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BOROUGH OF ELLESMERE PORT



ANNUAL REPORT  
OF THE  
MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH  
AND THE  
CHIEF PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR  
FOR THE YEAR 1973

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Medical Officer of Health.

Mr. R.K. Francis MSc FRSH MAPHI,  
Chief Public Health Inspector.



## STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS

Population .. .. .	63,870
Area (Acres) at April, 1973 .. .. .	9,802
Number of houses and flats in the area .. .. .	26,406
Rateable Value (1st April, 1974) .. .. .	£15,943,822
Sum represented by the Penny Rate (1974/75) Estimated .. .. .	158,000

## EXTRACTS FROM VITAL STATISTICS

For the Year 1973

(Compiled from figures supplied by the Registrar General)

### LIVE BIRTHS

	<u>Males</u>	<u>Females</u>	<u>Total</u>
Legitimate .. .. .	466	482	948
Illegitimate .. .. .	47	34	81
	<u>513</u>	<u>516</u>	<u>1029</u>

Birth Rate per 1,000 population .. .. .	16.1
Local Adjusted Rate .. .. .	15.1
Comparability Factor .. .. .	0.94
Illegitimate live births as percentage of total live births .. .. .	8.00%

### STILL BIRTHS

	<u>Males</u>	<u>Females</u>	<u>Total</u>
Legitimate .. .. .	5	9	14
Illegitimate .. .. .	5	9	14

Total live and still births 1,043

Still Birth Rate 13.00 per 1,000 Live and Still Births.

The average number of births per annum in the years 1964/73 was .. .. .	1,144
Birth Rate, England and Wales 1973 .. .. .	13.7
Birth Rate, England and Wales 1972 .. .. .	14.8
Birth Rate, Administrative County of Cheshire 1972 .. .. .	15.2

TABLE OF NUMBER OF LIVE BIRTHS  
AND BIRTH RATES 1964-1973

<u>Year</u>	<u>No.</u>	<u>Birth Rate</u>	<u>Year</u>	<u>No.</u>	<u>Birth Rate</u>
1964	1124	23.34	1969	1109	19.5
1965	1042	21.05	1970	1269	21.8
1966	1130	22.09	1971	1276	20.6
1967	1127	21.04	1972	1139	18.1
1968	1195	21.75	1973	1029	16.1

DEATHS

Males 277

Females 192

Total 469

Death Rate 7.3

Corrected Death Rate 12.7

Comparability Factor 1.73

The average number of deaths per annum in the years 1964-73 was 418

Death Rate England and Wales: 12.00 per 1,000.

DEATH RATE OF INFANTS UNDER ONE YEAR OF AGE

	<u>No.</u>	<u>Rate</u>
All infants, per 1,000 live births .. .. .	15	15.00
Legitimate infants per 1,000 legitimate live births .. ..	14	15.00
Illegitimate infants per 1,000 illegitimate live births ..	1	12.00
Deaths of infants under 4 weeks of age .. .. .	10	10.00
Deaths of infants under 1 week of age .. .. .	10	10.00
Peri-Natal Mortality Rate (Still births and deaths under one week combined per 1,000 total live and still births) ..	10	23.00
Infant Mortality Rate for England and Wales .. .. .		17.00
Death for Measles (All Ages) .. .. .	Nil	
Death from Whooping Cough (All Ages) .. .. .	Nil	
Death Gastritis, Enteritis and Diarrhoea .. .. .	Nil	
Death from Cancer (All Ages) .. .. .	112	
Maternal Deaths (including Abortion) .. .. .	Nil	
Maternal Mortality Rate per 1,000 live births .. .. .	Nil	
Death from Heart Disease .. .. .	163	
Vascular Disease of Nervous System .. .. .	48	

# TABLE OF INFANT MORTALITY 1964-73

Year	Rate per 1,000 Births	Year	Rate per 1,000 Births
1964 .. .. .	20.44	1969 .. .. .	15.00
1965 .. .. .	20.15	1970 .. .. .	13.00
1966 .. .. .	28.00	1971 .. .. .	18.00
1967 .. .. .	28.00	1972 .. .. .	21.00
1968 .. .. .	20.92	1973 .. .. .	15.00

## SUMMARY OF INFECTIOUS DISEASES NOTIFIED DURING THE YEAR

Scarlet Fever .. ..	Nil	Tuberculosis (Respiratory)	1
Measles .. .. .	97	Infective Jaundice .. ..	18
Whooping Cough .. ..	4	Food Poisoning .. .. .	Nil
Dysentery .. .. .	3	Meningococcal Infection ..	1

Total: 124

## WATER SUPPLY

The Statutory Water Undertaking for the Borough upto 1st April, 1974 was the Wirral Water Board. The water is mainly derived from the River Dee with further sources from boreholes at Prenton, Mouldsworth and Hooton.

The following are the replies received from the Engineer to the Board relating to various points raised with him:-

1. No new source of public supply has been introduced during this year.
2. No major improvements of public supply have been carried out.
3. Normal distribution mains extensions for new housing developments.
4. All supplies have been satisfactory both in quality and quantity.
5. At the present time adequate supplies are available for domestic purposes.
6. No softening of the Board's borehole supplies has taken place during this year.
7. The fluoride content is less than 0.1 ppm from all sources.

CAUSE OF DEATH

	<u>Males</u>	<u>Females</u>	<u>Total</u>
1. Other Tuberculosis .. .. .	1	-	1
2. Meningococcal Infection .. .. .	1	-	1
3. Other Infective & Parasitic Diseases .. .. .	1	-	1
4. Malignant Neoplasm, Buccal Cavity Etc. .. .. .	1	-	1
5. Malignant Neoplasm, Oesophagus .. .. .	-	3	3
6. Malignant Neoplasm, Stomach .. .. .	5	5	10
7. Malignant Neoplasm, Intestine .. .. .	6	6	12
8. Malignant Neoplasm, Larynx .. .. .	2	-	2
9. Malignant Neoplasm, Lung, Bronchus .. .. .	21	6	27
10. Malignant Neoplasm, Breast .. .. .	1	10	11
11. Malignant Neoplasm, Uterus .. .. .	-	1	1
12. Malignant Neoplasm, Prostate .. .. .	6	-	6
13. Lukaemia .. .. .	3	-	3
14. Other Malignant Neoplasms etc. .. .. .	23	13	36
15. Diabetes Mellitus .. .. .	-	1	1
16. Avitaminoses etc. .. .. .	1	-	1
17. Other Endocrine etc. Diseases .. .. .	-	2	2
18. Anaemias .. .. .	-	2	2
19. Other Diseases of the Nervous System .. .. .	3	1	4
20. Chronic Rheumatic Heart Disease .. .. .	3	3	6
21. Hypertensive Heart Disease .. .. .	3	-	3
22. Ischaemic Heart Disease .. .. .	82	47	129
23. Other Forms of Heart Disease .. .. .	7	18	25
24. Cerebrovascular Disease .. .. .	24	24	48
25. Other Diseases of the Circulatory System .. .. .	10	7	17
26. Influenza .. .. .	1	-	1
27. Pneumonia .. .. .	18	15	33
28. Bronchitis and Emphysema .. .. .	14	3	17
29. Other Diseases of Respiratory System .. .. .	2	2	4
30. Peptic Ulcer .. .. .	5	3	8
31. Appendicitis .. .. .	1	-	1
32. Intestinal Obstruction & Hernia .. .. .	2	-	2
33. Cirrhosis of Liver .. .. .	1	1	2
34. Other Diseases of the Digestive System .. .. .	2	5	7
35. Hyperplasia of Prostate .. .. .	1	-	1

Males Females Total

Other Diseases, Genito-Urinary System .. .. .	2	4	6
37. Diseases: Musculo-Skeletal System .. .. .	1	2	3
38. Congenital Anomalies .. .. .	4	3	7
39. Difficult Delivery and/or Anoxic Condition .. .. .	3	-	3
40. Other Causes of Perinatal Mortality.. .. .	2	-	2
41. Motor Vehicle Accidents .. .. .	4	1	5
42. All Other Accidents .. .. .	4	1	5
43. Suicide and Self Inflicted Injuries .. .. .	3	2	5
44. All Other External Causes.. .. .	3	1	4
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
	277	192	469
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## HOUSING

### Improvement Grants

There has been a continuation of the emphasis of house improvement during the year and the following tables indicate the high level of grant applications.

### Improvement Grants

Number of applications approved .. .. .	220
Amount of grant paid during year .. .. .	£127,491.49
Total amount paid out since inception of scheme .. .. .	£185,865.42

### Standard Grants

Number of applications approved .. .. .	22
Number of houses provided with full amenities including W.C., bath, wash basin and hot and cold water supply .. .. .	10
Provision of internal W.C. only .. .. .	12

### Improvement of Corporation Owned Houses

The work of improving and upgrading Pre-War Corporation Houses has increased during the year. The work is carried out by the Council's direct labour department.

	Number of Houses Improved in Year	Number Improved to-date	Work in Progress
Grange Farm Estate	19	85	21
Overpool Estate	11	14	12
Clayhill Green	1	56	-
B.I.S.F. Houses, Wolverham Area	-	-	40

### Qualification Certificates

Number of applications received .. .. . Nil

The Housing Finance Act, 1972 amended the legislation concerning Qualification Certificates and introduced a phased programme of conversion of controlled tenancies to regulated tenancies.

Following specific dates, dependent on the rateable value of the dwelling, landlords/owners are able to apply to the Rent Officer direct for the establishment of a fair rent without recourse to the Local Authority for a Qualification Certificate.

#### General Housing Inspections

<u>Type of Inspection</u>	<u>No. of Inspections</u>
Sale of Corporation House	35
Applications for loans to acquire under Section 43 Housing (Financial Provisions) Act 1958	73
<u>Houses Constructed</u>	579
<u>Demolition</u>	
Slum Clearance Purposes	5
Motorway Construction and Redevelopment	44
<u>Search Certificates</u>	1,565
<u>Complaints</u>	2,898

(22% increase over previous year)

#### General Improvement Areas

The Westminster Ward General Improvement Area was declared by the Council in October, 1972 and a determination of contribution by the Department of the Environment was subsequently received in January, 1973.

Works of environmental improvement commenced in July, 1973 and have progressed since that date, including the provision of new roadways, surfacing of new pedestrian ways, improvement to street lighting and other incidental works.

Considerable interest was exhibited by owners of properties in the areas; the majority of grant applications being received from owner/occupiers.

The Council also gave consideration to the establishment of a second improvement area in the Central Ward comprising some 230 dwellings in the "Fields" Area. Following a successful public meeting in May, 1973 the Health Committee recommended to the Council the declaration of a general improvement area and this was confirmed by the full Council on 31st July, 1973.

The environmental proposals for the area include the construction of new carriageways, pedestrianization of stopped-off streets, landscaping, improved street lighting, rebuilding of rear boundary walls, improvements to footpaths and construction of garages. The total estimated expenditure of the proposed environmental work is:- £89,930.00. The scheme also involves the acquisition of seven houses to secure satisfactory access to rear passages.

The Department of the Environment issued a determination of a contribution in December of the year for this General Improvement Area.

## FOOD

### Food Premises

The number of food premises in the Borough subject to the Food Hygiene Regulations grouped in categories of Trade is as follows:-

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(1)	Total number of Premises	310
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(2)	No. of premises fitted to comply with Regulation 18 (Provision of wash-hand basins)	310
(3)	No. of premises to which Regulation 21 applies (Facilities for washing food and equipment)	288
(4)	No. of premises fitted to comply with Regulation 21	288

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Premises registered at the end of the year within the Provisions of the Food and Drugs Act.

Total Number.	231
Storage and sale of pre-packed ice-cream	151
Manufacture and sale of ice-cream	Nil
Preparation, storage and sale of preserved food	80

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One application for registration was received and approved during the year and six notifications submitted of change of occupancy.

There are no egg pasteurisation plants in the area or poultry processing establishments.

The total number of mobile traders at the close of the year is 29. This figure does not include traders operating mobile vehicles from shops within the Borough as it is considered registration is not required when operating from premises as open shops.

Frequent inspections of the various types of food premises are necessary in an endeavour to ensure the maintenance of satisfactory standards of hygiene. In this connection 1,110 inspections were made during the year under review with 151 informal notices being served.

### Licensed Premises

Ninety one inspections were made of licensed premises with 25 informal notices served. The standard of hygiene throughout the Borough compares very favourably and the co-operation of the trade is appreciated.

New licensed premises are being provided with the continued development of the Borough and the opportunity is taken at an early stage to discuss the Departments requirements with Architects and developers.

### Restaurants, Canteens Etc.

Eighty two routine inspections have been made of restaurants, canteens etc., with 29 informal notices served.

The total number of separate restaurants is eleven. In addition there are some 31 canteens.

Extensive use of vending machines is in operation at one large factory and surveillance is maintained.

Seventy five inspections were made of school canteens and any matters arising referred to the County Council as the appropriate Authority.

### Public Market

One hundred and three general inspections were made of the Market and with particular reference to the food stalls.

### Clean Food Joint Consultative Committee

The Clean Food Joint Consultative Committee consisting of representatives of Health Committee and of food traders continues in operation and provides a useful point of contact between the Council as an enforcing Authority and the traders.

Items discussed by Committee included food hygiene lectures, check list inspections, publicity material and the representation on the Committee in the light of Local Government Reorganisation.

During the year a course of lectures on food hygiene was held at which 13 food handlers attended. It is of interest to note that up to date some 1,616 personnel have completed such a course since its inception. In addition lectures were given on request to students at a Comprehensive School in the Borough.

The work carried out in the field of educational activities is considered most important from a Public Health aspect and is complimentary to the inspectorate's enforcement role.

### Food Inspection

Thirty special visits to inspect foodstuffs were paid to food premises at the request of owners.

The total amount of food rejected as unfit for human consumption was:

<u>Tons</u>	<u>Cwt.</u>	<u>lbs.</u>
-	8	60

Several cases occurred of refrigeration failure involving the rejection of foodstuffs which amounted to:

<u>Tons</u>	<u>Cwt.</u>	<u>lbs.</u>
-	14	9

In each case the rejected food was disposed of under supervision of the Department.

### Meat Inspection

One private slaughterhouse is located in the Borough situated at Ledsham and one hundred per-cent meat inspection is carried out at these premises. The throughput continued at a relatively low level during the course of the year.

The maximum charges for meat inspection as laid down in the Regulations are in operation at this slaughterhouse.

In accordance with the Slaughter of Animals Act three slaughtermen's licences were granted, by way of renewal.

The table overleaf refers to the number of animals killed and meat inspection carried out at the slaughterhouse during the year.

Number of Animals killed and Meat Inspection carried out at the slaughterhouse during the year.

	Cattle excluding Cows	Cows	Calves	Sheep and Lambs	Pigs
Number killed	515	50	639	9,292	27,282
Number inspected	515	50	639	9,292	27,282
All diseases except Tuberculosis and Cysticerci:					
Whole carcasses condemned	Nil	2	12	10	74
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	55	18	7	409	7,757
Percentage of the number inspected affected with disease other than Tuberculosis and Cysticerci	10.68%	36%	1.09%	4.4%	28.43%
Tuberculosis Only:					
Whole carcasses condemned	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	179
Percentage of the number inspected affected with Tuberculosis	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	00.65%
Cysticercosis:					
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	2	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Cases submitted to treatment by refrigeration	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Generalised and totally condemned	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil

Total weight rejected was 16 tons 2 cwts. 10 lbs. 12 ozs.

### Ice Cream

Eighty six samples of ice-cream were submitted for bacteriological examination during the year in accordance with a sampling rota which allows for traders to be visited at irregular intervals.

The methylene blue test was applied to the samples of ice-cream and the results were as follows:-

<u>Methylene Blue Grading</u>	<u>Number of Samples</u>
1	79
2	5
3	2
4	0

Of the samples taken 97.7% were placed in Grades 1 and 2. In the case of samples placed in Grades 3 and 4 which related to ice-cream obtained by retailers from producers situated outside the Borough, action was taken and repeat samples obtained. There are no manufacturers of ice-cream within the Borough.

### Milk Supply

There is one registered dairy and 100 distributors within the Borough. In addition two distributors bring milk into the area from an adjacent district as well as from registered wholesalers.

Seventy milk vending machines are being operated in the district, 17 by a producer/retailer from farm premises outside the Borough and 53 by a retail dairy undertaking. The milk sold is tuberculin tested, and pasteurised.

Milk sampling has continued on a rota basis, 151 samples were obtained and submitted for bacteriological examination, each being tested in accordance with the designation applicable to the sample with the following results:-

#### Passed the Prescribed Test

146  
96.7%

#### Failed the Prescribed Test

5  
3.3%

Follow-up work was carried out on the samples not reaching the prescribed standards and repeat samples obtained.

Results were submitted to the Department on ten samples taken by the County Council in respect of Brucella all of which proved negative. There are no farms in the Borough where milk is retailed as untreated.

One hundred and eighty two dealers licences are in operation for the sale of milk under designation for the quinquennial period ending 31st December, 1975. One licence may include for various types of milk specified at the time of application.

#### Food and Drugs

A total of 179 formal and informal samples were submitted to the Public Analyst for examination made up as follows:-

#### Samples of Milk

60

#### Samples of Drugs

60

#### Samples of Dry Goods

59

One hundred and seventy five samples were reported as genuine i.e., 97.21%.

In the case of the remaining four these related to informal samples of Baby Fruit (peaches), Diet-ade Fruite, Strained Apples and Beef Suet which were subject of discussions with retailers and manufacturers concerned.

#### Particulars of Food Complaints from Private Purchasers

A total number of 52 complaints were received in the Department during the year from private purchasers.

These are summarised by 'Type of Food' affected and by 'Nature of Complaint' as follows:-

<u>Type of Food</u>	<u>Number of Complaints</u>	<u>Type of Food</u>	<u>Number of Complaints</u>
Fruit Fool	1	Soup (Pkt)	1
Ham (tinned)	2	Honey	1
Tongue (tinned)	1	Pies	1
Fish	4	Fruit Trifle	1
Tea	2	Yogurt	1
Biscuits	2	Bacon	1
Minced Meat	3	Corned Beef (tinned)	1
Fruit Pie	1	Liver	1
Pineapple (tinned)	1	Sandwiches	1
Milk	7	Cornish Pasties	1
Baby Food (pkt)	2	Chinese Meal	1
Bread	6	Baked Beans	1
Cheese (Pkt.)	3	Meat Paste	1
Chicken	1	Cakes	3

### Nature of Complaints

Foreign Bodies in Food	..	..	..	8
Food Affected with Mould	..	..	..	10
Complaint of Abnormal Odour	..	..	..	6
Complaint of Abnormal Taste	..	..	..	7
Insects in Food	..	..	..	7
Others	..	..	..	14

### Legal Proceedings were Instituted in the Following Cases

Foreign body in fish	Defendant fined £5	£6 Advocates fee
Bristle in chocolate eclair	Defendant fined £30	£10 Advocates fee
Mice in Cornish pastie	Defendant fined £25 Plus Analyst's fee £7	£10 Advocates fee
Foreign body in bottle of milk	Defendant fined £30	£6 Advocates fee

Letters of caution were issued in 28 cases. In the remaining cases informal action was taken in those instances where complaints were substantiated.

## POLLUTION CONTROL

### Control of Domestic Air Pollution

Eleven Smoke Control Areas are at present in force in the Borough with works of conversion on Corporation owned houses in Smoke Control Area No. 12 nearing completion.

<u>Area No.</u>	<u>Date of Operation</u>	<u>Acreage</u>	<u>Dwellings</u>	<u>Other Buildings</u>
1	1st August, 1959	120	792	12
2	1st November, 1961	400	1,192	3
3	1st November, 1961	84	609	3
4	1st December, 1961	76	705	8
5.	1st November, 1963	186.12	1,022	64
6.	1st September, 1967	122	851	17
7	1st October, 1967	172	785	74
8	1st October, 1968	405	2,031	34
9	1st October 1969	391.34	883	52
10	1st October, 1971	566.03	1,200	22
11	1st October, 1972	604.30	1,277	8
12	1st October, 1974	481	2,537	36
Total:		3,607.79	13,884	333

The complete phased programme of smoke control for the Borough covers a total of 14 smoke control areas with a target date of 1977.

### Control of Industrial Pollution

The control of industrial air pollution is continually under surveillance in the Borough with routine inspections of industrial plant, and observations of emissions to atmosphere.

Close contact continues to be maintained by the Department with factory management, engineers and technologists so that problems found on observation and investigation can be followed up quickly. Experience shows that liaison of this kind is of great value in resolving industrial problems.

The Clean Air Act provides that new furnaces shall so far as practicable be capable of being operated continuously without emitting smoke when burning fuel of a type for which the plant was designed and notice of the proposed installation must be given to the Local Authority. Five Notices of Proposal to install such furnaces were received and accepted by the Committee during the year.

In addition to the above requirements the Clean Air Act, 1968 makes it an offence in the case of a new chimney or the enlargement or replacement of a furnace if that furnace is used without having obtained the approval of the Local Authority for the height of the chimney. This applies to chimneys serving furnaces burning pulverised fuel and solid matter at a rate of one hundred pounds or more an hour or any liquid or gaseous fuel at a rate equivalent to one and a quarter million Btu's or more an hour.

Discussions are held with Architects, Engineers and Developers when plans are submitted in order to draw attention to these requirements and to the memorandum on stack heights for design purposes.

The industrial incinerator complex referred to in last year's Annual Report was completed this year and commissioning commenced. Close liaison has been maintained with Management and Staff in the operation of this plant which has been particularly important in the processing of notices received under the Deposit of Poisonous Wastes Act. Consultations have been held with the Public Analyst in the evaluation of such notices.

With the large scale oil refineries and chemical industries located in the Borough close contact is maintained with Management and Technologists and problems arising are referred to the Alkali and Clean Air Inspector in addition to being investigated by the Department immediately on receipt of complaint.

A considerable amount of work has continued over the year on the problem of particulate matter affecting housing in part of the Stanney/Wolverham Estate with observations, investigations and detailed discussions taking place with Management of the Carbon Black Plant.

With a plant of this nature there are a number of potential sources of pollution. The Company are well aware of these sources and have a number of control measures installed and being planned. Progress reports are being submitted to Health Committee on the effect of such matters.

The Borough Council is a co-operating body with the Warren Spring Laboratory, Air Pollution Division, and two daily smoke filter and sulphur dioxide instruments are operated by the Department. One instrument is sited in the Town Centre, the other in a residential area of the Borough. In addition four instruments are operated by industrial undertakings in co-operation with the Department which is appreciated.

A summary of the results over a period of three years from Sites Nos. 2 and 7 operated by the Department is shown in the following tables.

#### SMOKE CONCENTRATIONS

(Summer, Winter and Yearly Averages expressed in Micro-grammes per cu.metre)

Year Ending March	1971			1972			1973		
	S	W	Y	S	W	Y	S	W	Y
Ellesmere Port. No. 2 Site	26	55	41	27	39	33	17	34	33
Ellesmere Port. No. 7 Site.	32	98	66	60	66	63	25	59	41

#### SULPHUR DIOXIDE CONCENTRATIONS

Year Ending March	S			S			S		
	S	W	Y	S	W	Y	S	W	Y
Ellesmere Port No. 2 Site	40	89	65	68	67	68	54	103	78
Ellesmere Port No. 7 Site	85	153	120	137	111	124	57	99	76

#### NOISE

The Department is being increasingly involved in this form of environmental pollution and with the Department of the Environment Circular Planning and Noise, Land Compensation Act etc., it is apparent that more accurate methods of assessing noise must be used.

Sound level meter readings  $L_{10}$  (18 hours) have been carried out for traffic noise assessment in connection with the development on a site adjacent to a trunk road carrying heavy traffic.

In the case of new development attention has been drawn to the need for careful consideration to be given to the control of noise levels, industry appears to be concerned to reduce risk of intrusion and in one instance information was given at a Public Meeting concerning industrial problems of the reduction in background noise levels achieved over the past twelve months.

Further investigations in this particular case are still being carried out to reduce noise levels further.

## GENERAL

### Drainage and Sewerage

The pollution control works located at Stoak in the adjacent rural district were opened on October, 1971. They are of conventional biological filtration design with final effluent re-circulation, sludge is treated by chemical conditioning followed by sludge pressing. The works are designed to deal with a population of 76,000 and a dry weather flow, inclusive of trade-waste discharge of four million gallons per day. Provision is made for the future extension of these works to deal with a dry weather flow of up to twelve million gallons per day.

The old Town and Little Stanney treatment works have both been abandoned. Five new storm-water tanks were constructed on land adjacent to the Town pumping station in order to limit to three times dry weather flow the maximum rate of flow of sewage pumped from the Town to Stoak works.

Clearing of choked house drains are referred in the first instance to the Borough Engineer and Surveyor's Department when arrangements are made for plunging and rodding. In cases where drainage cannot be cleared by this method and ground has to be opened up, notices are served on appropriate owners.

The routine cleansing of cesspools is undertaken by the Council through the Borough Engineer and Surveyor's Department, and a service for the periodic removal of sludge from septic tank installation is in operation.

### Swimming Pools

Two swimming pools are owned by the Corporation, one open air at Rivacre and an indoor pool at Stanney Lane.

The water supply in both cases is obtained from the Wirral Water Board mains being of the same quality as drinking water. Treatment is by continued bath purification, in the case of the open air pool this involves rapid sand filtration whilst the indoor pool is fitted with modern pre-coat filters. Chlorination equipment is installed capable of achieving break-point standard.

A total of 94 samples of water were submitted for bacteriological examination to supplement the day to day control of chlorine and pH levels by the baths staff.

### Schools

At the close of the year there were two County Grammar Schools, one County Comprehensive, four County Secondary, 29 Junior/infants and nine denominational schools in the Borough.

All schools are provided with individual water closet accommodation. It is understood that the County Council keep under review the general satisfactory circumstances of schools in the area and have a general programme of upgrading facilities as required. Any matters arising on routine visits are referred to the County Council for attention.

## Factories

Industrial development continues in the Borough with consideration being given to all aspects of Public Health Control. Attention to the Public Health aspects of development at the planning stage is important as some industrial development is extensive and problems resolved at an early stage show advantages later on.

Two industrial undertakings obtain their water supply from deep bores for which approval has been given in accordance with the requirements of the Factories Act. Samples of water are submitted at regular intervals for bacteriological examination and chemical analysis.

The water supply at one of the industrial undertakings, a refinery complex, is extensive in character and bacteriological reports on samples are received on a weekly basis, close liaison is maintained with the Company and a comprehensive sampling routine is in operation.

The co-operation and assistance of the Public Analyst in the examination and evaluation of results on the water supplies is appreciated.

The routine investigation of factories with defects found is shown in the following tables:-

### FACTORIES ACT, 1961

#### 1. Inspections:

Premises (1)	Number on Register (2)	Number of		
		Inspections (3)	Written Notices (4)	Occupiers Prosecuted (5)
(i) Factories in which Sections 1,2,3,4 and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities.	2	Nil	Nil	Nil
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority.	112	99	Nil	Nil
(iii) Other Premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding out-workers' premises).	19	39	Nil	Nil
TOTAL	113	138	Nil	Nil

Particulars (1)	Number of Cases in which Defects were found				Number of Cases in which prosecutions were instituted (6)
	Found (2)	Remedied (3)	Referred to H.M. Inspector (4)	By H.M. Inspector (5)	
Want of Cleanliness (S.1) .. ..	-	-	-	-	-
Overcrowding (S.2) .. ..	-	-	-	-	-
Unreasonable Temperature (S.3) ..	-	-	-	-	-
Inadequate Ventilation (S.4) ..	-	-	-	-	-
Ineffective Drainage of Floors(S.6)	-	-	-	-	-
Sanitary Conveniences (S.7)					
(a) Insufficient .. ..	-	-	-	-	-
(b) Unsuitable or Defective ..	5	5	-	-	-
(c) Not Separate for Sexes ..	-	-	-	-	-
Other offences against the Act (not including offences relating to outwork) .. ..	-	-	-	-	-
TOTAL .. ..	5	5	-	-	-

### Working Conditions in Offices and Shops

#### Premises Registered under the Act

Offices .. ..	139
Retail Shops .. ..	255
Wholesale Departments, Warehouses .. ..	4
Catering Establishments open to the Public .. ..	42
Fuel Storage Depot .. ..	-
Total: .. ..	440

### Analysis of Persons Employed

Offices .. .. .	1,656
Retail Shops .. .. .	1,540
Wholesale Departments, Warehouses .. .. .	46
Catering Establishments open to the Public .. .. .	457
Canteens .. .. .	74
Fuel Storage Depot .. .. .	-
Total .. .. .	3,773

(The total figure is made up of 1,652 males and 2,121 females).

A total of eight accidents were notified during the year. Detailed investigations are made in each case and appropriate recommendations made to occupiers of premises in an endeavour to prevent further incidents, no formal action being required in the cases investigated. An analysis of accidents by main cause is shown below:-

Power driven machinery .. .. .	1
Hand tools .. .. .	2
Struck by falling object .. .. .	1
Fall on same level .. .. .	1
Striking against object .. .. .	2
Handling goods.. .. .	1

In the case of routine inspections of offices and shops 32 letters were sent to occupiers and 23 verbal notices were given. Follow-up work if being carried out as required.

### SHOPS ACT

The Borough Council is responsible for the administration of this Act being the Local Authority as defined for the purpose and 35 inspections were made under this legislation during the year.

### PET ANIMALS

There are four premises in the Borough licensed in accordance with the provision of this legislation all in relation to shops. These are the subject of inspection at regular intervals and have been found satisfactory.

In addition one licence has been issued for an animal boarding establishment.

## Pest Control

This section has continued to be fully engaged in all aspects of rodent and pest control.

Full co-operation has continued to be given to this section by industrial and other concerns in the Borough and further contracts for the clearance of premises have been arranged.

A free service is in operation for the control of rat infestation for domestic property and advice given wherever requested in cases of mice infestation.

In addition to routine surveys 105 complaints of rat infestation were received during the year and 186 for mice infestation.

Details of number of inspections, campaigns and poison take are given in the following table:

### Inspections, Campaigns and Poison Take

No. of Inspections	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	6,736
No. of Poisoning Campaigns	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	997

#### Poison Take:

Zinc Phosphide	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	9 lb. 4 oz.
Arsenic	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	5 lb. 2 oz.
Warfarin 0.5%	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	822 lb. 5 oz.
Soluble Warfarin (Pkt.)	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	49½ Pkts.
Alphachloralose	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1 lb. 2 oz.
Alphakill	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	5 lb. 7 oz.
Strychnine	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	2½ oz.

#### Estimated Kill

(Based upon estimated kill of common rat  
when Zinc Phosphide and Arsenic are used) .. .. 575

### Bed-Bug Infestation

1. Corporation Houses	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	8
2. Other Houses	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	2
3. Number disinfested	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	10
4. Total visits	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	45

Close contact continues to be maintained with the Senior Inspector, Infestation Division, Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food at Liverpool and the help and support particularly in the identification of specimens greatly appreciated.



