

[Report 1965] / Medical Officer of Health, Winsford U.D.C.

Contributors

Winsford (Cheshire, England). Urban District Council.

Publication/Creation

1965

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URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL OF WINSFORD

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ANNUAL REPORT FOR 1965

by the
MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH
and the
CHIEF PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR

Divisional Medical Office,
David Street,
Castle,
NORTHWICH,
Cheshire.



URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL OF WINSFORD

R E P O R T

of the

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

and

CHIEF PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR

for the

YEAR 1965



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MEMBERS OF

THE WINSFORD URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL

1965

CHAIRMAN OF THE COUNCIL

Councillor L. Jackson, J.P.

VICE-CHAIRMAN OF THE COUNCIL

Councillor P. G. Tipple

MEMBERS OF

THE HOUSING AND PUBLIC HEALTH COMMITTEE

| | | |
|------------------------------------|---|---------------|
| Councillor H. Sadler | - | Chairman |
| Councillor G.C.T. Tomlinson | - | Vice-Chairman |
| Councillor W.C. Barron | | |
| Councillor Mrs. M.O. Forgham, J.P. | | |
| Councillor J.N. Wilson, C.C. | | |
| Councillor Mrs. J. Wrench | | |

URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL OF WINSFORD

Telephone No. :
Northwich 4251/2

Hartford Hill,
David Street,
NORTHWICH,
Cheshire.

June, 1966.

To the Chairman and Members of the
Winsford Urban District Council.

Dear Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

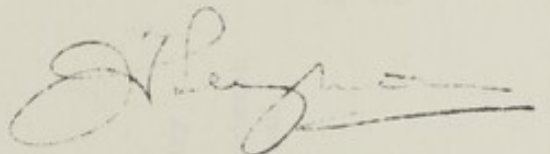
I have the honour to present the Annual Report on the environmental health and sanitary circumstances of the Council's district for the year 1965.

For the information of Members I enclose my Annual Report to the Divisional Health Committee.

I would once again like to express my appreciation to Mr. Rogerson, the Staff of the Public Health Department and the Council's Chief Officers for their co-operation and help during the year.

I have the honour to be

Your obedient Servant,



Medical Officer of Health.

STATE DEPARTMENT REPORT ON

Eastern Hill,
West Hill,
Hillside,
Dunbar.

Division 10,
Washington State

1907

To the Chairman and Members of the
National Health Commission

Dear Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have the honor to present the annual report on the work done
in the health and sanitary administration of the District of Columbia for the year
1907.

The report is divided into two parts, the first of which contains
the general health statistics.

I wish to call attention to the fact that the health and sanitary
conditions of the District of Columbia are in a very satisfactory
state, and that the health and sanitary administration has been
conducted in a very efficient manner.

I have the honor to be

Very Respectfully,
Your obedient servant,



District Health Officer of Health

ORGANISATION OF THE DEPARTMENT

CHIEF PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR

and

ESTATES OFFICER:

T.H. ROGERSON, M.R.S.H., M.A.P.H.I.

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

F. SEYMOUR, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.

Deputy C.P.H.I.:

F. Lamb, M.R.S.H.

Secretary

&

Typist to Department

Mrs. K. Redhead

Asst. P.H.I.:

N.T. Taylor

Asst. P.H.I.:

R.D. Clarke

Pest Control Officer:

E. Adams

Authorised Meat Inspector:

B. Porter

Trainee Meat Inspectors - Full Time

J.C. Long

F. Breeze

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SECTION I

GENERAL AND VITAL STATISTICS

(1) COMPARATIVE GENERAL STATISTICS - 1964/65

| | Year | |
|--|------------------|------------------|
| | 1964 | 1965 |
| Population (estimated mid-Year) | 14,120 | 16,180 |
| Area (Acres of District) | 7,094 | 7,094 |
| Rateable Value | £420,607 | £483,939 |
| Product of Penny Rate (Estimated) | £1,660 (1964/65) | £1,930 (1965/66) |
| Estimated number of inhabited dwellings. | 4,688 (31.12.64) | 5,000 (31.12.65) |

(2) VITAL STATISTICS

| <u>Live Births</u> | <u>Males</u> | <u>Females</u> | <u>Total</u> |
|--------------------|--------------|----------------|--------------|
| Legitimate | 178 | 169 | 347 |
| Illegitimate | 5 | 10 | 15 |
| | <u>183</u> | <u>179</u> | <u>362</u> |

Crude Birth Rate per 1000 population 22.4
 +Corrected Live Birth Rate per 1000 population
 (Comparability Factor not available)

Illegitimate Live Births per cent of total births 4.1

| | <u>Males</u> | <u>Females</u> | <u>Total</u> |
|------------------------------|--------------|----------------|--------------|
| <u>Still Births</u> | 3 | 4 | 7 |
| <u>Live and Still Births</u> | 186 | 183 | 369 |

Stillbirth Rate per 1000 total live and still births 19.0

| <u>Deaths of Infants under 1 year of age</u> | <u>Males</u> | <u>Females</u> | <u>Total</u> |
|--|--------------|----------------|--------------|
| Legitimate | 2 | 3 | 5 |

+ see Page 2.

Infant Mortality Rates

| | | | |
|--|-----|-----|------|
| Infant Mortality Rate per 1000 total live births | ... | ... | 13.8 |
| Neo-natal Mortality Rate (deaths under four weeks) per 1000 total live births | ... | ... | 11.0 |
| Early Neo-natal Mortality Rate (deaths under one week) per 1000 total live births | ... | ... | 8.3 |
| Perinatal Mortality Rate (stillbirths and deaths under one week combined per 1000 total live and still births) | ... | ... | 27.1 |
| Maternal Mortality (including abortion) | ... | ... | Nil |

| <u>Deaths</u> | <u>Males</u> | <u>Females</u> | <u>Total</u> |
|--------------------------------|--------------|----------------|--------------|
| All Causes | 85 | 56 | 141 |
| Death Rate per 1000 population | ... | ... | 8.7 |

+Corrected Death Rate per 1000 population
(Comparability Factor not available)

+NOTE: The corrected birth and death rates are those which are obtained when the crude local rates are adjusted to make allowance for the way in which the sex and age distribution of the local population differs from that for England and Wales. The corrected rates are comparable with the crude rates for England and Wales, and the corresponding adjusted rates for any other area.

Causes of Death

As will be seen from the following table the two principal causes of death were diseases of the heart and circulation which caused approximately 43% of the deaths, and cancer which caused approximately 18%

| | <u>Males</u> | <u>Females</u> | <u>Total</u> |
|--|--------------|----------------|--------------|
| 1. Malignant neoplasm, stomach | 2 | 5 | 7 |
| 2. Malignant neoplasm, lung, bronchus | 6 | 1 | 7 |
| 3. Malignant neoplasm, uterus | - | 1 | 1 |
| 4. Other malignant and lymphatic neoplasms | 6 | 3 | 9 |
| 5. Leukemia, aleukaemia | 1 | - | 1 |
| 6. Diabetes | 2 | 1 | 3 |
| 7. Vascular lesions of nervous system | 9 | 3 | 12 |
| 8. Coronary disease, angina | 13 | 9 | 22 |
| 9. Hypertension with heart disease | 3 | 2 | 5 |
| 10. Other heart disease | 11 | 6 | 17 |
| 11. Other circulatory disease | 1 | 3 | 4 |
| 12. Pneumonia | 5 | 1 | 6 |
| 13. Bronchitis | 9 | 4 | 13 |
| 14. Other diseases of respiratory system | 2 | 1 | 3 |
| 15. Ulcer of stomach and duodenum | - | 1 | 1 |
| 16. Gastritis, enteritis and diarrhoea | 1 | - | 1 |
| 17. Congenital malformations | - | 2 | 2 |
| 18. Other defined and ill-defined diseases | 8 | 10 | 18 |
| 19. Motor vehicle accidents | 4 | 1 | 5 |
| 20. All other accidents | 2 | 2 | 4 |
| | <hr/> 85 | <hr/> 56 | <hr/> 141 |

SECTION II

HEALTH SERVICES

(1) Information concerning the statutory and voluntary Health and Welfare Services in the area are given in the Appendix of the Divisional Medical Officers Report which is enclosed, and further details may be obtained from him at the Divisional Medical Office, David Street, Northwich. Telephone number - Northwich 4251.

(2) HOSPITAL FACILITIES

The Winsford Urban District lies within the area of the Manchester Regional Hospital Board, whose offices are at Cheetwood Road, Manchester, 8. Telephone number - Deansgate 6441.

(3) LABORATORY FACILITIES

Specimens and samples taken by the Health Department are submitted for examination to the Chester Public Health Laboratory.

(4) AMBULANCE SERVICE

The ambulance service is provided by the County Council and is under radio control from Central Control at County Hall, Chester. All 999 calls made by members of the public are immediately connected to this central control. The arrangement for non-urgent calls is that the patient or general practitioner should ring the Northwich Depot - Telephone number: Northwich 3355.

SECTION III

NATIONAL ASSISTANCE ACTS, 1948-1951

Section 47

Under this Section when persons (a) are suffering from grave chronic disease or, being aged, infirm or physically incapacitated, are living in insanitary conditions, and (b) are unable to devote to themselves, and are not receiving from other persons, proper care and attention, the local authority may apply to a Court of Summary Jurisdiction for an Order to remove the person to a suitable place.

With regard to the expeditious procedure as laid down in the National Assistance (Amendment) Act, 1951, the Medical Officer of Health or any duly qualified person acting for the Medical Officer of Health is authorised by the Council to make the requisite application to a Justice of the Peace.

Section 50

Under this Section the District Council has the duty to arrange for the burial of any person who has died in their area, if no suitable arrangements for the disposal of the body are being made.

It was not necessary to take any action under either of these Sections during the year.

SECTION IV

PREVALENCE AND CONTROL OF INFECTIOUS DISEASES

(1) NOTIFICATIONS OF INFECTIOUS DISEASE

The following are the infectious diseases notified for the year 1964 and 1965:

| DISEASE | Cases Notified | |
|----------------------------|----------------|------|
| | 1964 | 1965 |
| Encephalitis | 1 | - |
| Measles | 165 | 59 |
| Pneumonia | 4 | - |
| Scarlet Fever | 6 | 1 |
| Non Pulmonary Tuberculosis | - | 1 |
| Food Poisoning | - | 6 |

FOOD POISONING

The six cases of food poisoning arose from two family outbreaks. They were, however, fully investigated and no cause for the symptoms was found, and it may well be that they were of viral origin.

SECTION V

TOWN DEVELOPMENT

Industrial development has continued apace during the year with a further five buildings being completed bringing the number on the estate to nineteen. Work commenced on another three factories, including an animal foodstuffs mill, a foundry and a copper tube mill, the largest of its kind in Europe. Employment on the estate now totals 1,380, and of these 711 are local people. Other industrial development took place in New Road, and off Wharton Road a Depot for steam boilers was erected.

The Crook Lane Housing Estate is now being developed for some 700 houses. On here the County is erecting a primary school and an infants' school. A clinic Centre is also being built, and a site alongside is being reserved in case it should be required in the future for a Group Practice Surgery. These buildings form a link with other community facilities which are to be provided in this immediate area, such as the Community Centre, Branch Library, shops, and Old Persons Supervised Flats.

The first shop was opened in the new town centre area at the close of the year, and others are programmed during the coming months. The next five years will see the appearance of much needed public buildings, such as a Central Library, a large Health Centre, Youth Club and Assembly Hall.

WORKING PARTY ON SOCIAL AMENITIES

The Working Party on Social Amenities formed and chaired by the Estates Officer on behalf of the Director of Town Development to study the present future requirements for social amenities in the town, met on numerous occasions during the year.

Where necessary the officials of statutory and voluntary bodies have been fully consulted, and the opinions of interested individuals sought.

Subjects which have, or are still being studied by the Working Party, are as follows:-

1. Accommodation and Social Welfare facilities for old people.
2. Facilities for Youth
3. Community Centres
4. Library Services
5. Health Services
6. Outdoor Recreational Facilities
7. Family Recreational Centre
8. Burial Grounds
9. Sites for Churches and Church Halls

Other subjects which have yet to be studied, include Neighbourhood Shopping, Commercial Recreational Enterprises, Public Houses and Hotels, Public Conveniences, and various County Services, but consideration of the layout of Outdoor Recreational Facilities such as playing fields and amenity areas has been deferred until the Consultants have issued the Master Plan for the town.

A progress report of the Working Party has been prepared, the recommendations contained are based on the statutory town map for the period up to 1971, when the population is expected to reach 32,000. Thereafter it has been assumed that the population will rise to 60,000.

SECTION VI

SANITARY INSPECTIONS OF THE AREA

Statement of Inspections made and Notices issued

| Nature of Inspections made | | Number of Notices Served | | Results of Service of Notices | |
|--|-------|--------------------------|----------|-------------------------------|-------------------|
| | | Statutory | Informal | Notices complied with | Remaining in hand |
| 1. Dwelling-houses (General) | 479 | 22 | 33 | 39 | 16 |
| 2. Overcrowding | 3 | - | - | - | - |
| 3. Tents, sheds, caravans | 26 | - | 4 | 4 | - |
| 4. Septic tanks, Pails, W.C.s | 37 | - | 2 | 2 | - |
| 5. House Drainage | 91 | - | 4 | 4 | - |
| 6. Ditches, Water Courses, etc. | 22 | - | 1 | 1 | - |
| 7. Offensive accumulations | 17 | - | 9 | 8 | 1 |
| 8. Keeping of animals | 6 | - | - | - | - |
| 9. Offensive trades | 3 | - | 1 | 1 | - |
| 10. Slaughterhouses (Private) | 2,086 | - | 3 | 3 | - |
| 11. Premises where food is handled, produced, sold or consumed | 133 | - | 27 | 25 | 2 |
| 12. Dairies | 14 | - | - | - | - |
| 13. Factories and other premises under the Act | 206 | 2 | 22 | 21 | 1 |
| 14. Refuse bins | 4 | - | 1 | 1 | - |
| 15. Places of amusement | 14 | - | 2 | 1 | 1 |
| 16. Filthy or verminous premises | 76 | - | 9 | 8 | 1 |
| 17. Water supply | 8 | - | 3 | 2 | 1 |
| 18. Miscellaneous | 306 | - | 1 | 1 | - |
| 19. Infectious Diseases | 16 | - | - | - | - |
| 20. Interviews | 298 | - | - | - | - |
| 21. <u>Sampling:</u> | | | | | |
| Water | 9 | - | 9 | 9 | - |
| Ice-cream | 13 | - | 13 | 13 | - |
| Other Foods | 54 | - | 54 | 54 | - |
| 22. Hairdressers and Barbers | 22 | - | - | - | - |
| 23. Atmospheric Pollution | 173 | - | 15 | 15 | - |
| 24. Markets | 17 | - | - | - | - |
| 25. Disinfection (Rodent and Insect) | 1,098 | - | 1 | 1 | - |
| 26. Noise Abatement | - | - | - | - | - |
| 27. Offices, Shops and Railway Premises | 28 | - | 5 | 5 | - |

WATER SUPPLY

The mains supply is provided by the Mid and South East Cheshire Water Board from bore holes in the Delamere area. This is fed to the storage reservoir at Whitby's Lane, Over.

This water is satisfactory in quality but the quantity has been supplemented to meet the requirements of the Town Development which is now being undertaken. A new 15" main has been brought into the town joining the existing 12" main in Middlewich Road.

The water supplied to the district does not have a plumbo-solvent action.

Only one farm and one cottage occupied by seven persons and situated at Petty Pool, Whitegate, are without a mains supply. These premises are situated a considerable distance from a water main and the supply is taken by gravity from a shallow well. The bacteriological condition of this well water varies considerably, sometimes showing evidence of faecal coli. The occupiers have, therefore, been advised to boil the water before use.

All other dwelling houses numbering 5,159 and occupied by 16,600 persons, are supplied from the public water mains direct to internal taps within the houses. There are no dwelling houses supplied by means of stand-pipes.

Fourteen samples of mains supply were taken by the Department for bacteriological examination. In addition 27 similar samples were taken by the Water Board. Of these 2 were unsatisfactory and 1 suspicious. However on re-sampling all were satisfactory.

SWIMMING BATHS

Before the baths opened for the 1965 season a number of improvements were carried out at the Verdin Open Air Brine Swimming Pool including foot baths containing a disinfectant to help prevent the spread of Foot Infections and also a system of clothes storage. In the improvements non-bathers were separated from bathers, the bathers having to pass through the foot baths after changing.

The baths attendance for the 1965 season was 25,708 compared with 30,300 the previous year.

Eighteen samples of swimming bath water were submitted to the Public Health Laboratory for bacteriological examination. All were satisfactory.

The Baths Attendant carries out routine colorimetric tests to check the chlorine content of the water and takes samples from three points three times per day. The colorimetric results are checked from time to time by the Public Health Department staff using a different method of analysis. Again results proved satisfactory.

REFUSE COLLECTION AND DISPOSAL

The Council has purchased two new large capacity "continuous loading refuse compressing" collection vehicles and has introduced a weekly cycle of refuse collection throughout the district replacing the fortnightly cycle collection which was previously operated.

Refuse disposal is still being carried out on the site of the old Wharton filter beds but it is anticipated that the disposal will be transferred to the new site near to the Wades Lane Sewage Disposal Works in the near future. A large column of soil has been tipped at the Wharton site. This is used for covering the refuse as tipping continues and will later be used in the final covering and levelling of the whole site.

SEWERAGE AND SEWAGE DISPOSAL

The new main sewage disposal works at Wades Lane was officially opened in October, but had in fact been functioning for the full twelve months period. Very satisfactory results have been obtained on analysis of the effluent and generally the standard of purification has been good. The sewage received has, however, given rise to greater volumes of sludge than was anticipated, particularly after heavy rain storms have had a flushing effect on the sewers and some difficulty has been experienced in drying and disposing of the sludge. It was, therefore, necessary to resort to chemical dosing to overcome this problem.

The three small sewage disposal works at Meadow Bank, Clive and Whitegate have continued in use and new sludge beds have been built at the Whitegate works. A revision of the maintenance routine has resulted in some improvement of the effluent quality at all these works, the Clive works having also been relieved by the diversion of the Middlewich Road Sewer to the Hill Street pumping station via the Industrial Estate sewer.

Night soil collection is done where necessary by an attachment on the motor gully/cesspool emptier and the same machine is used to provide a service for the emptying of private septic tanks within the district.

SANITARY ACCOMMODATION

There are still properties in the area with pail or privy closets; these are properties which are unable either by reason of distance or levels to gain access to the Council's sewerage system. It is hoped that in the future efforts to arrange either connections to the sewerage system or connections to septic tanks can be arranged in order that all properties in the area may have a W.C.

PUBLIC CONVENIENCES

A block of modern public conveniences has been built adjacent to the new shopping centre and Saturday Market which has been moved from the old site off New Road.

The existing older public conveniences throughout the town have been maintained although damage by vandalism and misuse makes this task increasingly difficult.

INSECT CONTROL

Once again most of this work has been concerned with the eradication of insect pests in domestic premises and a total of 87 treatments were given for the following types of infestation.

| ANTS | MITES | FLEAS | BED-BUGS | BEETLES | OTHERS | TOTAL |
|------|-------|-------|----------|---------|--------|-------|
| 42 | 7 | 7 | 7 | 6 | 18 | 87 |

In addition the Council operates a contract service for insect control and to date hold four contracts with food-handling premises in the area

RODENT CONTROL

Twenty-six contracts are held with industrial and business premises for the control of rats and mice. The contracts provide for monthly inspection of the premises with treatment as required.

As has been reported in previous years adequate control of rodent and insect infestation of refuse tips can only be achieved by the standard methods of controlled tipping, and until such methods are used control over these pests will not be complete.

Periodic inspections of refuse tips and other reservoirs of rodents are made by Inspectors of the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food to ascertain the rodent situation within the area.

During the year 234 treatments were made covering rats, mice and moles.

LICENSED CARAVAN SITES

There are four licensed caravan sites in the district, details of which are as follows.

| Site | Area (acres) | No. of Caravans | |
|-----------------------------|-----------------|-----------------|--------------|
| | | Residential | Recreational |
| 1. "Ideal" Caravan Site | 2.73 | 26 | 29 |
| 2. Stock Hill | 3.00 | NIL | 45 |
| 3. Newbridge, Meadow Bank | 0.59 | 3 | 10 |
| 4. Stock Hill, Bottom Flash | 3.0 | NIL | 40 |

An application for a site licence for the Dock House Caravan Site was considered by the Plans Committee on the 21st April, 1964, and it was resolved that a site licence be granted for nine caravans. The licence, however, was not issued, as a Discontinuance Order was the subject of an appeal which was heard before a Ministry Inspector at the Council Offices, Over Hall, Winsford, on the 13th October, 1965. The result of this appeal is now awaited.

Work is proceeding on the latest licensed caravan site at Bottom Flash, and at the present rate of progress should be completed within the time allowed by the licence conditions.

RECREATION GROUNDS

The existing recreation grounds at Over and Wharton are being maintained with bowling greens, tennis courts, children's play equipment and other facilities. The Council is considering a scheme for the improvement of the facilities at both these recreation grounds.

The Council's Working Party on Social Amenities has reported that there is already a deficiency in existing public open space for sport and recreation, and that an additional 117 acres will be required by 1971 when the population is expected to reach 32,000. A comprehensive Family Recreational Centre is being considered for the Town Centre area on a site of 15½ acres. It is also felt that consideration should be given to developing the Barton Stadium, the Wharton Recreation Ground, the Open Air Brine Baths and intervening land to the Flash into a comprehensive sport and recreation area. On the opposite side of the Flash the old Sewerage Works site could be reclaimed and redeveloped with the south bank of the river, and this could connect by a green finger up to the proposed Family Recreational Centre. In addition to these proposals adequate laid out sports grounds will also be required if the national standard is to be obtained.

REGISTRATION OF HAIRDRESSERS AND BARBERS

All persons carrying on the trade of Hairdresser and Barber are required to register themselves and their premises with the Council under the provisions of Section 148 of the Cheshire County Council Act, 1953.

- 4 - Gentlemen's Hairdressers, and
- 17 - Ladies' Hairdressers are registered.

All the premises are inspected as a matter of routine. During these inspections, minor contraventions have been found and brought to the attention of the Management.

CANAL BOATS

No canal boats are now registered with the Council.

COMMON LODGING HOUSES

There are no common lodging houses in the district.

KNACKER'S YARDS

There are no knacker's yards in the district.

OFFENSIVE TRADES

The C.W.S. Bacon Factory is registered under Section 107 of the Public Health Act, 1936, to undertake gut scraping, blood drying and bone boiling.

At times the plant has emitted offensive odours, and this has been found to be mainly due to lack of effective condensation of the gases. To correct this the firm has ordered a new condenser for the plant.

SCRAP METAL DEALERS ACT, 1964

The above Act came into force on the 1st April, 1965. From that date all the principal provisions of the existing law relating to old metal dealers and marine store dealers were repealed and replaced by new statutory provisions for the registration and control of scrap metal dealers.

From 1st July, 1965, no person may carry on business as a scrap metal dealer in the area of a local authority unless the appropriate particulars have been registered by that authority.

Registration will be effective for a period of three years, at the end of which it will be cancelled unless the dealer has in the meantime applied for its renewal. There is no discretion to refuse registration.

There are 4 persons registered as scrap metal dealers.

PET ANIMALS ACT, 1951

This Act governs premises where pet animals are sold and requires the owners of the pet shop to be licensed. Suitable accommodation and care must be provided for the animals in accordance with the Act.

One premise is licensed under this Act.

NOISE ABATEMENT ACT, 1960 AND CHESHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL ACT, 1953.

No complaints of noise were received during the year.

SECTION VII

HOUSING ACT, 1957

SLUM CLEARANCE

The second slum clearance programme of 59 houses is now virtually completed, and the remaining empty houses in Clough Row and Charles Street will shortly be cleared.

During the year six houses were demolished and a further two dwellings were closed.

Difficulty is experienced in getting some demolition contractors to complete the work, with the result that partly demolished and derelict buildings remain an eyesore in the town for far too long. One answer to this problem would be for the Council to undertake all demolition work, as allowed under the provisions of Demolition Orders and then to charge the owners with the cost. Unfortunately this would be likely to prove more costly to the property owner, and in some cases would mean recovering costs over a lengthy period.

The following table illustrates the activities of the Council in slum clearance during the post-war years:-

| YEAR | Number of Houses Demolished |
|-----------|-----------------------------|
| 1945-1954 | 27 |
| 1955 | 19 |
| 1956 | 24 |
| 1957 | 22 |
| 1958 | 13 |
| 1959 | 6 |
| 1960 | 9 |
| 1961 | 16 |
| 1962 | 6 |
| 1963 | 62 |
| 1964 | 17 |
| 1965 | 6 |
| TOTAL | 227 |

IMPROVEMENT OF HOUSES (HOUSING ACT, 1964)

Survey work has continued throughout the year and the area containing Geneva Road, Well Street, John Street and Dean Street is now practically completed. There are about 200 domestic premises in this area and this could form the first Improvement Area in the district. Where houses in these areas have to be demolished the sites should be purchased by the Council for improving the existing environment by tree and shrub planting and tree furniture schemes.

As a matter of principle the Council decided that all Improvement Areas would also be designated Smoke Control Areas. This is essential if the existing environment of these areas is to be improved.

Twenty-two Improvement Grants were approved during the year; of these eight were Discretionary Grants and fourteen were Standard Grants. The total number of grants approved since the inception of the scheme under the Housing Act, 1949, is 273.

HOUSING

Seven bungalows are being erected in Oak Avenue and these are due to be completed during 1966.

Private housing development has continued in the year on quite a large scale. During 1965 seventy-one new private dwellings have been completed, of which twelve are on land made available by this Council as individual building plots.

OVERCROWDING

| | No. of dwellings | No. of families | No. of persons |
|---|------------------|-----------------|----------------|
| (a) The number of dwellings overcrowded at the end of the year, together with the number of families and the number of persons dwelling therein. | 2 | 2 | 10 |
| (b) The number of new cases of overcrowding reported during 1965. | 2 | 2 | 10 |
| (c) The number of cases of overcrowding relieved and the number of persons concerned in 1965. | 2 | 4 | 13 |
| (d) Particulars of any cases in which dwelling-houses in respect of which L.A. have taken steps for the abatement of overcrowding have again become overcrowded. | Nil | Nil | Nil |
| (e) Any other particulars with respect to conditions in relation to overcrowding upon which the M.O.H. may consider desirable to report or which the Minister may from time to time require | Nil | Nil | Nil |

COUNCIL HOUSING

At the 31st December, 1965 the Council owned 2,089 dwellings; 313 dwellings had been completed on the Grange Estate making a total of 973 new dwellings built under the Town Development Scheme. Two housing contracts were completed during the year and only 72 dwellings in the final contract remained to be completed. Work had started on the Crook Lane Estate; this will provide a further 692 dwellings and will be the major source of Council dwellings in 1966.

A rationalised traditional form of construction is being used and all dwellings will have the "gas warmed air" method of heating. Seven aged persons bungalows were started on the Dene Estate.

Of the new dwellings handed over in 1965, 302 were let to families who moved into the town in connection with the Town Development Scheme, and 11 to local people.

In addition 161 vacancies occurred in existing houses making a total of 474 dwellings available for letting.

The allocation of these tenancies can be analysed as follows:-

| | | | |
|-----------------------------|-----|-----|-----|
| Local Domestic cases | ... | ... | 35 |
| Slum Clearance | ... | ... | 22 |
| Central Re-Development Area | .. | ... | 7 |
| Manchester Overspill | ... | ... | 132 |
| Liverpool Overspill | ... | ... | 213 |
| Industrial Nominations | ... | ... | 65 |
| | | | 474 |

TRANSFERS AND EXCHANGES

Thirty-nine tenants were transferred to alternative accommodation more suitable to their requirements, and twenty-four mutual exchanges of tenancy were authorised.

HOUSING WAITING LIST

In December, 1965, the position was as follows:-

| | | |
|---|-----|-----|
| Applicants without separate accommodation (Lodgers) | ... | 49 |
| Applicants with separate accommodation (Tenants, Owner/Occupiers) | ... | 53 |
| Applicants living outside the Council's district | ... | 56 |
| | | 158 |

Thirty-two of the above applicants are over 60 years of age.
Seventy-one new applications were received during the year.

RENT ACT, 1957

No applications for Certificates of Disrepair have been received since 1960. Since the introduction of the Act, only 16 applications have been made for certificates, 14 of these occurring in 1958.

| Ward | No. of properties | No. of applications received | No. of certificates issued | Remarks |
|------|-------------------|------------------------------|----------------------------|---|
| | | | | (i) Applications for certificates... |
| | | | | (ii) Applications for certificates... |
| | | | | (iii) Applications for certificates... |
| | | | | (iv) Applications for certificates... |
| | | | | (v) Applications for certificates... |
| | | | | (vi) Applications for certificates... |
| | | | | (vii) Applications for certificates... |
| | | | | (viii) Applications for certificates... |
| | | | | (ix) Applications for certificates... |
| | | | | (x) Applications for certificates... |

S E C T I O N VIII

FACTORIES

There are 104 registered factories in the area engaged in the industries detailed below:-

| | | | | |
|---------------------------------------|-----|-----|-----|------------|
| Auto-Engineering | ... | ... | ... | 15 |
| Bakeries | ... | ... | ... | 9 |
| Builders | ... | ... | ... | 6 |
| Clothing | ... | ... | ... | 11 |
| Electro-plating | ... | ... | ... | 1 |
| Engineering | ... | ... | ... | 7 |
| Electrical Engineering | ... | ... | ... | 3 |
| Foundries | ... | ... | ... | 2 |
| Corn Mills | ... | ... | ... | 1 |
| Additives to Animal Feeding Stuffs | ... | ... | ... | 1 |
| Plastic Coating | ... | ... | ... | 1 |
| Pottery | ... | ... | ... | 1 |
| Printing | ... | ... | ... | 1 |
| Slaughterhouses | ... | ... | ... | 5 |
| Salt Works | ... | ... | ... | 3 |
| Tent Makers | ... | ... | ... | 1 |
| Dairies | ... | ... | ... | 1 |
| Leather Goods and Components | ... | ... | ... | 1 |
| Miscellaneous | ... | ... | ... | 18 |
| Works of Engineering Construction | ... | ... | ... | 17 |
| | | | | <u>105</u> |

Fifteen persons are employed as outworkers; fourteen work for clothing manufacturers and one for a manufacturer of umbrellas.

FACTORIES INSPECTION

(1) Inspections for purposes of provisions as to health.

| Premises | No. on Register | No. of Inspections | No. of | |
|--|-----------------|--------------------|-----------------|----------------------|
| | | | Written Notices | Occupiers Prosecuted |
| (i) Factories in which Sections 1,2,3, 4 and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authority | 9 | 60 | 6 | - |
| (ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority | 79 | 123 | 12 | 1 |
| (iii) Other premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority | 17 | 23 | 6 | - |
| Totals | 105 | 206 | 24 | 1 |

(2) Cases in which defects were found:-

| Particulars | Number of cases in which defects were found | | | | Number of cases in which prosecutions were instituted |
|--|---|----------|----------------------------|-------------------|---|
| | Found | Remedied | Referred To H.M. Inspector | By H.M. Inspector | |
| Want of cleanliness (S.1) | - | - | - | - | - |
| Overcrowding (S.2) | - | - | - | - | - |
| Unreasonable temp. (S.3) | - | - | - | - | - |
| Inadequate ventilation (S.4) | - | - | - | - | - |
| Ineffective drainage of floors (S.6) | - | - | - | - | - |
| Sanitary Conveniences (S.7) | | | | | |
| (a) Insufficient | 2* | 1 | - | 2 | - |
| (b) Unsuitable or defective | 4 | 4 | - | 4 | 1 |
| (c) Not separate for sexes | - | - | - | - | - |
| Other offences against the Act (not including offences relating to outworkers) | - | - | - | - | - |
| Totals | 6 | 5 | - | 6 | 1 |

* In this instance contraventions were found but the occupier of the premises stated that the premises were due to close down; in view of this no further action was taken

OFFICES, SHOPS AND RAILWAY PREMISES ACT, 1963

This Act has now been supplemented by various Regulations concerned with the welfare of persons working in premises subject to the Act. The Regulations govern standards for washing accommodation, sanitary facilities, first aid materials and guarding of dangerous machinery.

During the year forms of application relating to Registration of Premises, to which the Act applies, were circulated to the Managers of all establishments likely to be affected. Twenty-five forms were returned and the premises will receive a full inspection in due course.

The following table covers the period 1st January to 31st December, 1965:-

Table A

Registrations and General Inspections

| | No. of premises registered during year | No. of premises registered at end of year | No. of registered premises receiving a general inspection |
|--|--|---|---|
| Offices | 4 | 34 | 3 |
| Retail Shops | 4 | 87 | 25 |
| Wholesale Shops and Warehouses | 1 | 3 | 3 |
| Catering Establishments open to public | - | 14 | 14 |
| Fuel Storage Depots | - | - | - |
| TOTALS | 9 | 138 | 45 |

Table B

Number of visits of all kinds by Inspectors
to Registered Premises 131

Table C

Analysis of persons employed in registered premises
by Workplace

| Class of Workplace | Number of persons employed |
|--|----------------------------|
| Offices | 277 |
| Retail Shops | 279 |
| Wholesale Departments | 102 |
| Catering Establishments open to public | 39 |
| Canteens | 4 |
| Fuel Storage Depots | - |
| TOTAL: | 701 |
| TOTAL MALES | 322 |
| TOTAL FEMALES | 379 |

SECTION IX

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD

FOOD PREMISES

There are 178 food premises in the town, which are classified as follows:-

- 65 General groceries and provisions, including 4 outdoor beer licences.
- 8 Premises with bakehouses and shops selling bread, confectionary and grocery.
- 25 Licensed Premises
- 28 Premises selling sweets
- 7 Fish and Chip Shops
- 7 Greengrocers, including 4 selling wet fish
- 16 Butchers Shops
- 10 Industrial Canteens
- 8 School Canteens
- 4 Cafes

Sixty-seven of the above premises are registered for the sale of ice-cream.

FOOD HYGIENE REGULATIONS, 1960

| Premises | No. of premises | No. Complying with Reg. 16 | No. to which Reg. 19 applies | No. Complying with Reg. 19 |
|-------------------------------|-----------------|----------------------------|------------------------------|----------------------------|
| Licensed Premises | 25 | 25 | 25 | 25 |
| Dairies | 5 | 5 | 3 | 3 |
| Cafés | 5 | 5 | 5 | 5 |
| Canteens | 18 | 18 | 18 | 18 |
| Grocery & General Provisions | 57 | 56 | 57 | 56 |
| Greengrocery (incl. Wet Fish) | 9 | 8 | 9 | 9 |
| Bakehouses | 4 | 4 | 4 | 4 |
| Confectioners | 25 | 24 | 25 | 24 |
| Fish, Chips and Pies | 6 | 6 | 6 | 6 |
| General Stores | 3 | 3 | 3 | 3 |
| Butchers | 15 | 15 | 15 | 15 |

All have been inspected and contraventions and defects noted have been notified to the owners. These contraventions and defects have been remedied or are in hand.

MARKET

The new Market comprises 32 stalls including double and single, and lock-ups with and without services. All food stalls are of the lock up type and are provided with a hot and cold water supply, sink and wash hand basin.

SAMPLING OF COOKED MEATS, etc.

Ninety-two samples of meat, meat products and other foods have been taken during the year. Of these, nine samples proved to be unsatisfactory.

Where unsatisfactory samples have been obtained, investigations are made into the standards and techniques of food handling and storage. A general improvement in the standards of hygiene of food premises has been noted.

Due to pressure of work at the Public Health Laboratory, routine food sampling was curtailed towards the end of the year.

It is considered that this type of sampling and bacteriological examination has been of considerable value in highlighting possible dangers to the public health, and the invaluable co-operation of the Public Health Laboratory Service is greatly appreciated.

ICE-CREAM MANUFACTURE

There is only one factory registered for the manufacture of ice-cream in the area.

Fourteen samples of ice-cream were taken during the year.

The following are the results:-

| | | | | |
|-----------|-----|-----|-----|-----------|
| GRADE I | ... | ... | ... | 7 samples |
| GRADE II | ... | ... | ... | 2 samples |
| GRADE III | ... | ... | ... | 2 samples |
| GRADE IV | ... | ... | ... | 3 samples |

It was found that the unsatisfactory samples which fell into Grade IV had been pasteurised to the correct temperature and frozen, but during the day the temperature had risen to such an extent to warrant re-pasteurisation; this had not been carried out, and thus the samples in each case had been below standard and graded accordingly. Following these results the manufacturing and preservation techniques were kept under constant supervision and rectified where necessary. Samples taken after the above guidance were satisfactory.

MILK SUPPLY

Close liaison exists between this Department and the Public Health Inspectors of the Cheshire County Council, in the control of milk supplies within the area. There are 23 premises registered under the Milk and Dairies Regulations to sell pre-packed milk. One of these premises bottles untreated milk.

The following tables show the results of tests on samples of milk taken by the County Council Inspectors.

Table 1.

| Type of Test | Taken by C.C. | | Taken by U.D.C. | |
|-------------------|---------------|----------|-----------------|----------|
| | Satis. | Unsatis. | Satis. | Unsatis. |
| 1. Methylene Blue | 107 | 5 | - | - |
| 2. Phosphatase | 97 | 1 | - | - |
| 3. Turbidity | 4 | - | - | - |

1. Measures the Keeping quality of the milk.
2. Measures the efficiency of the Pasteurisation process.
3. Measures the efficiency of the Sterilising process.

Table 2.

| | | Taken by C.C. | | Taken by U.D.C. | | Others |
|-------------------|----------|---------------|------|-----------------|------|--------|
| | | Bulk | Ind. | Bulk | Ind. | |
| Brucella | Negative | 16 | - | - | - | - |
| Brucella | Positive | - | - | - | - | - |
| Tubercular | Negative | 19 | - | - | - | - |
| Tubercular | Positive | - | - | - | - | - |
| Penicillin levels | .05iu | 11 | - | - | - | - |
| Penicillin levels | .05iu | - | - | - | - | - |

BRUCELLOSIS

There were at the end of 1965 seven dairy herds in the district at which milk was produced for sale to the public "raw". As will be seen from Table 2 all the samples of raw milk examined were satisfactory.

SLAUGHTER OF ANIMALS ACT, 1958

During the year thirty-one licences to slaughter animals were issued; these licences can be divided into three categories (a) 10 full licences, (b) 14 licences to slaughter pigs only, (c) 7 provisional licences.

The provisional licences are issued for a period of six months only and the holder is not allowed to slaughter or stun any animal unless he is working under the supervision of a person holding a current full licence.

SLAUGHTERHOUSES AND MEAT INSPECTION

There are five licensed slaughterhouses in the area only four of which slaughter regularly. The other slaughterhouse is fully equipped to slaughter animals but has so far not commenced such activities. The meat inspection staff work overtime at the slaughterhouses and it is felt generally that immediately enforceable legislation to control hours of slaughter would be of great benefit to the working and organization of the Public Health Department.

BACTERIOLOGICAL MEAT INSPECTION

Increasing use is being made of the department's small laboratory for elementary bacteriological tests. Where detailed information is required specimens are sent to the Veterinary Investigation Centre at Vine Street, Liverpool.

Contact is also maintained with the University Department of Veterinary Pathology where specimens such as carcinomas may prove useful to them for research and teaching purposes.

It is not always perhaps appreciated that there is much useful material to be found during post-mortem meat inspection in slaughterhouses, which can aid research and teaching in animal diseases and perhaps, in turn in diseases affecting humans.

The department endeavours to co-operate in every way with the Divisional Veterinary Officer including the notification to him of lesions of tuberculosis found in carcasses slaughtered.

It is hoped that in future, the co-operation between the meat inspectors and the field veterinary officers will increase, as much valuable information relating to animal health can be exchanged.

| | Cattle excluding Cows | Cows | Calves | Sheep and Lambs | Pigs |
|--|-----------------------------|--------|--------|-----------------------|---------|
| Number killed | 1,007 | 50 | 18 | 3,413 | 109,990 |
| Number inspected | 1,007 | 50 | 18 | 3,413 | 109,990 |
| <u>ALL DISEASES EXCEPT TUBERCULOSIS AND CYSTICERCI</u> | | | | | |
| Whole carcasses condemned | 7 | 1 | 2 | 8 | 355 |
| Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned | 106 | 8 | 2 | 32 | 12,237 |
| Percentage of the number inspected affected with disease other than tuberculosis and cysticerci | 11.42% | 18.00% | 22.22% | 1.17% | 11.45% |
| <u>TUBERCULOSIS ONLY</u> | | | | | |
| Whole carcasses condemned | - | - | - | - | 1 |
| Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned | - | - | - | - | 630 |
| Percentage of the number inspected affected with Tuberculosis | - | - | - | - | 0.57% |
| <u>CYSTICERCOSIS</u> | | | | | |
| Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned | 3 | - | - | - | - |
| Carcasses submitted to treatment by refrigeration | 3 | - | - | - | - |
| Generalised and totally condemned | - | - | - | - | - |

DISEASES OF ANIMALS ACTS:

The County Police administer this Act. There were 79 notifications of suspected Anthrax: 72 of these concerned pigs which died or were dead on arrival at the C.W.S. Bacon Factory. None of the suspected cases were confirmed by the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food Veterinary Surgeon.

UN SOUND FOODS

Under the Unsound Food Provisions 387lbs. 4ozs. of various food products were found to be unfit for consumption and condemned. In addition 295lbs. 13ozs of food was condemned due to fire damage.

Only one complaint was received from members of the public during the year and referred to a fly contained in a wrapped and sliced loaf.

The loaf was made outside the district and was sold from a local mobile shop.

The representative of the manufacturers could offer no explanation as to how the fly became encrusted in the loaf. The representative stated that frequent treatments with insecticides are made and that there are no insect infestations in the bakery.

Manchester Health Department was contacted and requested to send a report on the premises which was considered to be satisfactory.

The health Committee instructed that a warning letter be sent to the manufacturers responsible.

The County Council Weights and Measures Inspectors took samples of 68 varied articles of food in the Winsford Urban District during 1965. The following sample was not up to standard:-

| <u>Sample</u> | <u>Analysis</u> | <u>Remarks</u> |
|----------------|--|-----------------------------------|
| Chocolate Roll | Not containing any measurable quantity of fat free cocoa solids. | Manufacturers verbally cautioned. |

In addition the County Weights and Measures Inspectors received the following complaints from private purchasers in Winsford:-

| <u>No.</u> | <u>From</u> | <u>Nature</u> | <u>Remarks</u> |
|------------|--------------|---------------------------------------|---------------------------|
| 1. | Housewife | Milk containing pieces of glass. | Prosecuted and fined £10. |
| 2. | Householder. | Packet of crumpets containing earwig. | No action. |

SECTION X

ATMOSPHERIC POLLUTION - SMOKE CONTROL AREAS.

A new Smoke Control Order was made by the Council during the year; this order covers the new town centre area comprising twenty acres of land on which are to be built 14 maisonettes and 165 commercial premises. This Order will come into operation on the 1st July, 1966. The existing Smoke Control Orders which are operative have become more effective because an increasing number of premises have been built in the area covered by these Orders. Supplies of smokeless fuel have been such that little difficulty has been experienced in purchasing the same although on a number of occasions pressure has been placed on manufacturers to increase supplies coming into the town.

The National Coal Board is now marketing two new manufactured briquette type smokeless fuels which have proved during trials to be extremely good and which burn on the conventional open fire. Unfortunately the cost of these new fuels has proved somewhat prohibitive of their general use.

ATMOSPHERIC POLLUTION - MEASUREMENT

The Department's own modified analysis continues to operate satisfactorily but on a number of occasions results have not been obtained because the Deposit Gauges have been disturbed by unauthorised persons.

However, equipment is now available which will record both smoke and sulphur dioxide levels from an enclosed box which can be stored inside a building with the air supply taken from outside. This equipment will record daily levels of smoke and of sulphur dioxide but requires attention only once each week. The cost of this machine is about £120 but the use of such a machine would, without question, give important information with regard to the trends in the atmospheric pollution levels throughout the area.

The following table gives details of progress made in Smoke Control Areas up to the end of the year 1965.

| Locality | No. | Acres | Approx. No. of premises when fully developed | | | Operation of Order |
|---|-----|-------|--|----------------|--------------------------|----------------------|
| | | | Houses | Other Premises | No. occupied at 31.12.65 | |
| Grange Estate (Council) Private Houses | 1 | 112 | 1,045 43 | 8 | 975 | 1st. January, 1961 |
| Nun House Farm Estate Crook Lane | 2 | 33 | 375 | 10 | 91 | 1st. April, 1963 |
| Spring Bank Estate off High Street | 3 | 8 | 82 | - | 51 | 1st. October, 1962 |
| Over Hall Estate | 4 | 225 | 2,320 | 13 | 21 | 1st. September, 1963 |
| Stewart's Estate Swanlow Lane | 5 | 4 | 40 | - | 40 | -do- |
| Westgate Estate off Delamore Street | 6 | 3 | 19 | - | 9 | -do- |
| Crook Lane Estate | 7 | 43 | 750 | 1 | NIL | -do- |
| Town Centre | 8 | 20 | 14 Maisonnettes | 165 | 1 | 1st. July, 1966 |

