

[Report 1963] / Medical Officer of Health, Walton-le-Dale U.D.C.

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WALTON-LE-DALE URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL.



REPORT

OF THE

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH
CHIEF PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR

AND

ENGINEER AND SURVEYOR

for the

Year ending 31st December, 1963

WALTON-LE-DALE URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL

1963

Chairman of the Council

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Chairman of Public Health Committee

Councillor W. Morgan

Vice-Chairman of Public Health Committee

Councillor F. A. Cooper, J.P.

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Councillor T. A. Bamford

Councillor T. T. Bayes (from May, 1963)

Councillor J. Halpin

Councillor Mrs. M. Hetherington (retired May, 1963)

Councillor T. Hewlett

Councillor Mrs. E. E. Hewlett

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Councillor Rev. A. Williams

PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT STAFF

Medical Officer of Health: J. Walker, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H., L.D.S., D.P.D.

Other Appointments: Divisional Medical Officer of Health, Lancs. C.C. No. 4 Division ; and Medical Officer of Health to the Borough of Chorley, the Urban Districts of Adlington, Longridge, Withnell, Fulwood, and Leyland and the Rural Districts of Preston and Chorley.

Deputy Medical Officer of Health and Senior Assistant Divisional Medical Officer :

N. T. W. Pover, L.R.F.P.S., L.R.C.S., L.M.S.S.A., D.P.H.

Chief Public Health Inspector and Cleansing Superintendent :

G. N. Corbishley, M.R.S.H., M.A.P.H.I.

Deputy Chief Public Health Inspector : J. R. Williams, M.R.S.H., M.A.P.H.I., D.P.A.

Meat Inspector : B. G. Minion, M.A.P.H.I.

Warden Brindle Road Old People's Community Centre :

Mrs. J. Hughes, S.R.N., S.C.M. (to February, 1963).

Mrs. M. Gill, S.E.N. (from March, 1963).

Clerk/Typist : Miss N. Dawson.

PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT,
COUNCIL OFFICES,
BAMBER BRIDGE

REPORT OF THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

For the year ended 31st December, 1963.

To the Chairman and Members of the Council

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have pleasure in presenting to you the Annual Report on the health and sanitary circumstances for the year ended 31st December, 1963.

According to the Registrar General's estimate the population of the District at Mid-June, 1963 was 20,440, which is 670 higher than that for the previous year.

The number of live births assigned to the district was 517 compared with 526 in the year 1962. The crude birth rate for the year was 25.30 (adjusted 22.5) per 1,000 population. The birth rate for England and Wales and the County of Lancaster were 18.2 and 18.28 respectively.

The number of deaths assigned to the district for the year 1963 was 204 which is precisely the same figure as in the previous year. The crude death rate was 10.0 (adjusted 13.1) per 1,000 population. The death rates for England and Wales and Lancashire were 12.2 and 12.69 (adjusted 13.83).

The Registrar General has this year provided a table giving the causes of death in age groups and the table is reproduced on Page 7 of the Report. Comparing the causes of death with those of the previous year, one finds that there were two more deaths from all forms of cancer including one case of leukaemia, but two fewer from lung cancer. Vascular lesions of the nervous system accounted for 36 deaths as compared with 21, coronary heart disease for 35 as against 25, whilst deaths from all other forms of heart disease were reduced by half to 18. There was one death attributed to poliomyelitis and one to pulmonary tuberculosis whilst there were no deaths from these causes in the previous year. Other causes of death showed minor variations.

The number of infants who died before reaching one year of age was 15 which is one more than in 1962; this gives an infantile mortality rate of 29.0 per 1,000 live births. The corresponding figure for England and Wales and Lancashire are 20.9 and 23.3. This is the second successive year that the infantile mortality rate has shown an increase, but when dealing with comparatively small numbers the death of twins from prematurity, as occurred this year, makes quite an effect on the position.

Turning now to the incidence of infectious diseases one finds that the number of notifications of infectious diseases received was 132 including four of tuberculosis. In the previous year there were 366 including 3 of tuberculosis. The decrease is mainly accounted for by the fact that notifications of measles fell from 331 in 1962 to 112 in 1963. Notifications of scarlet fever were 6 as compared with 13, dysentery 6 against 11 in the previous year. Although no notifications of poliomyelitis were received it should be noted that there was one death attributed to this disease, in a child who had not been protected by vaccination against poliomyelitis. It cannot be too strongly emphasized that vaccination and immunization offer a high degree of protection against such diseases as poliomyelitis, smallpox, diphtheria, whooping cough and tetanus, and parents must be encouraged to take every advantage of the facilities offered.

A high standard of environmental hygiene is of vital importance to the health of the community and this has been emphasized by the recent outbreaks of Typhoid Fever in Zermatt in Switzerland and in this country. The strictest attention must be paid to such matters as food hygiene, purity of water supplies, efficient sewage disposal and not least, personal hygiene. The washing of hands after using the toilet is still not universally practised. Many local authorities are reluctant to provide washing facilities in public conveniences because of the wanton damage which occurs but vandalism should not be allowed to endanger the health of the public. Typhoid fever and other food

borne diseases will not flourish if hygiene is kept at a high standard. Reference to the report will show that the many aspects of environmental hygiene continued to receive careful attention during the year. Although the Health Department is keen to introduce Smoke Control Areas to combat atmospheric pollution the Council has not yet decided to do so. The inadequacy of supplies and cost of premium smokeless fuels provide small incentive.

In regard to housing, 25 houses were closed during the year on account of unfitness and a considerable number were rendered fit or improved by means of grants. There was no house building by the local authority but 250 houses erected by private enterprise were completed during the year. A start was also made on three County Council premises, namely a hostel for the elderly, and a training centre and hostel for adult mentally subnormal persons.

Work on the complete reconstruction of the Sewage Disposal Works which was commenced in February, 1962 continued and should be completed about the middle of 1964.

A highly controversial subject during the year was the fluoridation of water supplies. In an endeavour to provide a means of improving the dental state of the child population, the Minister of Health in December, 1962, intimated that subject to certain conditions, he would be willing to approve the making of arrangements by local health authorities, with water undertakers, for the addition of fluoride to water supplies which are deficient in it naturally. The matter was considered by the Council and it was decided to support the proposal to add fluoride to the local water supply. There would seem to be overwhelming proof of the efficacy and safety of this measure. The County Council, as the local health authority, has given the matter careful consideration, but at the end of 1963, had not taken any positive action in regard to it.

The amount of voluntary work which goes on in the District, particularly in regard to the welfare of the elderly, is most gratifying and it is pleasing to note the commencement during the year of a Luncheon Club which is proving very popular with a number of old people.

In conclusion I must again record my sincere thanks to Mr. Corbishley and Mr. Williams for their willing co-operation at all times. My thanks are also due to the other Officers of the Council for assistance or advice whenever this is necessary.

I am indeed grateful to the Chairman and Members of the Council and in particular to the Chairman of the Public Health Committee for their continued support and encouragement.

I have the honour to be,

Your obedient servant,

J. WALKER,

Medical Officer of Health.

Physical Characteristics of the Area

The shape of the district is roughly that of a quadrangle with the longer sides from East to West of $4\frac{1}{4}$ miles and the shorter North to South of 3 miles. There is a pronounced slope in the area from South East to North West, falling from 300 feet above sea level to 20 feet above mean sea level.

Part of the northern boundary of the district is formed by the River Ribble for a distance of some two miles, and it is tidal in almost all that stretch. The River Darwen flows through a valley in the northern part of the area and joins the Ribble towards the north western boundary of the district.

Each of these rivers has given rise to extensive flooding in the lower lying parts of the district in times of heavy rains. The risk of flooding is accentuated by a West wind with a high tide level.

Geologically the area is based on Triassic Sandstone upon which are placed a layer of lower boulder clay, a layer of drift sand and finally a layer of upper boulder clay. The rock base forms an inclined plane which dips downwards from the East towards the sea. Outcrops of this rock are found in the beds of the rivers Ribble and Darwen. In the boulder clay layers stones of varying sizes are found. Most of these are of Lakeland origin brought down by the movement of ice or by its melting. In the Drift Sand layer there are deposits of gravel. Usually the layers of Glacial Drift fill the valleys, the hill tops being free of drift.

The thickness of the layers varies considerably in different parts of the district, and the three layers may reach 100 feet, but in most parts of the district the Upper Boulder layer approximates 10 feet, the Drift Sand 9 feet and the Lower Boulder layer from 2 feet upwards.

The two rivers form a flat tongue of land near their junction and the alluvial deposits provide a rich soil which is utilised for market gardening. This land has, unfortunately, been flooded on many occasions to the great detriment of the stock in the gardens.

Social Conditions and Amenities of the Area

The main portions of the district are closely associated with industry, but part is entirely residential. The chief industries are cotton manufacture, especially weaving, engineering, corn milling, market gardening and dairy farming.

There are thirteen churches in the area, a number have attached Sunday Schools covering the various aspects of religion. Many church halls are associated with these churches where in the winter months, social functions are held.

The clubs in the district are political, religious and non-sectarian; some are connected with sport. Games such as billiards, snooker, darts, dominoes, etc., are played in the clubs. Additionally, a tennis club, a table tennis club, and a cricket club are sited in the district.

The district is fortunate in having a number of playing fields, some of which are owned and controlled by the Local Authority and others by the sports organisations from churches and clubs. Good use is made of these for the usual seasonal sports. Some of the playing fields are now equipped with a children's play section.

The local Archeological Society has made excavations, particularly in the area close to the junction of the Rivers Darwen and Ribble, where it is considered that there was, in the period of Roman occupation, a landing place for Roman shipping. The existence of a fort is suspected, its boundaries have not been fully traced. Many interesting relics, pottery, metals, portions of urns, etc., have been found there and are now displayed in the Council Offices.

A report on the first 10 years' "dig" has been published; it indicates that one of the gate houses to the original fort has been discovered. Further work has been done in excavating this gateway during the past year.

Statistics

Area in Acres (census 1961)	4,733
Population (census 1961) (as published by the Registrar General) ...	19,061
Registrar General's estimate of population (mid 1963)	20,440
Number of houses (census 1961)	6,265
Number of inhabited houses (December, 1963)	7,011
Rateable Value	£605,147
Sum represented by a penny rate	£2,503

Vital Statistics

Birth Rate per 1,000 estimated population crude	25.3
Birth Rate per 1,000 estimated population adjusted	22.5
Still Birth Rate per 1,000 live and still births	7.7
Area Comparability Factor for Births	0.89
Infantile Mortality rate per 1,000 live births	29.0
Neo Natal Mortality Rate per 1,000 live births	19.3
Maternal Mortality rate per 1,000 live and still births	Nil
Death Rate per 1,000 estimated population Crude	10.0
Death Rate per 1,000 estimated population Adjusted	13.1
Area Comparability factor for deaths	1.31

Births

The statistics in regard to both births and deaths, have again been supplied by the Registrar General, through the County Health Department. The number of births and deaths referred to in this report are those registered during the calendar year, corrected for "inward" and "outward" transfer.

According to the Registrar General, the total live births registered in, or belonging to the District during the year was 517.

	Males			Females		
	Total	Legit	Illegit	Total	Legit	Illegit
Live Births	274	263	11	243	238	5
Still Births	2	2	—	2	2	—
DEATHS						
Deaths of Infants						
Under 1 year of age	8	6	2	7	7	—
Under 4 weeks of age	5	3	2	5	5	—
Under 1 week of age	5	3	2	4	4	—

Infantile Mortality

Age	Sex	Cause of Death
2 weeks	F.	Broncho Pneumonia
3 months	F.	Spina Bifida
2 days	F.	Prematurity
2 days	M.	Atelectasis
5 months	F.	Broncho Pneumonia
2 months	M.	Asphyxia
13 hours	M.	Prematurity
1 month	M.	Aorta Defect.
1 day	M.	Prematurity } Twins
4 days	M.	Prematurity }
2 days	F.	Atelectasis
18 hours	F.	Prematurity
14 hours	F.	Asphyxia
1 month	M.	Congenital Defect
18 hours	M.	Congenital Heart Disease

Neo-natal, Early Neo-natal and Perinatal Mortality

In order to show further detailed information on deaths in early infancy, separate mortality figures are given for the Neo-natal period covering the deaths of infants under 4 weeks of age, the Early Neo-natal period covering the deaths of infants under 1 week of age and for the Perinatal mortality which in addition to Early Neo-natal deaths include the figures for still-births.

The rates for Neo-natal and Early Neo-natal deaths were 19.3 and 17.4 per 1,000 live births respectively and that for Perinatal Mortality was 25.0 per 1,000 total births.

Maternal Mortality

It is gratifying to be able to report once more that no maternal deaths occurred in the District from causes associated with pregnancy and childbirth. No such deaths have occurred in the district since 1958.

Deaths allocated by the Registrar General to the Walton-le-Dale District for the year, numbered 204 (males 109, females 95). This shows no change on the previous year. The Crude Death Rate for the District was 10.0. The last occasion when the rate was below 10.0 was in 1926 when 9.6 was recorded, the lowest Death Rate for the District on record.

Causes of Death

Smoking and Lung Cancer has been much in the public eye during the year and in particular since publication of the report of the Royal College of Physicians.

It may not be out of place to consider Dr. Samuel Johnson's comment made in 1774.

"Smoking has gone out. To be sure, it is a shocking thing, blowing smoke out of our mouths into other people's mouths, eyes and noses, and having the same thing done to us."

It seems a pity that 190 years after Dr. Johnson made his observations we cannot agree that "smoking has gone out," and so we still have this "shocking thing."

Publicity on the relationship between lung cancer and smoking has been promoted during the year by a continual display of approved posters in the Council Offices and other prominent places throughout the District.

CAUSE OF DEATH	Sex	Total All Ages	Under 4 weeks	4 weeks and under 1 year	AGE IN YEARS									
					1-	5-	15-	25-	35-	45-	55-	65-	75 and over	
1. Tuberculosis, Respiratory	M	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	
	F	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
7. Acute Poliomyelitis	M	1	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
	F	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
10. Malignant Neoplasm, Stomach ..	M	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	3	—	—	—	
	F	4	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	2	1	—	
11. Malignant Neoplasm, Lung, Bronchus	M	5	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	3	—	1	—	
	F	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	—	—	—	
12. Malignant Neoplasm, Breast ..	M	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
	F	5	—	—	—	—	—	—	3	2	—	—	—	
13. Malignant Neoplasm, Uterus ..	F	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	
14. Other Malignant and Lymphatic Neo-	M	10	—	—	—	—	1	—	1	—	3	5	—	
plasms	F	8	—	—	—	—	2	—	—	—	1	5	—	
15. Leukaemia, Aleukaemia	M	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	
	F	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
16. Diabetes	M	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	
	F	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	
17. Vascular Lesions of Nervous System	M	15	—	—	—	—	—	—	3	1	6	5	—	
	F	21	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	1	4	14	—	
18. Coronary Disease, Angina	M	25	—	—	—	—	—	1	3	9	7	5	—	
	F	10	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	2	6	—	
19. Hypertension with Heart Disease ..	M	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	1	
	F	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	
20. Other Heart Disease	M	8	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	2	1	4	—	
	F	8	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	3	5	—	
21. Other Circulatory Disease	M	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	—	
	F	9	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	7	—	
22. Influenza	M	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	
	F	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
23. Pneumonia	M	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	—	—	—	
	F	7	1	1	—	1	—	—	1	1	1	1	—	
24. Bronchitis	M	10	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	4	3	3	—	
	F	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	1	—	
25. Other diseases of Respiratory System	M	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	
	F	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
26. Ulcer of Stomach and Duodenum ..	M	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
	F	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	—	—	
27. Gastritis, Enteritis and Diarrhoea ..	M	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	1	—	—	
	F	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	
28. Nephritis and Nephrosis	M	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	
	F	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
29. Hyperplasia of Prostate	M	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	
31. Congenital Malformations	M	3	1	1	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
	F	1	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
32. Other Defined and Ill-Defined Diseases	M	9	4	1	—	—	—	—	1	2	1	—	—	
	F	9	4	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	3	—	
33. Motor Vehicle Accidents	M	5	—	—	—	1	—	2	—	1	—	—	1	
	F	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
34. All Other Accidents	M	1	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
	F	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	
35. Suicide	M	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
	F	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	
Total All Causes	M	109	5	3	—	3	—	3	2	14	26	25	28	
	F	95	5	2	—	2	—	—	3	9	9	20	45	

Comparative Table

Walton-le-Dale	Crude Birth Rate	Crude Death Rate	Pul. T.B. Death Rate	Cancer Death Rate	Maternal Mortality Rate per 1,000 Total Births	Infantile Mortality Rate per 1,000 Live Births
Mean of 5 years 1955-59 ..	16.78	11.40	0.05	1.79	1.48	24.36
1959	18.90	10.80	0.06	1.73	Nil	28.30
1960	20.20	10.10	Nil	1.94	Nil	19.80
1961	23.60	11.70	0.05	1.79	Nil	17.90
1962	26.60	10.30	Nil	1.87	Nil	26.60
1963	25.30	10.00	0.05	1.91	Nil	29.00
Increase or Decrease in 1963 compared to:						
A: 5 year average ..	+8.52	-1.40	Nil	+0.12	-1.48	+4.64
B: Previous year ..	-1.30	-0.30	+0.05	+0.04	Nil	+2.40
Rates for County of Lancs. for 1963	18.28	12.69	0.05	2.11	0.28	23.3
Rates for England and Wales for 1963	18.2	12.2	0.056	2.18	0.28	20.9

Table of Decades

Period	Per 1,000 Population				Enteric Fever		Diphtheria		Scarlet Fever		Deaths from Diarrhoea
	Birth Rate	Death Rate	Pul. T.B. Death Rate	Infantile Mortality Rate	Cases	Deaths	Cases	Deaths	Cases	Deaths	
Ten Years											
1891-1900 ..	30.8	18.9	1.25	188	133	27	46	16	211	15	122
1901-1910 ..	26.3	14.7	0.95	128	116	21	98	15	291	16	58
1911-1920 ..	18.7	13.7	0.91	107	54	5	166	16	565	11	46
1921-1930 ..	16.0	12.0	0.72	64	7	0	66	5	310	0	11
1931-1940 ..	14.0	12.7	0.44	56	5	2	47	3	414	0	5
1941-1950 ..	16.5	12.3	0.33	42	0	0	27	1	280	0	6
1951-1960 ..	16.4	11.7	0.09	23	0	0	0	0	514	0	0

The Prevalence and Control of Infectious Diseases

The hospital to which patients were admitted was :—
Deepdale Infectious Diseases Hospital, Preston.

The table below gives details of notifications for the year under review.

Notifiable Diseases

Notifiable Diseases	Total cases at all ages	Under 1 year	1 year	2 years	3 years	4 years	5 years	10 years	15 years	25 years and over
Scarlet Fever	6	—	—	—	—	—	5	1	—	—
Whooping Cough	4	1	1	1	—	—	1	—	—	—
Measles	112	6	9	26	25	9	34	3	—	—
Dysentery	6	—	—	1	—	—	2	1	—	2
Meningococcal Infection ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—

Notifiable Diseases	Total	0 years	5 years	15 years	45 years	65 and over
Acute Pneumonia (primary and influenzal)	—	—	—	—	—	—
Erysipelas	—	—	—	—	—	—
Tuberculosis Respiratory	3	—	—	1	2	—
Tuberculosis Other	1	—	—	1	—	—
Food Poisoning	—	—	—	—	—	—

Tuberculosis

During the year 5 cases of Tuberculosis have been notified to the department. These consisted of 4 new cases and 1 "Transfer In".

Pulmonary :—

New Cases	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	3
Transfers In	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1

Non-Pulmonary :—

New Cases	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Transfers In	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	—

Removed from the Register during the year were :—

Pulmonary :—

Recovered	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	10
Diagnosis not confirmed	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	—
Removed from District	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Died	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1

Non-Pulmonary :—

Recovered	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	—
Diagnosis not confirmed	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	—
Removed from District	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	—
Died	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	—

The death from Pulmonary Tuberculosis was notified after death. It was a case of a male aged 42 who was an unknown case until the Post-Mortem.

On the Register at 31st December, 1963 were 41 Pulmonary, 11 Non-Pulmonary and 1 Combined case.

The Tuberculosis Register is periodically checked with the County Medical Officer of Health in order that the records of these cases are correctly recorded.

Undulant Fever

No cases or suspected cases of Undulant Fever have been reported during the year. *Brucella Abortus* has been isolated in farm bottled milk being retailed in the area, although facilities for effective heat treatment are available within the District. Heat treating milk destroys the *Abortus* organism which may cause Undulant Fever if milk containing it is used in a raw state for human consumption.

Dysentery and Food Poisoning

Six cases of Sonnei Dysentery have been notified during the year, but no cases of Food Poisoning.

It is doubtful if this low incidence of notified cases gives a true indication of the extent of infection in the population. Many sufferers of "tummy upsets" do not consider the condition of sufficient importance to consult their Doctor.

Poliomyelitis

Although no cases of this disease were notified, a boy who died at the age of five years was found to have had the infection.

Neither the boy nor other members of the family had been vaccinated against the disease, but the family were subsequently given oral vaccine as were school contacts.

GENERAL PROVISIONS OF HEALTH SERVICES IN THE AREA

Certifying Factory Surgeon ... Dr. P. McK. Logan, Leven House, Bamber Bridge.

County Council Services in the Area

Domiciliary Midwifery Service

Prior to 1963 two domiciliary midwives were employed in the Urban District, but owing to the increased demands on the service an additional midwife was appointed during the year.

The midwives in the area are:—

Miss H. W. Bamber, 140, Browndge Road, Lostock Hall. Tel. 35789.

Mrs. A. Dobbie, 187, Chorley Road, Bamber Bridge. Tel. 35280. (retired 24-11-63).

Miss M. Gould, 8, Cedar Avenue, Lostock Hall. Tel. 35518. (appointed 1-12-63).

Miss M. A. Wittner, 187, Chorley Road, Bamber Bridge. Tel. 35280. (appointed 7-10-63).

Ambulance Service

The ambulance service covering the area of the Urban District is now radio-controlled from the Ambulance Headquarters at Broughton, where requests for ambulance transport are directed.

Domiciliary Nursing Service

The Domiciliary Nursing Service is provided in the area by four district nurses and assistance is also given by an enrolled nurse from an adjoining area.

The nurses in the area during 1963 were as follows:—

Mrs. M. A. Arnold, 4, Lyndale Avenue, Lostock Hall. Tel. 35929.

Mrs. E. Oak, 31, St. Mary's Close, Walton-le-Dale. Tel. 35843.

Miss J. I. Noble, 8, Cedar Avenue, Lostock Hall. (Retired 9-11-63).

Mrs. A. Smith, 82, Laburnum Avenue, Lostock Hall. Tel. 35812. (Appointed 1-11-63).

Mrs. I. Smith, 12, Bannister Close, Higher Walton. Tel. Leyland 22135.

Miss A. Nicholls, Enrolled Nurse, 14, Woodville Rd., Penwortham. Tel. Preston Priory 85154.

Ante-Natal Clinic

Sessions were held monthly at the School Clinic, Brindle Road. A specialist (Mr. Robson) from Preston Royal Infirmary attended at each meeting in addition to the County Health Visitors and Midwives.

Routine inspections and examinations were made and patients were advised or given minor treatment where necessary. Any further treatment necessitated transference to Preston Royal Infirmary or Sharoe Green Maternity Hospital. The majority of the babies were born in hospital.

Post natally, mothers also attended for advice or treatment.

Dental Treatment was given by the School Dentist.

On the 26th January a lunch was given at the Clinic to mark the 25th Anniversary of its opening. Lunch was provided by Miss Spencely (Health Visitor), who has served the district from the Brindle Road Clinic throughout the 25 years. On the 6th March a presentation was made to Miss Spencely to mark her retirement.

Child Welfare Centres

There are three in the district, one at the School Clinic, Brindle Road, one at the Methodist Sunday School at Lostock Hall, and one at Gregson Lane. The Brindle Road Child Welfare Centre met weekly on Thursday afternoons with a Health Visitor session each Thursday morning, the Lostock Hall Child Welfare Centre weekly on Monday afternoons, and the Gregson Lane Child Welfare Centre on alternate Wednesdays during the afternoon.

Home Help Service

Home Helps are employed in Walton-le-Dale and district, and help a variety of cases including confinements, sickness, old age and infirmity, and Tuberculosis cases. Night helps are also employed where needed.

School Medical Service

Medical and hygiene inspections are carried out at the School Clinic, Brindle Road, Bamber Bridge. Clinic sessions are held for a variety of treatments including minor ailments, dental care and ophthalmic conditions. The County Council make special provisions for residential schooling for various categories of handicapped children such as the blind, partially sighted, deaf and dumb, epileptics, delicate and backward.

Convalescent Care

In suitable cases arrangements are made for the admission of patients to convalescent homes.

Chiropody Service

A free chiropody service for elderly people, expectant mothers and registered handicapped persons is available at the School Clinic, Brindle Road, on the second Wednesday afternoon each month.

In addition a free chiropody service for elderly people is available through the Walton-le-Dale Voluntary Old People's Welfare Committee at two local chiropodist's surgeries.

Where persons are unable to attend the clinic or surgeries a domiciliary service is available.

Welfare Services

Residential homes are provided to accommodate elderly and infirm persons who no longer have anyone to adequately care for them or who are unable to care for themselves. Arrangements can also be made for elderly persons to be admitted to a home for a short period (usually two weeks) to enable relatives to have a respite or take a holiday.

Handicapped persons can be helped in many ways by minor adaptations in their homes, or by instruction in handicrafts etc., by an Occupational Therapist. A Social and Handicraft Centre is held each Monday evening in Leyland, and Out-Work Centre is held during the week in Leyland, and woodwork and sewing classes are held in Lostock Hall on Tuesday evenings. Transport to these centres is provided for those who are unable to travel themselves.

Holidays are also arranged for handicapped persons.

Hospitals

The hospitals administered by the Preston and Chorley Hospitals Management Committee were available for patients from this district. They were :—

- (1) Preston Royal Infirmary.
- (2) Sharoe Green Hospital.
- (3) Chorley and District Hospital.
- (4) Eaves Lane Hospital, Chorley.

There were annexes, belonging to this group of hospitals for Continuation, Convalescent, or Specialised treatment. One of these, Lostock Hall Continuation Hospital—is situated in this district.

All the hospitals were extensively used, for out-patient as well as in-patient treatment, by persons from this area, though the extent of this use was not known, as figures of attendances or lists of diseases were not available nor supplied by the hospitals. It would, therefore, be impossible to give even an approximate estimate of the amount of illness or disability for which these hospitals cater.

Sufferers from Malignant Diseases received specialised treatment at the special unit at Preston Royal Infirmary staffed by personnel from the Christie Hospital, Manchester.

Venereal Diseases were treated at a specialised clinic at Preston Royal Infirmary.

Immunisations and Vaccinations

<i>Immunised against Diphtheria only</i>		<i>Immunised against Diphtheria and Whooping Cough</i>		<i>Immunised against Diphtheria, Whooping Cough and Tetanus combined</i>		<i>Immunised against Whooping Cough only</i>		<i>Immunised against Diphtheria and Tetanus combined</i>	
<i>Total under 5 years</i>	<i>Total aged 5-14 years</i>	<i>Total under 5 years</i>	<i>Total aged 5-14 years</i>	<i>Total under 5 years</i>	<i>Total aged 5-14 years</i>	<i>Total under 5 years</i>	<i>Total aged 5-14 years</i>	<i>Total under 5 years</i>	<i>Total aged 5-14 years</i>
—	—	—	—	PRIM 416	ARY 3	—	—	—	8
—	48	—	—	REINFOR	CEMENT	—	—	1	114

Vaccination

<i>Primary Vaccinations performed</i>					<i>Re-vaccinations</i>
<i>Age in years</i>					
<i>Under 1</i>	<i>1—</i>	<i>5—</i>	<i>15—</i>	<i>Total</i>	<i>Total</i>
61	16	7	13	97	25

Poliomyelitis Vaccination

<i>Year of Birth</i>	<i>Number</i>
Up to 1942	27
1943-1946.. .. .	3
1947-1958.. .. .	62
1959	4
1960	7
1961	32
1962	226
1963	63

Tuberculosis

The County Council supply the Health Visitor Staff, whilst the Regional Hospital Board supply the Medical Staff. The Chest Clinic for this area is at Walton's Parade, Preston.

Inspections, examinations, X-ray, light treatment, and general medical treatment were given at this Clinic.

(a) Statistics

Number of New Houses Erected during the year:		<i>Houses</i>	<i>Flats</i>
(i)	By the Local Authority	—	—
(ii)	By other Local Authorities	—	—
(iii)	By other bodies or persons	250	—
1. Inspections of dwelling-houses during this year:—		<i>Houses</i>	<i>Flats</i>
(1)	(a) Total No. of dwelling-houses inspected formally or informally for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts)	424	—
	(b) No. of inspections, formal or informal, made for the purpose	676	—
	(c) No. of dwelling-houses in (a) above found to be not in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation, but capable of being rendered fit	271	—
(2)	Total No. of dwelling-houses existing at end of year which were unfit for human habitation and not capable at reasonable expense of being rendered fit	50	—
2. Houses Demolished:—		<i>Houses Demolished</i>	<i>Displaced during year Persons Families</i>
In Clearance Areas:			
(1)	Houses unfit for human habitation	—	—
(2)	Houses included by reason of bad arrangement, etc.	—	—
(3)	Houses on land acquired under Section 43 (2), Housing Act, 1957	—	—
Not in Clearance Areas:			
(4)	As a result of formal or informal procedure under Section 17 (1), Housing Act, 1957	3	2 1
(5)	Local Authority owned houses certified unfit by the Medical Officer of Health	—	—
(6)	Houses unfit for human habitation where action has been taken under Local Acts	—	—
(7)	Unfit houses included in Unfitness Orders	—	—
3. Unfit Houses Closed:—		<i>Houses</i>	<i>Displaced during year Persons Families</i>
(1)	Under Sections 16 (4) and 35 (1), Housing Act, 1957	25	8 3
(2)	Under Sections 17 (3) and 26, Housing Act, 1957	—	—
(3)	Parts of buildings closed under Section 18, Housing Act, 1957 ..	—	—
4. Unfit Houses Made Fit and Houses in which Defects were Remedied:—		<i>By Owner</i>	<i>By Local Authority</i>
(1)	After informal action by Local Authority	304	—
(2)	After formal notice under:		
	(a) Public Health Acts	5	—
	(b) Sections 9 and 16, Housing Act, 1957	—	—
(3)	Under Section 24, Housing Act, 1957	—	—
5. Unfit Houses in Temporary Use (Housing Act, 1957):—		<i>No. of Houses (1)</i>	<i>No. of separate dwellings contained in column (1) (2)</i>
Position at end of year:			
(1) Retained for temporary accommodation:—			
	(a) Under Section 48	—	—
	(b) Under Section 17 (2)	—	—
	(c) Under Section 46	—	—
(2)	Licensed for temporary occupation under Section 34 or 53	—	—
6. Purchase of Houses by Agreement:—		<i>No. of Houses (1)</i>	<i>No. of occupants of houses in column (1) (2)</i>
Houses in Clearance Areas other than those included in confirmed Clearance Orders or Compulsory Purchase Orders, purchased during the year		—	—

Housing Statistics—continued

	Private bodies or individuals		Local Authority	
	Number of schemes	Number of dwelling-houses or other buildings affected	Number of schemes	Number of dwelling-houses or other buildings affected
7. Housing Act, 1949, and Housing (Financial Provisions) Act, 1958—Improvement Grants, etc.:—				
Action during year:—				
(a) Submitted by private individuals to local authority	—	—	—	—
(b) Approved by local authority	—	—	—	—
(c) Submitted by local authority to Ministry	—	—	1	1
(d) Finally approved by Ministry	—	—	1	1
(e) Work completed	1	1	1	1
(f) Additional separate dwellings included in (e) above	—	1	—	—
8. House Purchase and Housing Act, 1959—Standard Grants:—				
Action during year:				No. of dwellings or other buildings affected
(a) Applications submitted to local authority				54
(b) Applications approved by local authority				50
(c) Work completed				33
(d) Remarks:				

Food & Drugs Act, 1938-55

The County Council is the Food & Drugs Authority in this area. Samples were taken by an Assistant County Sanitary Officer.

One hundred and thirty-nine samples were obtained, consisting of 100 samples of milk (two of which were Channel Island Milk) and 39 others comprising:—

2 Castor oil	2 Boric lint B.P.C.
1 Custard Powder	1 Golden Syrup
1 Tapioca	3 Vegetables, canned—
1 Biscuit cones	creamed mushrooms
1 Suet, shredded	2 Christmas puddings
3 Table jelly	1 Ground arrowroot
1 Mincemeat	2 Part sliced loaves of bread
1 Broxil tablets	1 Dairy ice-cream
2 Penicillin V tablets	1 Bread
2 Butter	1 Milk shake powder
1 Bacon	3 Sauce
4 Tea	1 Beer
1 Tomato ketchup	

I give below details of those samples upon which the County Analyst gave adverse reports:

<i>Type of Sample</i>	<i>Result of Analysis</i>	<i>Action Taken</i>
1 Creamed mushrooms	Contained 3 vegetable fibres probably of cereal origin approx. 14, 7 and 4 mls. long respectively	Packers communicated with
do.	Contained 2 vegetable fibres probably of cereal origin approx. 24 and 10 mls. long respectively	do.
do.	Contained 2 vegetable fibres probably of cereal origin approx. 8 and 4 mls. long respectively, and a short animal hair approx. 10 mls. long	do.
1 biscuit cones	Contained 70 mgms. of heavily charred biscuit in the inside of one of the cones and rather less of similar material incorporated in the wall of the other	Vendor and complainant informed; manufacturer cautioned
1 part of a sliced loaf of bread	Contained 0.6 gramme of crumb discoloured with 2.9 mgm. of iron or iron oxide	Complainant informed. Bakery cautioned
1 milk	Contained 0.03 international units penicillin per ml.	Dairy informed
1 part sliced loaf of bread	Contained a sultana which weighed 0.237 gramme	Complainant and bakery informed
1 milk	Contained 0.03 international units penicillin per ml.	Dairy and Milk Marketing Board informed
1 milk	Contained 0.03 international units penicillin per ml.	do.
1 beer	Contained a disc of penicillium mould weighing 0.9 gramme. The rubber ring on the composition stopper was perished and corroded and the fungus had originally grown on the surface of the beer	Complainant informed. Bottlers communicated with

Milk and Milk Production

All milk samples have remained free from tuberculosis. *Brucella Abortus* has been isolated from 4 samples out of 64 samples of farm bottled milk submitted for examination. The infected samples have been from producers outside the area, retailing through the Milk Marketing Board with the exception of one case.

Investigation of herds infected with *Brucella Abortus* is one of the most futile duties carried out by the Public Health Department. The sample of raw milk is obtained by the Public Health Inspector and taken to the Public Health Laboratory at Preston to be examined. If *Brucella Abortus* is isolated the Public Health Laboratory report to the Public Health Department and individual samples from each cow in the infected herd are obtained. Again the Laboratory examine all the samples and furnish reports. By this method we are able to identify the infected animals in the herd. But to what purpose? No method exists for ensuring that the infected animals are slaughtered. The farmer is at liberty to dispose of the animals in the open market and so infect other herds, this he duly does and the saga commences all over again.

A new hazard to health has been revealed during the year. This is the presence of antibiotics in raw milk supplies. Investigation and sampling is continuing. A Ministry report makes suggestions for overcoming the problem. It is suggested that the Local Authority take "appropriate action", just what "appropriate action", is has yet to be clarified. Meanwhile, sampling and unofficial action in detected cases (such as explaining to the producer the dangers involved in consuming such milk) is continuing.

Penicillin was found in milk being retailed by a producer/retailer in the area. Antibiotics of any type are undesirable in milk and should not be present in milk being retailed for human consumption. Investigation into possible courses of action to take in such instances is proceeding.

Milk in Schools Scheme

All Schools in the area receive Heat Treated milk. Approximately 3,000 bottles are distributed daily throughout the schools in the district.

Tuberculosis Order, 1938

No case of tuberculosis in milk was recorded during the year. All milk sold in the district is designated. No raw milk other than Tuberculin Tested milk is sold.

Ice Cream

The two producers in the district continued to make a satisfactory product and samples were submitted for bacteriological examination. On each occasion they were found to be satisfactory. The majority of retailers in the district continued to sell the well known products of ice cream and ice lollies, and spot checks during the year proved satisfactory. The total number of samples of ice-cream taken was five.

Food Hygiene

No legal action has been necessary to ensure compliance with the Food Hygiene Regulations, but much work continues to be carried out behind the scenes.

Public Health Inspectors visit premises, inspect, and discuss with occupiers hygiene problems in general, and in particular relating to their premises and business. By this personal approach to food hygiene the occupier and staff are able to bring out their problems as affected by the Regulations, and by discussion a mutually acceptable solution can be found. It is observed that when solutions are arrived at by discussion, they are adhered to. This is not always the case when people are instructed to carry out works or practices.

Liquid Egg Pasteurisation

In the early part of the year notification was received from the Ministry, of infection in imported liquid egg.

Extensive enquiries at food shops, bakeries, canteens and egg packing stations failed to find any of this product on sale in the district.

Imported liquid egg has been a source of concern for a number of years due to its high rate of infection. An attempt to make all liquid egg safe was the introduction of compulsory pasteurisation of liquid egg prior to sale for human consumption. This was accomplished by introducing the Liquid Egg (Pasteurisation) Regulations, 1963, which becomes operative on the 1st January, 1964. The organisation for procuring compliance with the Regulations within the district appears to be satisfactory.

Housing the Aged

The bungalow scheme has continued in operation throughout the year. Mrs. Hughes, the Warden since the scheme commenced, left during the year when she and her family emigrated.

Mrs. Hughes was succeeded by Mrs. Gill who took up her duties in February and very soon endeared herself to all the residents in the bungalows. Although the work of a Warden is only part-time nevertheless it is surprising how much time is spent on a variety of items concerning the welfare of the old people. In addition to the daily round, the residents rely on the Warden for help in a number of ways and she is kept fairly busy.

Social events are held weekly including a whist drive, afternoon tea twice weekly, and dominoes. Also towards the end of the year a Luncheon Club was formed under the auspices of the Women's Voluntary Service. In addition during the year the following events were held:

1. Royal Wedding—Running Buffet all day and television.
2. Silver Wedding Party and entertainment.
3. Eldest tenant birthday party, all tenants invited by relatives.
4. Tupperware Party, tenants invited to bring a friend.
5. Christmas Party (Dinner).
6. Outing to Liverpool Cathedral.
7. Half day outing to Lakes, stopping during afternoon, light refreshment, and returning to Carnforth for high tea and continuing home via Morecambe Illuminations.

Schools

It has not been possible to visit all the Schools during the year but improvements have been carried out to the sanitary conveniences at one or two of the primary schools. Washing facilities have also improved and a new school kitchen has been built at Tardy Gate R.C. School. This made a substantial improvement to the previous facilities which existed.

Atmospheric Pollution

Co-operation with Industry has been maintained at the same high level as in previous years. Again, however, it is regretted that no progress can be reported in regard to the reduction or even stabilization of pollution from domestic sources. The benefits to be derived from cleaning up the atmosphere are indisputable but approval by the public is damped by doubts as to the availability and the cost of premium smokeless fuels.

A Memorandum on chimney heights was published by the Ministry during the year. The memo provides a standard method of calculating the required height for a chimney and assists the Local Authority to carry out its duties under Section 10 of the Clean Air Act.

The Memo was prepared by the Department of Scientific & Industrial Research in conjunction with Local Authorities who form the Standing Conference on Atmospheric Pollution. This Council is a member of Standing Conference.

It is a pity that in this age of large scale development the Clean Air Act exempts certain properties from the provisions relating to chimney heights. As a result an anomalous situation may develop with two buildings on the same site, one may be controlled by Section 10 and the other exempt. Such situations do not aid relationships with developers.

Water Supply

Public appreciation was awakened during March to the accepted fact of a safe water supply. The public supply to Zermatt in Switzerland was contaminated by sewage and an outbreak of Typhoid resulted.

This outbreak, although in Switzerland, had world-wide repercussions when contacts and patients had to be traced, and brought sharply before the public eye this very important facet of public health work.

The water supply to the District has been satisfactory as regards quantity and quality throughout the year.

Copies of typical chemical reports are given below. For this information I am indebted to Preston & District Water Board.

**LONGRIDGE SUPPLY—
PRESTON & DISTRICT WATER BOARD**

The Laboratory,
Chapel Hill,
Longridge.

CHEMICAL EXAMINATION

Sample Taken At—Prospect Hill,
Bamber Bridge.

Sample No. 11/63.

Date—10th Dec., 1963. *Time*—10-55 a.m.

Sample Bottle No. 1.

Results expressed in parts per million

Total solid Residue (Dried at 180°C.)	60.0
Oxygen required to oxydise {	
in 15 mins.	0.41
in 3 hours	0.77
Ammonia—Free and Saline	0.024
Ammonia—Albuminoid	0.064
Nitrogen as Nitrates	0.20
Nitrogen as Nitrites	Nil
Chlorides	12.0
Temporary Hardness	Nil
Permanent Hardness	26.0
Total Hardness	26.0
pH Value	7.1

Physical Properties—Colour 13 Hazen.

Date—18th Dec., 1963.

Signed—E. CROZIER,
Laboratory Assistant.

**THIRLMERE SUPPLY—
PRESTON & DISTRICT WATER BOARD**

The Laboratory,
Chapel Hill,
Longridge.

CHEMICAL EXAMINATION

Sample Taken At—Kenyon's Farm,
Gough Lane.

Sample No. 6/63

Date—19th Feb., 1963 *Time*—3-30 p.m.

Sample Bottle No. 1

Results expressed in parts per million

Total solid Residue (Dried at 180°C.)	32.0
Oxygen req. to oxydise {	
in 15 mins.	0.30
in 3 hours	0.48
Ammonia—Free and Saline	0.082
Ammonia—Albuminoid	0.24
Nitrogen as Nitrates	0.20
Nitrogen as Nitrites	Nil
Chlorides	10.0
Temporary Hardness	2.0
Permanent Hardness	16.0
Total Hardness	18.0
pH Value	7.1

Physical Properties—Colour 8 Hazen.

Date—25th Feb., 1963.

Signed—E. CROZIER,
Laboratory Assistant.

I append below reports on metal and fluorine content of the water supplies to this district.

Thirlmere Supply :

Lead	0.06
Copper	0.02
Zinc	Nil
Total Iron	0.06
Fluorine	0.035
pH Value	7.4

The pH value of the water indicates that it is very faintly alkaline. The amount of lead present is less than the recommended international limit of 0.1 part per million and the amounts of copper and iron present are much less than the usually accepted limits for these metals. The amount of fluorine present is typical of the amounts found in the natural waters of this district.

Longridge Supply :

Lead	Nil
Copper	0.01
Zinc	Nil
Total Iron	0.04
Fluorine	0.05
pH Value	7.5

The pH value of the water indicated that it is very faintly alkaline. The amounts of copper and iron present are well within the usually accepted limits of 1.0 and 0.3 part per million respectively. The amount of fluorine present is typical of the amount found in the natural waters of this district.

There is no tendency to plumbo solvency.

Public Baths

There are no open or covered Public Baths in the District, but as Preston and Chorley are easily accessible, residents who wish to use Public Baths are able to do so. Part of the River Ribble at a place known as Church Deeps in Walton-le-Dale has been found in the past to be suitable for bathing at certain times of the year, but due to pollution of the River water this is not considered advisable.

Factories

Following is a facsimile of the Report sent to the Ministry of Labour for 1963.

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH IN RESPECT OF THE YEAR 1963 FOR THE URBAN DISTRICT OF WALTON-LE-DALE IN THE COUNTY OF LANCASHIRE

Prescribed Particulars on the Administration of the Factories Act 1937

PART 1 OF THE ACT

1—INSPECTIONS for purposes of provisions as to health (including inspections made by Public Health Inspectors)

<i>PREMISES</i> (1)	<i>Number on Register</i> (2)	<i>Inspections</i> (3)	<i>Number of Written Notices</i> (4)	<i>Occupiers Prosecuted</i> (5)
(i) Factories in which sections 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authority	17	20	2	—
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority	85	31	1	—
(iii) Other premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding out-workers' premises) ..	10	—	—	—
	112	51	3	—

2—Cases in which DEFECTS were found

(If defects are discovered at the premises on two, three or more separate occasions they should be reckoned, as two, three or more "cases").

<i>Particulars</i> (1)	<i>Found</i> (2)	<i>Remedied</i> (3)	<i>Number of cases in which defects were found</i>		<i>Number of cases in which prosecutions were instituted</i> (6)
			<i>REFERRED To H.M. Inspector</i> (4)	<i>By H.M. Inspector</i> (5)	
Want of cleanliness (S.1)	1	1	—	—	—
Overcrowding (S.2)	—	—	—	—	—
Unreasonable Temperature (S.3)	—	—	—	—	—
Inadequate ventilation	—	—	—	—	—
Ineffective drainage of floors	1	1	—	—	—
Unsuitable or defective Sanitary Accessories ..	1	1	—	—	—
	3	3	—	—	—

NEW LEGISLATION

The Alkali etc. Works Order 1963.

The Ice Cream (Heat Treatment, etc.) (Amendment) Regulations 1963.

The Meat Inspection Regulations 1963.

The Public Health (Aircraft) (Amendment) Regulations 1963.

The Public Health (Ships) (Amendment) Regulations 1963.

The Liquid Egg (Pasteurisation) Regulations 1963.

The Smoke Control Areas (Authorised Fuels) Regulations 1963.

The Bread and Flour Regulations 1963.

The Milk (Special Designations) 1963.

The National Assistance (Powers of Inspection) Amendment Regulations 1963.

The Offices, Shops and Railway Premises Act 1963.

National Insurance Act 1963.

Betting, Gaming & Lotteries Act 1963.

Town & Country Planning Act 1963.

Animal Boarding Establishments Act 1963.

REPORT OF THE CHIEF PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR for the Year 1963

To the Chairman and Members of the Council:

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

It is my pleasure once again to present to you my Annual Report for 1963.

In the field of environmental health which the Public Health Inspector is primarily responsible for, many changes are taking place. With the substantial improvement in house building, the rented private house is fast disappearing and an increasing number of people are purchasing one of the many new houses being built in various parts of the district. Consequently complaints of housing defects have considerably reduced during the year and only form about 5% of the total complaints which numbered 380. Clearance of unfit houses has proceeded apace and the estimated figure of 82 unfit houses to be dealt with during the five year period 1960-65, will have been completed by the middle of next year.

Development in the control of harmful organisms, insects, pests and vermin, has reached a high degree; new and improved insecticides and pesticides are constantly coming on to the market, and although 100% effective in their destruction great care must be exercised in their application. Some of the organo phosphorous compounds must be treated with care to prevent harm to human beings. Provided the safety instructions are carried out implicitly no harm should result.

Much has been said and written in the past on ways and means of reducing the large amount of food poisoning occurring in the country. Fortunately during 1963 no serious cases were reported in the district primarily due to the hygiene practices carried out at all the food establishments. In spite of a high standard of hygiene in premises where food is purchased for human consumption, the weakest link in the strong chain rests with the individual food handler. Carelessness in personal hygiene can have disastrous results.

There is unfortunately an increase in the number of salmonella organisms (food poisoning) present, particularly associated with animals killed for human consumption. It is known that there is a substantial number of these organisms present in animal feeding material with the danger of indirect communication to man. During the past three years in conjunction with the Director of the Public Health Laboratory Service, we have been taking sewer swabs from the slaughterhouse for examination for the presence of these salmonella organisms. Dr. Robertson, the Director, has issued a preliminary report which shows a substantial amount of salmonella in slaughterhouse drains. Work is at present in progress to determine the amount of infection passing through the slaughterhouse and also within the animal itself.

Pollution of the atmosphere in the form of smoke, grit and sulphur is still present to a substantial degree. The scientific instruments for measuring the amount of this pollution continues to show that only slight progress has been made during the past few years. A volumetric smoke meter, situated in the Council Offices, which measures the amount of sulphur dioxide in a given amount of air, and a deposit gauge, situated on the roof of the Clinic in Brindle Road, recording the amount of solid deposit falling on the district each month, have recorded over the past eight years the pollution present in the atmosphere.

All the large and small industrialists in the district are now virtually complying with the provisions of the Clean Air Act and are discharging from the chimneys only minimum amounts of pollution, whilst the majority of the 7,000 dwellings continue to discharge large quantities of smoke and sulphur at comparatively low levels to the detriment of the population as a whole.

The care of the aged, whilst primarily a responsibility of the County Council, is playing an increasing part in the work of the Health Department. Many enquiries are made from, or on behalf of, the aged, either for Home Helps, Medical Comforts, or special accommodation in the form of a bungalow or flat.

During the early part of the year we were fortunate in obtaining the services of a Public Health/Meat Inspector to replace Mr. D. Cook who left in September, 1962 for a similar position in Bechuanaland Protectorate. Mr. Minion who came from Radcliffe and took over the meat inspection service in February, eased the strain on the department and enabled us to return to normal routine.

May I conclude by thanking the Chairman of the Public Health Committee for his help and keen interest in the Health Department.

To Mr. J. R. Williams, my Deputy, and Miss N. Dawson my grateful thanks for their unfailing help and loyalty at all times.

I remain, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your Obedient Servant,

G. N. CORBISHLEY.

1. Visits and Inspections Made

Water Supply	...	...	...	...	...	...	28
Drainage, General	...	...	...	...	...	...	158
" Testing	...	...	...	...	...	...	93
" C.C.	...	...	...	...	...	...	6
" Survey	...	...	...	...	...	...	94
Movable dwellings	...	...	...	...	...	...	5
Factories	...	...	...	...	...	...	72
Refuse Collection	...	...	...	...	...	...	28
" Disposal	...	...	...	...	...	...	73
Rodent Control—Private	...	...	...	...	...	...	61
" " Business	...	...	...	...	...	...	19
Atmospheric Pollution—General	...	...	...	...	...	...	12
" " Survey	...	...	...	...	...	...	45
Schools	...	...	...	...	...	...	16
Shops Act	...	...	...	...	...	...	91
Re-inspection	...	...	...	...	...	...	4
Noise Abatement	...	...	...	...	...	...	61
Caterpillars	...	...	...	...	...	...	6
Miscellaneous	...	...	...	...	...	...	156

2. Housing

P.H.A. Houses Inspected	...	...	...	...	...	169
H.A. Houses Inspected	...	...	...	...	...	148
Verminous, etc. houses—Council	...	...	...	...	...	9
" " " Other	...	...	...	...	...	33
Problem Families	...	...	...	...	...	3
Old Age People and Welfare	...	...	...	...	...	31
Re-inspections—P.H.A. and H.A.	...	...	...	...	...	34

3. Infectious Diseases

General Inquiries	...	...	...	...	...	33
Miscellaneous Inquiries	...	...	...	...	...	11

4. Meat and Food Inspections

Butchers' Meat	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	4
Food Preparation	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	22
Canteens	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	7
Milk and Dairies	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	8
Hygiene Regulations	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	54
Licensed Premises	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
Cafes	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
Slaughterhouses	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	469
Brucella Abortus	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	14
Miscellaneous	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	127

5. Sampling

Milk	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	24
Ice Cream	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
Food Poisoning	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	7

6. A total of 1,594 premises were visited and 2,258 visits made.

Notices Served

Notices:

Informal	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	316
Formal	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	5
Informal complied with	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	306
Formal complied with	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	5

Housing

The housing position from every point of view is reasonably satisfactory. The clearance of the unfit houses under the present five year programme is up to schedule, in 25 cases houses have been closed pending demolition at a later date, and repairs and improvements to substandard dwellings has proceeded well during the year. No known overcrowding exists and any family in need of accommodation due to shared house living, are given early consideration by the Housing Selection Committee.

Improvement Grants

An increase in the self ownership of the pre 1920 house has resulted in an increase in enquiries for a grant towards improving the sanitary amenities therein. Much help and advice has been given to some applicants before passing their application over to the Surveyor's Department for detailed examination and submission to the Committee for approval.

Rent Act, 1957

With the large increase in owner occupied dwellings of the pre-war and immediate post-war periods it is now estimated that only about 10% of dwelling houses in the district are rented, excluding Council houses. The majority of these tenants have had their rent increased by the owner under the Rent Act of 1957 and in about 10% of the cases application to the Local Authority for a "Certificate of Disrepair" was made. These have all now been resolved so there is now a complete cessation of applications.

Apparently the remaining occupiers are satisfied or have obtained satisfaction from their landlords as to the general condition of their house.

Movable Dwellings

Tents, Vans, and Sheds, an expression used in the Public Health Act to describe any movable equipment for housing people either temporarily or permanently is really the old expression for the more familiar term of Movable Dwellings.

Caravans present a problem for siting, particularly in view of the fact that they are being used in increasing numbers for permanent occupation by either single people, or married couples sometimes with a family. Fortunately we have no problems with this type of home although six enquiries were made from people from other districts asking if they could bring a caravan along to a Licensed Site. The only Site licensed is in Walton-le-Dale and this is limited to two caravans only (permanent dwellings). Three other caravans are occupied on building sites by the workers engaged in private building. These will cease occupation when the building is completed.

Sanitary Accommodation

The term Sanitary Accommodation is one used to cover all the multifarious types of toilets, washing sinks, lavatory basins, baths, etc., and to say that this type of accommodation is satisfactory in the district would be incorrect. We still have a number of pail closets in those parts of the district which are unsewered or where there is no septic tank. Approximately 83 waste water closets still exist and the number of houses without a separate bath or bathroom is more than one would expect from a district such as Walton-le-Dale.

Nevertheless progress in the improvement of these facilities has been substantial during the past decade. By 1970 one could hope for a 100% satisfactory state of the district's Sanitary Accommodation.

Drainage

Pipes for conveying foul and surface water away from any building must be laid in accordance with Building Byelaws. With this always in mind all new drainage work to private property has been inspected and the smoke test applied where necessary in order to check for defects. All the 250 new houses built within the district have had their drainage so tested and in addition some additional inspections and testing was carried out at existing premises.

Open Ditches :

A cause of annoyance, nuisance and possible danger to health and life is the open watercourse adjacent to newly built dwellings.

Public Health Act provisions are adequate to ensure the proper piping of watercourses, but the Local Authority are loth to implement them at the design stage of development. As a result we have the problem of a health hazard at a later stage when it is much more difficult to resolve. In some cases the developer has purchased land up to the edge of a watercourse, but not the watercourse itself.

Rodent Control

Rodent infestation by rats and mice showed an increase over previous years. The number of complaints from private houses was double that of 1962. The principal reason is an apparent multiplication of rats within the Council's sewerage system and due to lack of treatment, the storm overflows to watercourses and drainage defects on private property have provided excellent escapes to the surface.

Resort has had to be made to traditional types of sewer treatment after the Council turned down a proposal to treat the sewerage system with a new poison, Fluoracetamide.

Prevention of Damage by Pests Act, 1949

1. No. of rodent operatives employed— (a) Full time ... Nil
(b) Part time ... 1
2. Action relating to rodent control during year—

	TYPE OF PROPERTY		
	Non-agricultural Dwelling-houses	All other	Agricultural
(a) No. of properties in district	7,058	186	94
(b) No. of properties inspected	148	72	15
(c) Total inspections carried out (incl. re-inspections) ..	435	193	65
(d) No. of properties inspected which were found to be infested by:			
Rats—major	—	2	—
minor	151	57	15
Mice—major	—	—	—
minor	6	—	—
(e) No. of infested properties treated	157	57	10
(f) Total treatments carried out (incl. re-treatments) ..	157	57	10
(g) No. of "Block" control schemes carried out	6	—	—
(h) Any other action	—	—	—

Atmospheric Pollution

Observations and recordings have continued throughout the year. Monthly reports have been sent to the Department of Scientific & Industrial Research who use the records in their national study. The Council are members of the Standing Conference on atmospheric pollution and although they have appointed delegates they are not prepared to sanction their attendance at the meetings. A Gilbertian situation results.

Technical officers are expected to keep abreast of current problems and technical developments, but how is this to be achieved without the benefit of contact and discussion with colleagues and the benefit of their experience.

The Service Department of British Railways at Lostock Hall has given cause for much concern due to the large number of steam engines using the yard. A study and report to Council indicated the causes of the pollution and suggested steps to alleviate the problem. It was forwarded to British Railways at the highest level with the hope that some action would result. A reduction in pollution was not evident at year end.

MEAT AND FOOD

Slaughterhouses

The two licensed slaughterhouses continued to operate on similar lines to previous years, details of the amount of meat inspected are found below.

Carcases and Offal inspected and rejected in whole or in part

	<i>Cattle Excluding Cows</i>	<i>Cows</i>	<i>Calves</i>	<i>Sheep and Lambs</i>	<i>Pigs</i>
Number killed (if known)	1,757	8,893	13	10,661	—
Number inspected	1,757	8,893	13	10,661	—
<i>All diseases except Tuberculosis and Cysticerci:</i>					
Whole Carcases condemned	—	15	1	2	—
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	532	4,994	1	917	—
Percentage of the number inspected affected with disease other than Tuberculosis and Cysticerci	30.28	56.16	7.7	8.602	—
<i>Tuberculosis only:</i>					
Whole carcases condemned	—	1	—	—	—
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	—	1	—	—	—
Percentage of number inspected affected with Tuberculosis	—	0.02	—	—	—
<i>Cysticercosis:</i>					
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	2	19	—	—	—
Carcases submitted to treatment by refrigeration	2	2	—	—	—
Generalised and totally condemned	—	—	—	—	—

Meat inspection has been maintained at 100%. Staff changes created difficulties but meat inspection was given priority over other duties and the service maintained.

The Meat Inspection Regulations now place a statutory duty on all Local Authorities to inspect animals slaughtered in abattoirs in a prescribed manner. All carcases passed as fit for food have to bear the approved stamp of the inspector carrying out the inspection. Insofar as this district is concerned it has merely recognised a function carried out for many years.

Raw Milks

<i>Samples taken from Producers in the District</i>					<i>Samples taken from Producers outside the District</i>				
<i>Year</i>	<i>No. taken</i>	<i>Satisfactory</i>		<i>T.B. present</i>	<i>No. taken</i>	<i>Satisfactory</i>		<i>T.B. present</i>	
		<i>No.</i>	<i>%</i>			<i>No.</i>	<i>%</i>		
1952	64	52	81.25	3	46	29	63.0	1	
1953	64	48	75.0	0	43	25	58.0	1	
1954	24	23	95.8	0	30	25	83.3	1	
1955	44	42	95.5	0	41	21	51.2	0	
1956	40	31	77.0	0	42	30	71.5	0	
1957	37	28	75.0	0	33	23	70.0	3	
1958	21	16	76.0	0	53	42	79.0	1	
1959	21	18	85.7	0	28	15	53.6	0	
1960	21	16	76.0	0	30	22	73.3	0	
1961	15	11	73.3	0	37	29	80.0	0	
1962	13	9	69.2	0	20	16	80.0	0	
1963	22	20	90.9	0	41	27	65.9	0	

Pasteurised Milks

Year	Number Taken	Number Efficiently Heat Treated	%
1952	36	34	94
1953	23	21	91
1954	17	17	100
1955	12	12	100
1956	38	35	92
1957	28	28	100
1958	29	29	100
1959	33	32	94
1960	30	30	100
1961	36	35	97
1962	22	21	95
1963	33	32	97

Brucellosis

	Total	Positive	Negative	No Result
Ring Test	64	11	47	6
Culture	13	1	7	5
Biological	60	3	54	3

Routine sampling of milk revealed the continued presence of *Brucella Abortus* in farm bottled Tuberculin Tested Milk being retailed in the District. Early morning sampling at farms was continued when necessary, but until a positive policy to remove infected animals from dairy herds is organised and made mandatory we are merely finding infected animals which the farmer "gets rid of". This is making our efforts and that of the Public Health Laboratory Service a complete waste of time.

Ice Cream

Sampling was carried out in the summer months. No other action was necessary. Only two firms continue to manufacture ice cream, one at Lostock Hall and the second at Higher Walton. The Lostock Hall firm is a small factory producing ice cream and ice lollies for wholesale and retail. Both premises fully comply with the Food Hygiene Regulations.

All other ice cream sold from 32 shops in the district is manufactured by one of the large well-known firms who maintain a high standard of purity in their products.

Food Hygiene

Food Hygiene was brought into prominence during the year by the outbreaks of Food Poisoning associated with canned meat.

Fortunately no cases occurred in this district.

An increase in food poisoning organisms during the past few years associated with food makes it all the more necessary to educate food handlers in the art of personal hygiene. So much responsibility rests with these people and the slightest carelessness could jeopardize a large part of the population and expose them to food poisoning. Constant vigilance on the part of Public Health Inspectors is required in order that a high standard of hygiene is maintained.

The study into the extent of infection present in the drainage systems of abattoirs has continued throughout the year. A report on the study is to be published during 1964. From the report it is hoped to obtain a clear picture of the incidence of salmonellae in abattoirs and animals slaughtered therein. 66% of samples were infected with salmonellae of 10 different strains.

Other Foods

The Public Health Inspector has continued to act as certifying officer to a large wholesaler for his unsaleable damaged goods.

This function, not a Public Health matter, is for the convenience of the trade. 2,263 lbs. of food has been rejected in this manner, totalling 2,755 items.

Verminous Premises

Very few premises have required treatment for the usual pests, coackroach, bugs, etc.

The Y. Padella caterpillar continued its ravages on hedgerows in the district despite treatment with the latest insecticides. This nuisance has got beyond a local problem and it is being recognised that the palliative methods being used are useless. In order to eradicate the nuisance a large scale spraying programme will need to be organised to spray hedges in depth and not just adjacent to roadways.

Noise Abatement Act

Investigations have taken place into six complaints of alleged noise nuisance. Some degree of success has been achieved in all cases.

One industrial premise gives cause for concern due to noisy processes and close proximity to dwellings. Discussions have taken place with the management and improvements made, but not to the complete satisfaction of residents. Sound level readings do not suggest noise at such a level as to be prejudicial to health, and residents appear hesitant to instigate private action.

PUBLIC CLEANSING

House and Trade Refuse Collection and Disposal

Regular house and trade refuse collection was maintained throughout the year. Holiday periods particularly the Annual summer holiday present our greatest difficulty. Seven day close down of the service causes minor chaos when the men return to duty and find some dustbins full and overflowing and boxes and cartons full in addition. The removal necessitates two visits to each house which slows down the collection and disposal. In previous years, particularly before 1960, most of the district was away on holiday during the Annual Wakes week, but times have changed and only about 50% of the population take the usual annual week.

Composting of Domestic Wastes

The short term economic aspects of the manufacture and sale of composted wastes was found by the Council to outweigh the public health and environmental desirability of the project. As a result composting has ceased on pressure from the District Auditor.

The fact that the Local Authority has a statutory duty to collect domestic refuse, and the fact that an efficient sewage system has to be maintained and that both produce a potentially valuable bulky end product which has to be disposed of somehow and that tipping space is strictly limited, seems to have no effect on the "holders of the purse strings". It is lamentable that house refuse should be tipped and wasted and sewage sludge stock piled and an embarrassment, when it could be converted into organic compost and all because a £ s. d. profit could not be demonstrated.

Refuse Collection, Disposal and Salvage

Service Costs :—

Gross Expenditure	£20,684
Gross Income	£ 3,109
Net Expenditure	£17,575
Dustbins Emptied per week	£ 8,040
Weekly Standard Wage: Driver	£11. 15s. 0d.
Collector	£11. 2s. 9d.

Collections and Sales of Salvage, Compost and Tipping Charges

The following table shows the tonnage and materials sold and the amounts received for salvage :—

	<i>Tons</i>	<i>Cwts.</i>	<i>Qrs.</i>	<i>Lbs.</i>	£	s.	d.
Paper	299	16	—	—	2,103	—	—
Textiles	13	17	1	7	262	15	—
Non-Ferrous Metals	2	6	2	13	195	3	4
Cast Iron					—	—	—
Loads on Tip					40	14	—
Use of Tip					222	—	—
Composting					173	2	—
Miscellaneous					112	5	8
TOTALS	315	19	3	20	£3,109	—	—

<i>Year</i>	<i>Tons</i>	<i>Cwts.</i>	<i>Qrs.</i>	<i>Lbs.</i>	£	s.	d.
1952	388	18	1	1	2,521	13	2
1953	382	9	0	19	2,331	13	1
1954	282	6	3	21	2,256	16	3
1955	280	16	3	16	2,693	11	9
1956	240	9	1	21	2,790	19	7
1957	292	14	2	5	2,999	1	4
1958	292	14	3	20	3,021	8	10
1959	291	15	1	23	3,218	0	0
1960	305	10	3	9	3,467	0	0
1961	309	4	3	20	3,543	0	0
1962	297	11	—	15	2,865	0	0
1963	315	19	3	20	3,109	0	0

ENGINEER AND SURVEYOR'S REPORT

This brief report covers the period 1st January to 31st December, 1963.

1. Highways

Authorised expenditure over the last 5 years

Road Class	Length	1963	1962	1961	1960	1959
Class I	3.07 miles	£3,810 (£1,240/ml.)	£10,635 (£3,470/mile)	£5,720 (£1,867/mile)	£6,380 (£2,084/mile)	£3,695 (£1,205/mile)
Class II	2.22 miles	£11,740† (£5,300/ml.)	£2,225 (£1,000/mile)	£5,110 (£2,300/mile)	£2,200 (£992/mile)	£5,675 (£2,560/mile)
Class III	2.39 miles	£4,450 (£1,860/ml.)	£2,169 (£907/mile)	£5,244 (£2,200/mile)	£6,420 (£2,690/mile)	£5,130 (£2,150/mile)
Unclassified ..	23.55 miles	£18,945 (£805/ml.)	£15,962 (£743/mile)	£18,295 (£927/mile)	£19,109* (£1,005/mile)	£17,214 (£957/mile)
TOTALS	31.23 miles	£38,945	£30,991	£34,369	£34,109	£30,714

* An improvement scheme for the widening and provision of a footpath on part of Church Brow, Walton-le-Dale, at an estimated cost of £2,500 was approved by the Ministry of Transport, and is not included in the columns above.

† In addition, £5,619 was received from the Ministry of Transport as a contribution to repair of unclassified roads damaged by Motorway Contractors' heavy traffic.

The severe weather early in the year caused considerable damage to roads, the worst affected being Brindle Road Bridge approaches (over the Motorway M6) which had to be completely re-constructed down to the road foundations.

2. New Highways and Improvement Schemes

2.1. The Ministry of Transport approved the Lostock Hall Bypass. This road will be an all-purpose road bypassing that section of Watkin Lane and Leyland Road between Lostock Lane and Skew Bridge.

2.2. The section of M.6 from Church Road (A.6) Bamber Bridge, to the Cheshire County Boundary was opened to traffic. The Council accepted on an agency basis, the maintenance of lighting and signs at the M.6/A.6 interchange.

2.3. The County Council issued the map shewing the centre line of the proposed Bamber Bridge to Manchester Motorway, and sought the Council's observations on the proposal.

2.4. Final agreement was reached with owners involved to enable the widening and improvement of Duddle Lane to be started and substantially completed.

3. Street Lighting

3.1. There was no slackening-off in the rate of development of private building estates, and the Council's policy of providing group "B" lighting on the estate roads was continued.

3.2. The very good standard of lighting throughout the whole Urban District continued to be maintained and improved by the lighting or relighting of additional lengths of highways.

4. Private Streets

4.1. Schemes were prepared and provisional notices served for 2 streets:—
Emily Street, Lostock Hall.
Wesley Street, Bamber Bridge.

4.2. Tenders were accepted for the making up of 3 streets:—
Service Road at 207/221, Hoghton Lane.
Emily Street.
Wesley Street.

4.3. Builders completed 11 streets under Agreement and the streets were adopted as "highways maintainable at public expense":—

Linden Drive (part)
St. Cuthbert's Road (completion)
Lourdes Avenue (part)
Regent Road
Warwick Road
Marlborough Drive (completion)

Marilyn Avenue
Masfield Avenue
Milton Close
Tennyson Place
Moorhey Crescent.

5. Sewage Disposal Works

5.1. Work continued on the construction of the new Sewage Disposal Works (design capacity 2.2 million gallons per day).

5.2. The proposed Komline-Sanderson Coilfilter sludge drying plant was approved by the Ministry, a tender was accepted, and construction of the plant house was commenced.

5.3. Provision is being made for a small area of emergency sludge drying beds for use in the event of breakdown of the coilfilter plant.

5.4. The Council authorised the appointment of a Manager for the new works and the post was advertised.

5.5. All industries discharging trade effluent were advised of the effect of the 1961 Health Act and of the construction of the new Disposal Works. A new formula for the calculation of charges for the reception of Trade Effluent was approved by the Council.

6. Sewers and Surface Water Drainage

6.1. Sewers

A contract was accepted and work commenced in laying new sewers in the Gregson Lane area to accommodate extensive building development. The scheme included the construction of a storm overflow which was approved (but not built) in the Main Sewerage Scheme for the U.D.

The Chorley R.D.C.'s contractor began the work of constructing sewers, pumping station, etc., in order to connect the Clayton Brook area into this Council's sewers at Church Road/Kellet Lane junction.

6.2. Septic Tanks

Provision was made in the Gregson Lane area sewers for the abandonment of septic tanks within the drainage area, and work in connecting the dwellings to the sewers was begun.

6.3. Flooding & Surface Water Drainage

Minor flooding of roadways and gardens occurred during a period of heavy rain (no premises were flooded):—

Brindle Road—near Pimley Farm—caused by surcharging of an old stone culvert crossing Withy Trees Farm. This problem will be resolved when that part of the Farm which is within the Review Town Map Development Areas is developed. A new surface water drainage system will be provided as part of the development proposals;

Brindle Road—at Old Folks Bungalows—caused by a blockage in the surface water sewer;

Rydal Avenue—caused by surcharging of an apparently "dry ditch". A connection has now been provided from the ditch to the surface water sewers;

Wesley Street—caused by a blockage of the surface water sewer;

Higher Walton, King George's Playing Field—caused by a blockage in the surface water culvert between the field and the River Darwen.

7. Housing

7.1. Council Housing

Tenders were invited for the construction of 20 one-bedroom flats, in 5 blocks of 4 flats, and the necessary road and drainage works at The Holme.

A tender was accepted, and work began in altering 88 houses in which W.C's were entered directly from kitchens.

A scheme for the erection of 4 bungalows by the Council, in conjunction with a County Council Aged Persons Hostel, was approved.

A scheme was prepared and a tender accepted for the installation of a bathroom at 29, Manybrooks (an old type house which was converted by the Council from back to back houses, many years ago).

Ceiling insulation was provided in 28 Aged Persons Bungalows.

7.2. Housing Improvement Grants

Approval was given to 49 applications for Standard Improvement Grants.

7.3. Private Housing

Despite many weeks of below-zero temperatures early in the year, 250 houses were completed by private developers and a further 260 were under construction at the end of December.

8. Playing Fields

8.1. No further progress was made with the proposed acquisition of two sites for additional Children's Playgrounds at Mounsey Road and Collins Road.

8.2. A complete survey was made of all Playing Fields and Playgrounds with a view to the formulation of further programmes for improvement and provision of additional facilities.

9. Plans and Planning

573 applications relating to 916 permanent buildings and 199 temporary buildings were dealt with under the Council's Byelaws.

179 planning applications were received, several relating to extensive building sites.

The Minister's decision on the Review Town Map was still awaited at the year end. (The Public Inquiry into the Review Map was held in October, 1962).

10. Staff

10.1. The vacancy for an Engineering Assistant, which arose in July, was still unfilled at the year end.

10.2. Additional staff problems were created by a change in the Regulations of the Institutions of Civil and Municipal Engineers, resulting in the Articled Pupil being authorised to attend a full time Technical Course for one year.

11. Transport

During the year, the Nuffield Tractor was replaced by a David Brown Tractor of slightly higher power.

A new type salt and grit spreading machine was purchased.

Usage of the Department's vehicles was as follows:—

<i>Vehicle</i>	<i>Registered</i>	<i>Miles</i>	<i>Petrol</i>	<i>M.P.G.</i>	<i>Remarks</i>
Thames 3-ton tipper ..	Nov. 1954	9,670	1042	9.3	(Part Estimated.)
Fordson 3-ton " ..	Dec. 1956	10,501	1031	10.2	
Bedford Sweeper ..	June 1957	7,421	1100	6.75	
Karrier Gulley-emptyer ..	April 1958	6,442	1802	3.4	(Part Estimated.)
Bedford flat ..	Mar. 1959	11,374	485	23.5	
Austin Mini-van ..	Jan. 1961	11,780	297	39.6	
Totals:	—	57,188	5757	—	

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