

NO EVICTIONS

Platt's Estate Dwellers

Many premises on Platt's Estate unemployment settlement had been erected without the council's approval, and dwellings on private land fronting Platt-street, Waratah, owned by the Great Northern Land Company were being altered, also without permission, said the Chief Health Inspector (Mr. Meddows) at the Greater Newcastle Health Committee meeting last night.

The committee decided that the council's officers visit the estate and decide which were standard and which sub-standard buildings; that no evictions be permitted; that no change of occupancy of sub-standard homes be allowed; and that no further sub-standard homes be permitted.

Some occupiers said they paid 2/ a week ground rent and had purchased the buildings from previous owners. It appeared that a practice prevailed of selling buildings and purchasers might be of the opinion that they were also buying the land. The company's land had not been subdivided. In the Crown land subdivision there were about 60 allotments and approximately 40 were occupied.

The Inspector recommended that occupiers who had no right to land owned by the Great Northern Land Company should apply to the East Maitland district surveyor for permissive occupancies on the Crown subdivision, and that the Great Northern Land Company be required to remove existing structures from the land in question.

It was further recommended that the Acting Parks and Building Surveyor make an inspection of the Crown subdivision and require plans for buildings in course of construction or alteration to be submitted to the council.

A motion for adoption of the recommendations was presented, but the committee's decision was stated.