## [Report 1973] / Medical Officer of Health, Neston U.D.C.

## **Contributors**

Neston (Cheshire, England). Urban District Council.

## **Publication/Creation**

1973

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## NESTON URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL

ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

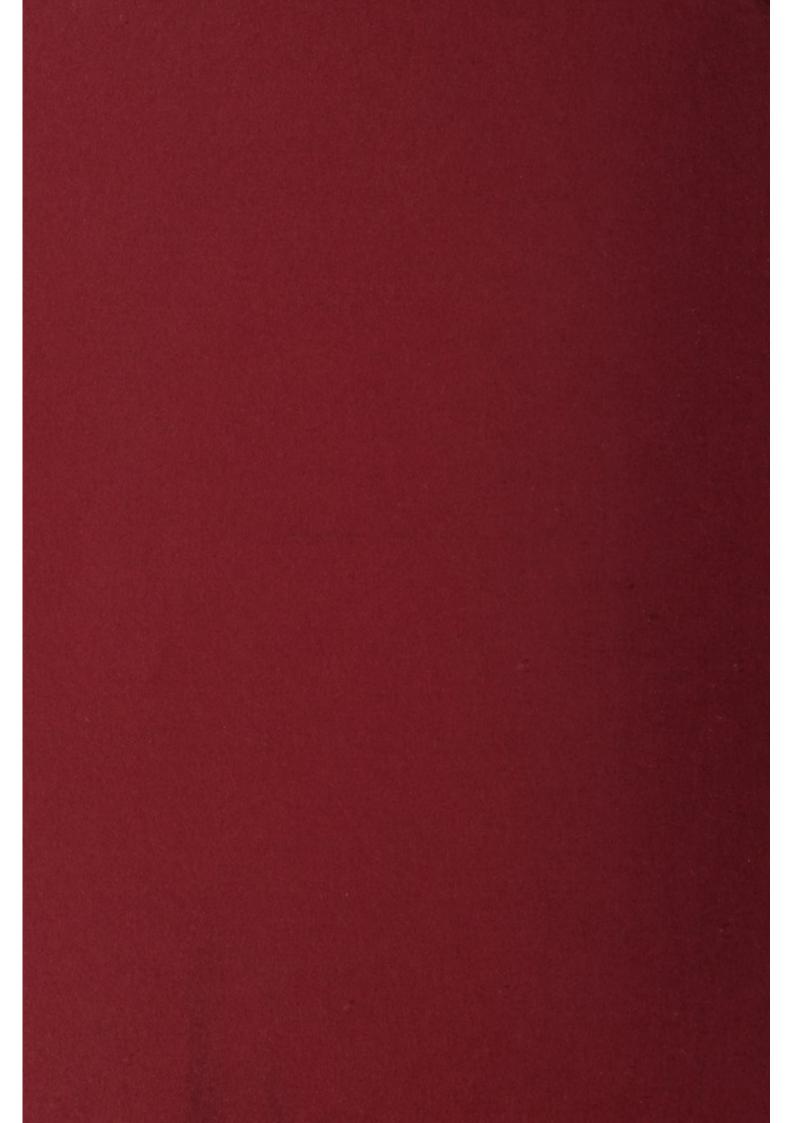
AND THE

CHIEF PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR

FOR THE YEAR 1973

Dr. D.R. Morris MB Ch8 MFCM, DPH, Medical Officer of Health.

Mr. G. Carr MRSH MAPHI. Chief Public Health Inspector.



## STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS

Population		18,210
Area (Acres) 1st April, 1973		8,497
Number of houses and flats in the area		6,086
Rateable Value (1st April, 1974)		£15,943,822
Sum represented by the Penny Rate (1974/75) Estima	ated	£158,000

## EXTRACTS FROM VITAL STATISTICS.

For the Year 1973

(Compiled from figures supplied by the Registrar General)

## LIVE BIRTHS

LIVE	BIRTHS
	Males Females Total
Legitimate	150 142 292
Illegitimate	2 3 5
	152 145 297
Birth Rate per 1,000 population	16.3
Local Adjusted Rate	15.3
Comparability Factor	0.94
Illegitimate live births as percenta	ge of total live births 1.61%
STILL	BIRTHS
AND REAL PROPERTY.	Males Females Total
Legitimate	3 - 3
Illegitimate	1 - 1
Total live and still births 301.	
Still Birth Rate 13.00 per 1,000 Liv	e and Still Births.
Birth Rate, England and Wales 1973	13.7
Birth Rate, England and Wales 1972	14.8

## TABLE OF INFANT MORTALITY 1964-73

Year		Rate per 1,000 Births	Year		Rate per 1,000 Births
1964 1965 1966 1967 1968		18.9 13.00 16.5 15.5 12.00	1969 1970 1971 1972 1973		22.00 19.00 6.00 7.00 20.00
		AND BIRTH RATES			0:-11: 0.1-
Year	No.	Birth Rate	Year	No.	Birth Rate
1964	317	22.6	1968	335	20.5
1965	307	21.0	1969	323	19.1
1966	362	23.9	1970	317	18.2
1967	321	20.2	1971	320	18.5
			1972	304	17.1
			1973	297	16.3
		DEAT	HS		
	Males	86 Females	8 83	To	tal 169

Death Rate 9.3 Corrected Death Rate 10.1 Comparability Factor 1.

The average number of deaths per annum in the years 1964-73 was 156.

Death Rate England and Wales: 12.0 per 1,000.

DEATH RATE OF INFANTS UNDER ONE YEAR OF AGE		
All infants, per 1,000 live births		20.00
Legitimate infants per 1,000 legitimate live births		21.00
Illegitimate infants per 1,000 illegitimate live births		Nil
Deaths of infants under 4 weeks of age		7.00
Deaths of infants under 1 week of age		7.00
Peri-Natal Mortality Rate (Still births and deaths under on	e week	
combined per 1,000 total live and still births)		20.00
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)		38
Maternal Deaths (including Abortion)		Nil
Maternal Mortality Rate per 1,000 live Births		Nil
Death from Heart Disease		51
Vascular Disease of Nervous System		30

## CAUSE OF DEATH

		Males	Females	Total
1.	Other Infective & Parasitic			
2	Diseases		1	1
2.	Malignant Neoplasm Desophagus	-	1	1 .
3.	Stomacu	-	3	3
4.	" Intestine	2	3	5
5.	" Lung, Bronchus	8	5	13
6.	" Breast	-	6	6
7.	" Uterus	-	1	1
8.	" Prostate	1	-	1
9.	Other Malignant Neoplasms, etc	4	3	7
10.	Benion and Unspecified Neoplasms	-	1	1
11.	Diabetes Mellitus	-99	1	1
12.	Multiple Sclerosis	-	1	1
13.	Other Diseases of Nervous System etc	-	4	4
14.	Hypertensive Heart Disease	-	1	1
15.	Ischaemic Heart Disease	29	15	44
16.	Other Forms of Heart Disease	2	4	6
17.	Cerebrovascular Disease	12	18	30
18.	Other Disease of Circulatory System	2	2	4
19.	Pneumonia	7	3	10
20.	Bronchitis and Emphysema	7	2	9
21.	Asthma	1		1
22.	Other Diseases of Respiratory System	1	1	2
23.	Peptic Ulcer	2		2
24.	Intestinal Obstruction and Hernia	1		1
25.	Other Diseases of Digestive System	2	2	4
26.	Other Diseases, Genito-Urinary System		1	1
27.	Congenital Anomalies		1	1
28.	Difficult Delivery and/or Anoxic	431	1	1
20.	Condition	112	1	1
29.	Other Causes of Perinatal Mortality	-	1	1
30.	Motor Vehicle Accidents	3	1	4
31.	Suicide & Self-Inflicted Injuries	2	-	2
		86	83	169

# PREVALENCE OF, AND CONTROL OVER INFECTIOUS AND OTHER DISEASES

22 Cases of notifiable disease other than Tuberculosis occurred during the year. Details of these are given in the following table.

Notifiable Diseases (other than Tuberculosis) for the Year 1973.

Disease				er of c	ases No	Number of Cases Notified				Cases		
				At a	At ages - Years	ears				mitted to	Deaths.	
	Under 1 yr.	1-3	3-5	5-10	5-10 10-15 15-25	15-25	25-45 45-65	45-65	65 and Over	Hos-		-
Scarlet Fever 6	1	1	,	1	3	1			1	1	1	
Measles 15	ы	3	3	9			1		1	1	1	-
Dysentery -		1		-	1	-		-	-			-
Infectious Jaundice 1	1	-		1	equities of the same of the sa	-	1	1	-	i	1	
Totals: 22	4	3	2	7	2	1	-	1	ı			-

## SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA.

### WATER.

All water within the Urban District is supplied by the Wirral Water Board from a mixed source, including water from wells, upland surface reservoirs, and the River Dee. All water supplies are chemically treated.

Routine chemical and bacteriological samples are taken both by the Water Board and this Department. All have been satisfactory.

A private supply of water from an Artesian well serves a private school. Samples obtained have been satisfactory.

Every house has a piped supply from the public mains. Details are given below:-

			Dwelling Houses.	Population.
(a)	House direct	 	 6,086.	18,210.
(b)	Standpipes	 	 -	-

## Consumption.

It is estimated that the water supplied represents a consumption of approximately 40 gallons per head per day.

## DRAINAGE AND SEWERAGE.

The number of dwellings without main drainage facilities remains substantially the same. Although many of the sewage installations at these houses are of an obsolescent type, in practice they create no nuisance or pollution, and work satisfactorily. Advice is sought from time to time on these installations when difficulties are encountered, and improvements are carried out on suggestions from the Department.

Drainage problems continue to occur on some of the new private housing estates where there are long runs of 'private sewers'

## AREAS IN WHICH MAIN DRAINAGE FACILITIES ARE NOT AVAILABLE.

NESTON	Liverpool Road The Runnell, Leighton Road Chester High Road Boathouse Lane	19 houses
NESS BURT ON	The Flashes Neston Road Mudhouse Lane Dunstan Lane/Woodend Lane Chester High Road Wood Lane Haddon Lane Mill Lane	7 houses 40 houses 33 houses 51 houses 16 houses 8 houses 9 houses 5 houses
WILLASTON	Heath Lane Mill Lane	21 houses 4 houses
LITTLE NESTON	The Colliery	4 houses

This list includes only properties where development has some sort of coherence or is cap to e of being served by extension of existing sewers. It does not include all the properties in the urban district which drain to private disposal plants.

## Rivers and Streams

From time to time throughout the year, it has been necessary to take action to improve the flow and condition of some watercourses which were impeded. The work has been carried out with the co-operation of the owners.

## Open Spaces

The District has some 120.3 acres of public open spaces, together with an additional 25.0 acres being owned privately, but open for public use.

## Salvage

The following table shows the weight and value of the material returned to industry during this year:

Material		Weight		Value
Waste Paper		Tonnes 202.74		£. 2,629.86
	Tons.	Cwts.	Qtrs.	£.
Rags	12	9	2	311.87
Non-ferrous metal	1	11	3	95.00
	14	1	1	406.87

## PUBLIC CLEANSING.

## Refuse Collection

The Council operate a weekly collection of refuse from domestic premises, shops, schools etc. Wherever possible a twice weekly collection is maintained for certain food premises, especially in the summer months.

A pilot scheme of sack collection is being continued with, but to date has not been extended.

Civic Amenities collections continue to increase and every encouragement is given to householders to contact the Department for this free service.

The sack collection scheme for garden refuse for which a charge is made continues to expand and fulfil a need.

### Refuse Disposal

The system of pulverisation and controlled tipping continues to be used satisfactory.

		Inspect:	ions		
				Number of	
	Premises	No. on Register	Inspections	.Written Notices	Occupiers Prosecuted
(1)	Factories in which Sections 1,2,3,4, and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities	3	1	-	-
(2)	Factories not included in (1) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority	38	12	3	-
(3)	Other premises in which section 7 is enforced by the local authority (excluding out-workers' premises)	9	4	-	-
	Total	50	17	3	-

# Factories Act 1961 Defects Found

	Num		ses in which	defects	Number of cases in	
	Found	Remedied	Refe To H. M. Inspector	Ву Н. М.	which pro- secutions were in- stituted.	
Want of cleanliness (S.1)	-		-	-	-	
Overcrowding (S.1)	-	-	-	-	-	
Inadequate ventilation (S.4)	-	-	-		-	
Ineffective drainage of floors (S.6)	-	-	-	-	-	
Unreasonable temperature (S.3)	-	-	-	-	-	
Sanitary conveniences (S.7) (a) Insufficient	-	_	toost vere of	_	_	
(b) Unsuitable or defective	8	5 .	-	-	-	
(c) Not separate for sexes	-	-	-	-	-	
Other offences against the act (not including offences relating to outworkers)	-		-	-	-	
Total	8	5	-	-	-	

Housing.

During the year the following progress has been made:-

Description	Local Authority	Private Enterprise	Total
Number of houses erected during 1973:-	700200	T and the second	
(a) Permanent	16	63	79
(b) Temporary	-	-	39.7
Number of flats provided in 1973:-	100	-	100
Totals	116	63	179

The progress made since the building programme commenced is shown below -

Description	Local Authority	Private Enterprise	Total
Number of new houses erected since 1st August, 1945.			
(a) Permanent (b) Temporary	738	2959 5	3697 5
Number of flats provided since 1st August, 1945	245	21	266
Totals	983	2985	3968

## Housing.

The accent this year has again been on Improvement of Houses and the number of enquiries and inspections for this purpose has greatly increased.

## Improvement Grant.

During the year, 158 applications for grant aid were approved.

Discretionary Grants approved: 155.
Standard Grants approved:-

(iii)	Reduced Stands		TIMIL )	nil.
(ii)	Full Standard			1.
(i)	Full Standard	(normal	limit)	2.

This year has again seen an increase in the number of enquiries, applications, and approval of Improvement Grants in the private section, together with the commencement of a programme of improvements to all pre-war council owned property.

The Council after consideration of the White Paper 'Better Homes the Next Priority' fixed a ceiling of £300 Gross Rateable Value over which Improvement Grant would not be considered. Difficulties were experienced in drawing and enforcing a deadline for the operation of this Gross Rateable Value but were satisfactorily overcome. Work has commenced towards the declaration of the first General Improvement Area consisting of 92 houses mainly tenanted, and in one ownership.

## Inspection and Supervision of Foods.

A good standard of inspection has been maintained this year and the improvement in the general standard of food hygiene in the area continues, with increasing awareness by the general public of the necessity of good food handling.

The public are encouraged to bring all food complaints to the Department, the thorough investigation of which assists in maintaining a good standard within the food trade.

The following sets out the quantity of foodstuffs found not to be fit for human consumption:-

Article.	Weight in lbs.	Reason for Condemnation.
Canned Meats.	169	Blown, leaking and damaged containers.
Canned Fruits.	83	
Canned Vegetables.	117	The state of the s
Canned Fish.	22	
Canned Soup.	6	"
Canned Milk.	4	
Other Tinned and Bottled Foods.	186	н
Deep freeze Foodstuffs.	904	Defrosted.
Cereals etc.	2	Infestation of mite and moth.

# Milk Supply.

The following samples were submitted for test and the results are as follows:-

Description.		Methylene Blue Test		Phosphatase Test.		Turbidity Test.	
	Number of Samples	Passed	Failed	Passad	Failed	Passed	Failed
Pasteurised	. 31	24	7	-	ro <u>-</u> ro	-	-
Channel Island (Pasteurised)	8	7	1	-	-	-	-
Homogenised	5	5	-	-		-	-
Sterilised	1	-	-	-	-	1	-
Total:	45	36	8	-	-	1	-

# Milk Supplies - Brucella Abortus.

			Penicillin		
Description	Total Submitted	Number Brucella Positive	Satis- factory	Unsat- isfac- tory.	
Bulk Samples	11	200 200 - 5E	11	-	
Dealer Sample		Electrical cons	-	-	
Individual Cow Samples	-	e out the second of	-	-	
Total:	11	A CONTRACTOR OF STREET	11	-	

Bakehouses	4
Butchers	9
Cafes and Restaurants	7
Chemists	5
Confectioners	6
Delicatessen	2
Shrimp Dealers	6
Dairies	2
Fishmongers	4
Fried Fish and Chips Saloons	4
Greengrocers	11
Hospitals and Institutions	3
Licensed Premises and Clubs	17
Residential Hotels	4
School Kitchens	11
Supermarkets	6
Sweet Shops	7
Wines and Spirits	6
General Stores	18
Total	132

## Slaughter of Animals Act, 1958.

There are two licensed slaughtermen.

# Slaughterhouse Act, 1958.

There is one licensed slaughterhouse.

## Eradication of Bed Bugs.

Number of houses found to be infested:

(a) Council Houses nil

(b) Other Houses nil

Number of houses disinfested:-

Juses	disinfested:-	
(a)	Council Houses	nil
(b)	Other Houses	nil

# Offices, Shops and Railway Premises Act, 1963.

# Registration and General Inspections.

Class of Premises.	Number of premises registered during the year.	Total number of registered premises at end of year.	Number of registered premises receiving a general inspection during the year.
Offices	1	17	17
Retail Shops	2	83	71
Wholesale Shops, Warehouses	-		-
Catering establishments open to the public,			
canteens	3	9	9
Fuel storage depots	-	-	100 3100- 10 100
Totals:	6	109	97

# Analysis of Persons Employed in Registered Premises by Workplace.

Class of Workplace.	Number of persons employed.
Offices	64
Retail Shops	268
Wholesale Departments, Warehouses.	
Catering Establishments open to the	Public 75
Canteens	A STATE OF THE PARTY OF THE PAR
Fuel Storage depots	
Т	otal 407
M	ales 101
F	emales 306

# Carcases and Offal Inspected and Condemned in Whole or In Part.

	Cattle exclud- ing cows	Cows	Calves	Sheep and Lambs	Pigs
Number Killed	nil	nil	9	3128	nil
Number Inspected	-	-	9	3128	nil
All diseases except Tuberculosis and Cysticeri Whole Carcases	-	-	-	11	
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	-	-	-	834	-
Percentage of the number inspected, affected with disease other than Tuber-culosis and Cysticeri.				26.6%	-
Tuberculosis only. Whole carcases continued.	-	-	-	- 6	-
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned.	-	-	-	-	-
Percentage of the number inspected affected with					es indica
Tuberculosis.	-	-	-	-	
Cysticercosis Carcase of which some part of organ was condemned.	-	-	-	-	
Carcases submitted to treatment by refrigeration.	-	-	-	-	
Generalised and totally condemned.	-		-	_	-

# Adulteration.

This work is undertaken by the Cheshire County Council.

List of Samples taken in the Neston Urban District under the Food and Drugs Act, 1938, during the year ended 31st December, 1973.

Name of Sample	Number Obtained.	Number adultered or not up to the recognised standard of quality
Bread - Milk	1	-
Coldrex Tablets	1	- Section Line
Cider .	1	1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1
Champagne Perry	1	- 300
Corned Beef	1	1
Jijex •	1	-
Egg Custard Dessert Mix	1	Ortonor of b-common or
Epsom Salts BP	1	-
Fruit Cocktail in Heavy Syrup	1	contact contact - through - the
Flavouring Essence - Peppermint	1	Property of the same of the same of
Ginger Food Flavouring Compound	1	-
Glace Cherries	1	- minus
Hake Portions	1	- 431,384,001,00
Honey	1	-
Irish Stew	1	-market probable
Ice Cream	1	-
Jam - Strawberry	1	-
Lemon Curd	1	. some gradu _ to the re-
Lobster Paste	1	
Milk	32	
Pumpkin - Unseasoned	1	-
Pork Luncheon Meat	1	2
Pineapple Pieces in Syrup	1	
Panasorb Tablets	1	The state of the s
Rum	1	_
Sliced Bramley Apples with Currents	1	1
Sausages - Pork	2	- Parisi
Sausages - Beef	1	1000-
Sausages - Pork and Beef	1	AND THE PARTY OF T
Two Baked Bramley Apples with		SOLITO DOS PORTO DE LA PROPERCIONA
date stuffing	2	- 3/10-1
Vodka	1	-
Whisky	2	
	66	2

## SANITARY INSPECTION OF THE AREA

Number and Nature of Inspecti	ons	Notice	es Served		of Serv- Notice
Made.		Stat- utory	In- formal	Com- plied with	Out- Standing
				MICH	
All Complaints received N  Dwelling Houses	lumber 1549				4 1 1 1 1 1
Public Health Act.	702	2	332	329	21
Housing Act. General Improvement Grants.	52	-	-	1-10	-
Enquiries etc.	1984	-	- 1	-	-
Multiple Occupation	6	-	1	5	1021
Overcrowding and re-housing	9	-	-		
Visits re: Searches	80	-	-	-	-
Infestations	119	-	2	2	-
Animal Boarding Establishments	3	-	95-75-75	1 12 1 - 14	210151
Caravans and Sites Ditches and Watercourses	20	-	6	7	1000000
Drainage	96	1	71	72	
Dustbins	70	-	- 1	-	1000
					113 000 CH
Factories Act. Mechanical Power	12	8	5	4	405 6500
Without Power	1	-	3	4	
Building Sites	4		4	4	1190
Outworkers	-	-	-		at a lest
Food Premises - Complaints - Food etc.	37				in prosi
General Food Hygiene Regs.	121	-	26	47	12
Ice-cream Premises	52	-	2	2	
Licensed Premises - Clubs etc.	19	-	14	16	4
Mobile Food Premises	30	-	23	20	8
Other Food Premises	41 29	-	17 8	16	6
Market Stalls Slaughterhouse Visits	112		3	3	1920000
					PROJECT NAMED IN
Infectious Diseases	7	-	-	-	-
Hairdressers Keeping of Animals	12		2 11	11	1
Noise	140		6	6	SEINE FOR
Offensive Accummulations	3	-	3	3	349
Offices, Shops & Railway Premise	s 97	-	9	10	2
Pet Animals	2	-	-	-	-
Places of Public Entertainment	7	-		-	-
Public Conveniences	1	-	1	1	PROPERTY.
Rodent Control Inspections, and			24	24	
	1407		30	30	
Refuse Collection and Disposal Schools	7		1	1	
Smoke Observations	28	-	7	7	-
Swimming Pools Sampling -	3	-	-	-	-
Wat -	21	-	-	-	-
Ice-cream	48	-	-	-	-
Other Foods		-	-	-	-
Were- Supply	4			-	

# Particulars of food complaints from private purchasers (1973)

No.	From.	Nature.	Remarks.
1	Private Purchaser	Poor quality Strawberry Jam	Sample obtained was genuine
2	School (Centeen)	Metal in Corned Beef	See No. 2 on Samples list
3	Private Purchaser	Too much liquid in Sliced Bramley Apples with Currants	See No.1 on Samples list

## Particulars of Samples not up to Standard (1973).

No.	Sample.	Result of Analysis.	Remarks.
1	Sliced Bramley Apples with Currants	Not an appropriate designation	Re-labelled by manufacturer
2	Corned Beef	0.23 g - a piece of "tin plate" containing mainly iron	Packers cautioned

## Rodent Control.

The Rodent Operator continues to be used on a shared basis with Wirral Urban District Council.

Free treatment is carried out on all domestic premises for the destruction of rats, mice, and insect pests.

## Prevention of Damage by Pests Act, 1949.

	Non Agricultural.	Agricultural.
Number of premises inspected following notification	242	11
Number infested by (a) Rats	129	11
(b) Mice	94	2
Number of properties inspected for reasons other than notification	698	

## Poisonous Wastes Act, 1972.

No problems have been experienced in this area this year with regard to pollution by poisonous waste.

The Council's tip is used by one major industrial Company for the deposit of waste, the Public Analyst has been consulted over all the various types tipped and all have been found to be inoccuous.

## Factories.

The district has a small area confined to light industry with one large international concern and several smaller factories throughout the district.

### Clean Air.

The Council have agreed upon a policy of Smoke Control and the division of the district into eight Smoke Control Areas, which will cover the whole of the Urban District. The period of time it is hoped to convert the whole of the district to Smoke Control is ten years. Preliminary work only has been commenced.

## Noise.

The investigations and control of noise complaints increasing takes up more of the department's time as the public became more aware of this type of nuisance. Complaints vary greatly from domestic sources to industrial sources.

## Swimming Baths.

A small swimming bath is incorporated within a private school in the area for the use of the pupils.

The construction of the Sports Complex jointly by the Neston Urban District Council and Cheshire County Council, which includes a swimming baths is nearing completion.

## Caravan Sites.

There is one licensed site within the area for fifteen residential caravans. All facilities are provided and the site is kept in good order.

## Shellfish.

There are no layings within the district. Shrimps and prawns sold within the area are quite often from imported sources, and those known as local shrimps are usually caught in the wide estuary of the River, and Liverpool Bay.

## Food Poisoning Outbreaks.

There was one case of food poisoning notified during the year.

## Pet Animals Act, 1951.

There is one shop licensed for the sale of pet animals.

## Animal Boarding Establishments Act, 1964.

There are three registered premises under the above named Act.

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