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# **PUBLIC HEALTH COMMITTEE**

1966

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## Staff of the Public Health Department

JAMES L. HUNTER, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.	Medical Officer of Health.
R. E. FLETCHER, M.B., Ch.B.	Deputy Medical Officer of Health.
DONALD A. FOGG, M.A.P.H.I., M.R.S.H.	Chief Public Health Inspector.
CHARLES E. PEARSON, M.A.P.H.I.	Additional Public Health Inspector.
BRIAN F. P. McCANN, M.A.P.H.I.	Additional Public Health Inspector (resigned 31st July, 1966).
ALEC OGDEN M.A.P.H.I.	Additional Public Health Inspector (resigned 31st May, 1966).
JOHN J. PATTISON, M.A.P.H.I.	Additional Public Health Inspector (commenced 1st September, 1966).
LESLIE CRELLING, A.R.S.H.	Technical Assistant.
LESLIE SHEPHERD,	Student Public Health Inspector
MRS. M. E. REEVES,	Clerk.
ROBERT ROBINSON	Cleansing Foreman (commenced 13th August, 1966).
LEONARD BLAND	Rodent Operator.

TOWN HALL,  
WORKINGTON.

July, 1967.

*To the Worshipful the Mayor, Aldermen and  
Councillors of the Borough of Workington.*

Your Worship, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I beg to submit for your consideration my Annual Report as your Medical Officer of Health for the year 1966. The report follows the lines laid down by the Minister of Health in the Circular 1/67, which details the various headings under which reports should be prepared by all authorities exercising their functions either as district councils or as health and welfare councils. Although the functions pertaining to each type of authority are precisely enough defined and allocated by statute, environmental well-being and personal health are inextricably associated one with the other. Hence, although this report is fundamentally a statement of work carried out in the environment of the town, certain aspects of personal health and welfare are mentioned.

Over the last fifteen years the most marked change in the background of the people has perhaps been in housing through the disappearance of much frankly slum property—property that was structurally unsound, crowded together, technically unfit, badly or non-maintained and with the barest of amenities—and the gradual expansion of new housing estates. The introduction of diversification in type and layout of Council houses over the last few years has been a welcome and pleasing feature particularly in the concept of sheltered precincts and service facilities. However, many substandard properties remain and the newer legislation directed towards the improvement of houses in groups or areas allows of no let-up in housing inspection and representation.

Although there would appear to be a slight drift of population from West Cumberland generally the Registrar-General's estimate of population for mid- 1966 was 29,980 for the Borough of Workington, which is a figure nearest to 30,000 so far attained.

The vital statistics remained generally satisfactory. The adjusted birth-rate at 17.2 was lower than for 1965 (19.2) but



the natural increase of births over deaths was 141. The death-rate was lower—12.5 in 1966 as compared to 13.2 in 1965. There were no deaths from tuberculosis or other notifiable disease, no maternal death, and no death from motor vehicle accidents. The greatest cause of death was coronary disease including angina (65 cases).

There were twelve deaths of infants under one year of age resulting in a rise in the infantile mortality rate of 23.2 from a figure of 13.9 in 1965. With an increase also in still-births the peri-natal mortality rate rose to 35.9 from 25.6 in 1965. The main causes of death in infants were prematurity and congenital defect. The sole death in children between the ages of one to fifteen was due to accidental drowning.

There was again little epidemic disease during the year, but measles continued to be mildly prevalent, resulting in the notification of over 200 cases. The disease has departed from its usual biennial incidence and the maximum monthly incidence has shifted from spring to summer.

The response to protective inoculation generally remains far from hearty—a little less in respect of poliomyelitis, a little better in respect of diphtheria and smallpox, adding up to the sad reflection that at least a quarter of our parents are completely indifferent to family protection from disease or in helping to build up mass immunity for the protection of all. It is still sadder to know that the improvement in the overall figure in diphtheria immunisation results from active work in school to which parents contribute only a signed piece of paper. There is little objection to the procedures but a "get-it-done-later" attitude when it involves taking the infant to a family doctor's surgery or to a clinic.

A large number of houses were inspected during the year and by December 61 houses in the Church Street area had been or were about to be represented. The external survey of the housing state of the town mentioned in the 1965 report was continued in greater depth in order to prepare the way for more finite and detailed work in the preparation of improvement areas. Some 250 houses in the Clay Street area were decided upon as a first Improvement Area in the town.

The Council built 84 new houses during the year and 45 were completed by private builders.

There were no changes in methods of collection and disposal of refuse during the year but the service was well maintained. Preparations were, however, in hand, to obtain and fit trailers to collect waste paper separately and thus increase baling. A bonus scheme for the operatives was also under discussion in respect of the salvage of paper.

There were two changes in the public health inspectorate during the year with some interruption of the work. Mr. J. J. Pattison, formerly surveyor and public health inspector of Cockermouth, and Mr. R. Taylor, from Lincolnshire, were appointed additional public health inspectors, the latter to take up duty in 1967. It is a pleasure to commend the high standard of work done by the public health inspectors during the year and the good results obtained by the pupil inspectors on courses of instruction. I wish also to thank the Chairman (Mrs. A. B. Thomas) and Members of the Public Health Committee for their continued support during the year, and my colleagues in public health and general practice who have given me information and help during the year.

It is with regret that I record the death during the year of this Report of Councillor D. Vickers who had been a very well liked and respected Chairman of the Committee since May, 1964.

I am,

Mr. Mayor, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

J. L. HUNTER.

*Medical Officer of Health.*



## STATISTICS

### 1. General

(a) The level of employment in the area remains much as reported last year, i.e., lower than the level for the country as a whole. In terms of persons unemployed at a date in December, 1965 there were 381 men, 300 women and 60 boys and girls. The figures for a similar date in December, 1966 were respectively 470 men, 301 women and 85 boys and girls. In addition 325 men were on short-time work. Also at this date in December, 1966 the unemployment figure in the area covered by the local exchange was approximately three times higher than the national average of 2.4%.

At the time of writing the new paper mill was employing some hundreds of men in a new industry and preparations for the introduction of a further two factories in or near the town were in progress.

#### (b) Town Statistics.

Area in acres .....	5,644
Population (Registrar-General's Estimate of Residents—mid-year, 1966) ...	29,980
Rateable Value .....	£1,106,294
Sum represented by a Penny Rate ...	£4,650

#### (c) Total number of domestic premises ... 9,414

Approximately one-third of the dwelling houses of the town are council owned—a total of 3,085. This figure includes 60 flats, 21 bungalows and, for the first time, 24 partially independency flatlets.

### 2. Vital Statistics

#### Births

##### *Live Births.*

Number: 517.

	<i>Males.</i>	<i>Females.</i>	<i>Total.</i>
Legitimate Births ...	263	217	480
Illegitimate Births	17	20	37
	<hr/> 280	<hr/> 237	<hr/> 517

Rate per 1,000 population .....	17.2
Adjusted Rate .....	17.2
Illegitimate Live Births (per cent. of total live births) ...	5.2

*Still Births.*

Number: 12.

	<i>Males.</i>	<i>Females.</i>	<i>Total.</i>
Legitimate Stillbirths	6	1	7
Illegitimate Stillbirths	4	1	5
	—	—	—
	10	2	12
	—	—	—

Rate per 1,000 live and still births 22.7

*Infant Deaths.*

Number: 12 (all legitimate).

*Infantile Mortality Rates.*

Total infant deaths per 1,000 total live births .....	23.2
Legitimate infant deaths per 1,000 legitimate live births .....	25.0
Illegitimate infant deaths per 1,000 illegitimate live births .....	Nil
Neo-natal Mortality Rate (deaths under four weeks per 1,000 total live births) .....	19.3
Early neo-natal Mortality Rate (deaths under one week per 1,000 total live births) .....	13.5
Peri-natal Mortality Rate (still-births and deaths under one week combined per 1,000 live and still-births)	35.8
Maternal Mortality (including abortion)	Nil

**Deaths.**

	<i>Males.</i>	<i>Females.</i>	<i>Total.</i>
Death (all ages) .....	176	160	336
Death Rate per 1,000 population	11.2		
Adjusted Rate .....	12.5		
Deaths from certain causes:			
Notifiable diseases .....	Nil		
Total cancer deaths .....	74		
Cancer of the Lung .....	14		
Cancer of the Uterus .....	2		
Leukaemia .....	Nil		
Motor vehicle accidents .....	Nil		
Other accidents or misadventure	12		
Suicide .....	2		

**3. Notes and Comparisons on Vital Statistics. Births.**

The number of births fell by thirty-four on the figure for 1965. Deaths totalled 336 so that there was a natural increase of births over deaths. The birth-rate for the year was 17.2 and comparable rates for the last four years are:



	1966	1965	1964	1963
Workington M.B. (adjusted) ...	17.2	19.2	18.5	16.8
Urban Districts of Cumberland	16.8	18.2	18.8	16.8
Rural Districts of Cumberland	16.0	16.8	18.1	18.2
Administrative County of				
Cumberland .....	16.3	17.4	18.4	17.7
England and Wales .....	17.7	18.0	18.4	18.2

### Deaths.

A similar table relates to comparable figures in death-rates.

	1966	1965	1964	1963
Workington Borough (adjusted)	12.5	13.2	12.3	13.9
Urban Districts of Cumberland	12.2	12.3	11.5	11.7
Rural Districts of Cumberland	12.3	11.8	12.0	13.1
Administrative County of				
Cumberland .....	12.3	12.0	11.8	12.5
England and Wales .....	11.7	11.5	11.3	12.2

There were no maternal deaths and no deaths were attributed to notifiable disease. Deaths from cancer of the lung fell by one (1966—14; 1965—15). There were two deaths from cancer of the uterus and six from cancer of the breast. There was a total increase in deaths from all types of cancer of nine over the previous year. No deaths were attributed to accidents in the highways but other forms of accident accounted for twelve deaths and two were due to suicide.

**TABLE 1**  
**The Age at Death of Workington Residents—1966**

Age Groups	Under 4 weeks	4 weeks and under 1 year	1—5	5—15	15—25	25—35	35—45	45—55	55—65	65—75	75 & over	Total
Males	7	1	—	—	1	2	2	13	47	38	65	176
Females	3	1	—	1	1	2	3	9	20	40	80	160
<b>Total</b>	10	2	—	1	2	4	5	22	67	78	145	336

**Table 2**  
**Registrar-General's Table of Deaths by Cause**  
**Workington M.B.—1966**

<i>Serial.</i>	<i>Cause.</i>	<i>Male.</i>	<i>Female.</i>	<i>Total.</i>
3	Syphilitic disease .....	1	—	1
10	Malignant disease, stomach .....	5	4	9
11	Malignant disease, lung, bronchus .....	12	2	14
12	Malignant disease, breast .....	—	6	6
13	Malignant disease, uterus .....	—	2	2
14	Malignant disease, other forms ...	24	19	43
16	Diabetes .....	—	1	1
17	Vascular lesions of nervous system .....	16	27	43
18	Coronary disease, angina .....	43	22	65
19	Hypertension with heart disease ...	2	1	3
20	Other heart disease .....	17	30	47
21	Other circulatory disease .....	4	3	7
22	Influenza .....	4	3	7
23	Pneumonia .....	6	8	14
24	Bronchitis .....	13	5	18
25	Other diseases of respiratory system .....	—	1	1
26	Ulcer of stomach and duodenum ...	2	3	5
27	Gastritis, enteritis and diarrhoea ...	1	1	2
28	Nephritis and nephrosis .....	1	—	1
29	Hyperplasia of prostate .....	1	—	1
31	Congenital malformations .....	3	3	6
32	Other defined & ill-defined diseases .....	12	14	26
34	All other accidents .....	7	5	12
35	Suicide .....	2	—	2
Total .....		176	160	336

#### 4. Infantile and Peri-natal Mortality.

There were twelve deaths in infants under 1 year of age (8 males: 4 females), an increase of 4 over the previous year. Ten died within the first four weeks of life, one at one month of age and one at 10 months. These last two had congenital defects. The causes of death were congenital defects or prematurity except in one case where the cause was an unspecified viral infection. Stillbirths increase by two to a figure of twelve.

With the lower number of births in 1966 and the higher number of infantile deaths and stillbirths the rates for infantile mortality and peri-natal mortality unfortunately show a big increase. Table 3 below gives the annual infantile and mortality rates from 1911 to date in quinquennial averages to 1965 and the peri-natal mortality rates from 1956. Table 4 gives the age and cause of death in the year 1966,



**TABLE 3****Annual Infantile and Peri-Natal Mortality**

<i>Period.</i>	<i>Infantile Mortality.</i>		<i>Peri-natal Mortality</i>	
	<i>Workington</i>	<i>England and Wales.</i>	<i>Workington</i>	<i>England and Wales.</i>
	<i>M.B.</i>		<i>M.B.</i>	
1911-1915	135	110		
1916-1920	113	90		
1921-1925	102	76		
1926-1930	76	68		
1931-1935	70	62		
1936-1940	63	55		
1941-1945	52	50		
1946-1950	41	36		
1951-1955	29	27		
1956-1960	30	23	46.8	35.0
1961-1965	16.1	20.5	28.2	29.5
1966	23.2	19.0	35.9	26.3

**TABLE 4****Infantile Deaths shown by Age and Cause of Death**

<b>Cause of Death.</b>	<b>Age in Weeks</b>				<b>Age in Months</b>						<b>Total</b>
	0-1	1-2	2-3	3-4	0-1	1-2	2-3	3-6	6-9	9-12	
Prematurity .....	4				4						4
Congenital Defect .....	2	2	1		5	1				1	7
Viral Pneumonia .....	1				1						1
<b>Total</b> .....	7	2	1		10	1				1	12

## GENERAL PROVISIONS OF THE HEALTH SERVICES IN THE AREA

### (a) Staff

The establishment of public health inspectors is full but there were two changes during the year—Mr. B. F. P. McCann and Mr. A. Ogden left to take up appointments elsewhere and were replaced by Mr. J. J. Pattison, M.A.P.H.I. and Mr. R. Taylor, M.A.P.H.I. Miss S. Millward was appointed in place of Mrs. M. E. Reeves, who gave up her post because of family reasons. (Mr. Taylor and Miss Millward will take up their duties in 1967). Mr. Robert Robinson, formerly deputy foreman, was appointed Cleansing Foreman in August.

### (b) Laboratory Services.

The Carlisle Laboratory of the Public Health Laboratory Service carries out all sampling in public health work including water and milk sampling which latter is carried out on behalf of the County Council and has included in the current year milk samples for antibiotic content. I wish to thank Dr. D. G. Davies, the Director of the laboratory, for his help during the year.

### (c) Local Health Authority Services.

There are two clinic centres in Workington Borough—the main clinic at Park Lane adjacent to the Town Hall and a satellite clinic at Salterbeck. The services available at these clinics are as follows:

*Child Welfare—Immunisation and Health Education:*

Park Lane—Tuesdays and Wednesdays at 2-0 p.m.;

Salterbeck—Fridays at 2-0 p.m.

*School Clinic:* No fixed session but appointments for special cases are held according to need.

*Dental Clinic:* At both clinics by appointment.

*Orthopaedic and After Care:* By appointment.

*Speech Therapy and Teaching of the Deaf:* By appointment.

*Child Guidance:* By appointment on Wednesdays at Park Lane.

In addition Cervical Cytology clinics are held at Park Lane and Salterbeck by appointment.



**(d) National Assistance Acts.**

No proceedings were necessary under the acts during the year.

**(e) Port Health.**

No case of infectious disease was reported during the year from the port. Re-vaccination against Smallpox is offered to the crews of all ships docking and a small but steady number is now done each year.

### **SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA**

A complete report by the Chief Public Health Inspector is presented as a separate part to the annual report on the health of the town. Here short notes are given on the salient features of the findings and work in hand during the year.

**1. Housing.**

As plans for the central development area proceed there is a certain running-down of occupied dwelling houses in the area, some of which have been purchased by the authority, while a start has been made to re-build outside the central area one infant and one junior school. Around the perimeter of the central region an area in Church Street/North Watt Street/William Street has been inspected and 48 houses in three groups have been represented as Clearance Areas. On the south side of Station Road a compact area of terraced houses was chosen as the most suitable for the preparation of an Improvement Area. Eleven individual houses were represented and reported as substandard properties.

House-building in 1966 totalled 84 new houses by the corporation and 45 houses by private builders.

**2. Water Supply.**

The town is supplied with water for domestic purposes by the West Cumberland Water Board. I am indebted to Mr. J. P. Williamson, Water Engineer to the Board, for information on the progress of work in constructing a third water main from the Crummock Lake and about work on the old intake. New town mains were laid at Harrington, Stainburn and Northside to supply new housing developments.

Water sampling was carried out from source to town at frequent intervals during the year. The samples taken from the lake, i.e. before chlorination, showed in most cases contamination, but this may have been a reflection of the increased amount of headworks. The 53 samples taken in the town yielded unsatisfactory results in only three instances and further sampling gave excellent results. The chemical analysis gave satisfactory results and is reproduced below.



*Chemical Analysis:*

Appearance .....	clear and colourless
Odour .....	Nil
Reaction, pH .....	6.6
Parts per million	
Total solids .....	33
Nitrogen as free and saline ammonia .....	0.000
Nitrogen as albuminoid ammonia .....	0.01
Nitrogen as nitrites .....	Nil
Nitrogen as nitrates .....	0.2
Chlorides, as Cl .....	9.5
Oxygen absorbed from permanganate in 4 hours at 27° C. ....	0.15
Total hardness .....	17
Temporary hardness .....	6
Permanent hardness .....	11
Alkalinity .....	6
Free Chlorine .....	Nil
Potassium, as K .....	0.4
Anionic synthetic detergents .....	—
Manganese, as Mn .....	—
Cyanides and thiocyanates .....	—
Poisonous metals .....	Nil

*Opinion:*

The chemical and bacteriological conditions of this sample are satisfactory. The water is acid in character with low carbonate hardness, and will be corrosive to metals.

**3. Sewerage.**

The Borough Engineer and Surveyor reports that work proceeded on the investigation into the replacement of the existing outfalls at Siddick and Northside, with a new outfall at Northside. It is planned that this outfall will be used by the new industries in this area and by the Water Board.

**4. Refuse Collection.**

The credit squeeze did not allow of the planned expansion of the paper bag system and the further conversion of old type vehicles to new compacting types, but the hygienic aspect of the service has advanced. However, nearly 25 per cent. of premises are now fitted with paper bag holders and two of the five operative vehicles are of the compacting type. The experimental tipping at the old Harrington Shore Works was completed satisfactorily forming the nucleus of filling-in and hillocks later to be massively covered by gravel and

earth. The experimental filling-in of a small cove or inlet at Oldside was also completed satisfactorily and provided experience for further work to be done along the shore if agreement can be negotiated. The second area, leased to the Corporation, is now in use and here again an experiment is in being for the use of the older tip as part covering material for the new.

The provision of trailers to the vehicles for the separate collection of waste paper has increased the income from this service greatly in recent months. A bonus to the workmen for paper collection was being negotiated at the end of the year.

During the year the total weight of household refuse collected from 3,798 premises was 9,723 tons. This included straightforward shop and ordinary household refuse but the weight and bulk of other refuse accepted and disposed of on the tips in the form of large and small loads brought the tonnage finally dealt with greatly beyond this figure. Again a great many loads are tipped out of working hours by jobbing builders and others on finished surfaces which cause a great deal of needless work in keeping the tips tidy.

## **PREVALENCE OF, AND CONTROL OVER, INFECTIOUS AND OTHER DISEASES.**

### **1. General**

Measles continued to be present in mildly epidemic numbers. A total of 214 (236 in 1965) were notified. Only three cases of whooping-cough occurred during the year and streptococcal throat infections were low as judged by the low number (7) of notifications of scarlet fever.

The sickness rate among the working population rose above the level at which the manager of the (then) Ministry of National Insurance and Pensions required to notify the local medical officer of health. This was in February when a form of Influenza was very prevalent. Influenza appeared in death certificates as the main cause of death in seven instances during the year.

### **2. Vaccination and Immunisation**

#### **(a) *Poliomyelitis.***

The ease of administration of the attenuated live vaccine by mouth has not increased the popularity of the procedure. At least a quarter of parents are completely apathetic in their attitude to preventive measures when there is no immediate threat of an outbreak. A total of 724 primary courses and



506 booster doses was only two-thirds of the numbers for 1965.

(b) *Diphtheria, Tetanus and Whooping Cough.*

Immunisation against diphtheria in infancy is usually combined with that against whooping cough and tetanus. At school age boosters given omit the whooping cough element. The total number of primary course given during the year fell to 472 (696 in 1965) but the number of boosters rose to 965 (626 in 1965). The total increase in injections given raised the immunity index six points—71 in 1966 as against 65 in 1965 for children aged 0-14 years. The immunity index is the percentage number of children inoculated within the last five years. This index since 1953 is shown in Table 5 applied to different age groupings and the age range of 0-14 years in the last column.

**TABLE 5**  
**Immunity Index-Percentage of the Child**  
**Population Adequately Protected.**

	<i>Under 1 yr.</i>	<i>2-4 yrs.</i>	<i>5-6 yrs.</i>	<i>10-14 yrs.</i>	<i>0-14 yrs.</i>
31- 1-53 .....	3	49	81	69	64
31-12-54 .....	4	49	71	38	51
31-12-55 .....	3	50	84	49	59
31-12-56 .....	8	48	81	62	61
31-12-57 .....	10	52	67	58	56
31-12-58 .....	10	51	52	56	54
31-12-59 .....	16	51	32	57	45
31-12-60 .....	17	52	39	28	37
31-12-61 .....	28	58	37	17	36
31-12-62 .....	23	62	28	17	33
31-12-63 .....	31	69	68	44	58
31-12-64 .....	29	72	62	61	62
31-12-65 .....	37	77	68	58	65
31-12-66 .....	25	80	75	70	71

(c) *Vaccination against Smallpox.*

During the year 247 vaccinations were carried out in children under 15 years of age and 25 re-vaccinations in the same age group. No record is kept of adult vaccination and re-vaccinations but large numbers of international certificates were endorsed in the office. From the port health point of view numbers of crews are offered vaccination. The work done here is not of great volume, but steady, and probably keeps the immunisation state well up in the ships that visit the port regularly.

The total numbers of notifications of infectious disease is given in Table 6.

**TABLE 6**  
**Workington M.B.**  
**Notification of Infectious Disease—1966**

[illegible]



### 3. Tuberculosis.

#### (a) *Prevention.*

The two main aspects in prevention are probably the search for hidden cases among the elderly and the extension of B.C.G. vaccination. The Mass X-ray units were available to the general population of the area at the Workington Infirmary and the West Cumberland Hospital. Precise figures of the use of the units for Workington residents are not therefore available. One-quarter of the cases attending were referred by general practitioners and showed a five times greater incidence than did the cases coming in the ordinary way. From a total of over 8,000 examinations (West and South Cumberland) 11 active and 50 inactive cases emerged.

B.C.G. vaccinations were carried out in all senior schools in the Borough. These schools take in children from the surrounding area so that the figures given are above the numbers who reside in the town. A total of 403 (73%) of the parents agreed to vaccination and of these 295 were negative reactors to the primary test and were vaccinated.

Although a number of the positive reactors to the Mantoux test were known contacts of the disease or already had had B.C.G. vaccination it is a pity that consent to the procedure is not much higher for children who are soon to be at work in new surroundings and much wider contact with the hidden adult cases from whom infection is picked up.

#### (b) *Incidence, Notifications and Deaths.*

Sixteen cases of the disease were notified in 1966—11 respiratory cases, no meningeal, and 5 affecting other sites. There were no deaths from tuberculosis among residents in 1966—the fourth year consecutively to show this position.

Table 7 shows the deaths and death rates for the Borough and the comparative figures for England and Wales in quinquennial periods from 1911 to 1965 and the figures for the individual year of 1966.



TABLE 7

**Tuberculosis—Workington—1965**  
**Deaths and Death-Rate.**

Years	No. of Deaths—Workington			Death Rate per 1,000 Pop.	
	Respiratory	Non-Respiratory	Total	Workington	England and Wales
1911-1915	27.3	4.8	42.1	1.69	1.41
1916-1920	21.8	13.4	35.2	1.25	1.48
1921-1925	17.4	6.6	24.0	0.88	1.08
1926-1930	18.2	8.2	26.4	1.01	0.94
1931-1935	22.8	8.0	30.8	1.19	0.81
1936-1940	20.0	5.4	25.4	0.92	0.67
1941-1945	19.7	5.9	25.6	0.86	0.66
1946-1950	17.2	1.8	19.0	0.67	0.48
1951-1955	9.0	0.8	9.8	0.34	0.22
1956-1960	2.2	0.4	2.6	0.09	0.10
1961-1965	0.6	—	0.6	0.02	0.06
1966	—	—	—	0.00	0.05

#### 4. Cancer.

Deaths from this cause increased by nine in 1966 but the distribution by site of the disease remained much the same. The youngest case in males was 23 years (teratoma) and in females 38 years (breast). There were 12 male and 2 female cases of cancer of the lung or bronchitis, the youngest male being 30 years old and the younger female being 58 years. The average age at death in males from this cause was 63 years.

There was no death ascribed to leukaemia.

The distribution of cancer by site and sex was as follows:—

<i>Site.</i>	<i>Males.</i>	<i>Females.</i>	<i>Total.</i>
Stomach .....	5	4	9
Lung .....	12	2	14
Breast .....	—	6	6
Uterus .....	—	2	2
Other sites .....	24	19	43
Total .....	41	33	74
	—	—	—

The Chief Public Health Inspector



# **Annual Report of The Chief Public Health Inspector**



Town Hall,  
Workington.  
September, 1967.

*To the Worshipful the Mayor, the Aldermen  
and Councillors of the Borough of Workington.*

Your Worship, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have pleasure in presenting this report on the work carried out in the department during my second year of office.

Before commencing on the work of the department, I would make reference to the unexpected death, in June, of our Chairman, Mr. Dawson Vickers. This was indeed a sad blow to all of us, not only had we lost a Chairman but also a friend. In the time we worked together I had formed a high regard for him, both as a man and as a Councillor, and the help and encouragement he offered to me, in working hours and out, will always be remembered.

The year started well with a full staff and I had, as they say in the song, "high hopes" that we would be able to build on the previous year's groundwork and that the results would be clearly seen. However, like the weather, the bright start was deceptive and it wasn't long before a period of depression was upon us and this didn't begin to lift until the Autumn.

Mr. A. Ogden left us in May to take up a post with the Borough of Macclesfield and in July Mr. B. F. P. McCann returned to his native heath, Liverpool, as a port health inspector. However, we were very fortunate indeed to be able to fill these vacancies, Mr. J. J. Pattison joined the department in September and Mr. R. Taylor was appointed in November, with a view to taking up his duties in the following January.

One of the particular bright spots of the year was when we heard that Mr. L. Crelling had obtained his Intermediate Diploma of the Public Health Inspectors Education Board—a very encouraging result indeed. Mr. L. Shepherd commenced on his 1st year of the Salford Sandwich Course in September. In August our cleansing foreman, Mr. M. Lewthwaite, retired and Mr. R. Robinson, our deputy foreman, was appointed in his place in October.



With the difficulties created by the movement of staff it is not surprising that the greater part of the work carried out during the year was limited to housing and food hygiene. In the housing field I was particularly pleased that we were able to carry out the inspections and administrative work in connection with the proposed Church Street Clearance Areas but it was disappointing not to be able to proceed with the proposed Improvement Area at the same time. Whilst the Food Hygiene Campaign was progressing I became more and more convinced that considerable benefit would be derived by food handlers in the area from a course of food hygiene lectures and I hope that by the end of next year it will be possible to arrange one in conjunction with the College of Further Education. To be a success such a course needs both the interest and goodwill of everyone concerned but I am hopeful that employers and employees will make it their "business" to attend.

One of the most satisfactory features of the year was the implementation of the scheme for the reorganisation of the refuse collection service on which so much effort had been spent last year and the early part of this year. February saw the delivery of our first Shelvoke and Drewry 35 cu. yd. Pakamatic collection vehicle which enabled us to carry out the second intermediate stage of the rounds revision. In the October the second vehicle was put into service and the final revision implemented. As a result of these alterations we were able to reduce the number of rounds to 3 for domestic premises and 1 for the town centre, reduce the manual staff requirements, and yet at the same time provide an additional new service for the collection of bulky household refuse. On the whole the changes appeared to go smoothly with very few difficulties—householders in the revised areas of collection were notified by circulars and advertisements in the press. The extension of the paper sack system continued with the conversion of 700 more premises, mainly in the areas with long difficult back lanes, and in all over 2,000 premises were on paper sacks by the end of the year. The planned expansion of the waste paper salvage arrangements started with the purchase of five trailers and an extension to the baling sheds and culminated with a Salvage Campaign in the beginning of September. By the end of the year the salvage had jumped from an average of  $9\frac{1}{2}$  tons per month, in 1965, to 30 tons. It was unfortunate that the implementation of the incentive salvage bonus scheme, prepared in March and finally agreed in July, was delayed due to the "Wage Freeze".

In July work finished on the tipping at Harrington Shore, to enable the contractors to contour and landscape the whole area with the material from the Harbour, and we returned to Oldside. The system of tipping evolved at Harrington proved to be successful and is now standard practice. However, the return to Oldside has served to bring into sharper focus the need to look into the question of acquiring, or leasing, further land for tipping purposes. Our existing leased sites are being rapidly filled and therefore the problem is becoming one of some urgency.

In conclusion I would take this opportunity of thanking all the members of this department for giving of their best, despite difficulties, and particularly Mr. R. Robinson, who had the difficult job of putting the reorganisation of the refuse collection service into practice. I would also express my appreciation to the Chairman and Members of the Health Committee, Dr. Hunter and my fellow officers in all departments for their encouragement and support given throughout the year.

I am,

Mr. Mayor, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

D. A. FOGG,

Chief Public Health Inspector.



## HOUSING

### Housing Acts.

The survey of the older houses in the town, referred to in the 1965 Report, was completed and the details placed before the various interested Committees. In view of the implications the matter was referred to a special meeting of the Council in April, with the following resolutions:—

- (1) That a detailed inspection should be made of the houses in the Clay Street area and that the proposals, for the making of an Improvement Area, should be submitted to a future meeting of the Public Health Committee.
- (2) That recommendations should be made for the acquisition of a suitable house in this area for use as a Show House.
- (3) That other than as above no further action be taken on the report.

The authority to make proposals for an improvement area was very encouraging although, I must confess, that at the same time there was a tinge of regret that some of the other wider implications were left for the time being. However, as things were to turn out, even the work on the agreed project was to be prevented during 1966 because of the loss of staff referred to in the beginning of the report.

Despite the difficulties we did manage to inspect the properties in the proposed Church Street Clearance Areas with the result that by the end of the year the first three of the four areas were represented. The remaining area and the compulsory purchase order procedure were scheduled for the early part of 1967.

The number of inspections of houses for improvement grant purposes dropped compared to last year and I understand that the total number of grants agreed, since the start of the scheme in 1961, is 432. This would, in my view, appear to confirm the need for a greater impetus in house improvement—either by improvement area procedure (with its inherent defects) or by greater incentives—or even better a combination of both.

Due to the many other pressing duties within the department housing repairs were mainly brought about by complaint rather than as a result of planned inspection. The need for house-to-house inspection becomes more and more apparent but unfortunately the opportunity does not seem to be likely to occur for some considerable time.



The issue of "Our Older Homes—a Call for Action" by the Ministry of Housing and Local Government towards the end of the year gave us food for thought and stimulated much discussion amongst colleagues. Should standards continue to improve, as the report suggests, it is quite obvious that housing will remain as one of our greatest environmental problems for many years to come and it would appear that, if we are going to be able to overcome it in the foreseeable future, a realistic housing policy will have to be adopted which will allow for the rapid clearance of substandard and unfit properties. The redevelopment of the land made available (where possible and desirable), together with such other land as is necessary for all rehousing needs, and the improvement of suitable existing housing stock should all proceed hand in hand as a balanced programme.

Details showing the number of premises inspected and dealt with under the various Acts are listed in the tables below:—

#### Dwelling Houses inspected and action taken

- (1) Individual unfit houses capable of repair at reasonable cost
  - (a) Number of dwelling houses in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs ..... Nil
  - (b) Number of dwellinghouses rendered fit after service of formal notices:—
    - (i) By owner ..... Nil
    - (ii) By local authority in default of owner ... Nil
- (2) Individual unfit houses not capable of repair at reasonable cost
  - (a) Proceedings under Sections 16, 17, and 23 Housing Act 1957
    - (i) Number of dwelling houses in respect of which demolition orders were made ... 6
    - (ii) Number of dwellinghouses demolished in pursuance of demolition orders ..... 5
  - (b) Proceedings under Section 18 Housing Act 1957
    - (i) Number of dwelling houses in respect of which closing orders were made ..... 5
    - (ii) Number of closing orders determined, the dwelling house having been rendered fit Nil

(3) Clearance areas.	
(a) Proceedings under Section 42 Housing Act 1957	
(i) Number of clearance areas represented	3
(ii) Number of clearance areas declared .....	—
(iii) Number of dwelling houses unfit for habitation .....	39
(iv) Number of dwelling houses included by reason of their bad arrangement .....	7
(b) Number Clearance Orders .....	Nil
(c) Number of Compulsory Purchase Orders ...	Nil
(4) Persons displaced and re-housed	
(a) Families	
(i) Rehoused from individual unfit dwelling houses .....	9
(ii) Rehoused from clearance areas .....	Nil
(b) Persons	
(i) Rehoused from individual unfit dwelling houses .....	37
(ii) Rehoused from clearance areas .....	Nil
(5) Improvement grants	
(a) Number of houses inspected for improvement grant purposes .....	75
(b) Total number of visits made in connection with the above .....	142
(6) General	
(a) Number of dwelling houses inspected for housing defects .....	106
(b) Total number of visits paid to the above houses .....	308
Public Health Acts	
(a) Number of complaints received re insanitary conditions in dwelling houses .....	102
(b) Number of dwelling houses inspected re complaints and routine inspections .....	592
(c) Total number of visits of all kinds to dwelling houses .....	1048
Action taken	
Number of informal notices served re insanitary conditions in dwelling houses .....	86
Number of informal notices for insanitary conditions in dwelling houses complied with	58



Number of statutory notices served for insanitary conditions in dwelling houses .....	8
Number of statutory notices for insanitary conditions in dwelling houses complied with	8

TABLE 1

Summary of items included in the above notices:—

Defects	Served	Complied with
Roofs	49	34
Walls	48	20
Floors	9	6
Ceilings	10	8
Windows	27	9
Fireplaces and flues	2	1
Sinks	1	1
Water Supplies	8	1
Rainwater conductors	19	12
Paving	1	2
Water Closets	28	11
Drainage	4	3
Cleansing	6	3
Miscellaneous	19	11

It is pleasing to note that it was not found necessary to institute any proceedings for the non compliance of statutory notices nor was it necessary to carry out any work in default. I am sure that this is indicative of a good working relationship between the members of the department and agents, landlords and builders.

### Rent Acts

Only 5 visits have been made in connection with Certificates of Disrepair under these Acts. The lack of applications and enquiries in this respect is an indication that the Act is not being used by tenants to get properties repaired.

### Caravan Sites and Control of Development Act

Twelve visits have been made to ensure compliance with the provision of this Act.

There are three sites licensed within the Borough comprising a total of 32 caravans but there are no individual caravan sites.

The standards of the Act are being complied with and no statutory action has been necessary.

## **FOOD HYGIENE AND FOOD CONTROL**

### **Food Hygiene**

The inspection of food premises, which started in the latter part of 1965, continued for the early part of this year and although the number of visits almost doubled those for last year the programme slowly ground to a halt due to the staff shortage. This was extremely unfortunate because, as a result, much of the initial publicity and impact will be lost before revisits and inspections can be recommenced.

A general grocers shop and a mineral water factory were reported to the Health Committee for contravening the Regulations, agreement was reached with the occupiers on the works to be done and in the circumstances it was felt that proceedings should not be pursued for the time being. It is a much happier solution where traders accept our advice and bring their premises up to standard, nevertheless, it must be understood that the basic function of the Regulations is to protect the consumer and therefore, should the need arise, there is no option but to ask for proceedings to be instituted.

New Regulations governing market stalls and vehicles were introduced during the year which set out to bring these types of premises up to a standard more comparable with that required for shops. The Regulations come into force on the 1st January, 1967, and there is no doubt that they will fill a long felt need in the legislation for food hygiene, not only from the point of view of obtaining better facilities for this type of trading, but also by removing one of the main complaints of occupiers of food premises for many years, that on the one hand they were being required to comply but that at the same time the others were "getting away with it."

Quite a considerable amount of time has been spent during the year on discussing alterations to existing premises and the design and equipment of new premises with the various interested parties and I feel this is particularly worthwhile as it ensures that the best possible standards are being obtained with the least amount of difficulty.



Statistical details are given in the following tables:—

**TABLE 2**

Category of Trades

Types of Premises	No. of Premises	No. of Premises fitted to comply with Reg. 16	No. of Premises to which Reg. 19 applies	No. of Premises fitted to comply with Reg. 19
Bakehouses	23	23	23	23
Butchers	28	28	28	28
Breweries and Mineral Water Manufacturers	5	5	5	5
Catering premises	52	52	52	52
Confectioners	24	24	24	24
Fishmongers and Poulterers	8	8	8	8
Fried Fish Shops	16	16	16	16
General Sweets and Minerals	42	42	36	36
Greengrocers	29	29	29	29
Grocers	99	99	99	99
Ice Cream Manufacturers	5	5	5	5
Licensed Premises	80	80	80	80
Tripe etc. Shops	1	1	1	1
Totals	412	412	406	406

N.B. Regulation 16—refers to the provision of personal washing facilities.

Regulation 19—refers to the provision of facilities for washing food and equipment.

The campaign now in progress is designed to ensure compliance with all the provisions of the regulations and to bring up to date the ever changing numbers of premises in their respective trades. The town has not yet been fully revised but the above figures indicate the known position at the year end.

**TABLE 3**

## Inspections

Type of premises	No. of inspections
Bakehouses ... ..	14
Butchers ... ..	19
Breweries & Mineral Water Mfrs. ...	5
Catering Premises ... ..	34
Confectioners ... ..	34
Fishmongers & Poulterers ... ..	10
Fried Fish Shops ... ..	12
General Sweets & Minerals ... ..	5
Greengrocers ... ..	72
Grocers ... ..	108
Ice Cream Manufacturers ... ..	4
Licensed Premises, Clubs, Hotels ...	19
Mobile Vendors ... ..	—
School butchers ... ..	—
Staff Canteens ... ..	1
Tripe Boilers ... ..	—
Totals	337

In addition to the inspections shown in Table 3 there have been 172 visits throughout the year for re-visits, incidental calls, interviews and discussions.

**Food Control**

Eight complaints were received in the department in respect of various foodstuffs. The usual investigations were carried out to find out the source of the complaint and in all cases the appropriate action was taken with the firms concerned to prevent any further occurrence.

Table below gives details of the individual complaints and summaries of the findings:—



TABLE 4

Commodity	Nature of the Complaint
1 Corned Beef	Can rusted and blackened internally
2 Rum Butter	Contained inedible objects
3 Bread	Slices stained
4 Jar of Jam	Contents mouldy
5 Cornflakes	Caterpillar in packet
6 Chocolate Wafer	Grub in wafer
7 Tin of Meat	Cyst in meat
8 Butter	Contained inedible object

### Summaries

- (1) The tin was normal externally, the discolouration probably being due to sulphiding following the processing temperature, and the rusting followed. The whole consignment was withdrawn from sale for human consumption as a precaution.
- (2) Two pieces of wire and a piece of paper were found in a carton of rum butter. Despite extensive enquiries at the manufacturing premises the source of the foreign bodies could not be found, and, because of the length of time which elapsed between purchase and complaint no further action was taken.
- (3) The stain was found in a loaf of sliced bread. The processing plant was examined and it was found that it was possible for excess grease to come into contact with the dough in a newly installed dividing machine. The firm took immediate steps to ensure that a similar circumstance could not occur.
- (4) The seal on the lid of the jar was found to be faulty allowing air to enter and a mould growth to form on the surface of the jam. The rest of the consignment was examined and no other faulty lids were found. The matter was taken up with the manufacturers who expressed their concern and undertook to go into the whole question of the efficient sealing of the lids with the producers.

- (5) The caterpillar was identified as that of the Brown House Moth. Extensive investigations both at the premises of the retailer and of the manufacturer, which is situated in the area of another authority, revealed that there had been an infestation of such a moth adjacent to the storage place of the cornflakes in the local shop. Remedial and control measures were put in hand immediately and the whole of the storerooms cleansed and redecorated.
- (6) The larvae found in the chocolate wafer were of *Ptinus Tectus* (Australian Spider Beetle). Investigations were carried out at the retailers premises but no evidence of infestation could be found, the stock of this product was however removed and destroyed. The premises were thoroughly treated with a residual insecticide to eliminate any infestation.
- (7) An unusual object, found in an imported tin of meat, at first appeared to be an animal's eye. Further examination and dissection by an independent research firm, acting for importers, revealed that it was a calcified cyst surrounded by connective tissue. No matter how thorough an examination of the meat was carried out after slaughter, a cyst of this nature would be more than likely to escape detection. The importers however took up the matter with the producers so as to ensure that all possible precautions were taken to find such objects before packing.
- (8) The object in the butter was at first thought to be a small stone but after removal from the pack and thorough investigation, it was found to be a small chipping of paint. The authority in which the packers premises were situated co-operated in the investigations and it was finally traced to a packing machine which had to be painted very frequently due to the corrosive nature of the salt and water used in the process. The flaking of the paint was a very unusual circumstance and it was felt that the precautions now being taken eliminated the possibility of the complaint recurring.

#### **Food and Drugs Act 1955, Sect. 16**

No premises have been registered during the year and there have been no cancellations. The number registered for the sale of ice cream remains at 96 retailers and 5 manufacturers.



One manufacturer uses the hot mix process, 3 cold mix and one makes a soft ice cream in a vending machine situated in his shop.

60 premises are registered for the preparation and manufacture of sausages, potted, pressed, pickled or preserved foods.

### **Dairies and milk distributors**

During the year a total of 77 inspections and re-visits were made to the dairies and distributors in the Borough on behalf of the Cumberland County Council. There are 39 registered dairies, 20 purveyors of milk, 6 producers/retailers and 9 farm producers.

Of the samples submitted for the statutory tests 78 were of pasteurised and sterilised milk, 25 were untreated, and out of the former four samples failed the phosphatase tests and one failed the methylene blue test in the latter group. Towards the end of the year work also commenced on sampling for brucellosis and anti-biotics and 13 samples were taken involving 42 churns all of which satisfied the test for antibiotics but one of which was positive to the Ring Test for brucellosis but proved to be negative on culture.

In view of the occasional failures of the phosphatase test for the milk treated in one of our local dairies, continued pressure was brought to bear on the owner to investigate the possibility of changing his plant from the Holder Process to H.T.S.T. with the result that by the end of the year some positive progress had been made.

### **Water Supply**

The drinking water for the Borough is supplied by the West Cumberland Water Board. Regular samples are taken at various parts of the town, a total of 60 samples having been sent for analysis.

Five bacteriological samples proved to be unsatisfactory, these occurred following a series of heavy rainstorms and were most probably caused by the large quantities of water pouring into the lake and churning up the bed. Further repeat samples proved to be satisfactory.

The two chemical samples taken both proved to be satisfactory.

## Food Inspection

The following foodstuffs were found to be unfit for human consumption. The goods were surrendered voluntarily by the vendors, certificates were issued and the goods then destroyed. Approximately 83 visits were made in connection with this service and the total weight of foodstuffs dealt with was over 2 tons 10 cwts.

**TABLE 5**  
**Tinned Goods**

	lbs.		lbs.
Chicken ...	14	Blackcurrants ...	20
Veal ...	30	Prunes ...	5
Sausage ...	3	Blackberries ...	4
Chopped Pork ...	105	Raspberries ...	3
Ham ...	476	Oranges ...	19
Pork ...	68	Strawberries ...	11
Steak ...	46	Rhubarb ...	4
Luncheon Meat ...	45	Orange Juice ...	25
Corned Beef ...	121	Evaporated Milk ...	88
Tongue ...	72	Condensed Milk ...	2
Tuna ...	1	Cream ...	1
Salmon ...	38	Carrots ...	29
Shrimps ...	3	Red Cabbage ...	1
Pilchards ...	8	Baked Beans ...	75
Sardines ...	13	Celery Hearts ...	1
Crab ...	3	Spaghetti ...	7
Fruit Salad ...	91	Tomatoes ...	230
Gooseberries ...	6	Peas ...	208
Pears ...	261	Rice Pudding ...	12
Peaches ...	293	Soup ...	104
Plums ...	14	Steak and Kidney Pies	15
Apricots ...	35	Rice ...	39
Pineapples ...	77	Pie Fillings ...	21
Pineapple Juice ...	23	Marmalade ...	5
Grapefruit ...	95	Sauce ...	1
Grapefruit Juice ...	10		

### Other Foods

	lbs.		lbs.
Fish ...	536	Cheese ...	2
Beef ...	111	Chicken ...	248
Apples ...	930	Duck ...	50
Melons ...	58	Ice Cream ...	5 gall.
Carrots ...	112	Various Bottles ...	100

In addition 499 lbs. and 1,000 packets of various Frozen Foods which had become defrosted were inspected and destroyed.



## OFFICES, SHOPS, RAILWAY PREMISES AND FACTORIES

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

The number of inspections carried out under the Act dropped, compared with last year, due once again to the same difficulty mentioned in earlier parts of the report. Nevertheless, taking last year's figure into account, nearly two-thirds of the registered premises had been inspected at least once by the end of the year. There is no doubt that I would have preferred to have been able to report that all the initial inspections had been completed but circumstances were against us. It is hoped that next year will prove to be a brighter picture.

There were 18 informal notices drawing the attention of occupiers to contraventions of the Act and accompanying Regulations and 13 were complied with. In all 248 visits of all kinds have been made and in addition there have been interviews with architects and other interested parties.

Under the provision of Section 48 of the Act eight accidents were reported and all were investigated and as a matter of interest the details are listed below:—

(1) *Catering Establishment.*

Employee slipped on the kitchen floor whilst carrying butcher utensils, sustaining bruising and slight shock. The premises were in excellent condition and it was felt that no action could be taken.

(2) *Office.*

Employee was helping to load pipes onto a lorry when one rolled trapping his hand against the wall. As a result three fingers of the right hand were crushed and subsequently two fingers were found to be broken. The work was being properly supervised at the time and the pipes were not too heavy, in the circumstances no further action was required.

(3) *Shop.*

Employee was walking through a storeroom and was struck by falling cartons of goods accidentally dislodged by another employee. She sustained bruising of both legs and left arm. The shop manager was requested to ensure that greater care was exercised by the staff in packing and handling goods. Alterations are to be made in the near future which will greatly facilitate both handling and storage.



- (4) *Office.*  
Employee injured back whilst lifting a bag of coins and sustained a displaced disc in the base of the spine. No further action taken.
- (5) *Shop.*  
Employee upwrapping fruit in the warehouse stepped back onto a piece of wood with an upstanding nail in it. The nail punctured the heel and the injury developed an infection a week later. The manager was required to take steps to prevent such potentially dangerous material accumulating on the floor and to see that it was properly disposed of at the time of breaking open the crates.
- (6) *Shop.*  
Whilst operating a Crypto Gravity rotary cutter the operator's hand slipped off the guard with the result that a finger was cut. Employer was requested to exercise greater care in the use of the machine and to ensure that the guard on the blade is used correctly.
- (7) *Shop.*  
The operator removed a ham from the slicing machine whilst it was in motion and sustained a cut finger on the left hand. Employer was requested to ensure that the machine was operated properly and that no meat was removed whilst it was in motion.
- (8) *Shop.*  
The employee was opening a can of meat with a simple type of hand can opener; during the operation the left hand slipped cutting the thumb on the can lid. Five stitches were required. No further action taken.

**TABLE 6**

Premises registered and inspected.

Class of Premises	No of premises registered during year	Total No. of registered premises at end of year	No of premises receiving a general inspection
Offices	—	87	33
Retail shops	3	208	44
Wholesale shops.			
Warehouses	1	22	4
Catering Establishments	—	28	—
Fuel Storage Depots	—	—	—
<b>Totals</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>345</b>	<b>81</b>



**TABLE 7**

Analysis of persons employed in registered premises by workplace.

Class of Workplace	No. of Persons Employed
Offices ... ..	781
Retail Shops ... ..	958
Wholesale Dept. Warehouses	106
Catering Establishments ... ..	150
Canteens ... ..	6
Fuel Storage Depots ... ..	—
Total ... ..	2001
Total Males ... ..	831
Total Females ... ..	1170

### **Shops Acts.**

Two routine tours were made throughout the Borough during the year with a view to ensuring that traders were complying with requirements for Sunday Trading. As a result 77 visits were made and letters were sent where necessary drawing the attention of the traders to any offences being committed under the Act. At a later date 35 re-visits were made.

Of all the legislation enforced by the department this is the most difficult to explain to (and convince) the offender of the need for it, furthermore the general public also appear to blame the trader, when he endeavours to comply and does not supply them with those goods which are not exempted, because they cannot see the difference between exempted products and the ones they may wish to buy. All in all not a very satisfactory situation and one which creates quite a large amount of ill-feeling. Nevertheless until the Act is amended or repealed it is our duty to ensure that it is complied with.

### **Hairdressers and Barbers.**

Copies of the byelaws, which came into force on 28th January, 1966 were sent out to all the known hairdressers in the area. It had been hoped to follow these up, at an early date, with an inspection of all the premises but unfortunately by the end of the year only 7 inspections had been made.

**Factories Act.**

The tables below give the prescribed statistical details of the inspections and work carried out during the year. It will be seen that fewer visits were paid to factories, 32 as against 43 in 1965. This was due to pressure of work in other fields, particularly as regards slum clearance and lack of staff in the latter part of the period.

**TABLE 8**

**1. Inspections for purposes of provisions as to health (including inspections made by Public Health Inspectors)**

Premises (1)	Number on Register (2)	Number of Inspections (3)	Number of written notices (4)	Number of Occupiers prosecuted (5)
(i) Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities ...	41	7	0	0
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority .....	117	24	0	0
(iii) Other Premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding out-workers' premises) .....	43	1	0	0
<b>Total</b> .....	<b>201</b>	<b>32</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>



TABLE 9

## 2. Cases in which defects were found.

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

### 3. Outwork (Sections 133 and 134).

The department has not been notified of any outworkers residing within the Borough.

**TABLE 10**

#### List of Trades.

Aerated Waters	...	...	...	...	...	...	4
Bakehouses	...	...	...	...	...	...	19
Brewing	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Butchers	...	...	...	...	...	...	3
Cement Industries and Roadstone Makers	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
Corn Merchants	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Dairies	...	...	...	...	...	...	6
Dyers and Cleaners	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
Electrical and Radio Repairs	...	...	...	...	...	...	10
Electrical Undertakers	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Firelighter Makers	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Fur Manufacturers	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Gas Undertakings	...	...	...	...	...	...	3
General Dealers and Scrap Sorters	...	...	...	...	...	...	7
Heavy Engineers	...	...	...	...	...	...	7
Ice Cream Manufacturers	...	...	...	...	...	...	5
Knacker Yard	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Laundries	...	...	...	...	...	...	3
Leather Workers and Shoe Repairing	...	...	...	...	...	...	7
Light Engineering and Motor Repairs	...	...	...	...	...	...	27
Monumental Masons	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
Paint Mixing	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Paper Board Manufacture	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Paper Processing	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Plumbers, etc.	...	...	...	...	...	...	12
Printing	...	...	...	...	...	...	3
Quarrying	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Rum Butter Manufacture	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Scale Repairing	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
Slag Recovery	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Steel Making	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Tailoring	...	...	...	...	...	...	10
Tripe Dressing	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Waste Paper Baling	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Watch and Clock Repairs	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Weaving	...	...	...	...	...	...	5
Wood Cutting and Working	...	...	...	...	...	...	28
Works of Engineering Construction	...	...	...	...	...	...	7
Works of Building Operations	...	...	...	...	...	...	29



## ATMOSPHERIC POLLUTION

The regular daily readings from the two "official" observation stations, established in co-operation with the Warren Spring Laboratory, continued throughout the year and in addition readings have also been taken at the portable unit established in the Marsh and Quay area in Lawrence Street.

Details are given below of the highest and lowest readings in microgrammes per cubic metre for each of the three stations:—

### No. 1 Station (Workington)

Highest Smoke—408 on a wet day in February with a fierce force 4 southerly wind.

Lowest Smoke—4 on two clear days in August with a force 2 Westerly wind.

Highest SO<sub>2</sub>—226 on a dry, cloudy day in April with a force 2 N.E. wind.

Lowest SO<sub>2</sub>—7 on two dry days in July with a force 4 S.W. and N.E. wind respectively.

### No. 2 Station (Salterbeck)

Highest Smoke—796 on a wet day in February with a force 4 Southerly wind.

Lowest Smoke—4 on a cloudy day in August with a force 3 westerly wind and slight rain.

Highest SO<sub>2</sub>—189 on a cloudy day in January with a force 2 N.E. wind.

Lowest SO<sub>2</sub>—4 on a clear day in January with a force 2 N.E. wind.

### No. 3 Station (Lawrence Street)

Highest Smoke—540 on a clear day in January with a force 2 N.E. wind.

Lowest Smoke—Nil on a clear day in July with a force 4 N.E. wind.

Highest SO<sub>2</sub>—346 on a clear day in January with a force 2 N.E. wind.

Lowest SO<sub>2</sub>—Nil on a clear day in November with a force 3 Northerly wind.

At all stations the highest smoke and sulphur dioxide figures are greater when compared to those of last year, whereas the "lowest" figures are very similar. Graphs Figures 3 and 6 of the Lawrence Street readings have been included in this report and they follow a similar pattern to those of the other stations.

A study of the graphs (1-6 page 44 and 45) again confirms that the domestic coal fire is responsible for the greater amount of pollution at ground level. Many people are sceptical of this claim, particularly when they see the more voluminous and colourful emissions from our heavy industry drifting across the countryside, nevertheless, the facts speak for themselves. Perhaps if they could imagine all the emissions from each and every house being fed into, and pouring out of, a single chimney stack, the comparison would then be a little easier to accept. Having said this it doesn't mean that I am endeavouring to "whitewash" or play down industrial pollution but rather that I feel that the problem should be put in some perspective.

I have no doubt that if we, on our part, overcome the domestic smoke problem by means of smoke control order procedure then management of industry will continue to do their part in bringing about more improvements to their plant, in order to mitigate any pollution for which they are responsible.

The liaison during the year with the inspectors of H.M. Alkali Works etc. Inspectorate has been very satisfactory and every effort is being made, on their part, to reduce pollution from the sources for which they are responsible. I appreciate the manner in which I have been kept informed of the latest developments in any problem they have been dealing with.

Plans submitted for chimney height, under Section 10, have been dealt with and, if necessary, alterations drawn to the attention of the designers. In addition I have been very pleased with the response given by the architects and other interested parties in respect of chimney heights for shops and schools. At my request details have been submitted to the department and agreement reached on the necessary chimney height and, so far, no difficulties have arisen.



# MONTHLY VARIATION OF SMOKE AND SO<sub>2</sub> WORKINGTON (No. 1)

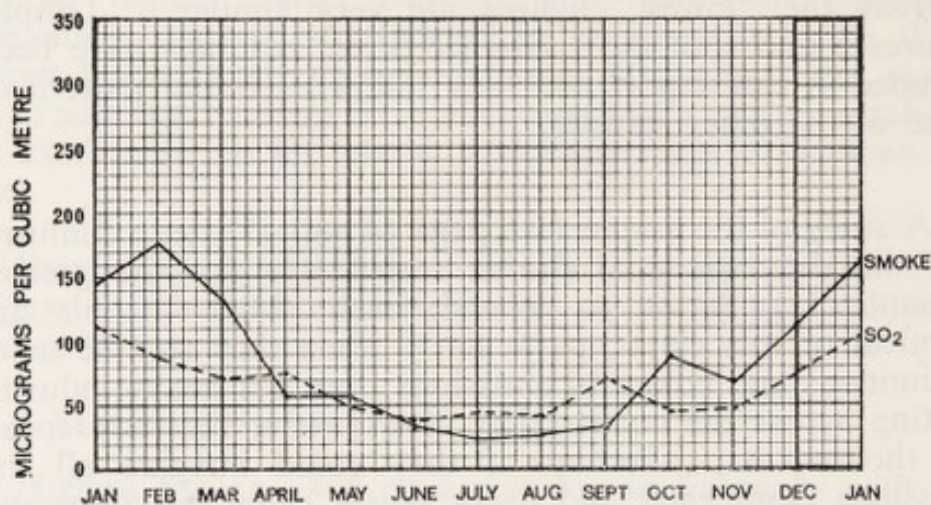


FIG. 1

# SALTERBECK (No. 2)

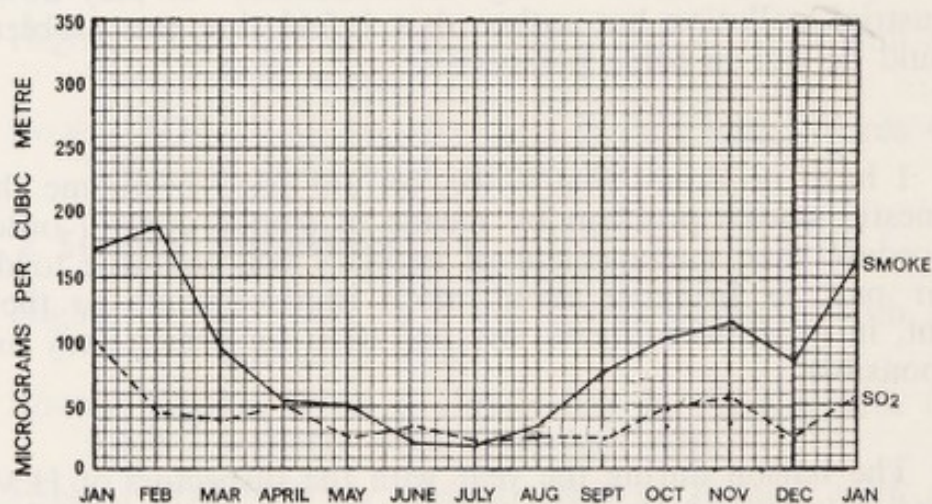


FIG. 2

# LAWRENCE STREET (No. 3)

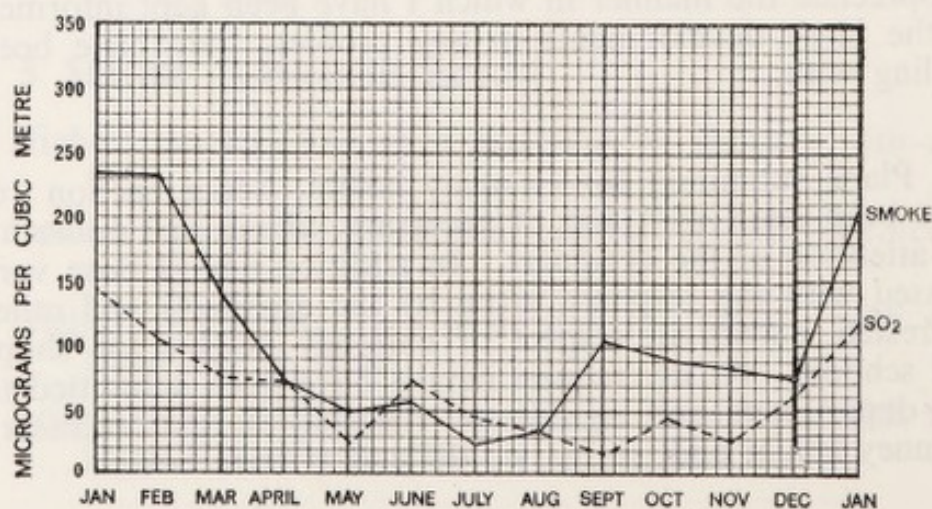


FIG. 3

VARIATION OF SMOKE AND  $\text{SO}_2$  IN RELATION  
TO WIND DIRECTION  
WORKINGTON (No. 1)

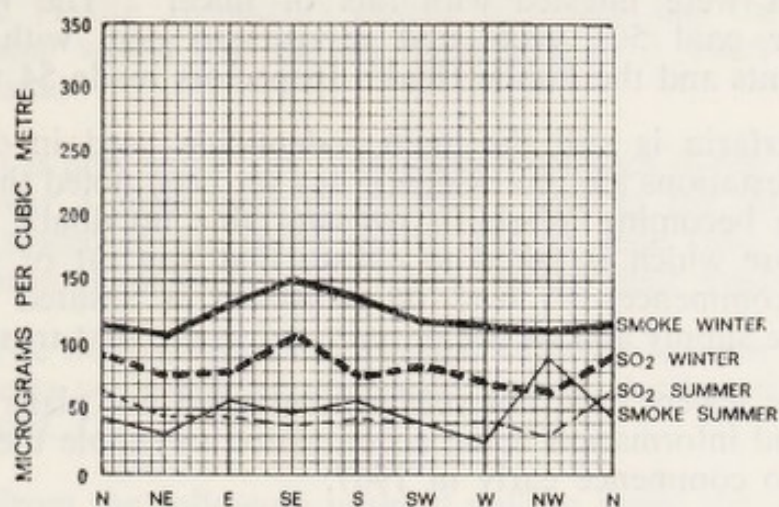


FIG. 4

SALTERBECK (No. 2)

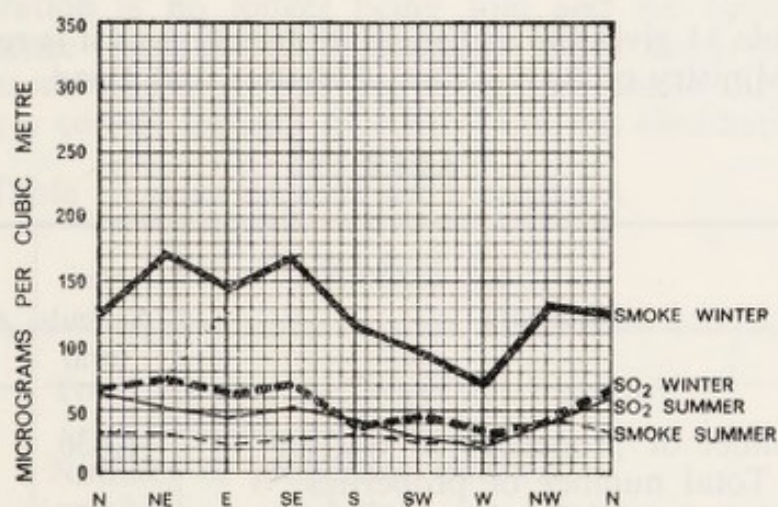


FIG. 5

LAWRENCE STREET (No. 3)

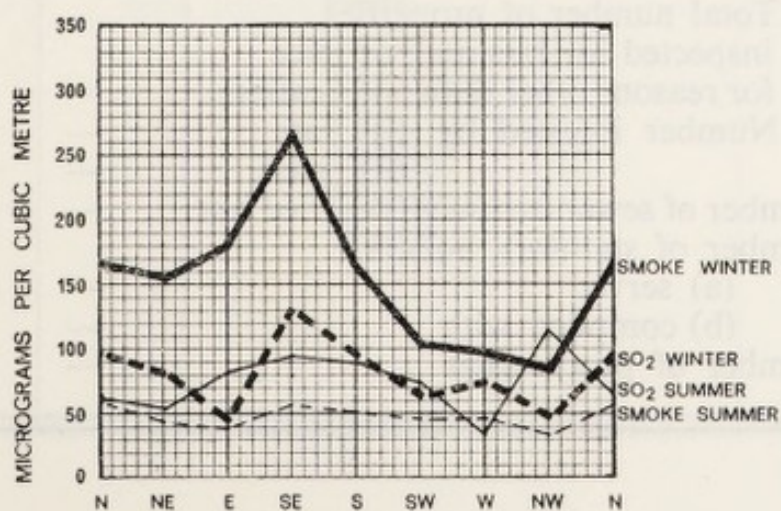


FIG. 6



## RODENT AND PEST CONTROL

During the year 256 complaints were received that premises were infested with rats or mice. The Rodent operator paid 501 visits and re-visits to deal with these complaints and the Public Health Inspectors made 54 visits.

Warfarin is still the main rodenticide used in dealing with infestations and no evidence has yet been noted that any rats are becoming Warfarin resistant due no doubt to the great care which is taken to ensure that any rat or mouse which commences to feed on Warfarin is assured of an adequate supply and so is exterminated at the first treatment.

The sewers have not yet been surveyed but plans are in hand and information being accumulated to enable the treatments to commence early in 1967.

No major infestations were discovered during the year but several business premises were treated following requests for assistance in controlling rodent activity.

Table 11 gives the statistical information as it is returned to the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food.

**TABLE 11**

Rodents	Non Agricul- tural	Agricul- tural.
1. Number of properties in district	11,636	500
2. (a) Total number of properties inspected following notification	256	5
(b) Number infested by (i) rats	67	5
(ii) mice	189	
3. (a) Total number of properties inspected for rats and/or mice for reasons other than notification	—	—
(b) Number infested by (i) rats	—	—
(ii) mice	—	—
4. Number of sewer treatments carried out	—	—
5. Number of statutory notices		
(a) served	—	—
(b) complied with	—	—
6. Number of proceedings	—	—

### Vermin and Pest Control.

There were 278 complaints in respect of infestations by insect pests and pigeons. These complaints necessitated the Public Health Inspectors paying 67 visits and the Rodent Operator would call on the average 2 to 3 times to each premises.

It is now some time since bugs were seen in the town but this year 3 cases were discovered. Two of the infestations were traced to the same source and in each case thorough and prompt measures were taken toward their eradication.

The householders co-operated willingly in each case and the pests were rapidly destroyed and no further infestation followed.

From the following table, it will be noted that the most common cause for complaint are Ants. Until recently we have used a delayed action poison (Thallium Sulphate) in syrup and have achieved excellent results, unfortunately this preparation is no longer being sold and we have had to commence using a D.D.T. Lacquer, which seems to control the insects above ground but doesn't eliminate the nests so giving a certain amount of control but not elimination.

Table 12 gives the detailed breakdown.

**TABLE 12**

Total number of properties inspected following notification	278
Number of properties infested by	
Ants	214
Cockroaches	47
Silverfish	5
Fleas	—
Beetles	1
Bed Bugs	3
Flies	5
Insects	1
Pigeons	1
Wasps	1
	—
	278
	—



Vacated council houses and those council houses where exchanges have been arranged are inspected by a member of the department, to ensure they are free from vermin. In this respect 108 houses were inspected during the year.

## GENERAL

The following gives the information on work done in the department dealing with matters not covered in the previous sections of the report.

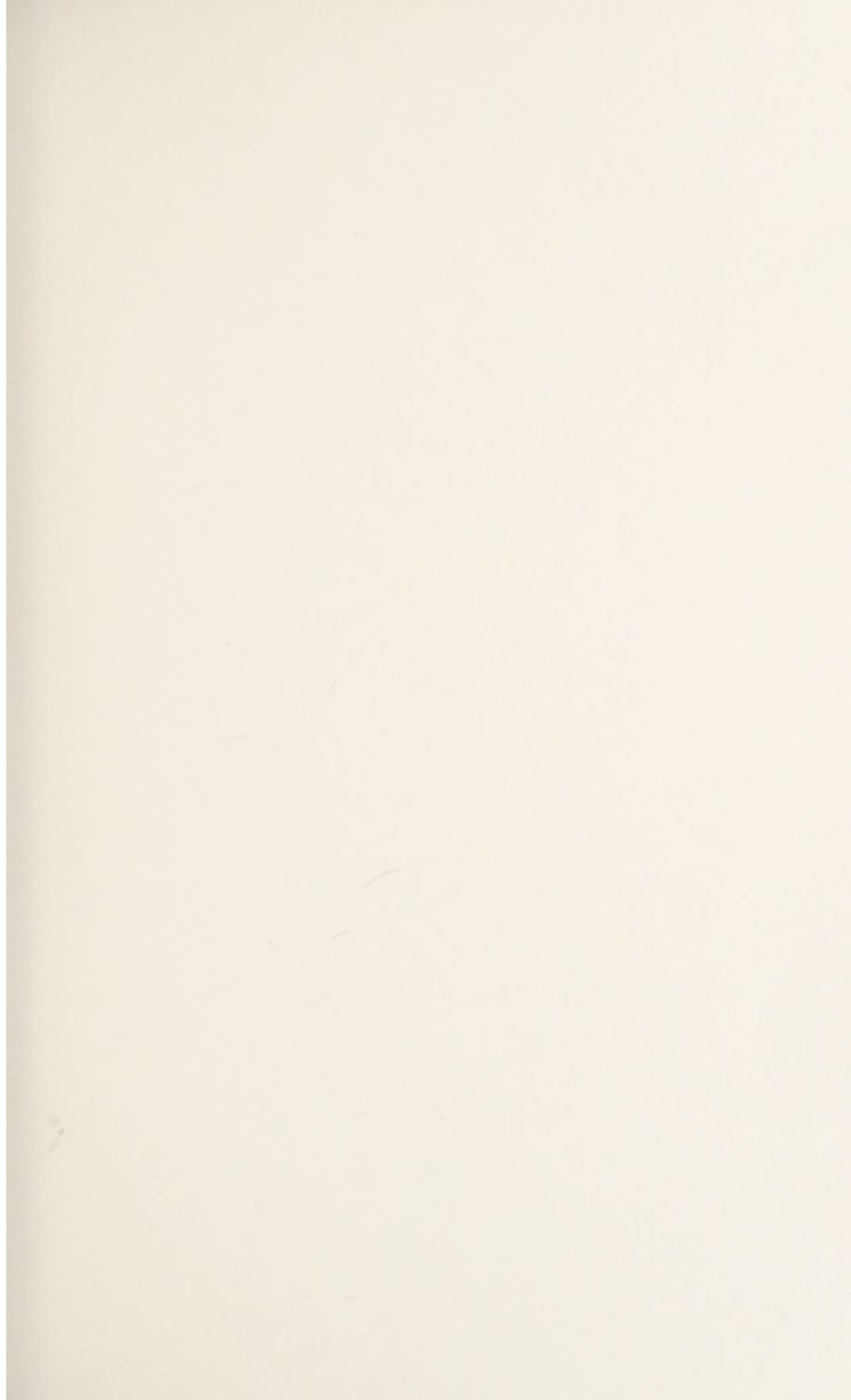
### Noise Abatement Act.

There have only been 4 complaints in respect of noise nuisances which proved to be of a minor nature.

Advice was given in each case and informal approaches resulted in abatement of the nuisances. No notices needed to be served.

### Nuisances under the Public Health Acts.

Number of complaints received in respect of insanitary conditions other than in dwelling houses .....	118
Number of informal notices served as a result of the investigations of the above complaints ...	12
Number of informal notices complied with .....	10
Number of statutory notices served as a result of the above complaints .....	Nil
Number of statutory notices complied with .....	Nil





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