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1969

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DONALD A. FOGG, M.A.P.H.I., M.R.S.H.	Chief Public Health Inspector.
CHARLES E. PEARSON, M.A.P.H.I.	Deputy Chief Public Health Inspector
JOHN J. PATTISON, M.A.P.H.I., M.R.S.H.	Additional Public Health Inspector
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TOWN HALL,

WORKINGTON.

July, 1970.

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

Your Worship, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I beg to present to you my first annual report as your Medical Officer of Health. It is written on the lines laid down by Circular No. 1/70 of the Department of Health and Social Security.

The vital statistics for the year 1969 were generally satisfactory. Among infectious diseases measles once again stood alone in achieving relatively large numbers, although fewer than in 1968. In this connection the withdrawal during the year of a large proportion of vaccine for re-checking was most unfortunate—especially as the initial alarm turned out, after subsequent exhaustive investigation, to be false. However, the damage has been done, and not only are very many infants and children now at risk to what is often a distressing, and occasionally a dangerous, infection, but in the minds of many parents is now the completely unjustified fear that the vaccine is somehow not quite safe. It *is* safe and freely available. One hopes that this message may be got across in time to prevent the impending measles epidemic — due in 1970/71.

In the general text of this report I have published two tables showing the trends of population, births, deaths, and various mortality rates, with respect to Workington over the past 10 years. Readers will note that whereas the population of the Borough was actually increasing up until 1965, it thereafter fluctuated a little until 1968, only to suffer a sharp drop in 1969. At the same time the number of live births has been steadily decreasing from 1965. The birth rate on the whole is truly below the national average—and falling. The death rate on the whole is above the national average, and rising—indeed, when this rate is adjusted demographically it is even higher. All this points to an ageing population, with a higher than national average death rate in the not so elderly section of the community (actually the late middle age); and

a recent sharp emigration, probably of young people, from the town.

When one regards the local figures for the infantile mortality rate, perinatal mortality rate and stillbirth rate, with the national average, the initial satisfaction must be tinged with a certain element of disquiet. Why do we have such a high stillbirth rate? And why is the gap between ourselves and the rest of the country in this respect increasing? We have excellent antenatal care.

Although quite obviously a great deal has been achieved in the area of housing — clearance of some substandard houses and improvement of others, and general house building—much remains to be done. There are still several large areas of substandard property and the queue for council housing seems as long as ever.

It is perhaps not out of place here to remember that people live in local communities, and, when implementing a clearance area, to break up such a community for the sake of improving their material housing is not only a social tragedy but almost a social crime. We must try always to re-house people from such a community in the same area so that the social continuity and contacts are not destroyed. To exist is necessary—to live is even more important.

The specific building programme for elderly people is well under way, and the Moorclose flatlets scheme should be completed by June 1970. This will give accommodation for 16 single people and 4 married couples. Almost simultaneously a new purpose-built home for the elderly is being built at Westfield by the County Council, and should be opened for Easter 1971, giving accommodation for some 40 people. This is excellent—but still not good enough. We need at least one more flatlets scheme and one more purpose-built home.

There is also a need for the provision of temporary accommodation for homeless families. In this connection two comments ought to be made. Firstly, not all homeless families by any means are feckless “drop outs”. Secondly, the cost to the community of maintaining a broken family is enormous—much greater than the provision of a house. The ultimate cost to the community with respect of the damage that may be done to the children of that family is incalculable.

I wish to record my appreciation and thanks to all the staff for their work during the year and for the help in problems from colleagues and other departments. I wish too to express thanks to the Chairman and Members of the Public Health Committee for their kind consideration of all matters during the year. Thirdly, my thanks are due to my medical colleagues in general practice, the hospital service, and the public health laboratory service, for their help and collaboration. I wish particularly to express my deep appreciation to my colleague and distinguished predecessor, Dr. J. L. Hunter, for the invaluable help and advice he has given to me. His work over the years has made my job so much easier.

I am,

Mr. Mayor, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

ANTONY HARGREAVES.

STATISTICS

1. General

(a) The level of employment is once again lower than that for the rest of the country but the rather higher than usual figures for 1968 have been reduced to a more average level. At the end of the year 1969 a total of 550 men (616 in 1968), 227 women (253 in 1968) and 43 boys and girls (50 in 1968). The national unemployment percentage figure at that time was 2.7 and for the area including Workington was 5.6.

(b) Town Statistics.

Area in Acres	5,644
Population (Registrar-General's Estimate of Residents—mid year 1968) ...	29,710
Rateable Value	£1,188,392
Sum represented by a Penny Rate ...	£4,703.2
Total number of domestic premises ...	9,564

2. Vital Statistics Births

Live Births.

Number: 458.

	<i>Males</i>	<i>Females.</i>	<i>Total.</i>
Legitimate Births ...	212	197	409
Illegitimate Births	22	27	49
	<hr/> 234	<hr/> 224	<hr/> 458

Rate per 1,000 population 15.4

Adjusted rate (factor 1.0) ... 15.4

Illegitimate live births (per
cent. of total live births) 10.7%

Still Births:

Number: 7 (including 1 illegitimate)

Rate per 1,000 live and still births ... 15.0

Infant Deaths:

Number: 2 (including 1 illegitimate).

Infant Mortality Rates:

Total infant deaths per 1,000 live births 4.4

Legitimate infant deaths per 1,000
legitimate live births 2.4

Illegitimate infant deaths per 1,000
illegitimate live births 20.4

Neo-natal mortality rate (deaths under four weeks per total live births) ...	2.2
Early neo-natal mortality rate (deaths under one week per 1,000 live births)	2.2
Peri-natal mortality rate (still births and deaths under one week combined per 1,000 live births)	17.2

Deaths

	<i>Males.</i>	<i>Females.</i>	<i>Total.</i>
Deaths (all ages)	182	176	358
Crude death rate per 1,000 population		12.0	
Adjusted death rate		14.0	

Deaths from certain causes:

Tuberculosis	Nil
Cancer of the lung	19
Cancer of the uterus	1
Cancer of the breast	10
Leukaemia	1
Influenza	4
Pneumonia	22
Bronchitis	24
Ischaemic Heart Disease	95
Cerebrovascular Disease	42
Motor vehicle accidents	2
Other accidents	10
Suicide	3

3. Notes and Comparisons on Vital Statistics

Detailed figures relate to Workington Borough for the past 10 years, and giving comparisons with England and Wales during the same period, are shown overleaf.

Commentary

The number of births has now been falling steadily since 1965. Although there is a national trend downwards, the trend is considerably steeper in Workington. This, together with an increasing death rate (further increasing when adjusted to take account of demographic structure) and the decline in population, indicates an emigration of young

people from the town. The increase between the crude and adjusted death rates in what is on the whole a rather elderly population compared with the national demographic structure in fact indicates a slight increase in the death rates in the older middle aged group compared with the national picture.

It will be noted that with respect to the five year period 1964-69 we have an excellent record for the infantile mortality rate compared with the national figure, and there has been a considerable improvement with respect to the period 1960-64; our perinatal mortality rate also compares favourably with the national average, as it did during the period 1960-64; our stillbirth rate is much higher than the national average, and the gap would appear to be widening in comparison to the period 1960-64. Now the stillbirth rate is contained within the perinatal mortality rate (see earlier definitions). Yet this latter is strictly comparable to the national average. In other words, our babies tend to die in utero as opposed to ex utero. Admittedly these figures, even over a five year period, are small, and must therefore be treated with caution. Nevertheless, as the antenatal care here is as good as anywhere in the country one must think of other possibilities to explain this phenomenon.

TABLE ONE

	Population Workington Borough	Live Births	Birth Rate	Birth Rate Adjusted	Deaths	Death Rate	Death Rate Adjusted	England and Wales Birth Rate	England and Wales Death Rate
1960	29,350	525	17.9	17.4	375	12.8	15.1	17.1	11.5
1961	29,490	512	17.4	16.8	349	11.9	14.0	17.4	12.0
1962	29,710	521	17.6	17.0	365	12.3	14.5	18.0	11.9
1963	29,810	500	16.8	16.8	353	11.8	13.9	18.2	12.2
1964	29,770	552	18.5	18.5	336	11.3	12.3	18.4	11.3
1960-64		2,610							
1965	29,910	575	19.2	19.2	339	11.6	13.2	18.0	11.5
1966	29,980	517	17.2	17.2	336	11.2	12.5	17.7	11.7
1967	29,910	482	16.1	16.1	325	10.9	13.0	17.2	11.2
1968	29,990	471	15.7	15.7	371	12.4	14.2	16.9	11.9
1969	29,710	458	15.4	15.4	358	12.0	14.0	16.3	11.9
1965-69		2,503							

TABLE TWO

	Live Births	Infant Deaths (Under 1 year)	Neonatal Deaths (Under 1 week)	Stillbirths	Infant Mortality Rate Workington England/Wales	Perinatal Mortality Rate Workington England/Wales	Mortality Rate England/Wales	Stillbirth Rate Workington England/Wales	Stillbirth Rate England/Wales
1960	525	20	14	12	38.1	21.9	48.4	22.3	19.8
1961	512	9	5	7	17.6	21.4	32.0	13.5	19.0
1962	521	6	2	11	11.5	21.4	30.8	21.2	18.1
1963	500	7	6	11	14.0	20.9	29.3	21.3	17.2
1964	552	13	10	10	23.6	20.0	28.3	17.8	16.3
1960-64	2610	55	37	51	(21.1)	(21.1)	(31.0)	(19.2)	(18.0)
1965	575	8	5	10	13.9	19.0	26.9	17.1	15.8
1966	517	12	7	12	23.2	19.0	26.3	22.7	15.4
1967	482	7	4	10	14.5	18.3	25.5	20.4	14.8
1968	471	8	5	6	17.0	18.0	24.6	12.6	14.3
1969	458	2	1	7	4.4	18.0	23.0	15.0	13.0
1965-69	2503	37	22	45	(14.8)	(18.5)	(25.4)	(18.0)	(14.8)

TABLES 3 AND 4

	Birth Rate (uncorrected)	Birth Rate (adjusted)	Death Rate (uncorrected)	Death Rate (adjusted)
Workington M.B.	15.4	15.4	12.0	14.0
Urban District Councils of Cumberland	15.2	14.9	12.7	14.0
Rural Districts Councils of Cumberland	15.1	15.9	12.0	12.5
Administrative County of Cumberland	15.2	15.5	12.3	12.7
England and Wales	16.3	16.3	11.9	11.9

TABLE 5
Age at Death of Workington Residents—1968

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	1	1	—	2	1	4	—	19	47	52	55	182
Females	—	—	1	—	—	—	2	15	30	56	72	176
Total 1969	1	1	1	2	1	4	2	34	77	108	127	358
Total 1950	20		4	2	4	7	19	29	59	102	124	369

TABLE 6
Causes of Death—Total all Ages—1969

Serial	Cause of Death	Sex	All Ages
B4	Enteritis and other Diarrhoeal Diseases	M	—
		F	1
B19 (1)	Malignant Neoplasm, Buccal Cavity, etc.	M	1
		F	—
B19 (3)	Malignant Neoplasm, Stomach	M	6
		F	8

B19 (4)	Malignant Neoplasm, Intestine	M	3
		F	8
B19 (6)	Malignant Neoplasm, Lung, Bronchus	M	13
		F	6
B19 (7)	Malignant Neoplasm, Breast	M	—
		F	10
B19 (8)	Malignant Neoplasm, Uterus	F	1
B19 (9)	Malignant Neoplasm, Prostrate	M	1
B19(10)	Leukaemia	M	1
		F	—
B19(11)	Other Malignant Neoplasms	M	4
		F	14

<i>Serial.</i>	<i>Cause.</i>	<i>Male. Female Total.</i>		
B20	Benign and unspecified neoplasms	1	0	1
B21	Diabetis mellitus	2	1	3
B46 (1)	Other endocrine, etc. diseases	0	3	3
B46 (3)	Mental disorders	1	0	1
B46 (4)	Other diseases of nervous systems, etc.	3	1	4
B26	Chronic rheumatic heart disease	5	3	8
B27	Hypertensive disease	2	2	4
B28	Isthæmic heart disease	50	45	95
B29	Other forms of heart disease	6	8	14
B30	Cerebrovascular disease	17	25	42
B46 (5)	Other diseases of circulatory system	8	5	13
B31	Influenza	2	2	4
B32	Pneumonia	14	8	22
B33 (1)	Bronchitis and emphysema ...	18	6	24
B46 (6)	Other diseases of respiratory system	1	5	6
B34	Peptic ulcer	4	1	5
B36	Intestinal obstruction and hernia	1	0	1
B37	Cirrhosis of liver	1	1	2
B46 (7)	Other diseases of digestive system	1	2	3
B39	Hyperplasia of prostrate	1	0	1
B46 (8)	Other diseases— genito-urinary	2	2	4
B43	Birth injury, difficult labour, etc	1	0	1

B46(10)	Diseases of Musculo-Skeletal system	0	1	1
B45	Symptoms and ill-defined conditions	0	3	3
BE47	Motor vehicle accidents	2	0	2
BE40	All other accidents	6	4	10
BE49	Suicide and self-inflicted injuries	3	0	3
BE50	All other external causes	1	0	1
		182	176	358

TABLE 7
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	1				1						1	
Congenital Defect											—	
Respiratory Infection								1			1	
Total	1				1			1			2	

GENERAL PROVISIONS OF THE HEALTH SERVICES IN THE AREA

(a) Staff

The Medical Officer of Health, Dr. Antony Hargreaves, took up his appointment on the 1st November following upon the retirement of Dr. J. L. Hunter.

(b) Laboratory Services

Routine samples of milk and water are undertaken by the Carlisle Laboratory of the Public Health Service under the direction of Dr. D. G. Davies to whom the Department has been much indebted over the year not only for routine work but for much help in queries and elucidation of food infestation and contamination.

Thanks are also due to the consultant pathologist of West Cumberland Hospital, Dr. D. Smith, who kindly carries out routine Vi-agglutinin tests for water personnel of the West Cumberland Water Board.

(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.

Other Medical services provided under Part III of the National Health Service Act, and Welfare Services provided under the National Assistance Act are the responsibility of the Cumberland County Council. Information about these services, including the provision of Home Helps, Immunisation Services, Accommodation for the Physically Handicapped, assistance for the Unmarried Mother, assistance and advice in connection with Family Planning. Accommodation for the Aged, may be obtained from the Area Health Office, Fieldside, Elizabeth Street, Workington.

Home Nursing and Maternity Services are now an integral part of the Family Doctor Service, together with the Health Visiting Service, and enquiries should accordingly be addressed to the Family Practitioner.

(d) National Assistance Acts

No proceedings were necessary under these acts during the year.

(e) Port Health

No case of infectious disease was notified during the year. Re-vaccination against smallpox of ships' crews was well maintained during the year.

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA (3)

The Chief Public Health Inspector presents his report immediately after this one and gives in detail the work carried out in environmental aspects of the health of the town.

PREVALENCE OF, AND CONTROL OVER, INFECTIOUS AND OTHER DISEASES

1. General

The general incidence of infectious disease in the town was low but the prevalence of measles, in and out of its normal season, continued. During 1969 itself the introduction of measles vaccination would not appear to have influenced the incidence of the disease because the procedure was temporarily abandoned for the reason mentioned in the preface.

2. Vaccination and Immunisation

Protection against certain diseases up to the age of 15 years was afforded as follows:

	Primary	Booster
Smallpox	182	14
Diphtheria	266	530
Tetanus	262	542
Poliomyelitis	305	276
Measles	402	—

The figures are very disappointing, the need to protect the children in particular and the community in general from these diseases cannot be overstressed.

3. Tuberculosis

Thirteen cases of respiratory tuberculosis were notified during the year, but there were no deaths ascribed to this cause.

The greatest need in prevention is probably the protection of the young from the infection by contact with the older members of the community in whom there may be an infection causing no apparent ill-health for long periods.

To this end vaccination is carried out by chest physicians for very young contacts and B.C.G. vaccination is a regular part of the school service being offered to children aged 13 years and over.

Precise figures appertaining to Workington school-children proper are not available as a number of children attend from outside the town. The figures for all attending borough schools were:—

Number of children eligible	526
Number listed after consent	281
Number given protection	239

The apparent large fall-off from the number consenting and listed and the number actually vaccinated is mainly due to vaccination in earlier years or non-suitability so to be treated by reason of contact with the disease.

Table V and Table VI which follow give the incidence of notifiable diseases and the number of deaths and death-rate from tuberculosis in the year 1969.

TABLE 5
WORKINGTON M.B.
Notification of Infectious Diseases—1969

Diseases	Total No. of cases.	Age Groups.											
		-1	1+	2+	3+	4+	5-9	10-14	15-24	25+			
Scarlet Fever	19		2	2	1	6	6	2					
Measles	105	5	12	24	16	9	37	1	1				
Dysentery	1						1						
Whooping Cough													
Typhoid													
Infective Jaundice	5						1		1	3			
	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	11							3	1	3	2	2	
Non Respiratory	2				1			1					

TABLE 9
Tuberculosis—Workington—1969
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	32.1	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
1968	2	—	2	0.07	0.05
1969	—	—	—	0.00	0.04

4. Cancer and Bronchitis

Deaths from cancer totalled 76 an increase of 5 on the previous year. The distribution by sex and site was as follows:—

	Male	Female	Total
Stomach	6	8	14
Lung, bronchus	13	6	19
Breast	—	10	10
Uterus	—	1	1
Other forms	10	22	32
	—	—	—
	29	47	76
	—	—	—

The number of deaths from cancer of the lung and bronchus continue to creep upwards. Again let me remind you of the two main preventive measures—The voluntary giving up of the habit of smoking cigarettes by the individual and the corporate attack on air pollution from coal smoke.

The Chief Public Health Inspector

4. Cancer and Bronchitis

Deaths from cancer totaled 56 in excess of 5 on the previous year. The distribution by sex and age was as follows:

Total		Male		Female	
Age	Rate	Age	Rate	Age	Rate
14-19	1.0	14-19	1.0	14-19	1.0
20-24	1.0	20-24	1.0	20-24	1.0
25-29	1.0	25-29	1.0	25-29	1.0
30-34	1.0	30-34	1.0	30-34	1.0
35-39	1.0	35-39	1.0	35-39	1.0
40-44	1.0	40-44	1.0	40-44	1.0
45-49	1.0	45-49	1.0	45-49	1.0
50-54	1.0	50-54	1.0	50-54	1.0
55-59	1.0	55-59	1.0	55-59	1.0
60-64	1.0	60-64	1.0	60-64	1.0
65-69	1.0	65-69	1.0	65-69	1.0
70-74	1.0	70-74	1.0	70-74	1.0
75-79	1.0	75-79	1.0	75-79	1.0
80-84	1.0	80-84	1.0	80-84	1.0
85-89	1.0	85-89	1.0	85-89	1.0
90-94	1.0	90-94	1.0	90-94	1.0
95-99	1.0	95-99	1.0	95-99	1.0
1000	1.0	1000	1.0	1000	1.0
1001	1.0	1001	1.0	1001	1.0
1002	1.0	1002	1.0	1002	1.0
1003	1.0	1003	1.0	1003	1.0
1004	1.0	1004	1.0	1004	1.0
1005	1.0	1005	1.0	1005	1.0
1006	1.0	1006	1.0	1006	1.0
1007	1.0	1007	1.0	1007	1.0
1008	1.0	1008	1.0	1008	1.0
1009	1.0	1009	1.0	1009	1.0
1010	1.0	1010	1.0	1010	1.0
1011	1.0	1011	1.0	1011	1.0
1012	1.0	1012	1.0	1012	1.0
1013	1.0	1013	1.0	1013	1.0
1014	1.0	1014	1.0	1014	1.0
1015	1.0	1015	1.0	1015	1.0
1016	1.0	1016	1.0	1016	1.0
1017	1.0	1017	1.0	1017	1.0
1018	1.0	1018	1.0	1018	1.0
1019	1.0	1019	1.0	1019	1.0
1020	1.0	1020	1.0	1020	1.0
1021	1.0	1021	1.0	1021	1.0
1022	1.0	1022	1.0	1022	1.0
1023	1.0	1023	1.0	1023	1.0
1024	1.0	1024	1.0	1024	1.0
1025	1.0	1025	1.0	1025	1.0
1026	1.0	1026	1.0	1026	1.0
1027	1.0	1027	1.0	1027	1.0
1028	1.0	1028	1.0	1028	1.0
1029	1.0	1029	1.0	1029	1.0
1030	1.0	1030	1.0	1030	1.0
1031	1.0	1031	1.0	1031	1.0
1032	1.0	1032	1.0	1032	1.0
1033	1.0	1033	1.0	1033	1.0
1034	1.0	1034	1.0	1034	1.0
1035	1.0	1035	1.0	1035	1.0
1036	1.0	1036	1.0	1036	1.0
1037	1.0	1037	1.0	1037	1.0
1038	1.0	1038	1.0	1038	1.0
1039	1.0	1039	1.0	1039	1.0
1040	1.0	1040	1.0	1040	1.0
1041	1.0	1041	1.0	1041	1.0
1042	1.0	1042	1.0	1042	1.0
1043	1.0	1043	1.0	1043	1.0
1044	1.0	1044	1.0	1044	1.0
1045	1.0	1045	1.0	1045	1.0
1046	1.0	1046	1.0	1046	1.0
1047	1.0	1047	1.0	1047	1.0
1048	1.0	1048	1.0	1048	1.0
1049	1.0	1049	1.0	1049	1.0
1050	1.0	1050	1.0	1050	1.0
1051	1.0	1051	1.0	1051	1.0
1052	1.0	1052	1.0	1052	1.0
1053	1.0	1053	1.0	1053	1.0
1054	1.0	1054	1.0	1054	1.0
1055	1.0	1055	1.0	1055	1.0
1056	1.0	1056	1.0	1056	1.0
1057	1.0	1057	1.0	1057	1.0
1058	1.0	1058	1.0	1058	1.0
1059	1.0	1059	1.0	1059	1.0
1060	1.0	1060	1.0	1060	1.0
1061	1.0	1061	1.0	1061	1.0
1062	1.0	1062	1.0	1062	1.0
1063	1.0	1063	1.0	1063	1.0
1064	1.0	1064	1.0	1064	1.0
1065	1.0	1065	1.0	1065	1.0
1066	1.0	1066	1.0	1066	1.0
1067	1.0	1067	1.0	1067	1.0
1068	1.0	1068	1.0	1068	1.0
1069	1.0	1069	1.0	1069	1.0
1070	1.0	1070	1.0	1070	1.0
1071	1.0	1071	1.0	1071	1.0
1072	1.0	1072	1.0	1072	1.0
1073	1.0	1073	1.0	1073	1.0
1074	1.0	1074	1.0	1074	1.0
1075	1.0	1075	1.0	1075	1.0
1076	1.0	1076	1.0	1076	1.0
1077	1.0	1077	1.0	1077	1.0
1078	1.0	1078	1.0	1078	1.0
1079	1.0	1079	1.0	1079	1.0
1080	1.0	1080	1.0	1080	1.0
1081	1.0	1081	1.0	1081	1.0
1082	1.0	1082	1.0	1082	1.0
1083	1.0	1083	1.0	1083	1.0
1084	1.0	1084	1.0	1084	1.0
1085	1.0	1085	1.0	1085	1.0
1086	1.0	1086	1.0	1086	1.0
1087	1.0	1087	1.0	1087	1.0
1088	1.0	1088	1.0	1088	1.0
1089	1.0	1089	1.0	1089	1.0
1090	1.0	1090	1.0	1090	1.0
1091	1.0	1091	1.0	1091	1.0
1092	1.0	1092	1.0	1092	1.0
1093	1.0	1093	1.0	1093	1.0
1094	1.0	1094	1.0	1094	1.0
1095	1.0	1095	1.0	1095	1.0
1096	1.0	1096	1.0	1096	1.0
1097	1.0	1097	1.0	1097	1.0
1098	1.0	1098	1.0	1098	1.0
1099	1.0	1099	1.0	1099	1.0
1100	1.0	1100	1.0	1100	1.0

Annual Report of The Chief Public Health Inspector

TOWN HALL,
WORKINGTON,
August, 1970.

*To the Worshipful the Mayor, 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 by the Department during my fifth year of office.

The year began with a full complement of staff, but once again, we were to undergo the "pangs" of change. Mr. R. Taylor, Additional Public Health Inspector, resigned from his post to take up an appointment with Bicester U.D.C. in the April. Miss S. Byom, our clerk, resigned in March, and a temporary clerk was employed until Miss Beatty was appointed. Later on in the year we suffered two further setbacks, when Mr. J. J. Pattison was away for several months undergoing and recuperating from an operation, and Mr. R. Robinson also had an operation and was off for some time. On the brighter side, I was extremely pleased when the Council agreed to the establishment of a deputy, and it was right and proper that Mr. C. E. Pearson, who has given the Department many years of loyal service, should be appointed to fill the post. Mr. L. Shepherd also justified the faith we had in him, and qualified in June, and subsequently was appointed as a Public Health Inspector, filling the vacancy created when Mr. Crelling took over Mr. Taylor's former duties. Following on from this catalogue of change it will be appreciated whilst reading the report, that with these staffing difficulties the department was fully committed coping with work started in the previous year, in fact the main theme for the year was one of consolidation.

Housing was given priority and featured largely in the efforts of the Department throughout the year, and in this I feel that some progress was made. The basic ground work on the improvement area was completed and the Show House was a success, nevertheless it remains to be seen if our hopes and ambitions for the environmental improvements will be such that we shall finally be able to say that it was a complete success. It is all too easy to start a project of this kind, but enthusiasm, in all concerned, soon starts "to wear thin" if the impetus is not sustained and improvement can be seen to progress by all and sundry. At the risk of being

repetitive it is essential that the Council shows its faith in the area, by suitable financial investment; only then can we expect to see investment from other sources. Further steps forward were made in the slum clearance programme with the representation of the first area in the Quay.

In the light of retrospect there is no doubt that much of the early opposition to this project has been completely overcome by the new compensation provisions in the '69 Act and the accommodation which was offered and accepted for rehousing the occupants. All in all these two factors should be good incentives for future representations, and it now remains for us to continue with the programme at a steady rate to alleviate the lot of those who are still having to live in sub-standard conditions. Whilst I am all for the compensation provisions, I am worried at the financial burden this will increasingly be placing on Local Authorities. It seems ironical to me that on the one hand Central Government is urging a realistic programme of slum clearance, but on the other hand incentives provided to encourage owner/occupiers to move and speed up procedures could well end up in making the cost of clearance too great for Local Authorities to bear. Perhaps time is now ripe for consideration to be given to some form of subsidy or grant to assist with this problem.

There is little to highlight in the Food Hygiene section other than to say that whilst the number of visits were similar to those undertaken in '68 the "pressure" was to some degree eased and it might well be that this situation was a contributory factor to the conditions found in a local shop leading up to the prosecution outlined in the section.

It will be seen that the position on inspections under the Offices, Shops and Railway Premises Act has now stabilised itself. It will not be necessary to undertake another wholesale survey of premises but, as is the case with inspections under the Factories Act, it will be necessary to maintain spot checks at regular intervals on registered premises.

Further improvements were made to the Refuse Collection and Disposal Service by the purchase of the fourth Shelvoke and Drewry Pakamatic Collection Vehicle, and by extending the paper sack system to another 1,500 premises, all in all two thirds of the domestic premises in the Borough are now covered. The number of requests for special collections again increased to such an extent that the figure has

now doubled since the scheme started. Despite this free service it almost breaks one's heart to see the mounds of rubbish which thoughtless, feckless people still persist in dumping around the town.

This, together with the litter which we see blowing around the streets, the staining and filth on our pavements left by dogs, who are openly encouraged by their owners during exercising, makes one wonder if this is the way that the majority of people keep their homes. If this is not the case, and I am sure that in reality it isn't, what makes them compulsive rubbish and litter droppers when they are outside the house? What makes them exercise their dogs in such a way that everyone else must suffer the nuisance? Have the days gone when we had a sense of pride in the town in which we live and felt we all have a sense of responsibility to the community? Have we reached the stage where everyone now feels that the public services are there to carry us about hand and foot? If this is the case then it is no good screaming when rates continue to increase—a little self discipline and self help could work wonders. It is time the great general public threw off the blinkers and had a good look at itself, before our image becomes similar to that of "The Picture of Dorian Gray".

This report would not be a complete record without making reference to Dr. Hunter's retirement in the October and to Dr. Hargreaves taking up the reins of office in the November. I have no doubt that the relationship will continue to be a very happy one.

Finally, I would take this opportunity to thank the Chairman and Members of the Health Committee for their understanding and support throughout the year, and the help given to be my my fellow officers. In addition I must give particular thanks to all the staff in the department, whose loyalty and readiness to give service, has given me great encouragement and pleasure.

I am,

Mr. Mayor, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

D. A. FOGG,

Chief Public Health Inspector.

HOUSING

Housing Acts

A large part of last year's report in this section was devoted to the work carried out in our first improvement area, and in view of the importance of this project I make no apology for referring to it again in this issue. One or two unavoidable delays resulted in the Show House not being opened until April, however, I was particularly pleased with the throughput of visitors which reached a total of 1,662 by the end of the fortnight it was open. I am convinced that as a "public relations" exercise this was an extremely worthwhile effort, and there is no doubt that it did give some impetus to the number of applications for grant. It will perhaps be recalled that when the area was first inspected there were some 56 houses already improved—since that time 46 Section 9 Notices, 15 improvement and 35 suspended improvement notices have been served and in all, as a result of this kind of action and persuasion of owner/occupiers, the stock of fully improved houses has increased by a further 15. Whilst on the face of it this would appear to be rather slow progress, I am satisfied that as the project is now airborne, we only need the further impetus which will be given when environmental improvements are carried out for the area to be seen to have been drastically altered and living conditions improved. We will then, I am sure, receive the co-operation of the rest of the property owners in the area in the general improvement of their properties.

In order to obtain continuity and derive further benefit inspections started on a proposed second improvement area adjacent to the first one but, unfortunately, work had to cease at the time of Mr. Taylor's resignation and we were unable to recommence up to the end of the year. However, whilst this in itself was disappointing, I was very pleased when the Council entrusted the department with the preparation of plans and specifications for the repair and improvement of the 117 houses at Siddick recently purchased from the National Coal Board. This project held a considerable challenge and certainly entailed work involving a greater financial responsibility than any with which I have been personally involved. The detailed inspections actually started in the May and, whilst there was a delay due to some Council decisions being required, they were more or less finished by October.

Then came the tedious and often exacting work of preparing the repair specifications followed by the preparation of the plans and specifications for the improvements. Needless to say, as I was only able to spare one inspector to devote all his time to this particular work, the documents were still in the course of being prepared well into the early part of 1970. Whilst it is often a little difficult to single one man out of a team as more deserving than another, I feel that I must place on record my personal thanks to Mr. Crelling for the initiative and hard work which he put into this project on behalf of the department. I look forward to seeing some concrete results of this labour in the not too distant future.

Meanwhile, at long last, we were able to take positive steps in the direction of the Quay. Inspections were started in the early part of the year culminating in the representations of our first area of 77 houses in the July. However, there was a short set back at this point when the acceptance of the representations was delayed until the October to enable the 1969 Housing Act to come into force so as to ensure that the better compensation provisions would be available to those affected in the area. I must confess that I was very pleased that we had finally been able to move into this area, and as I stated in my last report, 'grasp the nettle firmly' I am convinced that when all the rehousing has been accomplished there will be many people who will say "I wish *you* had moved us years ago!" I anticipate that we shall be ready to represent the next area in the Quay in the early 1970's.

The Housing Act, 1969 obviously did not have time to have much material effect, as far as we were concerned, before the end of the year, but there is no doubt that it will cause some changes in our future programme in the fields of slum clearance and improvement work.

It is inevitable that the new compensation provisions will increase the total costs of land purchase when using compulsory purchase procedure for slum clearance. It would seem logical, if this is accepted, that the increased total costs of redeveloping such land for housing purposes could be reflected in either:—

(a) higher rents for the persons occupying the houses on the particular site, or

(b) higher rents for all Council house tenants in an all round rent increase, or

(c) a charge on the whole community through an increase on the rates.

Whilst I am not suggesting that council housing should be subsidised, and I agree that tenants should pay more rent for improved standards of housing accommodation, nevertheless slum clearance is one of the moral and social responsibilities of the community at large, and the town and its people derive considerable benefit by the improvement of environmental and aesthetic conditions of the Urban Area.

I take the view that, as this increased cost is directly attributable to the new legislation, the real solution to this controversial point would be for the Central Government to make increased funds available so that rents of property erected on redeveloped land can be brought into reasonable relationship with those built on virgin land. I would suggest that these grants could compensate the Local Authority for the difference between (a) the value of the site when cleared ready for development and (b) the total cost of the land and properties at market value, the compensation of tenants, the cost of demolition and clearance to make the site suitable for development. Failing this provision this cost should, in my opinion, fall as a general charge on the rates rather than as a cost to be included in the rents to be charged for houses to be built on the site.

Another feature of the 1969 Act has, of course, been the increases in grants together with the new step of giving grants towards the repair of houses provided that improvements are carried out. Obviously, this is very encouraging, but I think there is a strong case for extending this provision a little further by allowing grants towards the repair of properties on which grants for improvements have already been given. I am thinking of premises which have been improved by means of a Standard Grant over the last few years, in particular those in the improvement area, where a grant towards repairs could well encourage owners or owner/occupiers to bring the houses up to a much better standard than the grant required. I am sure this would be a further step towards extending the life of the properties.

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 1
 - (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 1
 - (ii) Number of dwelling houses demolished in pursuance of demolition orders 4
 - (b) Proceedings under Section 18 Housing Act 1957
 - (i) Number of dwelling houses in respect of which closing orders were made Nil
 - (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 1
 - (ii) Number of clearance areas declared 1
 - (iii) Number of dwelling houses unfit for habitation 61
 - (iv) Number of dwelling houses included by reason of their bad arrangement 15
 - (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 4
 - (ii) Rehoused from clearance area 14
 - (b) Persons
 - (i) Rehoused from individual unfit dwelling houses 7
 - (ii) Rehoused from clearance areas 41

(5) Improvement grants

(a) Number of houses inspected for improvement grant purposes	
In improvement area	57
Individual Applications	260
(b) Total number of visits made in connection with the above	
In improvement area	471
Individual Applications	336

(6) General

(a) Number of dwelling houses inspected for housing defects	143
(b) Total number of visits paid to the above houses	263

Public Health Acts

(a) Number of complaints received re insanitary conditions in dwelling houses	129
(b) Number of dwelling houses inspected re complaints and routine inspections	217
(c) Total number of visits of all kinds to dwelling houses	586

Action taken

Number of informal notices served re insanitary conditions in dwelling houses	84
Number of informal notices for insanitary conditions in dwelling houses complied with	29
Number of statutory notices served for insanitary conditions in dwelling houses	12
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	44	12
Walls	65	12
Floors	16	5
Ceilings	12	1
Windows	24	4
Doors	—	2
Fireplaces and flues	3	2
Sinks	—	—
Water Supplies	9	2
Rainwater conductors	27	6
Paving	4	—
Water Closets	19	9
Drainage	2	2
Cleansing	7	7
Miscellaneous	24	12

Once more it has not been found necessary to institute proceedings for non-compliance with Statutory Notices or do any work in default. Working relationships with owners, agents, architects, landlords and tradesmen continue to be good and leads to a spirit of willing co-operation between all concerned.

Rent Act, 1957

One application for a Certificate of Repair under the Act was received and two visits were made, though no certificate was issued.

Caravan Sites and Control of Development Act

Thirty visits were made to Caravan Sites and individual caravans during the year. There has been little difficulty during the year in keeping the Cloffocks, and other sites used by itinerant caravanners clear, but this often presents a problem in that occasionally the odd caravan is able to remain on a quiet site un-noticed for some time before it is reported to or seen by a member of the department.

The introduction of special sites as gypsy encampments in the area would be of considerable assistance and enable the itinerant caravanner to be directed to a site over which

strict control can be supervised instead of hounding them from place to place and, though we may get rid of a problem ourselves, we are merely passing the buck, or the nuisance, to someone in another area.

Common Lodging Houses

There are no known Common Lodging Houses in the Borough.

FOOD HYGIENE

I am pleased that throughout the year we were able to consolidate our previous year's work in this field, and at the same time virtually complete the initial inspections and it will be seen in the body of the report that the number of inspections almost equalled those of the year before with a slight increase on those made under the Food Hygiene (Market, Stalls and Delivery Vehicles) Regulations.

On the whole I am satisfied that the majority of food premises in the town reached a reasonable standard of construction and hygiene, but as is often the case there were some notable exceptions. I think the case which was highlighted in my mind was that which started off as a complaint in respect of some bacon purchased from a mobile sales vehicle, and which, after investigation, resulted in Court proceedings with an eventual fine of £250 for 6 offences under the various Food Hygiene Regulations.

Whilst this was the first time, since occupying this post, that I have found it necessary to ask for proceedings to be instituted under the Regulations it is not for this reason that I refer to it in this report, but rather to reinforce a point that I have made many times before and that is the need for constant vigilance and re-inspection schedules. The shop premises in the above case had been inspected on several occasions previously, and had even carried out works to ensure compliance with the Regulation and yet after a lapse of a few months an inspection revealed a deterioration in condition sufficient to warrant proceedings. I think the moral of the story is quite clear.

I am particularly pleased that the Food Hygiene Course seems to have become an established fact and has now become part of the College curriculum. The year saw a

further 49 attending the course with the usual badge presentation at the end for those who passed the internal examination. I look forward to the day when all those engaged in handling food within the Borough are able to wear a badge and show that they are interested in clean food.

The following tables give the Statistical details required by Circular 1/69 of the Department of Health and Social Security.

TABLE 2

Category of Trades

Type 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	20	20	20	20
Butchers	26	26	26	26
Breweries and Mineral Water Manufacturers	5	5	5	5
Catering premises	71	71	71	71
Confectioners	22	22	22	22
Fishmongers and Poulterers	8	8	8	8
Fried Fish Shops	17	17	17	17
Greengrocers	22	22	22	22
Grocers & General	111	111	111	111
Ice Cream Manufacturers	5	5	5	5
Licensed Premises	91	91	91	91
Tripe etc. Shops	1	1	1	1
Totals	399	399	399	399

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	24
Butchers	27
Breweries & Mineral Water Mfrs. ...	3
Catering Premises	36
Confectioners	9
Fishmongers & Poulterers	1
Fried Fish Shops	7
Greengrocers	17
Grocers and General	84
Ice Cream Manufacturers	3
Licensed Premises, Clubs, Hotels ...	29
Staff Canteens	19
Tripe Boilers	—
Total	259

In addition 27 inspections of stalls and food vehicles were made in the year and revisits, interviews and discussions in connection with food premises totalled 341.

Food Control

Twelve complaints were dealt with regarding foodstuffs—each case was investigated and appropriate action taken.

Table 4 below gives details of the complaints followed by a summary of the findings and action taken:—

TABLE 4

Commodity	Nature of Complaint
1 Loaf of bread	Mould growth
2 Milk	Deposit in bottle
3 Cheese Spread	Mould growth
4 Bacon	Contained maggots
5 Bacon	Paint on surface
6 Cheese	Mould growth
7 Bread	Contained piece of metal
8 Bacon	Sour condition
9 Corned Beef	Mould growth
10 Fish Fingers	Contained crustacean
11 Stew	Out of condition
12 Fruit Salad	Contained wasp

SUMMARIES

1. On investigation it was found that the stock rotation in the shop was not properly carried out—a strong warning letter was sent to the shop manager.

2. Chemical analysis of the deposit showed it to be cement mortar—representatives of the dairy concerned were interviewed and a strong warning letter sent.

3. The rest of the stock of cheese spread in the store was examined and code numbers checked — all suspect stocks were voluntarily surrendered for destruction—manager warned regarding proper stock rotation.

4. On investigation and inspection of the shop concerned some broken wire mesh screens were found, which gave access to flies in the bacon storage room—the mesh was immediately renewed and a strong warning letter sent to the firm.

5. The complaint was made some time after purchase—no evidence of paint having been used in the preparation room could be found. Because of the doubt as to the source of the contamination a strong warning letter was considered to be appropriate.

6. Some cheese sold from a local store was found to be mouldy when purchased — all cheese stocks were checked and other suspect stock was surrendered for destruction—Stock was not being properly rotated though provision was made for this in the normal handling of cheese — warning letter to manager.

7. This bread was sold, wrapped by a local retailer, but the matter was not reported until some days after the sale and the bread mostly used. There was some doubt as to the chain of evidence and so the retailer and the manufacturer were warned as to the serious nature of the complaint and regarding the precautions necessary to eliminate possible recurrence of such a complaint.

8. The sour bacon was sold from a travelling shop based on one of the stores in the Borough. When the complaint was investigated certain other contraventions of the Food Hygiene Regulations relating to the travelling shop came to light and also some serious contraventions at the shop on which the van was based. The owners were prosecuted on one charge under Section 8 Food and Drugs Act 1955 and five charges under the Food Hygiene (General) Regulation 1960 and were found guilty on all counts, a fine of £250 being imposed.

9. A tin of corned beef was found to be mouldy in part when opened—a small perforation was found. The rest of the stock was checked but not other tin was defective. The can and contents were destroyed.

10. The object found in the fish finger was a small crustacean embedded in the substance. The attention of the manufacturers was drawn to the matter and they were asked to examine their processes in order to eliminate the possibility of a repetition of this circumstance.

11. The stew when served had been found to have an offensive smell so the method of preparation was investigated and the canteen management warned regarding the re-heating of such food and the proper methods of preparation and storage explained.

12. The wasp was found in an imported tin of fruit salad—The retailer and importer were given a strong warning as to the consequences of the sale of such products.

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 70 visits were made in connection with this service and the total weight of foodstuffs dealt with was almost 3 tons.

TABLE 5
Tinned Goods

	lbs.		lbs.
Meat	1233	Vegetables	830
Meat Products	246	Soup	128
Fish	35	Milk Products	274
Poultry	11	Preserves	12
Fruit	1296		

OTHER FOODS

	lbs.		lbs.
Meat	234	Fruit	174
Meat Products	13	Vegetables	224
Fish	77	Milk Products	521
Poultry	32	Frozen Foods	242 pkts.

Food and Drugs Act, 1955—Section 16

Three premises were inspected under this section of the Food and Drugs Act and in each case the premises were brought up to the standard required and finally registered.

There are now 103 premises registered for the sale of ice cream and 4 for its manufacture. One manufacturer uses the hot mix method, 2 reconstitute cold mixes and one makes a soft ice cream in a vending machine in his shop.

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

Liquid Egg (Pasteurisation) Regulations 1963

No action has been taken under these regulations as there are no liquid egg pasteurising plants in the Borough.

Poultry

There are no poultry processing premises within the Borough.

Dairies and Milk Distributors

At the end of the year there were 29 registered dairies, 19 purveyors, 5 producer retailers and 8 farm producers within the Borough. Unfortunately due to heavy commitments in other sectors and illness the number of inspections in the Borough, on behalf of the Cumberland County Council fell to 18 compared with 42 for the year before.

However, it will be seen from Table 6 that we were able to maintain a steady programme of sampling and it is pleasing to note that the standard of cleanliness and treatment improved over that in the last report.

Similarly sampling for the presence of brucellosis in untreated farm milks continued and whilst 3 out of the 181 churns and 81 bottles of milk, were positive to the Ring Test, they proved negative to the culture test. These results meant that we were able to give our local farms a "clean bill of health" for the year.

The Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food voluntary scheme for the eradication of brucellosis, is progressing slowly and one of our farmers applied to the Ministry for registration but it will be some time before we shall see positive results. We look forward to the day when Cumberland will be a declared brucellosis free area—perhaps it could even be one of the first!

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 ring	No. failing culture	No. of cows removed
Retailers	53	—	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Producer/											
Retailer	40	—	8	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Farms	41	—	13	—	—	181	3	21	—	—	—
	134	—	13	—	—	181	3	21	—	—	—

Cream

In co-operation with Dr. D. C. Davies of the Cumberland Pathological Laboratory, Carlisle — Public Health Laboratory, Carlisle samples of cream were sent for analysis in order that information could be obtained towards the setting of a National standard for cream.

14 samples in all were sent and when tested in accordance with tests for Ice Cream the following results were obtained.

Grade 1 — 1 sample
 Grade 2 — 2 samples
 Grade 3 — 3 samples
 Grade 4 — 4 samples

It was found that the best results were obtained when the cream was separated immediately after pasteurising and then immediately cooled and refrigerated. This result is fully in accordance with standard practice and serves to underline the validity of current thought on this subject.

ICE CREAM

It was only possible to submit 5 samples of Ice Cream for analysis but the results as appended show that these were satisfactory only one being "suspicious"—

Grade 1 — 3 samples
 Grade 2 — 1 sample
 Grade 3 — 1 sample
 Grade 4 — None

Water Supply

The water supply continues to be derived from the "Crummock" Lake catchment area and is supplied by the West Cumberland Water Board.

The major event in connection with the water supply to the town of Workington was the commissioning, in June, 1969, of the Cornhow Treatment Works. The treatment now comprises microstraining the addition of lime, and chlorination and the plant can deal with the 7 million gallons per day which is the maximum which can be abstracted from Crummock Lake. In addition, sodium silico fluoride has been added, since September, 1969.

Within the Borough, 607 yards of small diameter mains were laid to supply development at Moorclose, Westfield, Scaw Road estate and Stainburn. A further 550 yards of 3in. and 8in. mains were relaid at Oxford Street and Newlands Lane in connection with roadworks.

The Board do not have any programme for the replacement of lead services. These are renewed as necessary, usually in conjunction with roadworks.

I am greatly indebted to Mr. C. P. Coates, Engineer to the West Cumberland Water Board who provided the above information and for the willing co-operation and assistance received from himself and his staff throughout the year.

Sampling continued throughout the year, 38 samples being submitted for bacteriological examination by either the Water Board or the Health Department. Thirty seven of these samples were "satisfactory" the other being "satisfactory" on resampling. Four samples were submitted for Chemical analysis all being satisfactory—a typical report being reproduced hereunder:—

Analysis:

Appearance	clear and colourless
Odour	Nil
Reaction, pH	7.9
Colour (Hazen Units)	less than 5
	—parts per million—
Total solids	25
Nitrogen as free and saline ammonia	0.00
Nitrogen as albuminoid ammonia	0.00
Nitrogen as nitrites	Nil
Nitrogen as nitrates	less than 0.5
Chlorides, as Cl	6.0

Oxygen absorbed from permanganate in 4 hours at 27 deg. C.	0.6
Total hardness	17
Temporary hardness	9
Permanent hardness	8
Alkalinity	9
Total residual chlorine	Nil
Free available chlorine	Nil
Potassium, as K	0.2
Anionic synthetic detergents	—
Manganese, as Mn	—
Cyanides and thiocyanates	—
Poisonous metals	—

Opinion

The chemical and bacteriological condition of this water is satisfactory.

SWIMMING BATH WATER

Sampling of the swimming bath water and local testing for cleanliness and chlorine content continued throughout the period. The results were uniformly satisfactory.

OFFICES, SHOPS AND RAILWAY PREMISES AND FACTORIES

Offices, Shops and Railway Premises 1963

It is to be regretted that due to external causes, I have not been able to cover the administration of this Act as well as I would have liked. The number of registered premises rose only slightly but the number of premises receiving a general inspection was reduced by two thirds, all newly registered premises however were inspected during the year and the high standard of compliance achieved in the past is being maintained.

Fourteen notices were served during the year, these covering thirty nine contraventions in all but it was not found necessary to institute proceedings to obtain compliance with our requirements. The main defects noted included lack of cleanliness, lack of adequate lighting, failure to maintain an adequate temperature and other minor points. The provision of major structural items such as proper sanitary accommodation, adequate washing facilities with hot and cold water supplies properly sited, drinking water supplies etc., are now accepted as routine and in cases where plans

are being prepared for submission under Building Regulations the architects are consulting the department at the design stage so that compliance is assured.

There were 12 accidents reported for the year as against 6 last year. Whilst such a figure is encouraging I wonder if all notifiable accidents are being reported to the local authority as required by the Act. Of the accidents which were notified, investigation revealed no negligence attributable to the employers concerned. As a matter of interest details are listed below:—

ACCIDENTS.

(1) *Shop.*

Whilst assistant in butchers preparation room was idly tapping knife on block it slipped from his hand and cut leg of another assistant—Manager and assistants were warned of such dangerous practices.

(2) *Shop.*

Sales assistant sprained back whilst lifting cartons—assistant had long history of back complaints—no action necessary.

(3) *Shop.*

Shop assistant strained back whilst lifting sides of bacon—warned as to correct procedure to be used when lifting objects.

(4) *Shop.*

Shop assistant tripped on staircase and fell down three steps—bruised legs and arms—no defects in stairs.

(5) *Shop.*

Shop assistant slipped on staircase—injury to ankle—unsuitable footwear being worn.

(6) *Shop.*

Butcher's assistant cut hand while boning meat — no other cause for injury—more care required in method of handling knife.

(7) *Shop.*

Butcher's assistant cut hand on knife which had been left on block under a part forequarter. When meat was lifted, knife cut fingers.

(8) *Shop.*

Shop assistant was changing shelves on a mobile bench when one shelf fell injuring his toes.

(9) *Shop.*

Shop assistant descending stairs when heel came off her shoe, she overbalanced and hit her arm on handrail—severe bruises caused.

(10) *Shop.*

Shop assistant was leaving stockroom when she was accidentally knocked into the door by another assistant causing injury to her elbow.

(11) *Shop.*

Shop assistant pulled the drawer board out below the counter when it came completely free and fell onto her foot causing severe bruising—as a result of investigation all similar fittings to counters fitted with a stop to prevent easy removal.

(12). *Shop.*

Shop assistant slipped on office floor and fell to ground injuring her back—floor not excessively slippery but footwear not really suitable for this type of floor—warned re more care to be exercised.

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	4	94	5
Retail shops	1	211	49
Wholesale shops.			
Warehouses	1	18	2
Catering Establishments	Nil	23	7
Fuel Storage Depots	Nil	Nil	Nil
Totals	6	346	63

Total number of Inspections made for all purposes—154.

TABLE 8

Analysis of persons employed in registered premises by workplace.

Class of Workplace	No. of Persons Employed
Offices	931
Retail Shops	952
Wholesale Dept. Warehouses	134
Catering Establishments	150
Canteens	6
Fuel Storage Depots	Nil
Total	2173
Total Males	984
Total Females	1189

SHOPS ACTS

HAIRDRESSERS AND BARBERS

Little action has been possible in this field over the period, routine enquiries to the Public Health Office have been answered but no specific inspections have been carried out other than those covered at the same time as inspections under other legislation.

FACTORIES ACT

It has not been possible to undertake a proper routine of inspections of factories during the year.

The statistical information as required by the Ministry of Works is appended hereunder;—

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 ...	34	1	Nil	Nil
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority	126	20	2	Nil
(iii) Other Premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding out-workers' premises)	38	Nil	Nil	Nil
Total	193	21	2	Nil

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	2	1	—	—	—
(b) Unsuitable or defective	—	15	—	—	—
(c) Not separate for sexes ...	—	—	—	—	—
Other offences against the Act (not including offences relating to Outwork)	—	—	—	—	—
Total	2	16	—	—	—

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	...	...	...	...	...	...	17
Brewing	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Butchers	...	...	...	...	...	...	3
Cement Industries and Roadstone Makers	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
Corn Merchants	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Dairies	...	...	...	...	...	...	6
Dyers and Cleaners	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
Electrical and Radio Repairs	...	...	...	...	...	...	8
Electrical Undertakers	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
Fur Manufacturers	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Gas Undertakings	...	...	...	...	...	...	3
General Dealers and Scrap Sorters	...	...	...	...	...	...	8
Heavy Engineers	...	...	...	...	...	...	6
Ice Cream Manufacturers	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Knacker Yard	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Laundries	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
Leather Workers and Shoe Repairing	...	...	...	...	...	...	5
Light Engineering and Motor Repairs	...	...	...	...	...	...	22
Monumental Masons	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
Paint Mixing	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Paper Board Manufacture	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Paper Processing	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Plumbers, etc.	...	...	...	...	...	...	11
Printing	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
Quarrying	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Rum Butter Manufacture	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Scale Repairing	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
Slag Recovery	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Steel Making	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Tailoring	...	...	...	...	...	...	8
Tripe Dressing	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Waste Paper Baling	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Watch and Clock Repairs	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Weaving	...	...	...	...	...	...	4
Wood Cutting and Working	...	...	...	...	...	...	25
Works of Engineering Construction	...	...	...	...	...	...	3
Works of Building Operations	...	...	...	...	...	...	30

ATMOSPHERIC POLLUTION

The regular daily readings from the two official observation stations continued throughout the year, details of the highest and lowest readings in microgrammes per cubic metre are given below:—

No. 1 Station (Workington)

Highest Smoke—265 on a damp cloudy day in December with a force 2 westerly wind.

Lowest Smoke—7 on two clear days in June with a force 1 (a) southerly and (b) easterly wind.

Highest SO₂—86 on a wet cloudy day in March with a force 9 north easterly wind.

Lowest SO₂—Nil on 2 damp cloudy days in February with easterly winds.

No. 2 Station (Salterbeck)

Highest Smoke—367 on a clear day in March with force 1 north easterly wind.

Lowest Smoke—4 on damp cloudy day in December with a force 2 north west wind.

Highest SO₂—205 on a showery day in March with a force 3 east wind.

Lowest SO₂—4 on a showery day in December with a force 2 west wind.

The portable equipment which for several years has been operating in Lawrence Street School was removed in February and the following readings relate to one month only.

No. 3 Station (Lawrence Street (One Month))

Highest Smoke—360 on a showery day in January with a force 2 south west wind.

Lowest Smoke—34 on a showery day in January with a force 3 south west wind.

Highest SO₂—126 on a cloudy day in January with a force 5 south east wind.

Lowest SO₂—50 on a showery day in January with a force 3 south east wind.

It is to be regretted that a further onset of vandalism at Salterbeck necessitated the complete removal of the apparatus during April however readings were resumed in mid May and continued until the end of the year.

When compared with 1968 the general trend has been a slight drop in both the smoke and SO₂ concentration in the air but the pattern remains much the same when considering the general rise and fall over the year. This is no doubt due to the general mildness of the weather over the period particularly during the winter months. The average pollution in the town is once more represented in the form of a "Pie Chart" and this also shows the lower average figure.

The figures however show that the tentative maximum figure of 100 mg/m³ as suggested in my last annual report is being exceeded and serves to emphasise the adviseability of promoting Clean Air Zones in the Borough.

As is mentioned in other sections of this report work is proceeding on proposals for General Improvement Areas and if these are declared as Smokeless Zones at the same time a start would be seen to have been made towards the eventual aim of cleaning Workington's Environment.

MONTHLY VARIATION—SMOKE AND SO_2

FIG. 1—WORKINGTON (No. 1).

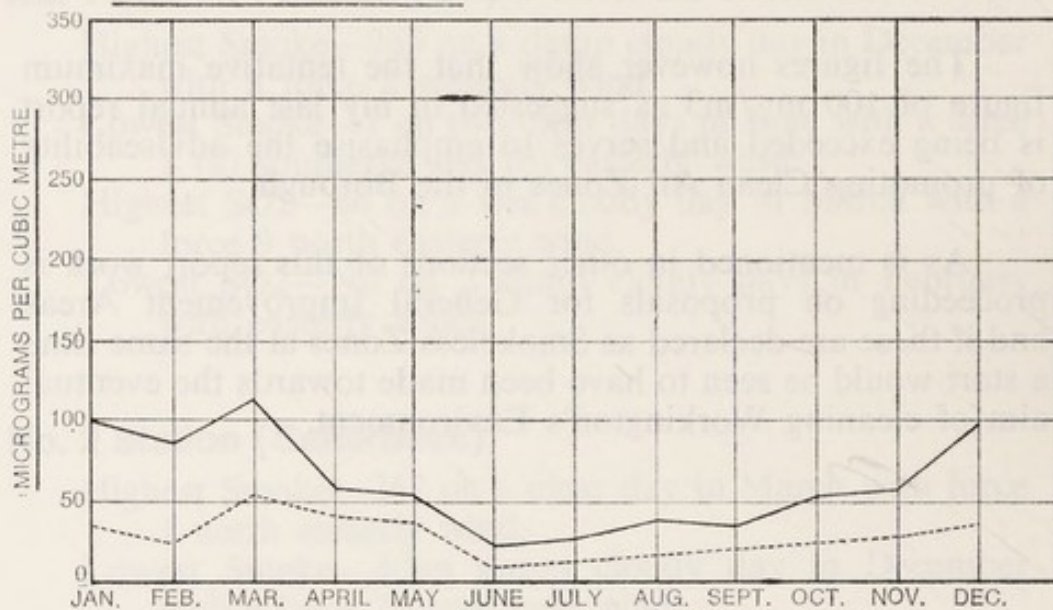


FIG. 2—SALTERBECK (No. 2).

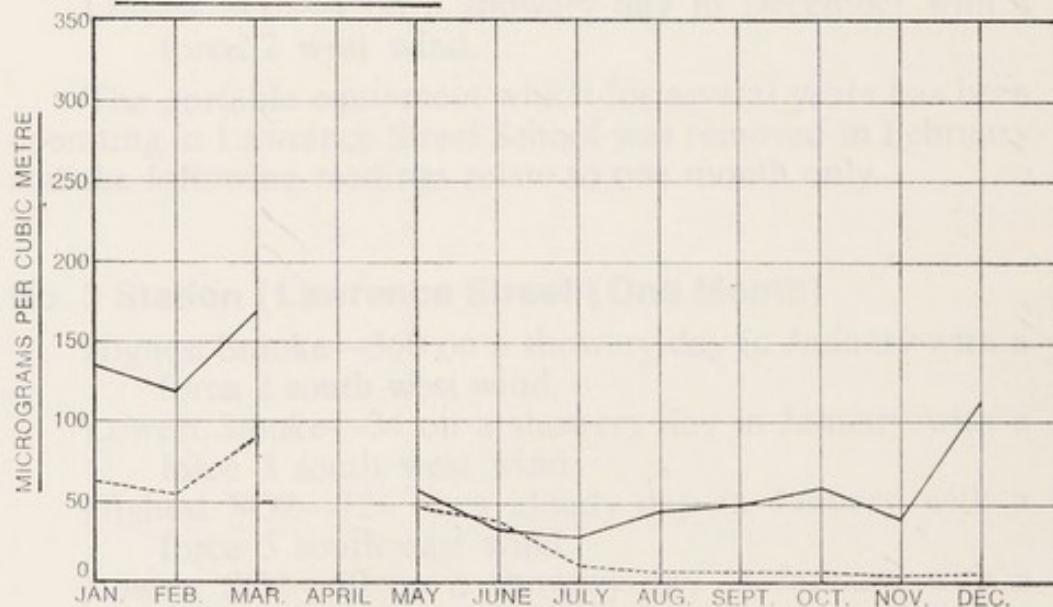


FIG 4. SMOKE

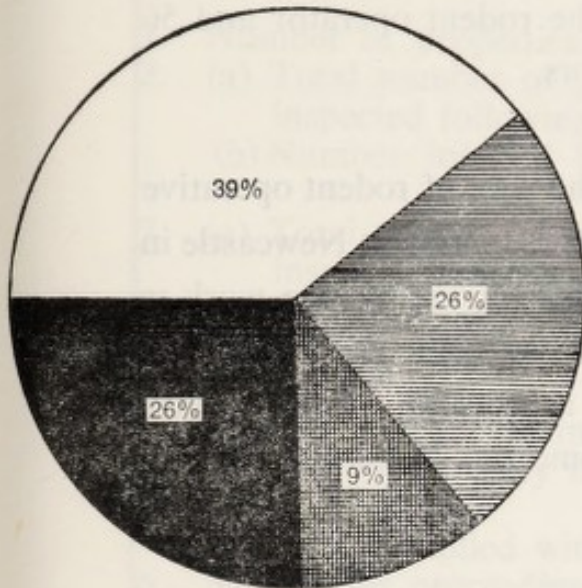
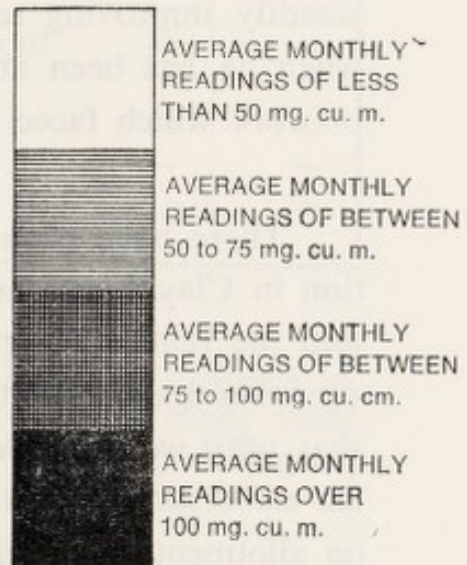
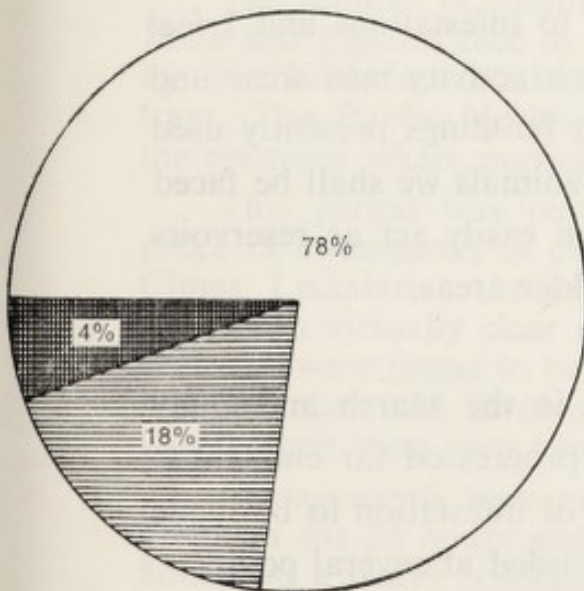


FIG 5. SULPHUR DIOXIDE



RODENT AND PEST CONTROL

Rodent Control

The number of complaints of infestation by rodents more than doubled during the year to a total of 305 and this necessitated 872 visits and revisits by the rodent operator and 56 visits by the public health inspectors.

Mr. William Little took over the post of rodent operative from Mr. Bland and attended a week's course at Newcastle in training for his duties. Mr. Little has carried out the work in an efficient and responsible manner and we look forward to a steadily improving service in all aspects of rodent control when he has been able to overcome the inevitable backlog of work which faced him.

There have been one or two instances of major infestation in Clay Flatts associated with the clearing of the area and the removal of piggeries, hen huts etc. These types of premises are constantly giving rise to infestations and I feel that until we are able to group such activity into areas and get rid of the old huts and decrepit buildings presently used on allotments for keeping of these animals we shall be faced with repeated infestations which can easily act as reservoirs for the spasmodic infestation of wilder areas.

Sewer treatment recommenced in the Marsh and Quay and Central Area but has not yet progressed far enough to enable an assessment of the extent of infestation to be made though considerable takes were recorded at several points.

Table 12 below 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	12135	31
2. (a) Total number of properties inspected following notification	305	2
(b) Number infested by (i) rats	170	2
(ii) mice	145	—
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

The number of complaints of infestations of property by Pests and pigeons rose to 383. This necessitated many visits by Mr. Little in addition to the daily servicing of pigeon traps. The Public Health Inspectors made special visits to the premises where particular difficulties arose.

This period was particularly noticeable for the resurgence of infestations of domestic premises by our old friend *Cimex Lectarius* the "Bed Bug". For sometime now we have been virtually clear of this pest but during the year 7 premises were found to be infested, five of them only slightly but the other two, involving a pair of semi-detached Council premises were very heavily infested.

Arrangements were made for the tenants to vacate the premises for 24 hours and then a specialist firm treated the houses to a heavy concentration of Methylene Bromide. This treatment proved completely successful and no further evidence of the insects has been found.

Ants proved a particular problem during the period and one particular house on a Corporation Estate defied all attempts at eradication, finally gassing by Methyl Bromide was tried and found to be completely successful. The site of

this particular infestation appeared to be below the concrete floors in the vicinity of the chimney breast and would have been almost impossible to find by physical means.

Table 13 gives the detailed breakdown.

TABLE 13

Total number of properties inspected following notification	373
Number of properties infested by	
Ants	272
Cockroaches	59
Silverfish	8
Fleas	3
Insects (various)	23
Pigeons	11
Bed Bugs	7
	<hr/> 383 <hr/>

The inspection of vacant Council Houses and those where exchanges have been requested has continued through the year, 139 houses having been inspected and reports as to their condition rendered to the Housing Department.

GENERAL

The following information relates to work carried out by the department in connection with matters not covered in other sections of the report.

NOISE ABATEMENTS ACT

Action under this Act has been minimal and of a minor nature. Only 4 complaints were received and involved 13 visits being made to give advice and secure the abatement of the nuisances by informal means, no notices being served.

Nuisances under the Public Health Acts

Number of complaints received in respect of insanitary conditions other than in dwelling houses	31
Number of informal notices served as a result of the investigations of the above complaints	18
Number of informal notices complied with	11
Number of statutory notices served as a result of the above complaints	4
Number of statutory notices complied with	3

Summary of Visits to Premises under Various Acts

(Not covered in the previous sections).

Animal Boarding Establishment	...	...	...	—
Infectious Disease	...	...	...	24
Interviews	...	...	...	239
Knackers Yard	...	...	...	4
Markets	...	...	...	27
Miscellaneous	...	...	...	264
Accumulations	...	...	...	83
Pet Shops	...	...	...	4
Piggeries	...	...	...	14
Public Conveniences	...	...	...	7
Refuse Collection	...	...	...	49
Refuse Disposal	...	...	...	59
Re-visits	...	...	...	419
Salvage	...	...	...	5
Scrap Metal Dealers	...	...	...	1
Theatres and Places of Entertainment	...	...	...	3
Health Education	...	...	...	24

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

Choked sewers, drains and gullies	...	...	...	15
Defective Public Convenience	...	...	...	2
Miscellaneous	...	...	...	2
Repairs to Corporation Property	...	...	...	23

REFUSE COLLECTION AND DISPOSAL SERVICE

The conversion from metal bins to paper bag collection has proceeded steadily and by the end of the year some 1,500 new stands had been issued making a total of 6,358 issued or some 66% of the total excluding the town centre. The provision of guards to some of the sacks where the bags are being torn by animals or suffer damage by wind action, has continued though there have been some hold ups due to the length of time which usually elapses between order and delivery of this particular item. The number of guards which are now being requested seems to indicate that a much larger proportion of the old stands will eventually have to be provided with guards to eliminate the nuisance caused when refuse scatters from a split sack.

The special collection service is proving a very useful addition to our normal routine, 736 collections having been made during 1969 as compared to 489 in 1968 and 376 in 1967. Several sites are visited regularly, the constant clearing of these areas, which in the past have been notorious eyesores, has gone some way to improving the amenities of the areas. No progress had been made towards the provision of special sites under the Civic Amenities Act though many of the outstanding problems have been resolved and the initial adverse reaction of persons residing near the proposed site has been overcome these objections being in the main due to a lack of understanding as to what was to be provided.

The arrangements for the removal of abandoned cars have worked smoothly some 51 visits having been made and 20 vehicles removed. Unfortunately the derelict cars have now to be taken to the tip by our own transport as the individual who initially cut up the vehicles on site and removed the pieces is no longer prepared to do this. It is however a simple matter to remove the chassis and we have the advantage of knowing that the site is left clear.

The details of the vehicles operated by the department is attached at the end of this section the fleet having been brought further up to date by the replacement of a very old vehicle in April by a new 35 cu. yd. Pakamatic so that our working fleet is now all modern compression vehicles. The two oldest vehicles, a fore and aft tipper and a small side loader being used as spare vehicles for the collection of assorted special loads and to transfer trailers.

During the year we had considerable and expensive troubles with the maintenance of the Fiat tracked shovel used to properly compact and cover the refuse on the tip. This

resulted in trials of various tracked vehicles being conducted late in the year with a view to obtaining a suitable replacement and as a result, it was decided to order a Bristol Taurus Tractor to be delivered in the Spring of 1970.

Towards the end of the year work commenced on the provision of a new salvage baling depot in the old Water Board Workshop and Store. This will provide up to date facilities to replace the Railway View Depot which will be demolished in the Central Area Development Scheme.

Refuse Disposal continued at Oldside during the period, the second area to be leased from the United Steel Co. reached its final level towards the end of the year and operations commenced on the second area to be reclaimed from the beach. A substantial barrier having previously been formed by much of the rubble removed from the demolition in the Central Area the sea was prevented from entering a considerable basin and disposal now proceeds in this area which should provide adequate tipping space until the complete reclamation of this area commences.

The basic routine "rounds" have remained unaltered during the year, it was however, realised that some adjustment in the areas covered and also in the composition of the standard team, may be of advantage and a survey was commenced in the middle of the year. The proposals which were later made as to the introduction of Work Study and the lack of manpower at this time to complete the work resulted in the investigation being suspended for the time being.

The staff of the Refuse collection and Disposal section has remained constant during the period and there have been no major difficulties in this field.

Vehicles in service at end of 1969

Refuse Collection

Type of Vehicle	Registration No. and Date Registered
Shelvoke & Drewry. 35 cu yd. Pakamatic.	GRM 210D (March) 1966
Shelvoke & Drewry. 35 cu yd. Pakamatic.	JRM 618D (October) 1966
Shelvoke & Drewry 35 cu yd. Pakamatic.	PAO 633F (April) 1968
Shelvoke & Drewry 35 cu. yd.	SRM 704 G (April, 1969)
Karrier Dual Tip.	961 DAO (January) 1961
Karrier Side Loader.	BRM 676B (September), 1964
Morris Van.	TAO 664 G (May), 1969

Salvage

Fordson Tractor/Shovel.	CRM 650	(November) 1960
6 Salvage Trailers.	Purchased	1967

Refuse Disposal

3 Ton Bedford Tipper.	544 MAO	(December) 1963
Fiat FL4. Cramer/Shovel.	DRM 828C	(April) 1965

STAFF

Foreman.	R. Robinson.
Deputy Foreman.	L. Bland.

Refuse Collection

Driver	...	...	...	...	...	...	4
Drivers/Labourers	...	...	...	...	...	...	3
Labourers	...	...	...	...	...	...	15

Salvage Depot

Labourers	2
-----------	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	---

Refuse Disposal

Driver	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Labourer	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Total	...	...	...	...	...	...	26

In addition to the permanent staff a maximum of 5 temporary men were taken on for varying periods of time to replace staff off duty during times of exceptional sickness and during holidays.

All These Figures Relate to Financial Year

	1968/69	1969/70
Number of loads refuse removed to tip	3541	4818
Estimated weight of refuse removed	8548	7408*
Number of additional loads accepted on tip.		
Corporation Vehicles	2573	2329
Private Vehicles	3839	4496
Weight of salvage baled and sold	354	351
Total receipts for salvage sold	3483	3745
Total bonus shared between men	580	757
Average bonus per man for year	20	27
Cost of refuse collection	£36732	£41747
Cost of refuse disposal	£3813	£4020
	<hr/>	<hr/>
Total	£40545	£45767
	<hr/>	<hr/>
Profit on salvage collection	£235	£824
	<hr/>	<hr/>
Total cost of service	£40310	£44943
	<hr/>	<hr/>

*Basis of weights carried changed in July 1969 estimated weights reduced by $\frac{1}{3}$.

Salvage

Receipts	£3744 10 9
	<hr/>
Salvage service	£2163 0 4
Bonus	£754 4 6
	<hr/>
	£2920 4 10
	<hr/>
Profit	£824 5 11
	<hr/>



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