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WALTON-LE-DALE URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL.

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# REPORT

OF THE

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH  
CHIEF PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR

AND

ENGINEER AND SURVEYOR

for the

Year ending 31st December, 1964



WALTON-LE-DALE URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL.

REPORT OF THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

For the  
Councillor Mrs. E. E. Hewlett

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WALTON-LE-DALE URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL

1964

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*Chairman of the Council*

Councillor Mrs. E. E. Hewlett

*Chairman of Public Health Committee*

Councillor W. Morgan

*Vice-Chairman of Public Health Committee*

Councillor Miss A. Birkenhead

*Members of the Council and Public Health Committee*

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Councillor A. K. Greene

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Councillor T. Hewlett (retired May, 1964)

Councillor R. Howard, Junr.

Councillor R. Knowles

Councillor Mrs. E. Martin

Councillor Mrs. M. P. M. Parker, J.P.

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Councillor J. Spencer

Councillor J. W. Schultz (from May, 1964)

Councillor Rev. A. Williams, B.A.

**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:* F. Schofield.

*Warden Brindle Road Old People's Community Centre:*

Mrs. M. Gill, S.E.N.

*Clerk/Typist:* Miss N. Dawson.

*Student Public Health Inspector:* J. L. Rose.



PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT.  
COUNCIL OFFICES,  
BAMBER BRIDGE

## REPORT OF THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

For the year ended 31st December, 1964.

### To the Chairman and Members of the Council

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have much pleasure in presenting to you the Annual Report on the health and sanitary circumstances of the District for the year ended 31st December, 1964.

As in previous years, I should like in this introduction to refer to a few of the more important matters dealt with in the body of the Report.

According to the Registrar General's estimate the population of the district at Mid-June, 1964 was 21,570 which is 1,130 higher than for the previous year — a very considerable estimated increase.

The number of live births assigned to the district was 511 compared with 517 in the year 1963. The crude birth rate for the year was 23.7 (adjusted 21.1) per 1,000 population. The birth rate for England and Wales and the County of Lancaster were 18.4 and 18.68 (adjusted 19.05) respectively.

The number of deaths assigned to the district for the year 1964 was 208 which is 4 more than in the previous year. The crude death rate was, therefore, 9.6 (adjusted 12.6) per 1,000 population. The death rates for England and Wales and for Lancashire were 11.3 and 12.09 (adjusted 13.18) respectively from which it will be seen that this district compares very favourably with the Country as a whole.

The Registrar General has again provided a table giving the causes of death in age groups and the table is reproduced in the Report. Comparing the causes of death with those of the previous year, there were 17 more deaths from coronary heart disease which accounted for 52 and was in fact the greatest single cause of death. Of these 52 deaths 23 were of persons under 65 years of age. Several theories regarding the causation of this disease have been produced — dietetic, lack of exercise, cigarette smoking — and considerable research has gone into the question of treatment. In spite of all this the problem remains largely unsolved. Hypertension with heart disease and all other heart diseases caused 26 — 8 more than in 1963. On the credit side there were 2 fewer deaths from all forms of malignant disease and the 3 deaths from cancer of the lungs were 4 fewer than in the previous year.

It is pleasing to note that there were no deaths attributable to tuberculosis — there was one death from this cause in 1963. On the other hand it is distressing to see that motor vehicle accidents accounted for 8 deaths as compared with 5 in the previous year. Other causes of death show only minor variations as between the two years.

The number of deaths of infants under one year of age was 14, which is one fewer than in 1963. This gives an Infantile Mortality Rate of 27.4 per 1,000 live births. This figure although slightly better than that of the previous year still compares unfavourably with the rates for England and Wales and Lancashire which were respectively 20.0 and 21.4. It is to be hoped, however, that this slight improvement is the start of an overdue downward trend again. In contrast of this, however, it is pleasing to note that for the sixth successive year there have been no deaths associated with pregnancy or childbirth.

Regarding the incidence of infectious diseases during the year, it is found that the total number of notifications was 710 as compared with 132 in the previous year. Most of this very considerable increase is accounted for by measles — 579 cases as against 112. Scarlet fever also,



however, showed a marked increase from 6 to 58 as did dysentery from 6 to 43. In regard to tuberculosis 5 cases (4 pulmonary and 1 non-pulmonary) compares with 4 (3 pulmonary and 1 non-pulmonary) in the previous year. No cases of poliomyelitis were notified during the year.

A perusal of the Report, particularly the Chief Public Health Inspector's section, will show that the various aspects of environmental hygiene continue to receive careful attention. The outbreak of typhoid fever in Aberdeen during the past year emphasized in no uncertain manner the dangers of taking risks in the processing and handling of food stuffs. Meat inspection is a particularly onerous duty of the Public Health Inspectors in view of the large amount of killing which is done at one of the two private slaughterhouses in the district and difficulty during the year in recruiting a meat inspector added to the problem.

In regard to housing, the general standard in the district is good. The majority of houses considered completely unfit have been cleared or closed and many of the older type houses have been or are being improved. The number of new houses completed during the year was 369 (including 9 flats) all but one of which were built by private enterprise.

The erection of a Home for the Elderly was in progress and a Hostel and Training Centre for Mentally Sub-normal Adults was nearing completion at the end of the year. All these premises are being provided by the County Council.

Efficient sewerage is a prime essential to a healthy environment and it is therefore very satisfactory to report that the new sewerage disposal works for the district was completed by the end of the year.

A large volume of voluntary work which goes on in the district, particularly in regard to the welfare of the elderly, continues to be a most pleasing feature. The bungalows provided for the elderly with a Warden in charge continue to prove very successful and plans are prepared for four more bungalows to be built alongside the new Home referred to above.

In conclusion, I must again place on record my sincere thanks to Mr. Corbishley and Mr. Williams for willing co-operation at all times. I am also indebted to the other officers of the Council for assistance or advice whenever required.

I am most 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  $4\frac{1}{2}$  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 of the Area

Area in Acres (census 1961)	4,733
Population (census 1961) (as published by Registrar General)	19,061
Registrar General's estimate of population (mid 1964)	21,570
Number of houses (census 1961)	6,265
Number of inhabited houses (December 1964)	7,404
Rateable Value	£644,378
Sum represented by a penny rate	£2,500

### Vital Statistics

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.



**Births**

	M.	F.	Total
Live Births—			
Legitimate ....	258	238	496
Illegitimate ....	8	7	15
	266	245	511

Birth rate per 1,000 population — Crude ....	23.7
Adjusted ....	21.1

Illegitimate Live Births per cent of total live births

	M.	F.	Total
Still Births—			
Legitimate ....	5	4	9
Illegitimate ....	—	—	—
	5	4	9

Still birth rate per 1,000 (live and still births) 17.3

Comparability factor — For births 1.4

	M.	F.	Total
Total Live and Still Births ....	271	249	520

**Deaths**

	M.	F.	Total
Death rate per 1,000 estimated population — crude ....	115	93	208
Adjusted ....	9.6	12.6	

Comparability factor — For deaths 0.50

**Infant Deaths**

Deaths of Infants under one year ....	14
---------------------------------------	----

**Infant Mortality Rate**

Total infant deaths per 1,000 total live births ....	27.4
Legitimate deaths per 1,000 legitimate live births ....	27.4
Illegitimate deaths per 1,000 illegitimate live births ....	—

**Neo-Natal Mortality Rate**

Deaths of infants under 4 weeks of age ....	11
Mortality rate per 1,000 total live births ....	21.5

**Early Neo-Natal Mortality Rate**

Deaths of infants under 1 week ....	10
Mortality rate per 1,000 total live births ....	19.6

**Perinatal Mortality Rate**

Stillbirths and deaths under 1 week combined per 1,000 total live and still births ....	36.5
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**Maternal Mortality (Including Abortion)**

Number of deaths ....	—
Rate per 1,000 total live and still births ....	—

**Other Mortalities**

Deaths from Cancer (all ages all sites) ....	36
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# CAUSES OF DEATH AT DIFFERENT PERIODS OF LIFE DURING 1964 IN THE URBAN DISTRICT OF WALTON-LE-DALE

General Register Office, Somerset House, Strand, W.C.2

CAUSE OF DEATH	Sex	Total All Ages	Under 4 weeks	4 weeks and under 1 year	AGE IN YEARS										75 and over
					1—	5—	15—	25—	35—	45—	55—	65—			
9. Other Infective and Parasitic Diseases	M	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—		
	F	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—		
10. Malignant Neoplasm, Stomach	M	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	2		
	F	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	3		
11. Malignant Neoplasm, Lung, Bronchus	M	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	—		
	F	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—		
12. Malignant Neoplasm, Breast	M	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—		
	F	5	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	1	2		
14. Other Malignant and Lymphatic Neoplasms	M	13	—	—	2	—	—	—	—	1	4	5	1		
	F	9	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	4	4		
16. Diabetes	M	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—		
	F	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	—		
17. Vascular Lesions of Nervous System	M	9	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	1	5	2		
	F	13	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	2	3	7		
18. Coronary Disease, Angina	M	36	—	—	—	—	—	1	6	7	6	11	5		
	F	16	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	3	5	8		
19. Hypertension with Heart Disease	M	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—		
	F	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	—		
20. Other Heart Disease	M	8	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	1	3	3		
	F	15	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	3	2	9		
21. Other Circulatory Disease	M	4	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	3		
	F	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1		
23. Pneumonia	M	3	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	1		
	F	3	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1		
24. Bronchitis	M	12	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	2	5	3		
	F	3	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	1		
25. Other Diseases of Respiratory System	M	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—		
	F	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—		
27. Gastritis, Enteritis and Diarrhoea	M	1	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—		
	F	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—		
29. Hyperplasia of Prostate	M	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1		
31. Congenital Malformations	M	2	—	1	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—		
	F	3	2	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—		
32. Other Defined and Ill-Defined Diseases	M	8	4	—	—	1	1	—	—	—	2	—	—		
	F	14	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	3	2	6		
33. Motor Vehicle Accidents	M	7	—	—	—	1	2	1	—	1	—	1	1		
	F	1	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—		
34. All Other Accidents	M	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—		
	F	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—		
35. Suicide	M	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—		
	F	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—		
TOTAL ALL CAUSES	M	115	5	1	2	3	4	4	6	13	19	36	22		
	F	93	6	2	—	—	—	1	—	6	13	23	42		



TABLE OF COMPARATIVE STATISTICS

	PER 1,000 ESTIMATED POPULATION						Maternal Mortality rate per 1,000 Total births	Infantile Mortality rate per 1,000 Live births
	BIRTH RATE		DEATH RATE		Pul. T.B. Death rate	Cancer Death rate		
	Crude	Adjusted	Crude	Adjusted				
Walton-le-Dale Mean of 5 years 1960-1964	23·88	22·22	10·32	13·40	0·02	1·83	nil	24·14
1964	23·70	21·10	9·60	12·60	nil	1·67	nil	27·40
Increase or decrease in 1964 compared to: 5 year mean	-0·18	-1·12	-0·72	-0·80	-0·02	-0·16	nil	+3·26
previous year	-1·60	-1·4	-0·40	-0·50	-0·05	-0·24	nil	-1·60
County of Lancaster 1964	18·68	19·05	12·09	13·18	0·05	2·11	0·28	21·40
England and Wales 1964	18·4	—	11·3	—	0·047	2·21	0·25	20·0

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

## Deaths and Death Rates

The total number of deaths recorded during the year was 208 (males 115, females 93) which is 4 more than in 1963. The crude death rate for the district was 9.6 per 1,000 population. This rate is equal to the lowest recorded for the district (1926).

## Infantile Mortality

There were 14 deaths of infants under one year compared with 15 in 1963. This gives an infantile mortality rate of 27.4 per 1,000 live births, as compared with 29.0 in the previous year. The infantile mortality rate for England and Wales as a whole was 20.0. The cause of death of the 14 infants is given in the following table.

Age	Sex	Cause of Death
1 hour	M.	Atelectasis
1 hour	F.	Anoxia
2 hours	F.	Anencephalous
2 hours	F.	Bilateral Congenital Pleural Effusion
4 hours	M.	Anoxia
16 hours	M.	Haemorrhage
1 day	M.	Respiratory Failure
1 day	F.	Anoxia
2 days	F.	Respiratory Failure
3 days	F.	Congenital Heart Disease
3 weeks	M.	Toxaemia
1 month	M.	Spina Bifida
2 months	F.	Respiratory Failure
4 months	F.	Cardiac Failure



### 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 21.5 and 19.6 per 1,000 live births respectively and that for Perinatal Mortality was 36.5 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.

### 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 .. ..	58	1	3	2	7	6	35	4	—	—
Whooping Cough .. ..	17	—	1	—	3	3	9	1	—	—
Measles .. .. .	579	21	79	90	84	86	22	7	4	—
Dysentery .. .. .	43	1	6	8	11	6	—	—	1	10

Notifiable Diseases	Total	0 years	5 years	15 years	45 years	65 and over
Acute Pneumonia (primary and influenzal) .. .. .	5	2	—	—	2	1
Erysipelas .. .. .	2	—	—	—	1	1
Tuberculosis Respiratory .. .. .	4	—	—	1	3	—
Tuberculosis Other .. .. .	1	—	—	1	—	—
Acute Encephalitis .. .. .	1	—	1	—	—	—

### Tuberculosis

During the year 7 cases of Tuberculosis have been notified to the department. These consisted of 5 new cases and 2 "Transfers In."

#### Pulmonary:—

New Cases	4
Transfers In	2

#### Non Pulmonary:—

New Cases	1
Transfers In	—

Removed from the Register during the year were:—

#### Pulmonary:—

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

#### Non-Pulmonary:—

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



On the Register at 31st December, 1964 were 45 Pulmonary, 12 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**

One case of Undulant Fever occurred in a man associated with the milk trade. The patient was hospitalised and made a long slow recovery.

Milk being retailed from two farms in the district and three farms outside the district were found to contain brucella organisms. These organisms are the cause of undulant fever in humans who may become infected either by consuming milk containing the organisms or by dairymen, cattlemen, abattoir employees, etc., in the course of their employment. Heat treatment of infected milk kills the organisms and renders it safe for consumption.

### **Dysentery and Food Poisoning**

For the second successive year there have been no cases of food poisoning notified within the district. In view of the prevalence of the Salmonella organism, which is one of the primary organisms associated with food poisoning, we are fortunate in having no cases reported.

Dysentery, on the other hand, which is also a bowel infection, has in the past caused us a considerable amount of concern, particularly in schoolchildren.

There have been 43 notified cases as against 6 last year. Similar to other infectious diseases Dysentery seems to come in waves, but due to improved hygiene standards, particularly at the schools in the district, it could be considered that the number of cases is fairly low.

During the year the Education Welfare Officer reported to me on the non-attendance of schoolchildren who were suspected to be suffering from Dysentery. These were all investigated by the Public Health Inspectors and appropriate action taken in each case.

It was not necessary to carry out any large scale disinfection or closing of schools as a result of these reported cases.

### **Poliomyelitis**

It is pleasing to note once again, that no cases of Poliomyelitis occurred during 1964.

There was, however, a child of school age who died of Encephalitis and at the time it was thought that this death might be associated with an immunization for Poliomyelitis which had been given within three weeks prior to his death. It was not possible to confirm whether in fact there was any association between the immunization and the child's death.

### **Infective Hepatitis (Infective Jaundice)**

Although this disease is not notifiable in the district, cases are reported from time to time particularly through Education Welfare Officers and investigations are carried out.

### **Typhoid Fever**

Although it is a far-cry to Aberdeen the typhoid outbreak which took place in the early part of the year indirectly affected every district in the British Isles. The association, of course, was the corned beef which was the primary cause of the outbreak and we as a Health Department were concerned that tins of corned beef which might have been on sale from the same consignment as the affected ones in Aberdeen.

The Public Health Inspectors made a detailed visit at every shop to ensure that any stocks of corned beef with similar tin markings as those of the Aberdeen stock were withdrawn from sale immediately. The stocks were subsequently returned to the wholesalers for safe custody.

In May the Ministry of Health wrote concerning 5 cases of Typhoid Fever occurring in a party of schoolchildren who visited Spain from this country.

Although none of the children were from this area, this information is valuable in case children who had visited this area, from this district, developed symptoms which might have been associated with their visit to Spain.



### **Measles**

No fewer than 579 cases of measles were notified compared with 112 in 1963. This was the highest figure for many years and most of the cases were in children under 5 years of age. It is of interest to note that vaccines against this disease have now reached the trial stage.

### **Scarlet Fever**

58 cases were notified during 1964 as against 6 in the previous year. The disease was of a mild character and most of the cases were nursed at home.

## **GENERAL PROVISIONS OF HEALTH SERVICES IN THE AREA**

### **County Council Services in the Area**

#### **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.

#### **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.

#### **Domiciliary Midwifery Service**

Three domiciliary midwives were employed in the Urban District during the year.

The midwives in the area are:—

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

Miss M. Gould, 8 Cedar Avenue, Lostock Hall. Tel. 35518.

Miss M. A. Wittner, 187 Chorley Road, Bamber Bridge. Tel. 35280.



### Domiciliary Nursing Service

The Domiciliary Nursing Service is provided in the area by four district nurses. The nurses in the area during 1964 were as follows:—

- Mrs. M. A. Arnold, 4 Lyndale Avenue, Lostock Hall. Tel. 35929.
- Mrs. E. Oak, 6 Cromwell Road, Ribbleson, Preston. Tel. 51494.
- Mrs. A. Smith, 82 Laburnum Avenue, Lostock Hall. Tel. 35812.
- Mrs. I. Smith, 12 Bannister Close, Higher Walton. Tel. 36435.

### 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.

### 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 Bamber Bridge 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>
—	—	—	—	PRIMARY 488	5	—	—	1	27
90		NIL		REINFORCEMENT 62		NIL		229	

## Vaccination

<i>Primary Vaccinations performed</i>					<i>Re-vaccinations</i>
<i>Age in years</i>					
<i>Under 2</i>	<i>2—</i>	<i>5—</i>	<i>15—</i>	<i>Total</i>	<i>Total</i>
165	25	11	10	211	26

## Poliomyelitis Vaccination

<i>Year of Birth</i>				<i>Number</i>
Up to 1942	..	..	..	6
1943-1949..	..	..	..	36
1950-1959..	..	..	..	35
1960	..	..	..	10
1961	..	..	..	12
1962	..	..	..	44
1963	..	..	..	275
1964	..	..	..	61

## 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 Sharoe Green Hospital, Fulwood.

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



Number of New Houses Erected during the year:		<i>Houses</i>	<i>Flats</i>
(i)	By the Local Authority .. .. .	—	—
(ii)	By other Local Authorities .. .. .	1	—
(iii)	By other bodies or persons .. .. .	359	9
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) .. .. .	308	—
	(b) No. of inspections, formal or informal, made for the purpose .. .. .	586	—
	(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 .. .. .	251	—
(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 .. .. .	51	—
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 .. .. .	—	—
(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 .. .. .	4	7 4
(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 .. .. .	260	—
(2)	After formal notice under:	—	—
	(a) Public Health Acts .. .. .	—	—
	(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	1	—	—	—
(b) Approved by local authority .. .. .	1	—	—	—
(c) Submitted by local authority to Ministry .. .. .	—	—	—	—
(d) Finally approved by Ministry .. .. .	—	—	—	—
(e) Work completed .. .. .	—	—	—	—
(f) Additional separate dwellings included in (e) above	—	—	—	—
8. House Purchase and Housing Act, 1959—Standard Grants:—				No. of dwellings or other buildings affected
Action during year:				
(a) Applications submitted to local authority .. .. .				48
(b) Applications approved by local authority .. .. .				48
(c) Work completed .. .. .				50
(d) Remarks:				

## Food &amp; Drug Act, 1955

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

A total of 121 samples were obtained, consisting of 93 samples of milk and 28 others comprising:—

1 Cube sugar	1 Sugar
3 Dried vegetables	1 Tea bags
1 Glycerine B.P.	1 Gravy browning
3 Flour confectionery	1 Syrup
1 Custard powder	1 Tapioca
2 Dairy ice-cream	3 Ice-cream
1 Ice-lolly	1 Seconal sodium capsules
1 Slice of bread	1 Meat paste
1 Golden raising powder	1 Sweets
1 Mineral water	1 Corned beef (opened can)
1 Chopped ham with pork (two slices from opened can)	



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

Type of Sample	Result of Analysis	Action Taken
1 Informal milk ... ..	Contained 0.2 International Unit penicillin per ml.	Dairy notified
1 Informal milk ... ..	do.	do.
1 Informal milk ... ..	do.	do.
1 Informal milk ... ..	do.	do.
1 Informal milk ... ..	do.	do.
1 Formal milk ... ..	Contained 0.3 International Unit penicillin per ml.	Farmer and Milk Marketing Board notified
1 Formal milk ... ..	Contained 0.01 International Unit penicillin per ml.	do.
1 Formal milk ... ..	do.	do.
1 Informal milk ... ..	Contained 0.01 International Unit penicillin per ml.	Dairy notified
1 Slice of bread ... ..	Contained 1.4 grammes brown crumb	Baker and complainant informed
1 Corned beef (opened can) ... ..	Contained 1.0 grammes of somewhat unsightly coagulated blood	Complainant and manufacturer informed
1 Chopped ham with pork (two slices from opened can) ... ..	Contained a lymph nodule weighing 0.47 gramme.	Complainant and packers informed

### Milk & Milk Production

All milk samples have remained free from tuberculosis. No raw milk other than Tuberculin Tested milk is sold.

Milk samples have continued to be examined for the presence of *Brucella Abortus*. Many hours have been spent in procuring samples, submitting them for examination, following up results and isolating infected animals. All this work is carried out with the intention of providing consumers of raw milk with a milk free from *Abortus* organisms. However, once the farmer is aware that an infected animal is in his herd he very quickly sells the animal. The sale of such infected animals renders ineffective all the time and effort taken to identify the animal, and could be the means of infecting another herd, certainly another milk supply is infected.

A large proportion of raw milk is retailed in the district (probably in the region of 25%) therefore, a large sector of the community is at risk and the importance of the presence of *abortus* organisms is magnified.

The solution to this problem would seem to be that all milk intended for human consumption should be heat treated. Pasteurisation destroys *brucella* organisms and renders the milk safe. At the same time active measures should be taken to eradicate *brucella* infection in cattle in this country as has already been achieved in some others.

Antibiotics have not been isolated from raw samples submitted for examination.

### 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**

The above Order was brought into operation over 25 years ago with the object of controlling infected animals which were infecting the raw milk sold throughout the country.

Where samples of milk taken were found to be positive for this organism, co-operation with the Ministries Veterinary Department resulted in the animal being withdrawn from the herd and slaughtered.

During the past 10 years the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food have carried out an intensive campaign to eradicate Tuberculosis from cattle. This has been practically 100% successful and as a result there are in the District no new non-pulmonary cases of Tuberculosis associated with milk consumption. This is a tribute to Public Health Inspectors and Veterinarians who have worked so assiduously to achieve this end.

It is interesting to note that all samples of raw milk produced and retailed in the District during the last decade have remained free from Tubercle.

### **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 ten.

### **Food Hygiene**

The detailed attention to food hygiene at premises where food is sold, prepared, or is displayed for sale, is reflected in the absence of any disease associated with food poisoning.

It is always difficult to keep one's finger on the pulse and ensure that hygiene and food protection which go hand-in-hand are being carried out to the letter. It is so easy for personnel to get careless when handling food which has to be consumed by other people.

Scrupulous attention to such matters as hand washing and other aspects of personal hygiene are very essential. Such habits as cigarette smoking and untidy hair styles are not compatible with a high standard of hygiene. Strict attention to the cleanliness of premises, equipment and utensils is also a matter of the greatest importance if outbreaks of food poisoning are to be avoided. Although Public Health Inspectors, in the course of their daily rounds, do their utmost to see that a high standard is maintained the public themselves can play an important part by objecting to anything which seems wrong or by giving their patronage to those shops which display the best standards of hygiene.

### **Health Education**

During the year public attention has been directed to the association between cigarette smoking and lung cancer, by a continual display of posters in the Council Offices. With the co-operation of the Schools a competition was organised in which the children could submit original sketches and paintings on the theme "Smoking is prejudicial to Health". Donated prizes were awarded to the children who submitted pictures judged by the County Health Education Department to be most appropriate.

### **Liquid Egg (Pasteurisation) Regulations 1963**

Last year I reported that legislation had been enacted in order to safeguard the sale of liquid egg in its raw state which had been responsible for outbreaks of food poisoning in the country.

All the premises where liquid egg is used or prepared were visited in order to ensure that all liquid egg used for human consumption had been pasteurised before use.

Again this year it has been found that all the liquid egg being used in the area has been pasteurised.



### **Housing the Aged**

Mrs. Gill, the Warden, continues to be busily engaged in looking after the welfare of the 26 aged persons under her care.

A Luncheon Club was commenced during the year whereby residents of the bungalows, and any other aged person in the area who wishes to take part, can have a very excellent lunch at a small charge on two days per week. This is run by the Women's Voluntary Service and this is in addition to the Meals on Wheel's which housebound residents can take advantage of.

Social events continue to be held during the week and the television room is very much used, particularly at weekends.

### **Schools**

Hygiene in schools has been maintained and in some cases substantial improvement has been made during the course of the year. Washing and sanitary fittings have also been brought up to a satisfactory standard in those cases in which they fell short by Ministry of Education standards. In particular, it is pleasing to see that the last of the objectionable trough closets have been removed from one of the schools in Bamber Bridge. They have been replaced with a new sanitary annexe which is improved and enlarged to cope with the additional pupils which have been taken in.

A new primary school was opened in Severn Drive which is of a similar high standard to other schools in the area. The site foundation was prepared for another primary school at Lostock Hall and the third new primary school is to be built in Lourdes Avenue in 1965/66.

Whilst it has not been possible to pay a visit to every school in the district, I am satisfied that conditions existing from a Public Health point of view are satisfactory.

### **Atmospheric Pollution**

During the year we received a petition from a number of residents concerning the emission of grit and smoke from the two cupolas at a large foundry in Bamber Bridge. Residents of the Meanygate Estate complain that a blue haze descended upon the houses from time to time when the wind was in their direction and that large quantities of grit were deposited in and around the houses.

The matter was investigated and certain recommendations made but at the end of the year this investigation was still proceeding.

My comments on atmospheric pollution are an echo of my last years report and I can do no better than reiterate the majority of what I said then.

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 1963. 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 and 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

The water supply to the District, provided by the Preston and District Water Board, has remained satisfactory as regards quantity and quality throughout the year, although there have been a considerable number of complaints regarding discolouration in the water supply. Each complaint has been investigated and samples of water obtained. Laboratory results have shown the water to be safe in each case. In addition to investigations by the Public Health Department the complaints have been referred to the Water Board for their investigation.

Copies of typical chemical results are given below. For this information I am indebted to the Preston and 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.* 5/64.

*Date*—2nd March, 1964. *Time*—3.20 p.m.

*Sample Bottle No.* 1.

*Results expressed in parts per million*

Total solid Residue (Dried at 180°C.) 40.0

Oxygen required to oxydise  
in 15 mins. 0.06  
in 3 hours 0.41

Ammonia—Free and Saline 0.056

Ammonia—Albuminoid 0.052

Nitrogen as Nitrates 0.30

Nitrogen as Nitrites Nil

Chlorides 10.0

Temporary Hardness 4.0

Permanent Hardness 16.0

Total Hardness 20.0

pH Value 7.3

*Physical Properties*—Colour 8 Hazen.

*Date*—10th March, 1964.

*Signed*—E. CROZIER,  
Laboratory Assistant.

#### THIRLMERE SUPPLY—

##### PRESTON & DISTRICT WATER BOARD

The Laboratory,  
Chapel Hill,  
Longridge.

#### CHEMICAL EXAMINATION

*Sample Taken at*—Tithebarn Street, Workshop,  
Preston.

*Sample No.* 1/64

*Date*—1st Feb., 1964. *Time*—3.55 p.m.

*Sample Bottle No.* 1

*Results expressed in parts per million*

Total solid Residue (Dried at 180°C.) 48.0

Oxygen req. to oxydise  
in 15 mins. 0.70  
in 3 hours 0.83

Ammonia—Free and Saline 0.14

Ammonia—Albuminoid 0.08

Nitrogen as Nitrates 0.40

Nitrogen as Nitrites Nil

Chlorides 12.0

Temporary Hardness 2.0

Permanent Hardness 26.0

Total Hardness 28.0

pH Value 7.1

*Physical Properties*—Colour 13 Hazen.

*Date*—8th February, 1964.

*Signed*—E. CROZIER,  
Laboratory Assistant.

#### Lead Content

The lead content in the supplies of water from Longridge and Manchester was, in samples taken in 1964 and analysed by an independent analyst, given as "negligible."

#### Flourine Content

The flourine content of the Longridge supply is 0.08 parts per million and that of the Manchester supply was 0.05 to 0.10 parts per million.

#### Home Safety Committee

In September, under the auspices of the Council, a Home Safety Committee was formed, representing various organisations such as, Women's Institute, Townswomen's Guild and various statutory bodies. The inaugural meeting was held on the 12th September, 1964.

The Rev. A. Williams was elected as Chairman and Mrs. A. M. Thew as Vice-Chairman.



The Committee got off to a good start by arranging for a painting competition amongst the schoolchildren in conjunction with the Lancashire County Council's tableau which was to tour the district in connection with safety in handling fireworks.

Meetings are held each two months and the members are very keen to develop the home safety view within the district. They are greatly aided by the Lancashire County Council Health Education Department who supply all the literature and materials propogating this important action and prevention project.

### 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 Deepes 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 1964.

#### ANNUAL REPORT OF THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH IN RESPECT OF THE YEAR 1964 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 (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	10	1	—
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority .. .. .	85	50	—	—
(iii) Other premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding out-workers' premises) ..	10	6	—	—
	112	66	1	—

#### 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 .. .. .	—	—	—	—	—
Unsuitable or defective Sanitary Accessories ..	2	2	—	—	—
	3	3	—	—	—



## NEW LEGISLATION

### **Hairdressers (Registration) Act 1964**

This Act provides for the establishment of a Hairdressing Council who will be required to maintain a register of hairdressers as from the 1st January 1966. All hairdressers will be required to maintain proper standards.

### **Housing Act 1964**

This Act allows for the compulsory improvement of dwellings to provide certain standard amenities and sets out the procedure for the declaration of what would be called 'Improvement Areas.' The Act authorises grants to be made for amenities which fall below the full standard and also amends the Provisions dealing with houses in multiple occupation. Certain alterations have also been made with regard to certain financial provisions.

### **Nurses Act 1964**

The Act makes further provisions concerning the admission of persons to the roll of nurses.

### **Refreshment Houses Act 1964**

This Act is designed to secure the better regulation of Refreshment Houses within the meaning of the Refreshment Houses Act 1860 making it unlawful to make any charge between 10 o'clock at night and 5 o'clock in the morning unless a Tariff of charges is displayed outside the Refreshment House and touting for custom outside is prohibited.

### **Riding Establishments Act 1964**

The Act requires all Riding Establishments to be licensed by the local authority who must be satisfied that the horses will be maintained in a good state of health and under reasonable condition.

### **Scrap Metal Dealers Act 1964**

This Act requires every local authority to maintain a register of persons carrying on the business of scrap metal dealers who will be required to keep proper records of all dealings to or from their premises. The Police are given authority to examine such premises and records as and when they deem it necessary.

In addition to the above the following Statutory Instruments were brought into force on matters which are of interest to a Public Health Department.

Meat (Treatment) Regulations 1964.

Offices, Shops and Railway Premises Act 1963 (Commencement No. 1) Order 1964.

Soft Drinks Regulations 1964.

Dried Milk Regulations 1964

Washing Facilities Regulations 1964. (Offices and Shops).

Sanitary Conveniences Regulations 1964. (Offices and Shops).

Offices, Shops and Railway Premises Annual Reports Order 1964.

Offices and Shops in Factories (First Aid) Regulations 1964.

Offices at Building Operations etc. (First Aid) Regulations 1964.

Offices in Electrical Stations (First Aid) Regulations 1964.



## REPORT OF THE CHIEF PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR FOR THE YEAR 1964

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 1964.

During the year under review the work of the Department proceeded smoothly and without any major troubles in the environmental field. The continual development of the district with new house building and light industry adds substantially to the work of the department, as it is essential that all services necessary to maintain the continuity of health and welfare be given our most detailed attention. The population continues to rise by about 1,000 each year a large number of which are newcomers to the area.

The number of calls to the office made by members of the public for advice or help has set a new record. It is estimated that 2,500 visits or phone calls have been made concerning environment, and an increasing number of enquiries about welfare provisions provided by the County Council have also been made.

Food Inspection, particularly meat inspection, has been one of our major concerns during the year. Mr. Frank Schofield became the Councils' permanent meat inspector operating full-time at the two private slaughterhouses in the district.

Another milestone in the administration of the department was the appointment of a full-time Student Public Health Inspector. The need for some assistance in the department was becoming more acute with the increased work, also the Ministry of Health advocated the intake of students to help the shortage of Public Health Inspectors.

The hygiene quality of raw milk consumed in the district gives rise for concern. The number of cows suffering from Brucellosis appears to be on the increase and the drinking of raw milk from these cases in the district is not known because there is no notification required by Medical Practitioners, but as there is approximately 25% of all milk in the area consumed in its raw state, the number of residents at risk is considerable. The only complete answer to the problem at the present time is for compulsory heat treatment of all milk.

Atmospheric pollution and Noise are two more factors which play a part in the lives of us all and to the possible detriment to health. Certainly with pollution which still continues to be poured out in the form of soot and gritty particles from an increasing number of domestic chimneys, whilst noise from all sources, mainly industrial, has caused many sleepless nights for some residents. Fortunately we have been able to reduce or completely abate most of the noises, but are powerless at the present to control domestic pollution.

The caterpillar plague infested the district once again for the sixth successive year causing widespread destruction to the foliage of hawthorn and associated trees and bushes. Whilst not primarily a public health problem the department took the initiative by dealing with all complaints. Spraying with DIPTEREX 80 on affected hedges prevented large scale infestation of dwellings, which in previous years were affected by hoards of caterpillars on the inside walls of sculleries, etc.

During the early part of the year a wordy battle ensued between ourselves and the Lancashire County Council Architects Department over the chimney heights at new schools being built. The boiler plants are fitted with chimneys far lower than those recommended by the Ministry Memorandum. All other industrialists must toe the line under the Clean Air Act, but schools are exempt by reason of the lack of byelaw submission. The authorities have a moral, if not a legal obligation, to comply with relevant provisions of any Act of Parliament.







#### 4. Meat and Food Inspections

Butchers' Meat ....	5
Food Preparation ....	11
Canteens ....	5
Milk and Dairies ....	3
Hygiene Regulations ....	38
Licensed Premises ....	6
Slaughterhouses ....	407
Brucella Abortus ....	53
Miscellaneous ....	19

#### 5. Sampling

Milk ....	41
Ice Cream ....	6
Food and Drugs ....	6
Sewer Swab Investigations ....	247

6. A total of 2,051 premises were visited and 2,943 visits made.

#### Notices Served

Notices:

Informal ....	275
Formal ....	—
Informal complied with ....	271
Formal complied with ....	—

#### Housing

Although there have been no Council houses built during the year private building and the development of the district generally has proceeded apace. This is reflected in the highest recorded population increase over the last few years which accounted for 1,250 new residents in the district, which is the fourth largest intercensal increase in Lancashire.

I think it is true to say that we have no housing problem as many of the applications received by the Housing Manager, if they are of priority or urgent need, are favourably considered by the Housing Selection Committee and many cases have been rehoused from within the district after a comparatively short period of waiting.

As far as unfit houses are concerned the five year programme has proceeded steadily and by the end of the year practically all the 40 houses in the Mill Street/School Lane area had been closed, most of the occupants being rehoused by the Council. By the middle of 1965 the whole site should be cleared. The 1965/70 survey of further unfit houses will be made and it is anticipated that no more than 30 properties will be dealt with under the Housing Act. This of course excludes Club Street area which the Council will consider in 1965 as to whether to extend their life for a further 10 to 15 years.

The standard of existing houses continues to improve and an increasing number of improvement grants are approved by the Council at each monthly meeting.

#### Rent Act 1957

For the second successive year no action was necessary under this Act.

It is anticipated that it will be repealed during the coming months and this will see an end to an era of rising rents with de-control.



### **Improvement Grants**

The detailed work in connection with improvement grant applications is dealt with by the Surveyor's Department, although we are called in on numerous occasions for advice and help when owners or owner/occupiers are contemplating bathroom and hot-water installations.

During the past three years it has been a feature to ask for an inspection chamber to be installed on the private drainage system of houses where improvement grants are approved, which facilitates any future trouble if a drain stoppage or defect should occur. This is a reasonable request in view of the fact that the Council pay one half the cost of these improvements.

13 visits were paid to dwelling-houses in connection with improvement grants and 42 drainage systems were tested.

### **Movable Dwellings**

No problems have been met with in dealing with the occasional movable dwelling, but gipsy/tinker type wandering families and groups have created difficulties when they appear, squat, and cause squalor. It has been necessary to request police assistance on several occasions in order to obtain vacation of a site. When a site has been vacated it is necessary to clean up the area. The house refuse collection service carry out this thankless task.

One licensed site for two caravans is still operative and although the Council approved in principle a site behind the Meanygate area, no further action has been taken. Requests from outsiders for caravan sites or accommodation have been negligible during the year, but it is noticed that there are a number of caravans dotted throughout the district, most of which are unoccupied being within the curtilage of a dwelling and used by the family there.

A vigilant watch is kept on the district in the course of general inspections and any itinerant van or caravan seen is dealt with under the appropriate legislation.

### **Drainage**

All property built or altered during the year had the drainage systems inspected and tested. 420 new and altered premises had drains tested. The service of clearing blocked drains has been continued as a free emergency service. 241 drains have been cleared.

Culverts and pollution of them has caused annoyance to residents on numerous occasions. These legacies of the past are now extremely difficult to trace and consume a considerable amount of time. Work continued during the year with some success although the situation is not satisfactory.

### **Open Ditches:**

Open ditches adjacent to new development have continued to be the cause of numerous complaints due to deposits of refuse obstructing the natural flow of surface water. Stagnant pools have resulted in one near fatality, when a child slipped and fell into the water. Other complaints are of objectionable odours and rats. Representations have been made to the Public Health Committee for the Local Authority to adopt the principle of enforcing piping of all potentially dangerous water-courses whilst building operations are being carried out on the site.

### **Rodent Control**

Numerous complaints have been received throughout the year of small surface infestations. It may be significant that this type of trouble has developed since completion of the new main drainage scheme. With the old system the sewers frequently surcharged and remained free of rodents. Treatments have been successfully carried out using warfarin and acute poisons.

It is becoming increasingly noticeable that due to lack of 100% control of rodents in the sewer, surface infestations are on a substantial increase. It is not possible with the present staff available to carry out treatment at over 600 manholes on the sewerage system and it may be necessary to call in an outside servicing firm to do this. The only satisfactory treatment is by the new poison Fluoracetamide, but as the Council have disapproved the use of this in the past other poisons have to be substituted with a possible less effective control than otherwise might have been.

176 visits have been made to both private and business premises and where infestations have been found 106 premises have been successfully treated by the Council's rodent operator or by private action.



### 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 .. .. .	7,310	190	94
(b) No. of properties inspected .. .. .	206	62	10
(c) Total inspections carried out (incl. re-inspections) ..	510	149	49
(d) No. of properties inspected which were found to be infested by:			
Rats—major .. .. .	—	2	—
minor .. .. .	110	—	—
Mice—major .. .. .	—	—	—
minor .. .. .	40	—	—
(e) No. of infested properties treated .. .. .	73	—	—
(f) Total treatments carried out (incl. re-treatments) ..	121	22	7
(g) No. of "Block" control schemes carried out .. ..	—	22	7
(h) Any other action .. .. .	Sewerage System treated		

### Atmospheric Pollution

Observations and recordings have continued as in previous years.

Pollution from the Service Department of British Railways at Lostock Hall has been considerably reduced. As a result of a study and report to Council in 1963, co-operation was obtained from British Railways who appointed a technical officer with special responsibilities for smoke abatement. This official worked closely with the Public Health Inspector and many inspections were made. The reduction over the year in visible pollution was most gratifying.

Visible pollution from industrial sources remains satisfactory.

Chimneys at new educational buildings have come in for a considerable amount of justifiable criticism during the year. Being outside the 'controls for height' in the Clean Air Act they are being "designed" and receiving Ministry of Education approval to a standard lower than similar chimneys at industrial premises, and to a standard lower than acceptable to the Local Authority. It is a sad reflection on designers and planners who cannot design with adequate regard for public health and who inflict sub-standard erections on Local Authorities without their consent or approval. The Ministry of Housing and Local Government have been informed of the Local Authorities displeasure at the imposition of these 'structures'.

There has been a decrease observed in dark smoke from road vehicles. It was not necessary to report any vehicles during the year, although observations continued.



## 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) .. .. .	1,578	5,338	22	4,599	—
Number inspected .. .. .	1,578	5,338	22	4,599	—
<i>All diseases except Tuberculosis and Cysticerci:</i>					
Whole Carcases condemned .. .. .	—	9	2	1	—
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned .. .. .	380	3,095	3	231	—
Percentage of the number inspected affected with disease other than Tuberculosis and Cysticerci .. .. .	24	58	13·6	5	—
<i>Tuberculosis only:</i>					
Whole carcases condemned .. .. .	—	—	—	—	—
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned .. .. .	—	—	—	—	—
Percentage of number inspected affected with Tuberculosis .. .. .	—	—	—	—	—
<i>Cysticercosis:</i>					
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned .. .. .	4	—	—	—	—
Carcases submitted to treatment by refrigeration Generalised and totally condemned .. .. .	4	—	—	—	—

One slaughterhouse caters for a relatively small retail outlet, the other a large wholesaling business requires the services of a full-time meat inspector. Modernisation and increasing throughput has rendered the present premises of the larger concern inadequate, and a modern slaughterhouse incorporating the very latest of slaughtering techniques will be in operation by early 1966.

The last ten years has seen remarkable steps forward in the control of animal diseases, this being due largely to an efficient veterinary and laboratory service linked with vigilant meat inspection at the slaughterhouse.

Tuberculosis has been virtually eradicated whilst other less well known conditions are being encountered by the meat inspector.

Surveys are being undertaken by the Public Health Laboratory to measure the degree of Salmonellae infection of cattle and to assess the possible Salmonellae contamination of slaughterhouse effluent. Samples are taken from each animal and swabs from all drains are examined by the laboratory weekly.

## 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>	
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
1964 .. .. .	4	3	75·0	0	41	40	97·7	0



### Pasteurised Milks

Year	Number Taken	Number Efficiently Heat Treated	%
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
1964 .. ..	16	16	100

### Brucellosis in Bovine/Undulant Fever in Man

The fact that an infection can be transmitted to man from a food animal via the milk it gives, is abhorrent to say the least, yet such incidences are occurring.

Basically the problem is a complete lack of control of infected animals, which may be sold for any purpose and often infect otherwise clean herds. The Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries & Food are aware of the problem.

It is the raw milk consumer who is being innocently exposed to the risk of infection of this insidious and debilitating disease, and the Public Health Authority has completely inadequate tools to protect them.

Infection in cattle is known to be in the region of 25% of herds in the area, but the low incidence of reported diagnosed human cases leads to the suspicion that many cases of Undulant Fever go undetected. It is estimated that 96% of milk consumed in England and Wales is heat treated prior to human consumption. In Walton-le-Dale the estimate is 75% heat treated. The population at risk is therefore considerable.

During the year 118 individual cow samples of milk from three herds have been examined. 9 infected animals have been found, their milk has been heat treated prior to retail sale. The infected animals have been sold. In addition 45 routine samples have been examined for Brucellosis, 4 infected animals were found. 3 of the herds were outside the district and the cases referred to the Health Authority concerned. The other case was in the district, the infected animal was sold.

Herd Sample—	Total	Positive	Negative	No Result
Methylene Ring Test	118	23	95	NIL
Culture	23	2	21	NIL
Biological	23	7	16	NIL
Routine Sample—				
Methylene Ring Test	45	5	36	4
Culture	7	3	4	NIL
Biological	41	2	39	NIL



### Ice Cream

Ice cream is a popular saleable product for the young and the not so young and whilst it is a potential carrier of harmful organisms and has in the past been responsible for outbreaks of enteric troubles, one can feel safe in the consumption of this sweetmeat due to the very high standard of cleanliness it receives in its production.

If only one could say the same about the milk production a Public Health Inspector would feel quite satisfied, but this is not the case as will be seen from a perusal of my earlier report.

Most of the ice cream products are of national repute and there are still only two producer/retailers in the district.

### Food Hygiene

Inspection of food premises has continued throughout the year. Advantage was taken of the Aberdeen crisis to emphasize the need for hygienic practices. As a result of Ministry of Health Circulars at the time of the outbreak it was necessary to visit every shop premise in the district where it was known, or suspected, of selling corned beef associated with the consignment which was responsible for the Aberdeen outbreak.

438 visits were made during a comparatively short period to ascertain whether any stocks of the known tin marks were found to exist. In 4 cases the relevant tin marks were found and the consignment returned to the main suppliers on Ministry instructions.

The need for constant vigilance in the sale, preparation or consumption of food is of paramount importance and we are constantly aware of the need for hygienic practices to be maintained in both large and small food premises, for in spite of the high standard of construction now being introduced into both shop, canteen and other food preparation premises, the weak link in all these processes is the food handler who can, by his or her careless neglect, be responsible for untold harm and illness and sometimes death to food consumers at large.

### Other Foods

The Public Health Inspector has again continued as certifying officer for unsaleable goods. This function for the convenience of the food trade, is not a public health duty, but a legacy from war time rationing.

664 lbs. of food totalling 719 items was certified as being unsaleable through damage.

### Verminous Premises

Verminous premises as we knew them 20 years ago have practically ceased to exist in this district. One of the worst forms of this, of course, is the infestation of bed bugs which is practically non-existent due to the new methods of insecticidal control, particularly D.D.T., which has now been superseded by the introduction of various forms of other superior insecticides.

Ants and cockroaches appear to be the main form of infestations which exist and these are dealt with on a free service by the local authority where powder or liquid spray is used for their control.

During the year 8 premises were treated, 1 Council house and 7 private dwellings.

### Y. Padella (Ermine Moth) Caterpillar

Once again for the sixth successive year the summer infestation of the small black caterpillar, known professionally as Y. Padella, infested the hawthorn hedges and apple trees over the greater part of the district.

The infestation varied from district to district. Whilst some pockets were entirely free others received heavy infestations to the extent of complete defoliation of the hedges and associated plants.

Whilst this is not a public health problem, the Council decided to treat highway hedgerows without charge to anyone, but private premises were treated on a charge of 10/- per premise.

Over 50 premises were treated in this way and about 100 gallons of insecticide, in the form of Malathion and Dipterex 80, were used.



### **Noise Abatement**

Several complaints have been investigated during the year. It has not been necessary to resort to legal action in any case, although on two occasions it was necessary to obtain Committee permission to serve a Statutory Notice.

All the complaints of noise, ten in number, were investigated and in the majority of cases total or partial alleviation of the problem was achieved.

There are, however, two noises in the district which have given cause for concern during the past few years. Both are from machines associated with industry and although the Management have co-operated to the best of their ability in trying to reduce this noise, complaints continued to be made and investigations were still proceeding at the end of the year.

### **Offices, Shops and Railway Premises Act, 1963**

The Offices, Shops and Railway Premises Act, 1963, is such a massive piece of legislation involving countless additional circulars and regulations from the Ministry of Labour, that it was not possible to do anything concerning this Act in the year of its commencement.

During this year, however, it has been possible to get down and study the relevant sections, circulars and information concerning a wide variety of conditions under which people in these premises have to work. A new section which has previously been foreign to the Public Health Inspector is the introduction of the control of dangerous machinery. This is something entirely new which we have to learn and be guided by reference to text books on the subject. Although the circulars indicate in some detail what the standards have to be, they require very careful study and in some cases it may be difficult to enforce.

However, towards the end of the year we had made some progress in regard to registration of premises and it is estimated that over 150 premises in the district are likely to be affected. All are required to register in accordance with the Act and even although much publicity has been given to this, only 50% of the applications were received in writing. It will be necessary to do a detailed inspection of the premises to advise and help where required. This will obviously take some years and progress on this will be reported in subsequent reports.

H.M. Factory Inspectorate, who are responsible for prevention of accidents in factories etc., have a permanent exhibition in London which is of great help to such people as Public Health Inspectors and for this purpose Mr. Williams visited the exhibition when he was in London for the Standing Conference on Atmospheric Pollution.

### **Housing Act 1964 (Grant Survey)**

During the early part of this year I was instructed by the Council to make a survey of the district relating to the condition of houses which were likely to rank for grant under the Housing Act 1964 and to report on the number of such houses suitable for this measure. Some compulsion can now be applied to owners and owner/occupiers to bring their houses up to a standard which includes modern amenities such as bath, hot water, wash-hand basins, etc.

The survey was not carried out during the year but it is hoped it will be commenced in 1965.

## **PUBLIC CLEANSING**

### **House and Trade Refuse Collection and Disposal**

Collection and disposal of both domestic and trade refuse always presents a problem to small authorities. Whilst a regular collection service is maintained on the whole, occasional difficulties arise due to holidays, sickness and labour trouble spots. With full employment elsewhere it is a constant source of concern whether it will be possible to replace a good employee when he retires or leaves the service of the Council.



With the changing pattern of refuse which is becoming bulkier, due to the increased amount of paper, cardboard and plastic packings and the gradual reduction of solid fuel ash, more and more people are resorting to the use of two dustbins although a weekly collection is in existence.

In order to eliminate the increased "travel" for the collection in removing two dustbins a sack system is being introduced for the collection of paper only and is working quite satisfactorily.

The need for a work study into the refuse collection and disposal is becoming more apparent. Some incentive to the workmen in order to keep a weekly schedule and to include holiday coverage becomes a more pressing matter as the district develops. The District Auditor also realizes the need for a study of the problem and has made a verbal recommendation to this effect.

It is estimated that over 10,000 tons of trade and domestic refuse was deposited at the Refuse Disposal Centre during the year. This valley where tipping was commenced in 1930 is practically full and a further 5 years tipping will see this site completed.

### Refuse Collection, Disposal and Salvage

#### Service Costs:—

Gross Expenditure	£23,711
Gross Income	£3,153
Net Expenditure	£20,558
Dustbins emptied per week	9,500
Weekly Standard Wage: Driver	£12 5s. 0d.
Collector	£11 12s. 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:—

	Tons	Cwts.	Qrs.	Lbs.	£	s.	d.
Paper .. .. .	306	17	—	—	2,162	—	—
Textiles .. .. .	12	18	1	5	243	—	6
Non-Ferrous Metals .. .. .	2	9	—	27	247	16	11
Cast Iron .. .. .	1	14	2	—	14	13	3
Use of Tip .. .. .					438	7	11
Composting .. .. .					14	2	—
Miscellaneous .. .. .					32	19	5
<b>TOTALS</b>	<b>323</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>—</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>£3,153</b>	<b>—</b>	<b>—</b>

Year	Tons	Cwts.	Qrs.	Lbs.	£	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
1964 .. .. .	323	19	—	4	3,153	0	0



## ENGINEER AND SURVEYOR'S REPORT

This brief Report covers the period 1st January, 1964 to 31st December, 1964.

### 1. Highways

#### 1.1. Authorised expenditure on maintenance and minor improvements:—

*Authorised expenditure over the last 5 years*

Road Class	Length	1964	1963	1962	1961	1960
Class I .. ..	3.07 miles	£3,814 (£1,242/mile)	£3,810 (£1,240/ml.)	£10,635 (£3,470/mile)	£5,720 (£1,867/mile)	£6,380 (£2,084/mile)
Class II .. ..	2.22 miles	£7,583 (£3,420/mile)	£11,740† (£5,300/ml.)	£2,225 (£1,000/mile)	£5,110 (£2,300/mile)	£2,200 (£992/mile)
Class III .. ..	2.39 miles	£5,933 (£2,480/mile)	£4,450 (£1,860/ml.)	£2,169 (£907/mile)	£5,244 (£2,200/mile)	£6,420 (£2,690/mile)
Unclassified ..	24.52 miles‡	£26,441 (£1,080/mile)	£18,945 (£805/ml.)	£15,962 (£743/mile)	£18,295 (£927/mile)	£19,109* (£1,005/mile)
<b>TOTALS</b>	<b>32.20 miles</b>	<b>£43,771</b>	<b>£38,945</b>	<b>£30,991</b>	<b>£34,369</b>	<b>£34,109</b>

‡ There are 27.3 miles of Public Footpaths not included in this total.

\* 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.

#### 1.2. Station Road (A.6)/Brownedge Lane (B.5257) junction

The Ministry of Transport approved a proposal submitted by this Council to the County Council, for the provision of Traffic Control Signals at the junction of Browndge Lane and Collins Road with Station Road.

#### 1.3. Hoghton Lane

The Council's continuous and long standing efforts to have a speed limit introduced on the whole of Hoghton Lane, were again rejected by the Ministry of Transport, but a short extension of the "30" limit, from Lower Jannock Farm to Brierley's Cottages, was approved.

#### 1.4. Traffic Signs

The new Traffic Signs Regulations were issued, to take effect from 1st January, 1965, there being a progressive period of 3 years to introduce all the new signs.

#### 1.5. Primary Roads

Recommendations were made to the County Council concerning the proposal to introduce a country-wide primary road network, with distinguishing signs.

#### 1.6. Walton Spur Road

The Council again sought, but without success, to persuade the Ministry of Transport to abandon the proposed Walton Spur Road which is intended to link the Preston South Bypass (M.6 to Longton Bypass) with Victoria Road, Walton-le-Dale.



## 2. Private Street Works

### 2.1. Schemes were prepared for 3 streets:—

Service Road off Hoghton Lane (Nos. 207 to 221);  
Access Road to St. Mary's R.C. Secondary School;  
Bridge Street (part of), Bamber Bridge.

### 2.2. Works were completed in 4 streets:—

Passage off Collins Road; (Nos. 1 to 31);  
Service Road off Hoghton Lane; (Nos. 207 to 221);  
Emily Street, Lostock Hall;  
Wesley Street.

2.3. Objections to the proposal to make up the access road to St. Mary's R.C. Secondary School were heard by the Magistrates, who varied the degree of benefit apportionment.

2.4. Builders completed roadworks in 13 streets under Agreement, and the streets were adopted as "highways maintainable at public expense":—

Doodstone Nook Lane (part)	Access road rear of 115 to 119,
Linden Drive (part)	Duddle Lane
Mercer Road (part)	Co-operative Street (part)
Selkirk Avenue (part)	Duke Street (part)
Grenville Avenue (part)	Passage connecting Duke Street
Lawrence Avenue	and Co-operative Street
Wellington Place	Old Hall Drive
	Rhodesway (part)

## 3. Street Lighting

3.1. The rate of development by private builders again increased, and the Council's policy of providing "group B" standard of lighting on new estate roads and private streets was continued.

3.2. During the year 59 new lamps were provided, making a total of 1359 street lamps in the U.D.:—

Sodium	140 watt	—	318
"	80 watt	—	1
Fluorescent	2/20 watt	—	27
Tungsten	500 watt	—	7
"	150 watt	—	470
"	100 watt	—	535
"	60 watt	—	1

3.3. During the year the Electricity Board ceased using 5-core cables, and the Council decided to provide its own sub-services and control cables for street lighting.

## 4. Sewage Disposal

4.1. The new sewage treatment works was virtually completed and the greater part of the plant brought into service, though it was not possible to give full treatment to the whole of the designed dry-weather capacity (2.2 million gallons per day). The Office, Canteen and Laboratory were furnished and equipped.

4.2. The Komline-Sanderson coil-filter sludge drying plant was test run on several occasions.

4.3. Mr. Keith Ormerod, A.M.Inst.S.P., of Horsforth was appointed Manager of the Works and commenced work on Monday, 16th March.

4.4. A trainee chemist/manager and a foreman were appointed.



## 5. Trade Effluent

5.1. As last years memorandum sent to those Industries producing trade effluent met with little response, the Industries were again reminded of the effect of the Public Health Act 1961, and warned of the considerably increased charges which would be levied when the new Treatment Works became fully operative.

5.2. Discussions ensued with several of the Companies involved, concerning agreement on quantity, quality and rate of discharge.

5.3. Reception and treatment of trade effluent presents difficult problems arising from the diversity of the effluents, and the fact that trade effluents are a large proportion of the designed dry weather flow at the Treatment Works.

## 6. Sewers and Surface Water Drainage

### 6.1. Foul Sewers

Laying of extensions in the Gregson Lane area was completed.

The connection of sewers from Chorley R.D.C's pumping station at Clayton Brook was completed.

Both the above schemes enabled septic tanks in the U.D. to be abandoned.

The Cann Bridge sewer syphon (beneath River Darwen) was completely blocked, involving a short period discharge of crude sewage to the river until clearance work was completed.

Due to a delay in providing the new low-level pumps at the Treatment Works, there was a surcharge in the Walton-le-Dale low-level sewer which involved a short period discharge of crude sewage to the River Darwen at Winery Lane.

Urgent investigations of sewers had to be undertaken in connection with drainage of a large area of land at Withy Trees which would shortly be developed for housing.

### 6.2. Flooding and Surface Water Drainage.

6.2.1. There were 10 flays of very heavy rain in December, and on the 8th and 11th December minor flooding occurred, which persisted for several hours, at the following places:—

Bannister Hall Lane (several houses flooded to a depth of 2" and 3")—caused by incomplete state of surface water sewers on the new estate;

Bannister Close and Higher Walton Playing Field — caused by a blockage in the surface water culvert beneath houses in Shop Lane;

Fox Lane, Hoghton — a result of the inadequate capacity of land drains and surface water culverts;

Hob Inn, Bamber Bridge — caused by debris accumulating at the inlet to the culvert which runs under the public house;

Brindle Road, near Pimley Farm — caused by the inadequate capacity of culverts crossing Withy Trees Farm;

Brindle Road/Bradkirk Lane — Bradkirk Lane was flooded to a depth of approximately 4 feet. At the time of writing no explanation has been found.

6.2.2. At many places where minor flooding used to occur, remedial works have been carried out, but it is obvious that considerable research, and possibly costly drainage works will be needed to prevent further flooding at Bradkirk Lane and Fox Lane.

## 7. Council Houses

7.1. Tenders were accepted, approved by the Minister, and work commenced on the erection of 20 one-bedroom Flats at the Holme, together with the associated roadworks and drainage.

7.2. The contract for altering 88 post-war houses in which W.C's had direct access from kitchens, was completed.



7.3. After inviting and receiving a quotation for a block of 4 aged persons Bungalows at Cottage Lane, from the Contractor constructing the adjoining Hostel for the L.C.C., the Council advertised the proposal for tender.

The accepted and approved tender was little more than half the quotation previously received.

7.4. No external maintenance painting was carried out by contract. The accepted Contractor claimed, early in the winter, an error in tendering and was allowed to withdraw his tender.

7.5. A scheme was approved for the construction of a block of 12 lock-up garages on a newly acquired site off Collins Road.

7.6. A scheme was prepared and approved for improvement of 6 pre-war houses in Aspdon Street (including indoor W.C's).

7.7. A scheme was prepared and approved for the improvement of pre-war houses in Collins Road and School Street (including new rear porches and modern-standard electrical installations).

## 8. Housing Improvement Grants

8.1. The Housing Act 1964 introduced changes in Improvement Grants, including a somewhat complex arrangement whereby grant would be payable on **estimated** cost of septic tank drainage, and extensions to provide bathrooms.

8.2. Applications for Standard Grants were approved in 51 cases.

8.3. One application for a Discretionary Grant was approved.

8.4. Application was made and approved by the Minister for Standard Grant on 6 Council houses (7.6 above).

## 9. Private Housing

During the year 368 dwellings were provided by private enterprise and 176 were under construction at the end of December.

## 10. Playing Fields

10.1. On instructions from the Council, a tentative draft plan was prepared shewing the possibilities for ultimate layout of the land at Withy Trees which is designated as "future public Open Space" in the Town Map. This area of over 40 acres, is capable of extensive development and could include Swimming Baths, Sports Hall, Assembly Hall, etc., in addition to field games areas.

10.2. A small area of land was acquired off Collins Road, for future use as a children's playground.

## 11. Plans and Planning

11.1. During the year 1551 applications relating to 690 permanent buildings and 1134 temporary buildings were dealt with under the Council's Byelaws — almost treble last years figures.

11.2. 205 planning applications were received, many relating to extensive building sites, and several relating to industrial sites.

11.3. Consideration was given to "1981" development proposals. This subject became extremely urgent and a draft layout had to be prepared so as to ensure that the siting of a high pressure gas pipeline to East Lancashire from Lostock Hall Gasworks would not prevent development of land through which it would pass. This urgent layout and design work was made possible by using air-survey.



11.4. Consultations were held with the County Council and other local Authorities concerning a proposal to create a large "new town" in Central Mid-Lancashire, centred on Chorley/Leyland. The Minister of Housing and Local Government later announced the Government's intention to designate a New Town in the area.

11.5. At the year end the Council was still awaiting the Minister's decision on the Town Map Review. (The Public Inquiry into objections to the Review Map was held in October 1962).

## 12. Staff

The usual turn-over in technical staff continued. The Deputy Engineer and Surveyor and 2 of the 3 technical assistants resigned.

Three assistants were appointed, one filling a vacancy from the year before, and 2 filling vacancies which arose during the year.

The plans clerk resigned and was replaced.

There is a national shortage of trained engineering assistants and this rapid turn-over of staff can only be reduced by the Council creating "career grades" having promotion bars on qualifications and experience at certain points within the grade.

## 13. Transport

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

<i>Vehicle</i>	<i>Registered</i>	<i>Miles</i>	<i>Petrol (gallons)</i>	<i>M.P.G.</i>
Thames 3-ton truck ..	Nov. 1954	8,929	1,031	8.66
Fordson 3-ton ..	Dec. 1956	10,472	1,013	10.27
Bedford Sweeper ..	June 1957	8,648	1,572	5.51
Karrier Gulley-emptier ..	April 1958	6,887	1,835	3.75
Bedford truck ..	Mar. 1959	11,117	479	23.25
Austin Mini-van ..	Jan. 1961	10,990	287	38.4
Totals: ..	—	57,043	6,217	—

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A.M.I.C.E., M.I.Mun.E., M.Inst.H.E., A.M.I.W.E.,

Engineer and Surveyor.







