlled. It is for this reason that the sewers are baited twice yearly by the poison baiting of all the manholes in the town.

A great deal of time is also spent in smoke testing of suspected drains in an effort to trace the source of rat complaints.

MICE

It is becoming more and more apparent that it is mice and not rats which are causing the major part of the rodent problem in Darwen.

Anti-coagulant baits which hitherto controlled mice are becoming generally ineffective in many parts of the town and control methods have had to be revised.

The apparent build up of mice resistance to anti-coagulant poisons was observed when the Corporation's covered market was found to be seriously infested.

Intensive treatment with impregnated bait, only succeeded in feeding the mice and eradication became more difficult because weeks of treatment merely resulted in increasing the mice population.

The construction of the Victorian cellared building was not suitable for simple control methods, but with the removal of rubbish and old stock, the control of refuse storage and disposal, the co-operation of the traders and not least the dogged perseverance and tenacity of the rodent operator eradication was made possible. Even so double strength poison had to be used in isolated pockets and the liberal use of traps was necessary.

The resistance was confirmed on subsequent infestations in other parts of the town.

The more traditional poisons such as arsenic are now used when it is safe to do so and baits containing alphachloralose which reduce the body temperature are used where conditions are cool. In addition traps, as always, have proved a useful standby.

The practice of distributing mice poison to the general public has ceased but free domestic treatments are still undertaken on complaint.

NO. OF PREMISES INSPECTED	NO. OF PREMISES FOUND INFESTED	NO. OF TREATMENTS CARRIED OUT	
		FULL	TEST
397	124	124	202

SEWER TREATMENTS

DATE	NO. OF MANHOLES TREATED
April	236
October	238

DISINFESTATION

The advice of the Department is frequently sought concerning the eradication of certain types of insect pests, but these normally are controlled fairly easily by insecticides.

Some difficulty as in the previous year has been experienced with the eradication of cockroaches, in many cases in new buildings, particularly along the ducts used for the central heating pipes. In older buildings infestations behind fireplaces have caused concern.

Apart from cockroaches, treatments have also been carried out throughout the year for wasps, golden spider beetles, silver fish, flies etc.

There is no charge for this service for domestic premises.

During the year 33 premises were visited following complaints.

LICENSED PREMISES

The steady progress in the modernisation of licensed premises in the town continues.

Breweries are also co-operating well in sponsoring facilities for the preparation of snacks and meals. Licensees who prepare meals are being encouraged to improve standards and many attend courses for this purpose.

71 inspections and 112 reinspections were made throughout the year.

CHIEF SANITARY REQUIREMENTS OF THE DISTRICT

The culverting, embanking and, as far as possible purification of the river.

The clearance of derelict and neglected sites.

The reduction of the number of private water supplies and the purification and protection of the remainder.

The river at certain dry periods of the year is virtually an open drain, receiving industrial effluent and rubbish discarded by irresponsible people. From time to time sewage finds its way into the river due to fractured drains, but the cause is quickly found and remedied.

Derelict and neglected sites still abound and encourage the dumping of rubbish, old vehicles and weed growth flourishes.

The Council are at a loss to understand why so much household rubbish is dumped this way when facilities are available for the free collection of such articles. Although much publicity has been given to this service the nuisance continues.

SANITARY INSPECTION OF THE AREA

Number of houses visited.....	2,128
Number of inspections of factories and workplaces.....	280
Number of inspections of bakehouses.....	135
Number of inspections of refuse tips.....	42
Complaints received and investigated.....	370
Number of re-inspections made.....	5,853
Visits paid to houses (re cases of infectious diseases).....	40
Number of smoke observations taken.....	1
Number of drains tested.....	196
Total number of defects discovered.....	306
Informal notices served.....	306
Statutory notices served.....	57
Number of nuisances abated, including outstanding nuisances from previous year.....	470

LIST OF NUISANCES DISCOVERED

Defective drains.....	121
Choked and defective sewers.....	22
Defective soil pipes and water closets.....	6
Defective downspouts, gutters, roofs & external walls.....	57
Defective plastering.....	10
Defective roofs and damp walls.....	24
Dirty houses and premises.....	0
Dirty and dilapidated closet buildings.....	7
Accumulation of refuse.....	1
Defective fire-ranges.....	1
Choked waste water closets.....	11
Choked water closets.....	16
Insanitary yards.....	0
Defective internal floors.....	1
Insufficient ventilation.....	4
Burst water pipes.....	2
Miscellaneous nuisances.....	23

H O U S I N G

The table below gives particulars of action taken specifically under the provisions of the Housing Acts in contradistinction to action under the Public Health Acts.

STATISTICS

Number of new houses and flats erected during the year :-

(a) Total (including numbers given separately under (b).....	80
(i) By Local Authority.....	Nil
(ii) By other Local Authorities.....	Nil
(iii) By other bodies or persons.....	80
(b) With State assistance under the Housing Acts :-	
(i) By the Local Authority (included under (a) (i) above).....	Nil
(ii) By other bodies (included under (a) (iii) above).....	Nil

Inspection of dwelling-houses during the year :-

(1) Total number of dwelling-houses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts).....	257
(2) Number of inspections made for both purposes.....	513
(3) Number of dwelling-houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation.....	95
(4) Number of dwelling houses (exclusive of those referred to under the preceding sub-head) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation....	2

STATISTICS. Continued.

Remedy of defects during the year without service of formal notices.

Number of defective dwelling-houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or their Officers.....	0
--	---

Action under statutory powers during the year.
Proceedings under Section 9, 10 and 12 of the Housing Act, 1957.

(a) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs:-	
Preliminary.....	2
Statutory.....	2
(b) Number of dwelling-houses which were rendered fit after services of formal notices :-	
By owners.....	0
By Local Authority in default of owners.....	3

Proceedings under Sections 16 and 17 of the Housing Act, 1957.

(i) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made.....	7
(ii) Number of dwelling-houses in ownership of Local Authority dealt with in accordance with Section 3 (3A) of the Housing Subsidies Act, 1956, as directed in Appendix 11 of Circular 33/56 with a view to demolition.....	0
(iii) Number of dwelling-houses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders.....	30
(iv) Number of houses demolished where action has been taken under Section 53 of the Over Darwen Improvement Act, 1879.	Nil

STATISTICS. Continued.

(v) Number of dwelling-houses closed as a result of Closing Orders made under Sections 16 and 17 of the Housing Act, 1957.....	12
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Proceedings under Section 18 of the Housing Act, 1957.

(a) Number of separate tenements or under-ground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were made.....	0
(b) Number of separate tenements or under-ground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were determined, the tenement or room having been rendered fit.....	0
(c) Houses closed informally by owners.....	0

Proceedings under Sections 42 and 43 of the Housing Act, 1957.

Number of dwelling houses demolished as a result of Clearance or Compulsory Purchase Orders.....	0
--	---

Housing Acts, 1949 - 1958. Discretionary Grants.

Number of schemes submitted and approved :-	
(i) By private individuals to Local Authority....	4
(ii) By Local Authority.....	0
(iii) Number of dwelling-houses affected.....	4
Number of schemes approved :-	
(i) Of private individuals.....	8
(ii) Of the Local Authority.....	0
(iii) Number of dwelling-houses affected.....	8
(iv) Number of additional separate dwellings provided.....	Nil

HOUSE PURCHASE AND HOUSING ACT, 1959 and HOUSING
ACTS, 1961 and 1964. STANDARD GRANTS.

Applications submitted to local authority for improvement to (a) full standard.....	174
(b) reduced standard.....	0
Total applications approved by local authority for improvement to (a) full standard.....	171
(b) reduced standard.....	0
Work completed.....	170

OVERCROWDING

There is one case of overcrowding known to the Health Department, but because of the general circumstances of the family has been licenced under the provisions of Section 80 of the Housing Act, 1957.

Overcrowding as to mixed sexes in families, not involving legal overcrowding occurs from time to time, but with the help of the Housing Department these cases are quickly attended to.

CLEARANCE AREAS

The future proposals for clearance are prepared and are awaiting the advent of the new Housing Act as recommended by the Council.

Dilapidation is spreading in the areas likely to be dealt with in the next two or three years due to vandalism which normally results in the dwellings being left open to access and in some cases dangerous.

Bricking-up of houses proceeds pending area demolitions, but sometimes insanitary conditions are aggravated by such action.

Instances of squatting by vagrants have been discovered which makes public health control of the area even more difficult, as some private owners cannot be traced or are reluctant to take action against a trespassing occupier.

Thirty-eight houses, mainly in prospective clearance areas were acquired, making a total of 201 houses acquired in all in redevelopment areas over the last few years.

12 premises were officially closed and 30 premises were demolished during the year.

HOUSES IN MULTIPLE OCCUPATION

Two premises are used for multiple occupation. Work required following inspections, including fire precaution inspection by the Darwen Division of the Lancashire County Fire Brigade, to comply with legislation had been completed in both of the premises by the end of the year.

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD

The Local Authority, is the Food and Drugs Authority for the Borough.

The Milk (Special Designation) Regulations, 1963.

The following licences have been issued under these Regulations.

Untreated Milk.....	13
Pasteurised Milk.....	46
Sterilised Milk.....	103
Ultra Heat Treated Milk.....	29
Total.....	191

Bacteriological Examination of Milk.

	Results		
	Positive	Negative	No Result
Total No. of samples submitted.....	102		
Tuberculosis.....	Nil	41	61
Brucellosis Ring Test	7	87	8
" Culture Test	2	11	89
" Biological Test	1	39	62

The positive culture cases of Brucellosis were followed-up at the farms concerned and as a result of individual sampling of the herds the animals secreting positive Brucella organisms were isolated and later slaughtered. The farmers in each case were most co-operative.

Samples of Milk for Statutory Tests.

	No. of Samples	Results		
		Satisfactory	Unsatisfactory	Void Samples
Raw Milk:				
Methylene Blue Test	95	79	16	0
Heat Treated Milk:				
Methylene Blue	1	1	0	0
Phosphatase Test	1	1	0	0
Turbidity Test	0	0	0	0
Colony Count Test	0	0	0	0

The sixteen samples unsatisfactorily reported on were passed on for appropriate action to the Divisional Milk Officer.

Chemical Analysis of Milk

Twenty-four samples of milk were submitted to the Public Analyst for examination. All were reported as genuine.

Food Premises Registered under Section 16 of the Food and Drugs Act, 1955.

Type of Business	No. Registered at end of year	No. of Inspections of registered premises during year
Preserved Food Manufacturers	21	37
Ice Cream Manufacturers	2	2
Ice Cream Manufacturers and/or Sellers	115	98

Action taken under the Ice-Cream (Heat Treatment etc.) Regulations, 1959 and 1963.

Routine inspections of ice cream manufacturers was carried out. Three samples of ice cream were satisfactorily reported on as genuine.

FOOD AND DRUGS ACT, 1955. Samples Taken and Reported Genuine.

No. of Samples	Description	Formal	Informal
24	Milk.....		24
2	Steak and Kidney Pies.....		2
1	Potters Catarrh Herbs.....		1
1	Bronchial Mixture.....		1
1	Cream Cakes.....		1
1	Cream Chocolate Boxes.....		1
1	Chicken Sandwich with butter.....		1
1	Ham and Cheese Toasty Grills.....		1
1	S.M.A. Baby food.....		1
1	Fish Cakes.....		1
1	Coffee.....		1
1	Christmas Pudding.....		1
1	Cocktail Cherries.....		1
1	Pork Pie with Egg.....		1
1	Pork Sausage.....		1
1	Stoned Dates.....		1

Legal proceedings taken with regard to offences in the preparation, storage, handling or sale of food.

- (1) Malt loaf which was found to have a covering of green mould over part of the loaf. Defendants pleaded guilty and were fined £20, plus £8: 3: 6d costs.
- (2) Bacon pieces sold at cut price which were found to be infested with maggots. Defendants pleaded guilty and were fined £10, plus £10: 10: 0d advocates fees.
- (3) Food business carried out in insanitary premises. Defendant pleaded guilty and was fined a total of £80.

Other action taken following complaints regarding food.

- (1) Rice. A complaint was made of what appeared to be mice droppings in rice, but these subsequently proved to be particles of mud mixed with the rice.
- (2) Parkin. A complaint was received of a pin being found in parkin which subsequently proved to be the pin for displaying the price of the article.
- (3) Meat Pie. A complaint was made regarding foreign bodies in a meat pie which proved to be silverfish. Enquiries failed to prove the source of the silverfish either at the bakery or the meat suppliers.
- (4) Chocolate Swiss Roll. This chocolate swiss roll was found to be mouldy. Enquiries revealed that the roll had been exposed for sale longer than recommended.
- (5) Potato Crisps. A packet containing mouldy potato crisps was found to be due to a clump of potato slices being undercooked, and as a result the high moisture content in the packet had affected the remaining crisps, causing the formation of a green mould growth.
- (6) Pork Sausage. A packet of pork sausages was purchased which were sour and mouldy. Enquiries revealed that the sausages had been on sale longer than the recommended shelf life.

In all cases the firms were warned to take every care to prevent a recurrence.

NUMBER OF FOOD PREMISES AS AT 31st DECEMBER, 1968.

Type of Business	Number
General grocers and provision dealers.....	98
Greengrocers and fruiterers (including those selling wet fish, game etc.).....	36
Fishmongers (including those selling poultry, game etc.)..	4
Meat shops (butchers, purveyors of cooked and preserved meats, tripe, etc.).....	46
Bakers and/ or confectioners.....	35
Fried fish shops.....	19
Shops selling mainly sugar confectionery, minerals, ice-cream, etc.....	45
Licensed premises, clubs, canteens, restaurants, cafes, snack bars and similar catering establishments.....	63
Basement bakehouses.....	1
Others.....	Nil

FOOD HYGIENE (GENERAL) REGULATIONS, 1960.

Food premises in general maintain a high standard and the regular visits of the Department's Inspectors help to remind food handlers of the importance of the Regulations.

A number of shops are now established which are occupied by immigrants and sell continental and oriental foods. The immigrant shop-keeper is usually keen to comply with the rules and regulations and keep the standard of the premises high to the benefit of the immediate surroundings of the town generally.

Shortly it is hoped that the town centre development will become a reality and it is hoped it will then be possible to improve the storage of refuse prior to collection as during the transitional period difficulties are being encountered.

Minor infringements were quickly remedied by informal action and no prosecutions were instituted during the year.

Total of 905 inspections with 1,087 re-inspections were carried out throughout the year.

UNSOUND FOOD.

58 visits in all were made regarding the certification of food not fit for human consumption. These were in the main due to voluntary surrender by shopkeepers and warehouses, but in some cases were detected during routine inspections or as a result of complaints.

TABLE SHOWING AMOUNT AND NATURE OF FOOD CONDEMNED DURING, 1968.

Amount	Nature of Food	Amount	Nature of Food
131 tins	Assorted Fruit	23 tins	Assorted Soups
363 tins	Assorted Vegetables	5 tins	Milk
10 tins	Ham	5 tins	Corned Beef
3 tins	Pork Loin	9 tins	Stewed Steak
4 tins	Luncheon Meat	5 tins	Rice Pudding
37 tins	Beans	4 tins	Salmon
1 tin	Coffee	13 tins	Sponge Puddings
9 jars	Pickled Onions	21 jars	Red Cabbage
14 jars	Assorted Jam	11 jars	Beetroot
10 pkts.	Spry	4 pkts	Prunes
64 tins	Junior Dinners	1 tin	Mincemeat
2 tins	Curried Beans and Sultanas	2 tins	Pilchards
2 tins	Dairy Cream	1 pkt.	Sandwich Spread
342 pkts.	Fish Fingers	95 pkts.	Chips
16 pkts.	Rissoles	15 pkts.	Fish Cakes
36 pkts.	Puff Pastry	19 pkts.	Short Crust Pastry
69 pkts.	Braised Beef	12 pkts.	Salmon Fish Cakes
28 pkts.	Steaklets	195 pkts.	Beefburgers
1 pkt.	Cheesburgers	13 pkts.	Kippers
62 pkts.	Green Beans	26 pkts.	Sausage Savouries
51 pkts.	Hamburg Steak	367 pkts.	Peas
25 pkts.	Faggots	18 pkts.	Steakburgers
7 pkts.	Sprouts	1 tin	Custard Powder
5 pkts.	Mixed Veg.	5 pkts.	Biscuits
29 pkts.	Shepherd's Pie	3 pkts.	White Pepper
4 pkts.	Beef Pie	1 jar	Mustard Pickle
17 pkts.	Haddock Steaks	19 pkts.	Butter
247 pkts.	Cod Portions	2 tins	Braised Ox Tongue
7 pkts.	Savoury Fish Cakes	9 pkts.	Cheese Sauce Mix
24 pkts.	Cod Steaks	6 pkts.	Bread Sauce Mix
4 pkts.	Cod Fries	1 pkt.	Sponge Mix
		10 pkts.	Chipples

TABLE SHOWING AMOUNT AND NATURE OF FOOD CONDEMNED DURING 1968. Continued.

Amount	Nature of Food	Amount	Nature of Food
7 pkts.	Chicken & Ham Pie	4 pkts.	Cereals
7 pkts.	Fish and Chips	41 pkts.	Assorted Toffees
8 boxes	Gateaux	3 pkts.	Macaroon Mixture
1 pkt.	Eclairs	2 pkts.	Flour
3 boxes	Sponge Cakes	1 tin	Steak Pudding
1 tin	Broad Beans	1 tin	Xmas Pudding
1 pkt.	Rice	1 pkt.	Dried Peas
1 pkt.	Beef Suet	1 jar	Potted Beef
5 tins	Bournvita	1 tin	Norway Sild
2 bottles	Tomato Ketchup	1 tin	Prawns
13 tins	Grapefruit Juice	3 tins	Orange Juice
54 bars	Assorted Chocolate	12 pkts.	Cheddar Cheese
16 pkts.	Cheese Spread	5 pkts.	Cheshire Cheese
1 pkt.	Double Gloucester	26½ lbs.	Ham
	Cheese	20 lbs.	Bacon
55 lbs.	Shoulder Steak	6 lbs.	Corned Beef
3½ lbs.	Ox Tongue	1½ lbs.	Pork Chops
2 lbs.	Belly Pork	8 lbs.	Minced Meat
82 lbs.	Rump Steak	5 lbs.	Sausage
35 lbs.	Beefburgers	14 lbs.	Pigs' Kidney
494 lbs.	Cheese	15	Chickens
8 pkts.	Chuck Steak	28 pkts.	Stewing Steak
9 pkts.	Shin Beef	1 pkt.	Beef Sausage
8 pkts.	Topside	2 pkts.	Roasting Beef
7 pkts.	Pork Chops.		

NUISANCE FROM NOISE

During the last few years complaints of alleged nuisance from industrial concerns have multiplied considerably.

This is in the main due to increased night working and also to the unfortunate fact that in Darwen practically every large factory is surrounded by residential areas.

However co-operation from industry has been first class and although in some cases it has taken perhaps a little longer to reduce the noise level than some of the complainants would have liked, nevertheless the reduction has been carried out in practically every case as soon as it was possible to obtain suitable equipment.

The emission of fumes at one or two factories led to a great number of visits and the expenditure of much time but it is pleasing to record that equipment has now been installed to reduce the fumes to the minimum.

The number of visits during the year for nuisances of this nature was 244.

Excellent liaison exists between the District Alkali Inspector and the Department and when the Inspectorates services have been required these have speedily been available.

Apart from factories, complaints were received of various nuisances and these were fairly quickly abated without recourse to official action.

Nuisances from light industry, dogs and in one instance a "pop" group were the main causes of complaint.

TIPS.

Conditions at private tips gave cause for concern during the year. In many cases fires were being reported with alarming regularity and action had to be undertaken to prevent a recurrence. The Council did resolve to take legal proceedings if these nuisances continued and this proved to be an effective deterrent.

In other cases nuisance was caused by deviation from the terms of the original planning consent and tipping byelaws, due in many cases to lack of suitable covering material and breakdown of equipment.

Control of the tipping of materials likely to cause nuisance by offensive smells is exercised by tip owners who have been most co-operative in this matter.

INFECTIOUS DISEASES AND FOOD POISONING.

A total of 75 visits were made during the year regarding the investigation of infectious diseases. There were 17 cases of Food Poisoning reported during the year.

SHOPS ACT, 1950.

The provisions of the Act regarding closing hours, early closing, Sunday trading and the employment of young persons is administered by the Department.

DISEASES OF ANIMALS ACT, 1950. (Movement of Animals).

The duties under this Section of the Act are carried out by the Lancashire County Police who issued all the necessary licences controlling the movement of animals.

HAIRDRESSING ESTABLISHMENTS.

Ladies hairdressing continues to be a popular business. There are now 78 hairdressing premises registered under the provisions of the Darwen Corporation Act, 1948.

Premises are inspected prior to opening and work done to comply with the Regulations.

Reinspections are carried out from time to time but very little trouble is experienced with this type of business after the initial alterations are carried out.

PET ANIMALS ACT, 1951.

Two premises are licensed under this Act. Both were satisfactorily conducted throughout the year.

ANIMAL BOARDING ESTABLISHMENTS ACT, 1963.

Four premises are licensed under the provisions of this Act. All were satisfactorily maintained during the year for the welfare of animals.

RIDING ESTABLISHMENTS ACT, 1964.

One establishment was licensed under the Act. Premises are only licensed after the receipt of a satisfactory veterinary report.

NATIONAL ASSISTANCE ACT, 1948 and 1951.

Action was necessary during the year under Section 47 of the 1948 Act, for the removal of one person in need of care and attention.

Three bodies were buried under the provisions of Section 50 of the 1948 Act, which requires the Local Authority to dispose of the bodies of persons who have died in its area if it appears no suitable funeral arrangements would otherwise be made.

MORTUARY.

This modern building which was opened in February, 1957, is a model of its kind. A part-time attendant is employed.

56 bodies were received at the Mortuary during the year and post-mortem examinations were carried out on them all.

