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Borough of Workington

*With the Compliments
of the
Medical Officer of Health*

*Town Hall,
Workington.*

TELEPHONE 2251-5

PUBLIC HEALTH COMMITTEE

1967

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Councillor P. G. BENTLEY.

The Mayor:

Councillor J. EARL, J.P.

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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.
JOHN J. PATTISON, M.A.P.H.I., M.R.S.H.	Additional Public Health Inspector (commenced 1st September, 1966).
ROBERT TAYLOR, M.A.P.H.I.	Additional Public Health Inspector
LESLIE CRELLING, A.R.S.H.	Technical Assistant.
LESLIE SHEPHERD,	Student Public Health Inspector
Miss S. MILLWARD	Clerk (resigned Oct., 1967)
Miss S. BYROM	Clerk (commenced Nov., 1967)
ROBERT ROBINSON	Cleansing Foreman
LEONARD BLAND	Rodent Operator.

TOWN HALL,
WORKINGTON.

July, 1968.

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

Your Worship, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I beg to present for your consideration my Annual Report as your Medical Officer of Health for the year 1967. The report follows the usual lines and conforms to the directions given in Circular 1/68 of the Ministry of Health. The report also parallels that of the Chief Public Health Inspector which appears in this same volume.

The vital statistics for the town in 1967 were on the whole good. There was no major outbreak of any infectious disease but the incidence of measles remained steady with a total number of cases again around 200 for the year. It is hoped that the introduction of measles vaccination will cut down the prevalence of this disease following the pattern of whooping-cough (only 19 cases notified in the last two years). It is difficult to assess the incidence of other viral infections in the community e.g. influenza, epidemic winter vomiting, non-bacterial diarrhoea, because none of these is notifiable and precise labels are difficult to fix on some of them but the winter months did show a relatively high incidence of such conditions which was reflected in a sharp rise in claims for sickness benefit. Notifiable diseases of bacterial origin, e.g. scarlet fever, erysipelas and dysentery were, however, very few.

Infantile mortality was low—14.5 infant deaths per 1,000 live births (administrative county of Cumberland, 16.9: England and Wales 18.3). The figure of one year in a relatively small community is not of course a sure index of the trend. However the average figure for Workington over the last seven years has been below the national figure.

There were no deaths among children of school age.

The continuing relatively high number of unemployed persons has resulted in a drift of the younger population which is reflected in the Registrar-General's estimate of population for mid-1967 the figure having fallen by 80.

Emphasis in housing shifted temporarily towards the Clay Street Improvement Area at the beginning of the year and 253 houses were subjected to detailed inspections by the public health inspectors, and the whole area was found worthy of the application of improvement procedure. Thereafter, with the exception of a number of individual houses, a concentrated and detailed inspection was made of all the houses in the Marsh and Quay Areas (comprising a total of 416 houses or premises). The three rows of houses at North-side, totalling 101 dwellings, were purchased by the Corporation for the purpose of acquiring a good site for industrial development. These houses also were mainly substandard.

The collection of household refuse has greatly improved in terms of containers, paper-bags instead of metal bins in about 35% of premises, and conversion of older models of vehicles to end loading and packing types. A great increase too in the collection of paper for salvage was achieved.

On the disposal side difficulties mount with the increase in non-household refuse accepted at the tip. Improvements to houses, clearance of sites and industrial waste have combined to direct a very large extra tonnage for disposal which now much outweighs in weight and volume refuse from ordinary households. Further industrial expansion calls for consideration of fresh sites for use as combined waste disposal areas for a number of districts. It should be emphasised that incineration would only cope with a very small proportion of the total refuse of all kinds now being received on the tip and as far as our local problem is concerned it is necessary to think in terms of an extension north of the present tip. This appears to me to be a practical way of combining tipping and the preparation of an area of amenity for the town along the edge of the coast, and ranks in importance with the development of industrial sites.

A course for food handlers in Food Hygiene was held in the late autumn at the College of Further Education proving successful in the numbers attending and interest displayed. Twenty-eight set out on the 13-week course and 25 passed the examination at the end. Fourteen also took the Royal Society of Health Examination in the subject and twelve passed.

One vacancy on the public health inspectorial staff was filled by the appointment of Mr. R. Taylor. Miss S. Byrom was appointed clerk to fill the vacancy occurring in this post.

My best thanks are due to the public health inspectors who have, in addition to the ordinary routine in statutory duties, carried out a great amount of detailed work in housing inspection and also given of their time in the evenings to promote health education. I thank also the Chairman and Members of the Public Health Committee for their consideration and support during the year. I wish also to thank my colleagues in general practice and in hospital for information and help directed towards the prevention of disease.

I am,

Mr. Mayor, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

J. L. HUNTER,

Medical Officer of Health.

STATISTICS

1. General

(a) The figures of persons unemployed after the passage of one year did not vary greatly. At a date in December a total of 520 men, including 11 temporarily stopped, were unemployed (470 in 1966). The figure for women was 332 (301 in 1966) and 76 for boys and girls (85 in 1966).

(b) Town Statistics.

Area in acres	5,644
Population (Registrar-General's Estimate of Residents—mid-year, 1967) ...	29,900
Rateable Value	£1,157,930
Sum represented by a Penny Rate ...	£4,800
Total number of domestic premises ...	9,466

2. Vital Statistics

Births

Live Births.

Number: 482.

	<i>Males.</i>	<i>Females.</i>	<i>Total.</i>
Legitimate Births ...	236	204	440
Illegitimate Births	20	22	42
	<hr/> 256	<hr/> 226	<hr/> 482

Rate per 1,000 population 16.1

Adjusted Rate 16.1

Illegitimate Live Births (per
cent. of total live births) 8.7%

Still Births:

Number: 10 (all legitimate).

Rate per 1,000 live and still births 20

Infant Deaths:

Number: 7 (all legitimate).

Infantile Mortality Rates.

Total infant deaths per 1,000 total live
births 14.5

Legitimate infant deaths per 1,000
legitimate live births 16.0

Illegitimate infant deaths per 1,000
illegitimate live births Nil

Neo-natal Mortality Rate (deaths under four weeks per 1,000 total live births)	10.4
Early neo-natal Mortality Rate (deaths under one week per 1,000 live births)	8.3
Peri-natal Mortality Rate (still-births and deaths under one week combined per 1,000 live and still births)	28.4

Deaths.

	<i>Males.</i>	<i>Females.</i>	<i>Total.</i>
Deaths (all ages)	190	135	325
Crude death rate per 1,000 population		10.9	
Adjusted death rate		13.0	
Deaths from certain causes:			
Notifiable diseases		Nil	
Total cancer deaths		57	
Cancer of the Lung		18	
Cancer of the Uterus		2	
Leukaemia		2	
Motor Vehicle Accidents		6	
All other Accidents		8	
Suicide		5	

3. Notes and Comparisons on Vital Statistics.

Births.

The number of births again fell, for the first time in five years, to a total under 500. The birth-rate fell from a figure of 17.2 in 1966 to 16.1 in 1967. The comparable rates for the last four years are as follows:—

	1967	1966	1965	1964
Workington M.B. (adjusted) ...	16.1	17.2	19.2	18.5
Urban Districts of Cumberland	17.0	16.8	18.2	18.8
Rural Districts of Cumberland	15.3	16.0	16.8	18.1
Administrative County of Cumberland	16.0	16.3	17.4	18.4
England and Wales	17.2	17.7	18.0	18.4

Deaths.

The adjusted death rate for 1967 at 13.0 was slightly higher than for 1966 (12.5). Comparable figures in death-rates for the last four years are as follows:—

	1967	1966	1965	1964
Workington M.B. (adjusted) ...	13.0	12.5	13.2	12.3
Urban Districts of Cumberland	11.4	12.2	12.3	11.5
Rural Districts of Cumberland	11.3	12.3	11.8	12.0
Administrative County of Cumberland	11.3	12.3	12.0	11.8
England and Wales	11.2	11.7	11.5	11.3

There were no deaths attributed to notifiable diseases and none to maternal causes. Deaths from cancer of the lung increased by four—18 in 1967, but the total deaths from cancer by all types fell from 74 in 1966 to 57 in 1967. Motor vehicle accidents totalled 6 for the year: there was none in 1966. Table 1 below gives the age at death of Workington Residents in 1967 and Table 2 the Registrar-General's Table of Deaths by cause.

TABLE 1
The Age of Death of Workington Residents—1967

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	4	2	—	—	4	3	7	25	34	57	54	190
Females	1	—	—	—	—	1	2	8	22	39	62	135
Total	5	2	—	—	4	4	9	33	56	96	116	325

Table 2
Registrar-General's Table of Deaths by Cause
Workington M.B.—1967

<i>Serial.</i>	<i>Cause.</i>	<i>Male.</i>	<i>Female.</i>	<i>Total.</i>
10	Malignant Neoplasm, stomach	4	2	6
11	Do. Lung, Bronchus	15	3	18
12	Do. Breast	—	1	1
13	Do. Uterus	—	2	2
14	Other malignant and lymphatic neoplasms	21	9	30
15	Leukaemia, Aleukaemia	1	1	2
16	Diabetes	2	—	2
17	Vascular Lesions of nervous system	19	24	43
18	Coronary disease, angina	48	36	84
19	Hypertension with heart disease ...	3	1	4
20	Other heart disease	19	19	38
21	Other circulatory failure	7	8	15
23	Pneumonia	9	7	16
24	Bronchitis	11	5	16
25	Other diseases of respiratory system	1	1	2
26	Ulcer of stomach and duodenum ...	2	1	3
28	Nephritis and nephrosis	—	2	2
29	Hyperplasia of prostate	1	—	1
31	Congenital Malformation	1	1	2
32	Other defined or ill-defined diseases	10	9	19
33	Motor vehicle accidents	5	1	6
34	All other accidents	7	1	8
35	Suicide	4	1	5
Total ...		190	135	325

4. Infantile and Peri-natal Mortality.

There were seven deaths of infants under 1 year of age during the years (6 males: 1 female), a decrease of five compared to 1966, and resulting in a low figure in infantile mortality of 14.5. Four of these infants died before the age of one week from prematurity and one died in the second week of life from a congenital defect. Two infants died of respiratory infections beyond the age of four weeks. There were ten stillbirths. Although the number of live births fell

infantile deaths and stillbirths were still lower proportionately, resulting in a figure of 28 in peri-natal mortality.

Table 3 below gives the annual infantile and peri-natal mortalities from the year 1911—in quinquennial periods to 1965 and thereafter by year for Workington M.B. and the comparable figure for England and Wales. Table 4 shows the infantile deaths by age and cause of death.

TABLE 3
Annual Infantile and Peri-Natal Mortality

<i>Period.</i>	<i>Infantile Mortality.</i>		<i>Peri-natal Mortality</i>	
	<i>Workington M.B.</i>	<i>England and Wales.</i>	<i>Workington M.B.</i>	<i>England and Wales.</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
1967	14.5	18.3	28.0	25.5

TABLE 4
Infantile Deaths shown by Age and Cause of Death

Cause of Death.	Age in Weeks				Age in Months						Total
	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		1			1						1
Acute Bronchiolities							1				1
Viral Pneumonia						1					1
Total	4	1			5	1	1				7

GENERAL PROVISIONS OF THE HEALTH SERVICES IN THE AREA

(a) Staff

It is satisfying to report that there were no major changes in staff during the year thus obviating any hiatus in output of inspectorial work which undoubtedly held up progress for a few years. The only change in staff was in the position of the clerk. Miss S. Millward relinquished her post on the occasion of her marriage and Miss Sandra Byrom took up duty in November.

(b) Laboratory Services.

The Carlisle Laboratory of the Public Health Service Laboratory Service undertakes all the routine sampling of milk and water supplies and also is pleased to give advice on contaminated foodstuffs. The pathologists of the West Cumberland Hospital Board have also kindly helped bacteriologically when a large number of specimens required examination in the investigation of dysentery, etc. Vi-agglutinin tests in personnel of the Water Board are also carried out at the local hospitals including re-tests of all personnel.

(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 (now changing to hospital out-patient department).

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. Orthoptic treatment is carried out by appointment in cases selected by the consultant ophthalmologist at the out-patient department in Workington Infirmary or in the clinic by appointment.

(d) National Assistance Acts.

It is now some years since these acts were invoked in this borough. Although there are always a small number of elderly people living on the edge of insanitary conditions and inability to look after themselves, improving welfare and nursing services combine to maintain such cases in reasonable independence at home.

(e) Port Health.

No case of infectious disease was notified as occurring on ships entering the port during the year. Re-vaccination of ship crews is offered as a routine and fair advantage is taken of the facility by ship captains.

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA

A full report on the work of the Public Health Inspectors and of the sanitary condition of the district is given by the Chief Public Health Inspector immediately following this part of the annual report. Certain features are now taken up from a more general point of view.

1. Housing.

Inspection of houses on the south side of Station Road (towards declaring an Improvement Area of some 250 houses) proceeded and concurrently a complete survey of the houses in the Marsh and Quay area was started.

Including houses at Barepot your Medical Officer inspected 66 sub-standard properties and represented 38. Compulsory purchase orders were declared during the year in respect of 82 houses earlier represented by area.

House building in 1966 totalled 33 new houses built by the Corporation and 48 by private builders.

2. Water Supply.

The provision of a water supply to the town is the duty of the West Cumberland Water Board. The water is from a very soft upland source delivered from intakes in the Crummock Lake to Workington by two original mains and by a third main now laid as far as Brigham and connected to the second original main which supplies the reservoir at Stainburn. The new main increases substantially the amount of water that can be made available to the town.

The water is treated by chlorination and added lime but still remains potentially plumbo-solvent. Much sampling of water has been done during the year in order to locate lead piping in the peripheral distribution areas. The fluoride content of the water is very low—less than 0.1 parts per million. Provision to correct this is being made in the erection of the new treatment works at Cornhow.

New mains were laid to supply housing developments and to connect dead ends and certain mains were relaid or scraped during the year.

The average consumption of water within the Borough is 1,894,000 gallons per day, representing an average consumption per head of population of 63.4 gallons per day.

I am greatly indebted to Mr. J. P. Williamson, the Water Engineer, for the content of the text above.

Regular bacteriological sampling has been carried out both by the Water Board and the Corporation normally with excellent results and few repeat samples were found to be necessary. A total of 41 samples were taken during the year. The chemical analysis of the water varies very little from year to year. A typical result is reproduced below.

Chemical Analysis:

Appearance	clear and colourless
Odour	Nil
Reaction, pH	6.8
Parts per million	
Total Solids	45
Nitrogen as free and saline ammonia	0.03
Nitrogen as albuminoid ammonia	0.01
Nitrogen as nitrites	very slight trace
Nitrogen as nitrates	2.0
Chlorides, as Cl	8
Oxygen absorbed from permanganate in 4 hours at 27° C.	0.3
Total hardness	21
Temporary hardness	10
Permanent hardness	11
Alkalinity	10
Free Chlorine	Nil
Potassium, as K	0.15
Anionic synthetic detergents	—
Manganese, as Mn	—
Cyanides and thiocyanates	—
Poisonous metals	Nil
"The chemical condition of this water is satisfactory."	

3. Sewerage.

The Borough Surveyor reports that no new major schemes were undertaken during the year but that work was undertaken in respect of new houses and the Clay Flatts Industrial Estate.

4. Refuse Collection.

No changes were made in collection. The issue of stands for paper bags and the conversion of the fleet to packing type vehicles continues. A bonus scheme for paper collection is now in operation. On the disposal side of the operation the second site leased from the Workington Iron and Steel Company is being used up at a greater rate than obtained five years ago, because of the much greater quantities of non-household refuse accepted on the tip. It is hoped to arrange to continue controlled tipping north of the present area on the coastline so as to provide eventually an open space as an amenity for the town.

During the year the total weight of refuse collected was 7,543 tons. This figure relates only to household refuse. The amount of paper salvaged, baled and sold was 343 tons.

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

1. General

The incidence of notifiable disease was low. Measles accounted for 198 of a total 225 notifications for all conditions. Non-notifiable diseases, influenza etc., were sufficiently high in January to be reported by the Ministry of Social Security as more than normally prevalent. Table 5 gives the total number of notifications of infectious disease during the year.

2. Vaccination and Immunisation

(a) At the time of writing measles vaccination had begun in the area.

(b) *Poliomyelitis*. A total of 540 primary courses and 240 booster doses were given during the year, a decline of one-third compared to the figure for 1966.

(c) *Diphtheria, Tetanus and Whooping Cough.* The number of primary triple injections carried out in 1967 was 536 (472 in 1966) and the number of booster doses for diphtheria and tetanus was 815. The total figures were approximately 80 less than in 1966. As the immunity index is calculated centrally for each local health authority on a basis different from that of former years it is not now possible to present the table of immunity index given in previous reports for the age groups 0-14 years in respect of borough children.

3. Tuberculosis

Seven cases only were notified during the year—four cases of respiratory tuberculosis (all male over 45 years of age) and three cases of other forms of tuberculosis (all females over 35 years of age). There was no death from any form of the disease.

B.C.G. vaccination continued in schools but the figures available relate to children born in 1954 who attend schools in Workington from a much wider area.

Number of children born 1954	539
Number of consents	383 (71%)
Number given protection	212 (40%)

In addition absentees from the previous year were also vaccinated and these, together with numbers not done because the Mantoux test was positive account mainly for the apparent wastage between the figures 383 and 212. Of 88 reactors referred to the chest clinic 23 were already known to the consultant, 51 showed a satisfactory X-ray and 14 did not attend: of 289 given a post-B.C.G. Mantoux test only one required re-vaccination.

As in other procedures of prevention the lessening incidence of the active disease weighs against acceptance of inoculation.

Table 6 gives the deaths and death rates for the Borough and the comparative figures for England and Wales by quinquennial periods from 1911 to 1965 and by single year thereafter.

TABLE 5
WORKINGTON M.B.
Notification of Infectious Diseases—1967

Disease.	Total No. of cases.	Age Groups.											
		—1	1+	2+	3+	4+	5—9	10—14	15—24	25+			
Scarlet Fever	1						1						
Measles	198	8	26	39	30	26	69						
Whooping Cough	16	3	1	5		4	4						
Erysipelas	1								1				
	Total No. of cases.	—1	1	2—4	5—9	10—14	15—19	20—24	25—44	45—54	55—64	65—74	75+
Tuberculosis-													
Respiratory	4									1	3		
Meningial	3								1			1	1
Other													
Puerperal Pyrexia	2								2				

TABLE 6

Tuberculosis—Workington—1967
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
1967	—	—	—	0.00	0.04

4. Cancer and Bronchitis

Deaths from cancer decreased in number in 1967 by seventeen from the previous year but showed an increase in deaths from cancer of the lung. The average age at death from all types of cancer was 65 years in the case of males and 60 in females. Of the deaths from cancer of the lung in the case of males thirteen were over 55 years of age and the two female cases were also over 55. Although one of the main factors in the production of cancer of the lung is excessive cigarette smoking much investigation is now being directed towards finding other causal or inciting agencies, particularly air pollution. The undue prevalence of bronchitis, too, in this country as compared to others with little air pollution, has been thought to be linked to the inhalation of smoky particles from the atmosphere.

It is interesting here to quote and note the opinion of Dr. Percy Stokes (writing on *Lung Cancer and Bronchitis* in the British Journal of Preventive and Social Medicine—October, 1967) as follows:

“ excess of urban cancer of the lung and bronchitis must be attributed to air pollution.”

“ while cigarette smoking is the most important factor in determining national death rates from lung cancer before the age of 45, air pollution by coal smoke is as important as cigarette smoking in determining rates at ages over 55.”

Health Education in the prevention of lung cancer in its relation to cigarette smoking has been and is being directed, with indifferent success, towards the individual. The control of air pollution by some industrial processes and by vehicle exhaust is not directly within the powers of the local authority. Local corporate effort can however be directed towards the elimination of smoke pollution of the air of the town from domestic chimneys. A year ago a start was made in the proposal to add smoke control to housing improvement procedure, in fact doing two jobs together in the most economic way, and it was considerable disappointment when the Council thought it politic to postpone the smoke control part.

Workington.
September, 1968

To the Worshipful the Mayor, the Aldermen and the Council of the Borough of Workington.

Your Worship, Ladies and Gentlemen,

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

On the whole the year was one which gave me some feeling of satisfaction in so far as the department was at last able to make positive progress on some of the outstanding problems in the Borough. The staffing difficulties which had bedevilled the department for some years ended as it had begun.

Mr. J. G. Gillingham, who had been in the department for some years, was promoted to the post of Chief Public Health Inspector. Mr. J. G. Gillingham, who had been in the department for some years, was promoted to the post of Chief Public Health Inspector.

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and Councillors of the Borough of Workington.*

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On the whole the year was one which gave me some feeling of satisfaction in so far as the department was at last able to make positive progress on some of the outstanding problems in the Borough. The staffing difficulties which had bedevilled us in 1966 were overcome and the year ended as it had begun with a full complement of personnel. In addition our students continued to fulfil their early promise; Mr. L. Crelling successfully completed his second year of the Salford Technical College Sandwich Course to obtain entry into his third year; Mr. L. Shepherd sat for, and successfully obtained, his Intermediate Diploma of the Public Health Inspectors Education Board and subsequently entered into his second year. Mr. R. Taylor also obtained his Diploma as an Inspector of Meat and Other Foods.

Despite the fact that greater priority was given to housing, work on the Food Hygiene Campaign and under the Offices, Shops and Railway Premises Act continued at a steady rate and, although progress was not as great as I would have hoped, a real step forward was made towards our goal of completing initial inspections under both pieces of legislation. One aspect of this work which has given me some cause for concern has been the type of general complaint, which arrives at the department by a second or third party and which is usually based on some misunderstanding of the true situation. On the whole this method of dealing with complaints is completely unsatisfactory to all concerned and I would much rather those persons, who feel they have some cause for complaint, make a direct approach to the office in order that any problems and difficulties can be properly discussed and, in the majority of cases, ironed out to the mutual satisfaction of all parties.

As a result of the better staffing position in the department we were able to devote a little more time to two aspects of our work which I believe are becoming more and more necessary, those of Health Education and Public Relations. In addition to the Food Hygiene Course at the College of Further Education some 20 or so talks and lectures were given to schools and local organisations. In July we held our first "Keep Workington Tidy Week" which included a poster competition for the schools, with the winning entries in the various age groups being displayed in the library; a free film show at the Carnegie Theatre which was opened by His Worship the Mayor when the prizes were presented to the winners of the poster competition; and special evening collections of bulky household refuse, etc.

In the field of refuse collection minor alterations were made to complete the reorganisation of the service and an order was placed for a new 20 cu. yd. Pakamatic collection vehicle to be delivered in the Spring of 1968. The new service for the free collection of bulky household refuse was used to a greater extent, the number of requests rising to 376 compared with 217 in 1966 and 88 in 1965. I am sure that, as this service becomes more widely known and used, we shall begin to see a lessening in the tendency for dumping on open sites. Towards the end of the year investigations were made into possible individual tipping sites, situated in various parts of the town, which would comply with the requirements of the Civic Amenities Act. One of the major difficulties is the need to have these sites near housing estates if they are to be of any use at all, and yet, at the same time, not situated in such a position as to be "eye sores" or a nuisance to the nearby residents. I personally feel that our free collection service is by far the better answer and hope that everyone in the Borough can be encouraged to use it rather than tip on any sites which might be provided.

One trend which has been revealed from the records as a result of the reorganisation and which I believe is worthy of note is the reduction in the number of man/days lost due to absenteeism and sickness. During the year 1964/65 the average number of man/days lost was 112; in 1965/66 this dropped to 78; in 1966/67 to 69; and finally in 1967/68 to 52. On the whole I feel that this is most encouraging and hope that as time goes by even this will be improved upon.

Per month.

The refuse collection service was highlighted nationally with the publication of the Working Party Report on Refuse Collection. This report laid down several recommendations for local authorities to consider applying to their individual services. It is pleasing to note that the reorganisation started some 2 or 3 years ago will, when completed, mean that our service fully meets the suggestions laid down.

In May the final sanction by the Prices and Incomes Board for the payment of the Salvage Bonus (negotiated and agreed locally in 1966) placed the department in a better position to start the drive for salvage collection and by the end of the year 343 tons had been collected bringing a gross revenue of £3,197. Of this amount the men shared £405 giving an average bonus of £13 10s. 0d. per man.

Tipping continued at Oldside with little to disturb the routine other than a rather serious fire which took place in April. This was caused by the acceptance of material believed to be "dead", from a local factory which had had a fire. However, after tipping a wind sprang up and the fire developed taking a whole week-end to "damp down" even with the help of the fire service. The increase in waste from industry, demolition works, building works and road improvements is causing the tip to fill up much more rapidly than originally envisaged and I must reiterate the point, made in last year's report, that immediate action is needed to secure a further area of land for our future tipping needs.

Finally I would take this opportunity of thanking the Chairman and Members of the Health Committee, Dr. Hunter and my colleagues in other departments for their help and support over the year. In addition I must pay tribute to all members of the department who have loyally given of their best and without whom the department could not function.

I am,

Mr. Mayor, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

D. A. FOGG,

Chief Public Health Inspector.

HOUSING

Housing Acts.

It is pleasing to report that during the year the department was in a position to come to grips with some of the outstanding projects in this extremely important sphere of our work.

For the early part of the year two inspectors devoted the majority of their time to the preliminary survey of the proposed improvement area and in all 253 properties were inspected. The preliminary survey revealed that the area was made up of 60.0% owner occupied dwellings; 27.0% tenanted dwellings; 5.5% owner occupied businesses with dwelling accommodation; 2.4% tenanted businesses with living accommodation and 5.1% purely business premises. Of these properties some 22.5% were already improved to the full standard and of those requiring improvement, some 47.0% of tenants and owner occupiers signified their interest in having improvements carried out whilst the remainder, at the time of inspection, were not in agreement. From this information it became quite clear that the complete success of the project would depend on the co-operation and willingness of the owner occupiers to participate in the improvement and this in itself would mean a tremendous amount of work on the part of the staff to "sell" the idea. Nevertheless, despite this particular problem it was felt that it would still be worthwhile proceeding with the declaration of the area and several suggestions were placed before the Council for policy decisions which it was believed would assist in the smoother implementation of the proposals. Included in these was the purchase, repair and improvement of a dwelling to be used as a Show House, a request that consideration be given to the improvement of the environment and it was also suggested that smoke control procedure should be linked with the area improvements. Despite all the progress made with the project however, some delay occurred towards the end of the year which prevented the declaration of the area but it was comforting to know that all this work had not been in vain and that the New Year would see the project "off the ground".

Running concurrently with the work on the improvement area, a further area in the Church Street Clearance Areas was represented and declared and the Compulsory Purchase Orders for all four Areas were also declared. In addition a further 28 houses in Concrete Row, Barepot were inspected, represented and declared as a Clearance Area to be dealt with by the Compulsory Purchase Order procedure.

The time of two inspectors and part of another was taken up for the latter part of the year in a survey of the 416 properties making up the Marsh and Quay. The Council, quite rightly, felt that the dilemma in how to best to deal with the extremely difficult problems of this area could only be finally solved by a house to house survey to assess the condition of the area as a whole. As so much uncertainty has been associated with the area, the department gave this survey high priority and by the end of the year the greater amount of the field work was done. However, some time was needed in the ensuing year before the final picture could emerge.

There was a slight increase in the number, compared with last year, of complaints in respect of disrepair in houses with a consequential increase in both informal and formal notices. However it is pleasing to note that the larger number were complied with without the need for statutory notices and that, in the ones where statutory procedure was instigated, there was no need for recourse to the courts.

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 dwelling houses rendered fit after services 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 5
 - (ii) Number of dwelling houses demolished in pursuance of demolition orders 8
 - (b) Proceedings under Section 18 Housing Act 1957
 - (i) Number of dwelling houses in respect of which closing orders were made 7
 - (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	2
(ii) Number of clearance areas declared	5
(iii) Number of dwelling houses unfit for habitation	38
(iv) Number of dwelling houses included by reason of their bad arrangement	Nil
(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	15
(ii) Rehoused from clearance area	1
(b) Persons	
(i) Rehoused from individual unfit dwelling houses	38
(ii) Rehoused from clearance areas	2

(5) Improvement grants

(a) Number of houses inspected for improvement grant purposes	
In improvement area	236
Individual Applications	129
(b) Total number of visits made in connection with the above	
In improvement area	371
Individual Applications	72

(6) General

(a) Number of dwelling houses inspected for housing defects	491
(b) Total number of visits paid to the above houses	625

Public Health Acts

(a) Number of complaints received re insanitary conditions in dwelling houses	132
(b) Number of dwelling houses inspected re complaints and routine inspections	276
(c) Total number of visits of all kinds to dwelling houses	1126

Action taken

Number of informal notices served re insanitary conditions in dwelling houses	113
Number of informal notices for insanitary conditions in dwelling houses complied with	98

Number of statutory notices served for insanitary conditions in dwelling houses	28
Number of statutory notices for insanitary conditions in dwelling houses complied with ...	20

TABLE 1

Summary of items included in the above notices:—

Defects	Served	Complied with
Roofs	43	35
Walls	79	55
Floors	15	4
Ceilings	16	4
Windows	46	32
Fireplaces and flues	11	4
Sinks	4	1
Water Supplies	3	3
Rainwater conductors	27	24
Paving	15	12
Water Closets	23	18
Drainage	15	10
Cleansing	13	8
Miscellaneous	19	14

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 the continuing good working relationship between the members of the department and agents, landlords and builders.

Rent Act

Only one visit has been made in conjunction with Certificates of Disrepair. The lack of use of the Act only confirms my remarks of last year that this Act has ceased to be an effective tool for obtaining repairs.

Caravan Sites and Control of Development Act

Sixteen visits have been made to caravans during the year, mostly to casual visitors who have parked on unauthorised sites and, when the Act was explained to the owners, the sites were cleared. A visit to one of the registered sites at the end of the year caused me some concern and action is being taken by the department to secure compliance with the Act.

Common Lodging Houses

There are no known common lodging houses within the Borough.

FOOD HYGIENE AND FOOD CONTROL

Despite the priority given to housing during the year it is pleasing to note that some progress was made in the inspection of food premises. Whilst the numbers of primary inspections dropped it will be seen that the number of re-inspections nearly trebled. This was because my fears, mentioned in the early part of the commentary in this section of last year's report, were unfortunately only too true; the impact and impetus of the work in 1966 was lost, due to the lack of staff, and, when we were able to start again, it was found that we were almost back to "square one".

In the light of this experience I felt that a different approach would have to be made to overcome this problem, so inspections were made of "batches" of premises within an area and these were revisited regularly until the majority complied with the requirements of the Regulations before an inspection of another batch was commenced. This system proved to be more successful and of the 138 notices served some 111 were complied with by the year end. Whilst visible progress by this method is much less obvious the results were far more positive for the time expended.

This experience also supports the view, so often expressed by many colleagues as well as myself, that unless premises are inspected regularly and a constant vigilance maintained, standards soon start to fall. Bad habits are usually the result of laziness or taking the "easy way" and as human nature is not and never will be perfect, a regular reminder of the responsibilities which every food handler has to the community at large, can only be for the good of all.

October saw the commencement of our first course on food hygiene which was essentially designed for food handlers and which was run in conjunction with the College of Further Education. This course was accepted by the Royal Society of Health and the students are therefore eligible to sit the examination for their "Certificate in the Hygiene of Food Retailing and Catering". Some 28 candidates "signed on" for the course and of these 25 finally sat and passed the College internal examination and of the 14 who presented themselves for the Royal Society of Health examination 12 passed.

I feel that the success of the course speaks for itself and I cannot let this opportunity pass without expressing my sincere appreciation to Dr. Johnson and his Staff who gave much helpful advice and did so much to get the course "off the ground", and also to those firms in the town who gave considerable encouragement by not only paying the necessary

fees etc. for the staff to attend the course and sit the examination, but who also offered an additional incentive in the form of an increase in remuneration to those who successfully passed the external examination.

I would commend this interest in food hygiene and hope that the example set will be emulated by other traders in the town and that the course will continue to move from "strength to strength" for it is only by educational processes that we can obtain a clearer understanding in the need for clean food. It is hoped that next year will show some further tangible recognition, for those who attended the course and passed the examination, in the form of badges which will be presented by the Council.

Inspections under the Market Stalls and Delivery Vehicles Regulations were rather limited during the year and only 4 notices were served. However, I anticipate that more progress will be made next year.

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	21	21	21	21
Butchers	26	26	26	26
Breweries and Mineral Water Manufacturers	5	5	5	5
Catering premises	72	72	72	72
Confectioners	21	21	21	21
Fishmongers and Poulterers	5	5	5	5
Fried Fish Shops	17	17	17	17
Greengrocers	20	20	20	20
Grocers & General	130	130	130	130
Ice Cream Manufacturers	4	4	4	4
Licensed Premises	93	80	80	80
Tripe etc. Shops	1	1	1	1
Totals	415	402	402	402

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.

TABLE 3

Inspections

Type of premises	No. of inspections
Bakehouses	16
Butchers	23
Breweries & Mineral Water Mfrs. ...	5
Catering Premises	11
Confectioners	22
Fishmongers & Poulterers	4
Fried Fish Shops	5
Greengrocers	16
Grocers and General	107
Ice Cream Manufacturers	2
Licensed Premises, Clubs, Hotels ...	38
Staff Canteens	3
Tripe Boilers	—
Totals	252

In addition to the inspections shown in Table 3 there have been 438 visits throughout the year for re-visits, incidental calls, interviews and discussions.

Food Control

Four complaints were dealt with regarding various food-stuffs—each case was investigated and the appropriate action taken.

Table 4 below gives details of the individual complaints and summaries of the findings:—

TABLE 4

Commodity	Nature of the Complaint
1 Cornish Pasties	Possible cause of suspected food poisoning
2 Bacon	Out of condition
3 Chopped Pork	Contained inedible object
4 Chocolates	Insects in chocolate

Summaries

- (1) These pasties were submitted to the Public Health Laboratory, Carlisle at the request of a local practitioner as the possible cause of a patient suffering vomiting, headaches and nausea. The results were negative to *Salmonella* organisms, *staphylococcus aureus* and *clostridium welchii*.
- (2) The bacon was brought to the department several days after purchase and as by that time it was out of condition no assessment of its condition at the time of purchase could be made. The shop was visited and storage conditions, etc. were found to be satisfactory so no further action was taken.
- (3) A spring-like leaf of metal was found in a tin of Chopped Pork. Representations were made to the wholesale distributors and also to the importers of this product. No further action was considered necessary.
- (4) Boxes of Christmas tree shapes were found to be infested with *Ptinus tectus* (Australian Spider Beetles). The premises were examined and live beetles found in the area where the boxes had been stored, the premises were disinfested and there has been no further recurrence. The owners of the premises were prosecuted and a fine of £20 imposed by the Magistrates for selling food not of substance demanded.

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 75 visits were made in connection with this service and the total weight of foodstuffs dealt with was over 2 tons 4 cwts.

TABLE 5
Tinned Goods

	lbs.		lbs.
Steak and Kidney ...	2	Pineapple Juice ...	9
Liver ...	10	Grapefruit ...	76
Veal ...	18	Blackcurrants ...	7
Chopped Pork ...	70	Prunes ...	26
Ham ...	233	Cherries ...	120
Pork Shoulder ...	15	Oranges ...	11
Pork Loin ...	14	Rhubarb ...	10
Steak ...	28	Orange Juice ...	16
Luncheon Meat ...	18	Evaporated Milk ...	73
Corned Beef ...	162	Cream ...	7
Tongue ...	113	Coleslaw Salad ...	20
Tuna ...	3	Carrots ...	50
Salmon ...	48	Broad Beans ...	1
Shrimps ...	2	Baked Beans ...	132
Pilchards ...	11	Beetroot ...	35
Prawns ...	2	Mixed Vegetables ...	2
Crab ...	2	Spaghetti ...	2
Fruit Salad ...	90	Tomatoes ...	125
Gooseberries ...	10	Pease ...	291
Pears ...	205	Rice Pudding ...	59
Peaches ...	272	Maccaroni ...	21
Plums ...	4	Rice ...	38
Apricots ...	22	Pie Fillings ...	26
Pineapples ...	37	Soup ...	18

Other Foods

	lbs.		lbs.
Bacon ...	286	Grapes ...	55
Beef ...	123	Melons ...	500
Pigs Head ...	10	Mixed Groceries ...	152
Potatoes ...	841	Cordials ...	34 bottles

In addition 395 lbs. and 600 packets of various Frozen Foods which had become defrosted were inspected and destroyed.

Food and Drugs Act 1955, Sect. 16

No premises have been registered during the year and there have been two cancellations. The number registered for the sale of ice cream is 96 retailers and 3 manufacturers.

One manufacturer used the hot mix process, one 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.

Liquid Egg (Pasteurisation) Regulations, 1963

There are no liquid egg pasteurising plants in the Borough and no samples of liquid egg have been submitted to the Alpha-Amylase test.

Poultry

There are no poultry processing premises within the District.

Dairies and Milk Distributors

During the year a total of 81 inspections, interviews 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 producer retailers, and 9 farm producers.

As will be seen in Table 6 work continued on the sampling for the presence of brucellosis and the infection was traced in 3 herds situated within the Borough.

In view of the intermittent nature of the disease every effort was made to sample the milk from each farm monthly and the procedure consisted of sampling milk from each churn and then sampling from each individual cow in the herd if any of the churn samples proved to be positive to the ring test. The procedure was time consuming but in view of the results worthwhile. The deputy divisional veterinary officer of the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food was notified of the cases found but in addition the department endeavoured to persuade the farmers to have the affected cows slaughtered; unfortunately this plea met with very little success and usually the animal was put on to the market and so, no doubt, helped to spread the infection a little further.

The producer/retailer who had an infected cow agreed voluntarily to have all his milk pasteurised until repeat sampling did not show evidence of brucellosis.

It was pleasing to note that our negotiations with the proprietor of our local processing dairy resulted in H.T.S.T. plant being installed which, after teething troubles, operated satisfactorily. However a little trouble developed towards the end of the year which, after swabbing various parts of the equipment and taking samples after the various processes, proved to be due to a fault in the bottle washing plant. This was rectified and results improved thereafter.

TABLE 6

	No. of Samples	No. void	No. fail methylene blue	No. fail phosphatase	No. fail turbidity	No. of churns sampled	No. which failed ring test	No. individual cow samples	No. failing culture	No. of cows removed	Pasteurising orders	
											formal	informal
Retailers	70	—	4	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Producer/	44	9	6	—	—	—	5	45	1	1	—	1
Retailer	70	17	10	—	—	188	15	111	2	2	—	1
Farms												
	184	26	20	3	—	188	20	156	3	3	—	2

Water Supply

The drinking water supplied throughout the Borough by the West Cumberland Water Board has been regularly sampled during the year a total of 41 samples having been sent for analysis and in all cases the results were "excellent". The two chemical samples analysed both proved to be satisfactory.

All premises in the Borough are supplied from public water mains direct to premises, no stand pipes being used.

OFFICES, SHOPS, RAILWAY PREMISES AND FACTORIES

Offices, Shops and Railway Premises Act, 1963

Whilst the number of general inspections doubled compared with last year, unfortunately the net total of registered premises inspected was still not greater than the two thirds of last year. As found with the food hygiene campaign much of the impact was lost by the time reinspections started again in 1967 and therefore it was inevitable that some "back tracking" had to be carried out and, to avoid a similar occurrence, the same procedure of inspections was adopted, i.e. inspections of a batch of premises and revisiting until the majority complied before starting on the next batch. This entailed a total of 521 visits but by the end of the year some 111 informal notices were complied with out of the 145 served. As always, architects and other interested bodies have been encouraged to consult the department during the planning stage of proposed alterations or new premises and 9 such interviews took place.

On the whole I think it is fair to say that, whilst some difficulties have cropped up either through misunderstandings or just sheer resentment at having to spend money on works which do not show a financial return, the majority of occupiers have been most understanding and co-operative.

In general, contraventions of the Act have, as in last year's inspections, fallen into distinct categories in most premises inspected. Absence of the Abstract of the Act, which gives employees information regarding their entitlements so far as working conditions are concerned, was the infringement found in almost all premises inspected. Absence of thermometers and first aid boxes and poor conditions of decoration were found in many instances and absence of satisfactory washing and toilet facilities were also noted. The lack of thought in failing to provide adequate handrails to staircases and in allowing floors and floor coverings to wear to a potentially dangerous state is reflected at national level in the number of reported accidents due in some measure to these defects, although so far in this Borough investigation has, in most cases, exonerated the occupiers from blame where accidents have occurred,

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

- (1) *Office.*
Office cleaner was carrying a bucket of ashes up the cellar steps, slipped and sustained a severe lumber strain.
- (2) *Shop.*
Employee fell on staircase whilst carrying an order, sustained spained ankle. Modification to the hand rail was requested and carried out to remove a possible obstruction and to facilitate the safe handling of goods.
- (3) *Shop.*
Employee mishandled a carton of goods as it was passed to her by a storeman. Carton fell on her foot and cracked bone in her toe. No further action necessary.
- (4) *Shop.*
Employee carrying carton of bottles either tripped or slipped, dropping the carton. The bottles broke and the employee fell onto the glass, lacerating her knee. No further action necessary.
- (5) *Shop.*
Cleaner, whilst washing the shop floor, slipped on the wet surface when she was moving a bucket out of her way. She sustained a sprained knee. No further action taken.
- (6) *Shop.*
Employee carrying meat in storeroom slipped and sprained right ankle. The floor was in sound condition and free from grease. No further action taken.
- (7) *Shop.*
Employee walking down the stairs tripped on bottom step and fell forwards. She sustained shock and bruising of forehead and knees. The stairs were sound and free from obstruction; no further action taken.
- (8) *Shop.*
Assistant walking upstairs slipped and fell, sustaining bruising of leg and hand. The stairs were in good condition and no further action was necessary.

TABLE 7

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	1	87	40
Retail shops	13	220	112
Wholesale shops, Warehouses	—	22	6
Catering Establishments	1	29	14
Fuel Storage Depots	—	—	—
Totals	15	359	172

TABLE 8

Analysis of persons employed in registered premises by workplace.

Class of Workplace	No. of Persons Employed
Offices	785
Retail Shops	1002
Wholesale Dept. Warehouses	106
Catering Establishments	155
Canteens	6
Fuel Storage Depots	—
Total	2054
Total Males	846
Total Females	1208

Shops Acts.

One routine tour was made throughout the Borough during the year with a view to ensuring that traders were complying with requirements for Sunday Trading. As a result 38 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 25 re-visits were made.

Hairdressers and Barbers.

Four visits have been made to hairdressers and barbers during the year. These premises are being visited during the planned inspection of all the shops in the borough, it is anticipated that they will all be visited by next year.

Factories Act.

The table below gives the prescribed statistical details of the inspections and work carried out during the year. Due to concentration on other aspects of the department's responsibilities the number of visits has remained at the same level as those for the last year but it is anticipated that more time can be devoted to this respect of our work next year.

TABLE 9

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 ...	38	29	4	0
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority	136	3	2	0
(iii) Other Premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding out-workers' premises)	40	0	0	0
Total	214	32	6	0

TABLE 10

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	3	—	—	—	—
(b) Unsuitable or defective	36	—	—	—	—
(c) Not separate for sexes ...	—	—	—	—	—
Other offences against the Act (not including offences relating to Outwork)	—	—	—	—	—
Total	39	—	—	—	—

3. Outwork (Sections 133 and 134).

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

TABLE 11

List of Trades.

Aerated Waters	...	...	...	...	...	...	4
Bakehouses	...	...	...	...	...	...	19
Brewing	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Butchers	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
Cement Industries and Roadstone Makers	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
Corn Merchants	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Dairies	...	...	...	...	...	...	6
Dyers and Cleaners	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
Electrical and Radio Repairs	...	...	...	...	...	...	11
Electrical Undertakers	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
Firelighter Makers	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Fur Manufacturers	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Gas Undertakings	...	...	...	...	...	...	3
General Dealers and Scrap Sorters	...	...	...	...	...	...	7
Heavy Engineers	...	...	...	...	...	...	7
Ice Cream Manufacturers	...	...	...	...	...	...	3
Knacker Yard	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Laundries	...	...	...	...	...	...	3
Leather Workers and Shoe Repairing	...	...	...	...	...	...	6
Light Engineering and Motor Repairs	...	...	...	...	...	...	26
Monumental Masons	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
Paint Mixing	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Paper Board Manufacture	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Paper Processing	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Plumbers, etc.	...	...	...	...	...	...	11
Printing	...	...	...	...	...	...	3
Quarrying	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Rum Butter Manufacture	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Scale Repairing	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
Slag Recovery	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Steel Making	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Tailoring	...	...	...	...	...	...	9
Tripe Dressing	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Waste Paper Baling	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Watch and Clock Repairs	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Weaving	...	...	...	...	...	...	5
Wood Cutting and Working	...	...	...	...	...	...	27
Works of Engineering Construction	...	...	...	...	...	...	7
Works of Building Operations	...	...	...	...	...	...	36

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—366 on a wet day in January with a force 1 N.W. wind.

Lowest Smoke—3 on a very wet day in July with a force 3 easterly wind.

Highest SO₂—180 on a wet day in January with a force 1 N.W. wind.

Lowest SO₂—6 on a cloudy day in September with a force 2 S.W. wind.

No. 2 Station (Salterbeck)

Highest Smoke—442 on a snowy day in January with a force 1 westerly wind.

Lowest Smoke—1 on a cloudy day in April with a force 3 westerly wind.

Highest SO₂—156 on a showery day in January with a force 3 southerly wind.

Lowest SO₂—Nil on a cloudy day in September with a force 2 S.W. wind.

No. 3 Station (Lawrence Street)

Highest Smoke—390 on a wet day in January with a force 1 N.W. wind.

Lowest Smoke—3 on a very wet day in January with a force 3 easterly wind.

Highest SO₂—230 on a wet day in January with a force 1 N.W. wind.

Lowest SO₂—Nil on a cloudy day in September with a force 2 S.W. wind.

Whilst the general pattern of the graphs has not altered, the highest readings at the three stations were less than those we had last year. The lowest readings were still very similar.

In common with many other parts of the town difficulty has been experienced with vandals. Number 2 Station at Salterbeck had to be closed down in October and the apparatus withdrawn in order to ensure its safety. By the end of the year works were in progress to protect the station as far as possible and it is hoped to resume reading early in 1968. The inverted glass funnel on the air intakes are particularly vulnerable and these are being replaced by plastic units, however, being placed in exposed positions, they are a constant source of attraction to the hooligan element which seems to delight in the destruction of anything and everything that comes to their attention.

In looking back over the year the most important milestone was the decision of the Council to instruct the officers of the department to make a detailed survey of the premises in the proposed improvement area with a view to declaring it as a smoke control area at the same time as an improvement area. As a keen advocate for clean air, I felt some satisfaction at this first step forward towards the improvement of our environment. However, it was not long before this feeling of satisfaction was replaced by one of disappointment when a further decision was taken, after representation made by a section of the coal industry, to defer this survey for twelve months. Despite this set-back it is my sincere hope that, when this deferrment has come to an end, the Council will feel able to reiterate their previous decision and make a start on reducing the atmospheric pollution so that the community will have the full advantage and benefit of living in a town by the sea.

Negotiations with a local mineral water factory in respect of a constant nuisance from their boiler chimney resulted in some positive action being taken and early next year should see the results of these efforts.

A serious dust problem arose during the year from the crushing and sorting plant which was working on the slag bank belonging to the steel works. This was due to the presence of a very dry patch of slag and, after negotiations with the company responsible for the plant, it was agreed that they would withdraw the machinery from this particular section and that they would endeavour, as far as humanly possible to keep to the harder areas of slag and reduce any nuisance to a minimum.

Whilst it cannot be said that the nuisance has been completely eliminated, I feel that it is fair to say that every reasonable effort has been made to minimise it and therefore this must be balanced against the benefit which is being obtained in the removal and lowering of the slag bank,

MONTHLY VARIATION OF SMOKE AND SO_2

FIG 1—WORKINGTON (No. 1)

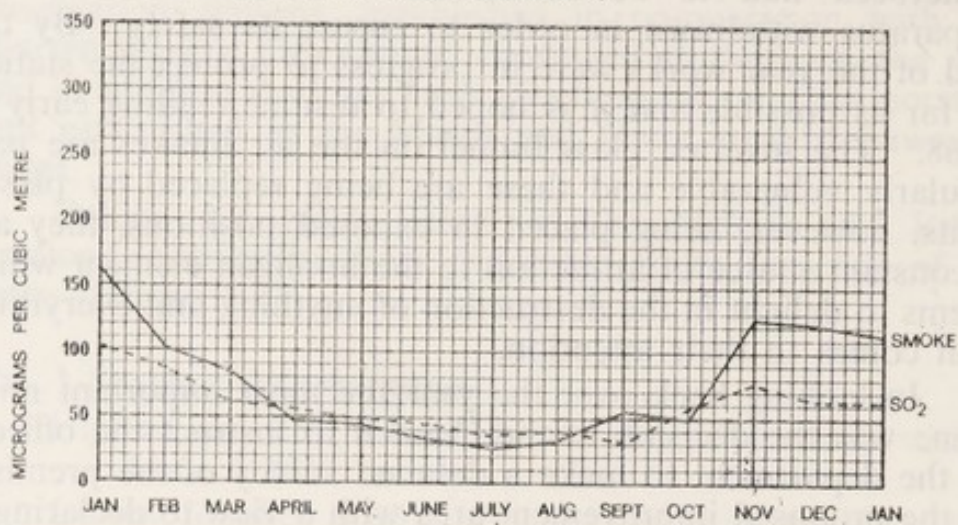


FIG. 2—SALTERBECK (No. 2)

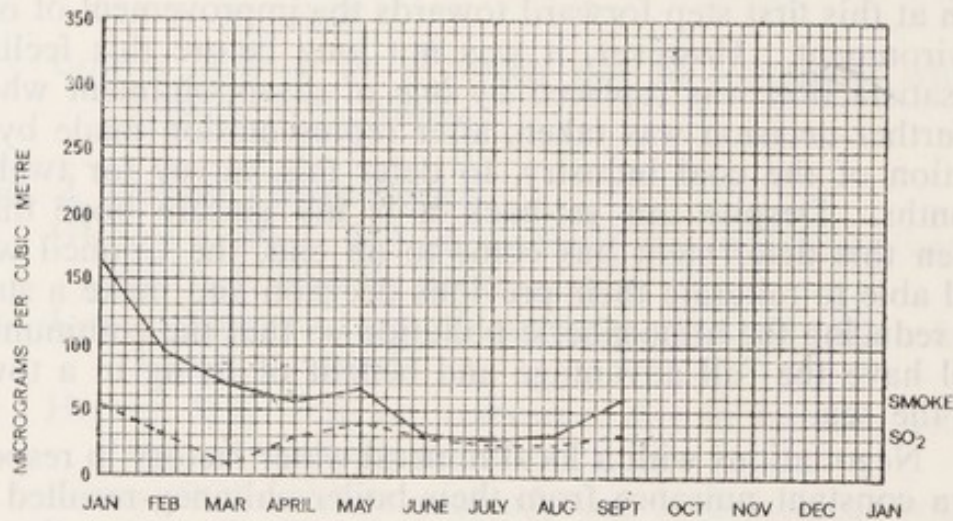
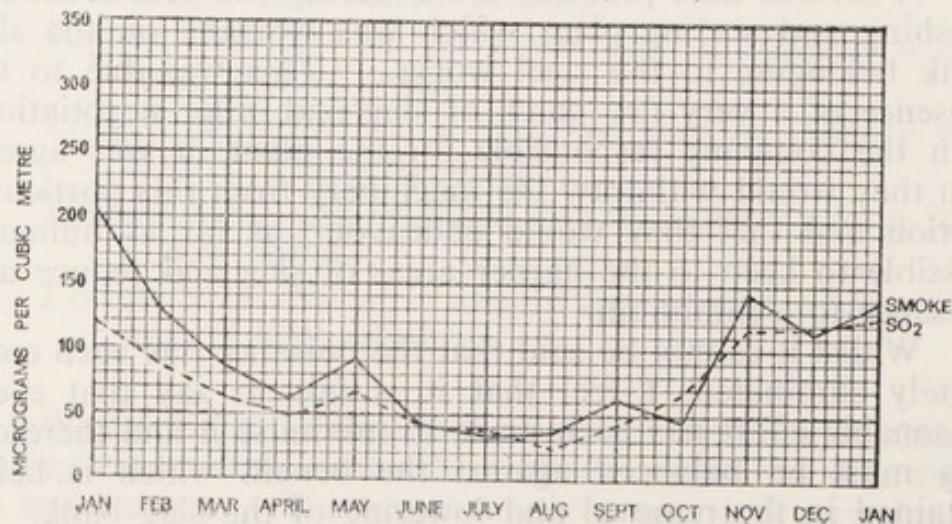


FIG. 3—LAWRENCE STREET (No. 3)



VARIATION OF SMOKE AND SO₂ IN RELATION TO WIND DIRECTION

FIG. 4—WORKINGTON (No. 1)

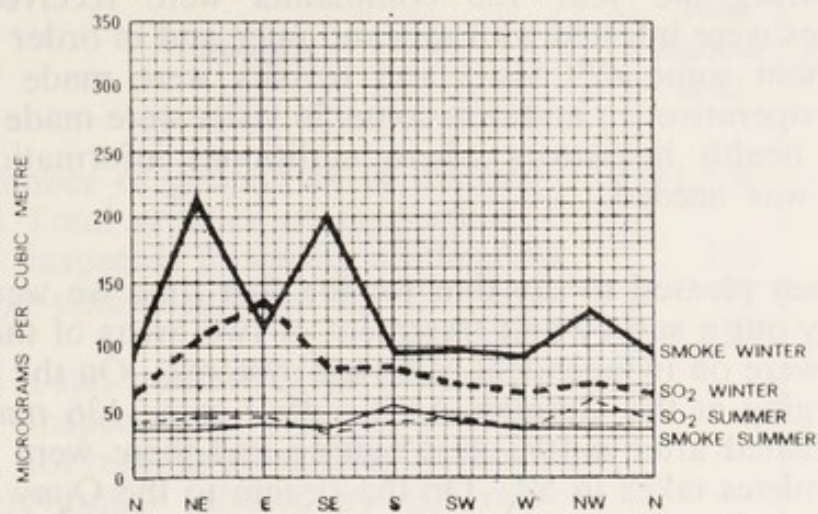


FIG. 5—SALTERBECK (No. 2)

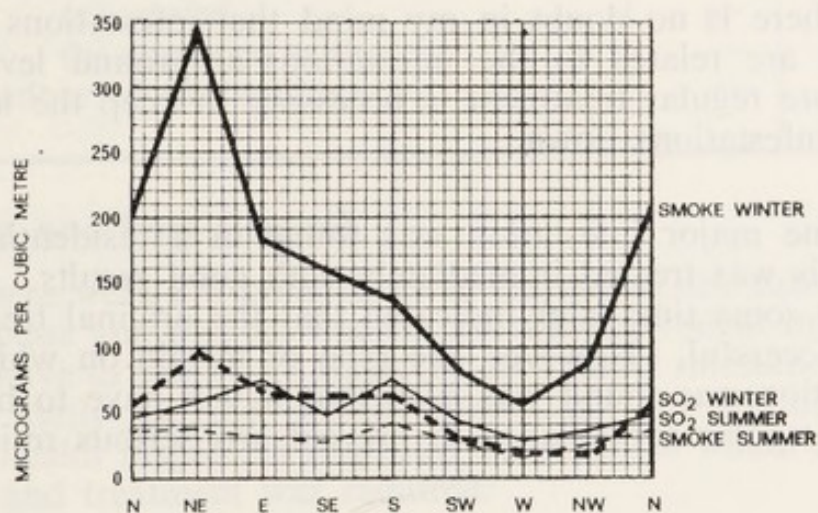
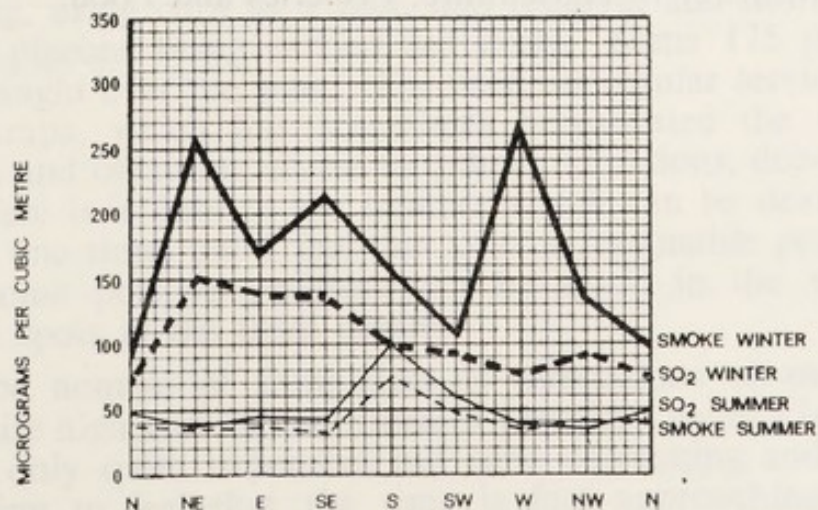


FIG. 6—LAWRENCE STREET (No. 3)



RODENT AND PEST CONTROL

During the year 163 complaints were received that premises were infested with rats and mice and in order to deal with them some 429 visits and revisits were made by the rodent operative. In addition some 54 visits were made by the public health inspectors where additional information and advice was needed.

I am pleased to say that for the first time we were able to carry out a survey and treatment of two areas of the town which were on independent sewerage systems. On the system discharging at the German Arch outfall some 136 manholes were treated after a 10% test baiting and there were partial or complete takes in 59. On the system to the Quay outfall 100 manholes were treated after test baiting of which 41 had complete or partial takes.

There is no doubt in my mind that infestations in the sewers are related to the infestations at ground level and therefore regular treatment is necessary to keep the level of these infestations down.

One major infestation was found in a residential area and this was treated immediately with good results. A test baiting some time later indicated that the original treatment was successful. However, the type of terrain on which the infestation was found was such that it will have to be kept under regular surveillance to prevent any serious re-infestation.

Table 12 gives the statistical information as it is returned to the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food.

TABLE 12

Rodents	Non Agricul- tural	Agricul- tural
1. Number of properties in district	11,598	33
2. (a) Total number of properties inspected following notification	163	6
(b) Number infested by (i) rats	77	5
(ii) mice	56	1
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	2	—
5. Number of statutory notices		
(a) served	—	—
(b) complied with	—	—
6. Number of proceedings	—	—

Vermin and Pest Control

There were 277 complaints in respect of infestations by insect pests and pigeons and on average the rodent operator would have to call 2 or 3 times for each insect infestation and usually daily for the pigeon infestation. In addition the public health inspectors inspected 68 premises where special advice and treatment was required.

As will be seen in the table below four premises were dealt with for pigeons. Treatment was by means of trapping, using corn as a bait, and removal and destruction of the pigeons being carried out daily. Some 175 pigeons were caught over the year. The need for regular servicing of these traps, which has sometimes necessitated the use of ladders and obtaining access to difficult situations, does mean that there is a limit to the number which can be dealt with at any one time, but I feel that over a reasonable period of time some positive progress can be made in the various trouble spots in the town centre.

The number of complaints of infestations of ants was still quite high and the treatment of premises, using a lacquer, is not only quite expensive but time consuming and I am beginning to feel that the time is fast approaching when

serious consideration will have to be given as to whether this service should continue to be given or whether we should only offer advice and leave the treatment to the householders.

Table 13 gives the detailed breakdown.

TABLE 13

Total number of properties inspected following notification	277
Number of properties infested by	
Ants	207
Cockroaches	43
Silverfish	4
Fleas	3
Bed Bugs	1
Insects (various)	15
Pigeons	4
	—
	277
	—

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 155 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 5 complaints involving 10 visits 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	51
Number of informal notices served as a result of the investigations of the above complaints ...	9
Number of informal notices complied with	6
Number of statutory notices served as a result of the above complaints	3
Number of statutory notices complied with	2

Summary of Visits to Premises under Various Acts.

(Not covered in the previous sections).

Animal Boarding Establishment	2
Infectious Disease	57
Interviews	123
Knackers Yard	17
Markets	25
Miscellaneous	154
Offensive Trades	0
Pet Shops	3
Piggeries	16
Public Conveniences	11
Refuse Collection	244
Refuse Disposal	63
Re-visits	29
Salvage	19
Scrap Metal Dealers	4
Scrap Vehicles	68
Theatres and Places of Entertainment	5
Waste Food Plants	2

The attention of the Borough Surveyor and/or Water Engineer was called to:—

Choked sewers, drains and gullies	10
Defective Lanes and Footpaths	2
Defective Public Convenience	5
Miscellaneous	1
Repairs to Corporation Property	28
Waste water and poor supply pressures	4

