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Contributors

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ABINGDON AND FARINGDON DISTRICTS
JOINT PUBLIC HEALTH COMMITTEE

REPORT
OF THE
MEDICAL OFFICER
OF HEALTH



FOR
THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER THIRTY-FIRST
NINETEEN HUNDRED AND SIXTY EIGHT



Abingdon and Faringdon Districts Joint Public Health Committee

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TO THE CHAIRMAN AND MEMBERS OF THE
ABINGDON AND FARINGDON DISTRICTS
JOINT HEALTH COMMITTEE

Ladies and Gentlemen,

I beg to present my annual report for 1968.

May I again begin by expressing my sincere thanks to the Chairman and Councillors of the Authorities that I serve who have been so friendly and helpful, to the general Practitioners and Nurses of the area for their support and co-operation, and most of all to the Public Health Inspectors for their continued loyalty, industry and cheerful efficiency in carrying out the great volume and variety of tasks referred to in this report.

In my last report I avoided even a mention of the word 'fluoride', but the need for it has again been brought to the forefront by a letter from the Department of Health, urging Local Health Authorities to put it into operation, and drawing attention to the Report of the Fluoridation Studies and the Results Achieved after Eleven Years. (See Summary "Our Teeth" published by the Health Education Council enclosed).

For the newcomers to the subject a few basic facts must first be stated.

'Fluoridation' is the adjustment in our water supply of the natural fluoride in which it is deficient up to the level of one part of fluoride to one million parts of water (1 p.p.m.).

Whenever this has been done (or been found to be the case in nature) in many different countries, including our own, dental decay in children has been greatly reduced, usually by more than one half. The numbers involved are not small. In the U.S. alone, 80 million are now drinking such water, of whom 47 million have done so for over 10 years, 22 million for over 15 years, and 7 million, in natural areas, for all their lives.

To date not one single case of disease or illness has been found to be due to fluoridation. On the contrary, evidence is growing that fluoridation reduces bone fractures in old people, and reduces the hardening of arteries. As long as 12 years ago, fluoridation was commended by every national medical, dental, or related scientific body having competence in this field in the Anglo-American world. Two years ago the House of Lords were told that the number of scientific papers written on the *safety* of fluoridation exceeded 3,000, and a few months ago 32 nations, including Great Britain, U.S.A., and Russia, sponsored a resolution which was

passed unanimously by the General Assembly of the World Health Organisation, calling on all member states to introduce fluoridation.

Finally, fluoridation adds no taste, smell, or colour, has no effect on any industrial process, is accurately controlled, and is ridiculously cheap (less than 6d. per head per year in Watford and Anglesey, and less than 3d. in Birmingham).

For the past seven years successive Ministers of Health have been urging the Authorities to let our children have the benefit of what was described in the Commons as 'one of the greatest advances in medicine that we will see in this century.' It is eleven years since I exclaimed on this page:

"What in Heaven's name is preventing millions of children in this country from being given what they desperately need to save half their teeth from rotting? Believe it or not, it seems to be a tiny minority of people almost all of whom know next to nothing about the subject and have totally unscientific minds."

In the years since then successive Ministers of Health have described the small band of those who lead the 'anti's in similar terms.

Their most recent ploy to scare us has been to jump on the current 'pollution' band-waggon by trying to link up fluoridation with worry about cyclamates, D.D.T. etc.

Recent converts of the 'anti's can be forgiven, but when that small handful of persons who have led the 'anti's' for some years use this particular smear, their doing so can only be described as 'knavery.'

They tried it before by crying 'Thalidomide', and thousands of Kilmarnock children's teeth have paid the penalty for that folly.

They were then shown that fluoride is a very simple, extremely common, completely natural salt that is present in almost all natural food and most natural water, where it has been for centuries past. It was also explained to them that Thalidomide, Cyclamates, D.D.T., Dieldrin, the "Pill", etc., are completely different in all these ways.

These are not simple, but of extremely complicated chemical structure — not natural and God-given, but artificial and man-made — not found widely dispersed in natural food and water, but only where man has recently put it — not in nature and in man's teeth and bones for countless generations, but only in existence for the last few years.

This means that anyone is quite justified in saying that he is not sure what the result might be in 20 years or so of the use of these recently manufactured drugs — no one can be sure and no

true scientist claims to be sure — but that has absolutely nothing whatever to do with fluoridation which, as shown above, is in an utterly different position. Millions of people throughout their lives and for generations past have lived on water containing one or more parts per million of fluoride, and have demonstrated its harmlessness. It is the existence of these millions of human guinea pigs that enabled the W.H.O. 10 years ago to say: "All these findings fit together in a consonant whole that constitutes a great guarantee of safety — a body of evidence without precedent in public health procedures."

Any who still have a shadow of doubt should surely be convinced by hearing that Dr. Frances Kelsey, medical officer of the U.S. Food and Drug Administration, who was honoured by President Kennedy for having kept Thalidomide off the American market, declared herself in favour of fluoridation, and emphasised the overwhelming scientific support by adding "This public health measure, based on more than 30 years research, has been thoroughly investigated and approved by such organisations as the American Dental Association, the American Medical Association, the American Academy of Pediatrics, and the National Research Council."

It is high time the 'anti's' faced up to the dishonesty of the way they smear the word 'poison' around this subject. It is nearly 4 years since Lord Cohen in the House of Lords made it clear to their president, Lord Douglas, that to say that fluoride was a poison or that fluoride was not a poison were both meaningless statements, because it depends on the *amount* whether fluoride is or is not poisonous.

Fluoridation means only one part of fluoride in one million parts of water, or less than a single grain of fine salt in a glass of water. Even Prussic Acid can be safely drunk at this dilution of one in a million, and in fact it is used in almond cake icing.

To make the smear darker, the word 'rat-poison' is often used. The most widely used rat-poison is called 'Warfarin.' During the 5 weeks that I spent in Hospital lying with my thigh in a sling I consumed 5-8 pills of 'Warfarin' every day. Common table salt can kill if the dose is too large, but no one in their senses would call it a poison.

No one who believes in truth should use the word 'poison' to frighten anyone from fluoridation.

Similarly, the most recent effort to scare people has been to quote the figure of 9,000 tons per year of fluoride salt as the amount that would end up in polluting our rivers and coastal waters. This of course is a mere bogey, as the concentration could never be above 1 part per million, which we know to be quite harmless to human, animal or plant life.

Those 'anti's' who have had to stop disputing the safety and the dental benefits of fluoridation now fall back on the cry that it is 'mass medication — compulsory interference with personal liberty.'

Medication means medical treatment. Far from being in any way a treatment, fluoridation is purely preventive in precisely the same sense that the addition of chlorine to water, vitamins to margarine, and calcium and iron to flour, are purely preventive measures.

Of course, it is easy to think of cases where the giving of ordinary air or plain water would be the only 'medication' needed to save a person's life. A family found dying in a gas-filled room, or a group found nearing death in the Sahara, need no other medication to save their lives than fresh air or plain water, but it would be folly to argue from such cases that the provision of fresh air and water to our populations is mass medication.

It cannot be too often repeated that fluoridation is the free provision, for everybody alike, of a harmless, tasteless, odourless natural element, that is, by the kindly provision of nature, already present in greater (or unfortunately lesser) amounts in almost all water and all foods everywhere on this earth. (Research which involved feeding rats on a completely fluoride-free diet proved almost impossible, because it was difficult to keep rats alive on the few foods that were free from fluoride). To describe the adjustment in the water of the amount of this natural element as 'mass medication' is nonsense.

Finally, there is a very important point about the saving from decay produced by fluoridation, a point which is never apparent in the figures, and which especially needs emphasis now that the 'anti's' are trying to minimise its benefits.

The fact is that the percentage reduction in caries is very much greater than the figures (50-60%) reveal. This is because the measurement of the decay in a mouth is always done by lumping together three very different degrees of decay, by counting the D.E. (or M.) F.-index, that is, the number of Decayed, Extracted (or missing) and Filled teeth. Fluoridation greatly reduces the amount of decay, thus enabling teeth to be filled instead of being extracted, without reducing the joint D.E.F. index. This shift from Extracted to Filled does not show in the D.E.F. index.

This very important but hidden fact also explains why the financial savings in dental clinics, etc., don't seem as great as they might be. This is because a dentist can extract many teeth in the time taken to fill one tooth. It gives the dentist more work to save a tooth than to throw it away, but it is clearly much better for the patient.

Similarly, figures showing increases in the percentage of children with totally caries-free mouths do little to stimulate the imagination. But I remember meeting a group of dentists who had visited and seen the mouths of school children brought up in Slough (which is blessed with natural fluoride in its water supply), and comparing their delight with the ecstasy of poets or architects visiting the Taj Mahal.

Why deprive us all of similar delight?

Yours truly,

NORMAN PARFIT.

VITAL STATISTICS

In this first section are collected the various tables which summarize the vital statistics of the three Authorities grouped together. It is followed by sections which deal separately with matters affecting the health of each Authority. All figures in brackets refer to 1967.

AREA AND POPULATION

The following table gives the area of each district with the estimated population at the middle of 1968. It shows that the population densities of the Abingdon Borough and the Faringdon Rural District are very close to the national average for England and Wales. Abingdon Rural District however, has a density of over three times that of the average Rural District, only one-third of this excess being due to the parishes which are on the outskirts of Oxford, namely Cumnor, North Hinksey, and Kennington.

District	Area in Acres	Est. Mid. 1968 Pop.	Increase on 1967	Persons per acre	Product of 1d. Rate
Abingdon Borough	1,754	17,290	520	9.86	£2,900
Abingdon Rural	41,185	37,090	520	0.90	£5,356
Faringdon Rural	55,726	16,330	180	0.29	£1,785
Total	98,665	70,710	1,220	0.71	£10,041

BIRTHS AND DEATHS

The following table shows the totals of Births and Deaths and the 'corrected' rates per 1,000 of population. 'Corrected' rates are those which take due account of the actual age and sex of each area by being multiplied by the 'comparability factor' supplied by the Registrar General. They may then be fairly compared with those of the nation as a whole or with the corrected rate of any other area. The factors for Births and Deaths are as follows: Abingdon Borough 0.96: 1.23; Abingdon Rural 0.93: 1.19; Faringdon Rural 1.02: 1.01.

The degree to which these factors vary from the standard 1.00 shows how much the population of the Authorities are similar to, or differ from, the national average. The figures show that as far as women of child-bearing age are concerned our populations vary little from the average, but that Abingdon Borough and Abingdon Rural District have about one-quarter less old people than the average.

District	Births	Birth Rate per 1,000 of Pop.	Deaths	Death Rate per 1,000 of Pop.
Abingdon Borough	318 (323)	17.71	155 (132)	11.03
Abingdon Rural	565 (600)	14.17	286 (245)	9.18
Faringdon Rural	274 (285)	17.11	134 (113)	8.29
Total	1157 (1208)	15.71 (16.78)	575 (471)	9.42 (8.37)
England and Wales	822,000	16.9 (17.2)	577,000	11.9 (11.2)

INFANT MORTALITY

District	Deaths of Infants under 1 year	Live Births	Infant Mortality per 1,000 Live Births
Abingdon Borough	1 (4)	315 (320)	3.2
Abingdon Rural	7 (10)	563 (592)	12.4
Faringdon Rural	5 (5)	273 (279)	18.3
Total	13 (18)	1,151 (1191)	11.3
England and Wales			18.0

STILL BIRTHS

District	Legitimate	Illegitimate	Total	Per ,1000 total Births
Abingdon Borough	3	—	3	9.4
Abingdon Rural	2	—	2	3.5
Faringdon Rural	1	—	1	3.7
Total	6	—	6	5.2
England and Wales				14.0

CAUSES OF DEATH

The 575 deaths in the area were accounted for as follows:-

Cause	Abingdon Borough	Abingdon Rural	Faringdon Rural	Total 1968	Total 1967
Ischaemic Heart Disease	38	64	37	139	(117)
Hypertension with Heart Disease	3	7	2	12	5)
Chronic Rheumatic Heart Disease	2	3	—	5	(—)
Other Forms of Heart Disease	5	11	3	19	(50)
Total Heart Disease	48	85	42	175	(172)
Cerebrovascular Disease	15	39	23	77	(54)
Other diseases of the Nervous System	—	4	—	4	
Other diseases of the Circulatory System	5	14	5	24	(20)
Cancer of the Lung	7	11	8	26	(20)
Cancer of the Womb	1	1	—	2	(—)
Cancer of the Breast	6	8	2	16	(14)
Cancer of the Stomach	1	10	2	13	(11)
Leukaemia	—	2	—	2	(5)
Other Cancers	20	39	12	71	(56)
Total all Cancers	35	71	24	130	(105)
Benign and Unspecified Growths	—	2	1	3	(—)
Pneumonia	12	15	7	34	(18)
Bronchitis	6	14	9	29	(16)
Influenza	8	6	1	15	(1)
Asthma	1	1	—	2	(—)
Other Diseases of the Respiratory System	3	4	2	9	(5)
Motor Vehicle Accidents	2	8	3	13	(12)
Other Accidents	4	3	4	11	(6)
Suicides	2	1	2	5	(1)
Other Diseases of Digestive System	3	3	—	6	(—)
Diabetes Mellitus	1	3	2	6	(1)
Nephritis	1	3	1	5	(4)
Other Diseases, Genito- Urinary System	4	—	1	5	(—)
Hyperplasia of Prostate	—	2	1	3	
All other Causes	5	2	3	10	(32)
Total all Causes	155	286	134	575	(471)

INFECTIOUS DISEASES

The following table gives the number of cases of infectious diseases notified during 1968 (with the 1967 figures in brackets).

Diseases	Abingdon Borough		Abingdon Rural		Faringdon Rural		Total all Districts	
Measles	11	(354)	53	(520)	181	(59)	255	(933)
Scarlet Fever	10	(4)	8	(8)	4	(2)	22	(14)
T.B. (Pulm)	4	(3)	5	(7)	1	(1)	10	(11)
T.B. (Non-Pulm)	—	(—)	2	(—)	—	(—)	2	(—)
Infective Herpatitis	2	(—)	3	(—)	3	(—)	8	(—)
Whooping Cough	2	(—)	10	(17)	—	(—)	12	(17)
Dysentery	1	(5)	19	(4)	1	(6)	21	(15)
Food Poisoning	—	(—)	—	(1)	4	(4)	4	(5)
Total	30	(368)	100	(559)	194	(74)	334	(1,000)

TUBERCULOSIS (New Cases)

The following table shows the number of new cases of Tuberculosis notified during the year. It distinguishes between the more serious cases affecting the lungs (Pulmonary) and those affecting other parts of the body.

Age Periods	Abingdon Borough		Abingdon Rural		Faringdon Rural		Total all Districts	
	Pul.	Non Pul.	Pul.	Non Pul.	Pul.	Non Pul.	Pul.	Non Pul.
0—1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
2—5	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
6—10	1	—	—	—	—	—	1	—
11—15	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
16—20	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
21—25	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
26—35	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
36—45	1	—	—	—	—	—	1	—
46—55	3	—	3	2	—	—	6	2
56—65	—	—	—	—	1	—	1	—
Over 65	—	—	1	—	—	—	1	—
Totals 1968	5	—	4	2	1	—	10	2
Totals 1967	3	—	7	—	2	—	12	—

ABINGDON BOROUGH

HOUSING CONSTRUCTION

The number of new houses completed during the year was 167 consisting of 35 Council houses and flats and 132 built by private persons. A further 195 houses were under construction at the end of the year, of which 45 were Council dwellings and 150 were private.

The above additional Council houses brought the number erected since the war to 1,798 and with the 583 pre-war houses makes a total of 2,381 Council houses (including those sold) leaving 1824 dwellings for renting.

The rent of pre-war houses, including rates, ranged from £2 11s. 2d. to £3 10s. 7d. with an approximate average of £3 2s. 2d. per week for a 48 week year. Rents for post-war houses ranged from £2 11s. 2d. for a bed-sitter to £4 10s. 7d. for a four bedroom house with an average of £3 15s. 8d.

The number of applicants for Council houses at 31st December, 1968 was 422. This was 68 more than at the end of 1967.

CARAVANS

There are no caravans in the borough now being used as residential accommodation.

MORTUARY

The present mortuary in Radley Road is to be replaced by a new one with a larger capacity at the Marcham Road Hospital. It is anticipated that building will commence during 1969.

The mortuary was used on 124 occasions during 1968, 122 involving post mortem examinations. The figures for 1967 were 153 and 151 respectively.

MEAT INSPECTION

The following table gives the details of slaughtered animals inspected and the number of carcasses condemned at the Caldecott Farm abattoir.

	No. Inspected	No. found to be affected			Whole Carcasses		
		T.B.	% of Total	Other Conditions	% of Total	T.B.	Other Conditions
Cattle	2204	1	—	727	33.0	—	3
Calves	228	—	—	—	—	—	13
Sheep	6011	—	—	178	2.7	—	10
Pigs	21,279	56	0.26	3040	1.4	—	61
Totals	29,722	57		3,945		—	87
1957	(39,446)	(107)	—	(8,304)	(21)	(1)	(87)

Analysis of Principal Causes of Condemnation of Carcases

Disease	Cattle	Calves	Sheep	Pigs	Total
Emaciation	1	—	1	7	9
Peritonitis	—	1	—	7	8
Pleurisy	—	—	—	5	5
Moribund	—	6	—	5	11
Pyrexia	—	—	—	3	3
Oedema	1	—	2	6	9
Immaturity	—	—	—	—	2
Pneumonia	—	2	—	2	4
Pyæmia	—	1	—	5	6
Abcess	—	1	—	3	4
Metritis	—	—	5	5	10
Septicaemia	1	—	—	1	2
Other Conditions	—	2	2	12	14
Total	3	13	10	61	87

FOOD OTHER THAN FRESH MEAT

The following quantities of food and meat (other than meat inspected at the slaughterhouse) were condemned during 1968:-

Meat	127 lbs.	Canned Meat	115 lbs.
Frozen Food	189 lbs.	Ice Cream	18 lbs.

FOOD PREMISES

The number and various types of premises subject to the Food Hygiene (General) Regulations, 1960 together with the number of visits paid to them in the course of food inspection duties were as follows:

Category of Trade	Number of Premises	Premises fitted to comply with Reg. 16	Premises to which Reg. 19 Applies	Premises fitted to comply with Reg. 19	Number of Visits
Grocery and Provisions	41	38	41	41	10
Licensed Premises	31	30	31	31	3
Cafes and Restaurants	15	15	15	15	20
Butchers	16	16	16	16	17
Greengrocery	14	14	14	14	15
Sale of Ice Cream	8	7	8	8	21
Sale or Manufacture of Preserved Food	8	8	8	8	5
Fishmongers	4	4	4	4	16
Milk Distributors	2	2	2	2	35
Sausages and other Meat Products Factory	1	1	1	1	10

MILK

During the year 35 samples of milk were taken and submitted for bacteriological examination. The results were as follows:-

	No. Taken	Satisfactory	Unsatisfactory
Pasteurised	22	21	1
Untreated	13	10	3

ICE CREAM

21 samples of ice cream were taken and submitted. 17 were found to be Ministry of Health provisional grade 1, 3 provisional grade 2 and 1 provisional grade 3.

HOUSING

1. Houses which on inspection were considered unfit for human habitation	Nil
2. Houses in which defects were remedied as a result of informal action	4
3. The number of representations made to the local authority with a view to:-	
(a) serving notices requesting execution of works	Nil
(b) the making of demolition or closing orders	Nil
4. Informal notices requesting execution of works	5
5. Houses rendered fit after service of formal notice	Nil
6. Number of demolition and closing orders made	Nil
7. The number of houses in respect of which an undertaking not to re-let was given	Nil
8. Number of houses demolished	Nil

IMPROVEMENT GRANTS

During the year 7 applications for Discretionary Grants and 8 applications for Standard Grants were approved. The work completed during the year provided the following additional amenities:-

Hot Water Systems	8	Water Closets	9
Wash Hand Basins	8	Alterations to Kitchen	8
Food Stores	4	New Bathrooms	7
Baths	7		

REFUSE COLLECTION AND DISPOSAL

1. The quantity of household refuse collected continues to increase not only because more houses are built and occupied, but also as a high standard of living is maintained. The main increase is in bulk and collection becomes more and more time-consuming. In spite of some difficulty in recruitment of labour the service continues to provide regularly weekly collections.

2. Action has been taken under the Civic Amenities Act 1967, to provide a place to which householders may take bulky items for disposal. This is proving so popular that the site needs twice-weekly cleaning.

3. In cases of difficulty the Corporation also provides a collection service for bulky household items no longer required; this is in addition to the facility referred to in (2) above.

4. Refuse disposal is now carried out by a contractor at Corporation Farm, Wilsham Road, under a blanket agreement which includes the extraction of gravel and the back-filling of the excavations. Some early difficulties with seepage of polluted water through the tipped refuse finding its way to nearby water-courses have been successfully dealt with to the satisfaction of Thames Conservancy officials.

SEWERAGE AND SEWAGE DISPOSAL

The standard of effluent has been maintained within Royal Commission standards.

The Sludge Digestion plant is operating effectively and disposal of liquid sludge on farm land has been carried out successfully during the season.

During the financial year 1969/70 an additional sludge digestion tank, a gasholder and automatic screening to the main pumping station are to be constructed and installed subject to loan approval.

WATER

Water is supplied by the Oxfordshire and District Water Board who are responsible for regular sampling.

During the year the water was adequate in quantity and, with a few minor exceptions, satisfactory in quality.

OFFICES, SHOPS AND RAILWAY PREMISES ACT, 1963

Premises were registered at the end of the year as follows:-

Type	No. of new Registrations during 1968	Total No. Registrations at end of year	No. of persons employed
Offices	4	91	387
Retail Shops	15	126	703
Wholesale Shops and Warehouses	1	8	20
Catering Premises and Canteens	2	2	3
Totals	23	244	1,203

FACTORIES ACT, 1961

	No.	Inspections	Written Notices	Prosecutions
Factories without mechanical power	1	2	—	—
Factories with mechanical power	63	27	—	—
Totals	64	29	—	—

There was one outworker — engaged in the making of wearing apparel.

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Ice Cream Sampling	21
Water Sampling	24
CIVIC AMENITIES ACT	55

ABINGDON RURAL DISTRICT

This table gives certain essential figures as a background against which the following pages can be viewed.

Parish	Est. Pop. Mid 1968	Area in Acres	Total Dwellings (a)	Council Houses	Rateable Value (b)	Product of 1d. Rate (c)
Appleford	389	862	116	13	8572	32 19 10
Appleton-with-Eaton	935	2077	276	72	21369	84 16 11
Besselsleigh	73	906	22	2	2030	7 9 11
Cumnor	4564	5690	1315	316	164801	666 13 10
Draycott Moor	1102	1054	281	52	24166	96 10 0
Drayton	2389	2606	671	108	50766	202 1 8
Frilford	235	1148	72	—	8787	33 3 11
Fyfield and Tubney	598	183	189	39	16215	63 14 4
Garford	118	39	37	4	1891	7 10 0
Kennington	4381	1369	1202	195	126094	511 0 10
Kingston Bagpuize	268	1109	80	—	6613	26 17 5
Lyford	69	774	30	—	870	3 1 1
Marcham	1468	2513	322	174	44585	176 8 7
Milton	805	1466	255	35	49950	203 4 2
North Hinksey	5315	1069	1465	48	198612	774 13 5
Radley	2460	2862	416	86	76501	279 18 10
St. Helen Without (d)	2878	2005	1000	11	152097	624 1 0
South Hinksey	411	509	109	8	18593	82 7 8
Steventon	1569	2401	478	156	47554	186 17 9
Sunningwell	1469	1332	288	43	43819	175 10 2
Sutton Courtenay	2639	2101	787	321	114169	472 3 3
Wootton	2762	1523	797	207	92581	369 11 0
Wytham	193	1992	66	—	35347	180 18 10
Gas Board	—	—	—	—	2072	7 18 8
Electricity Boards	—	—	—	—	21763	86 10 4
Totals	37090	41185	10274	1890	1329817	5,356 3 5
Totals for 1967	36570	41185	10134	1823	1289709	5,134 19 11

(a) Excludes residential caravans, includes R.A.F. Married Quarters.

(a) & (b) At 1.4.68.

(c) For year 1967/68.

(d) Excludes R.A.F. Personnel.

PART 'A' HOUSING

CONSTRUCTION

The total number of new houses completed during 1968 was 153, 136 were built by private enterprise, 17 by the Council.

191 were under construction at the end of the year of which 16 were Council houses.

The following table shows their distribution:-

Parish	Council Houses		Private Enterprise	
	Completed	Under construction 31.12.68	Completed	Under construction 31.12.68
Appleford	—	—	2	8
Appleton-with-Eaton	—	—	5	2
Cumnor	—	—	30	76
Draycott Moor	—	—	46	24
Drayton	—	16	3	3
Frilford	—	—	1	—
Fyfield and Tubney	—	—	3	—
Kennington	—	—	23	18
Marcham	—	—	1	1
Milton	—	—	1	4
North Hinksey	—	—	4	—
Radley	—	—	1	17
South Hinksey	—	—	1	1
St. Helen Without	—	—	2	1
Steventon	15	—	2	3
Sunningwell	—	—	1	2
Sutton Courtenay	—	—	7	15
Wootton	2	—	3	—
Totals	17	16	136	175
Totals for 1967	87	21	212	114

TEMPORARY DWELLINGS

The 16 bungalows at Tubney are now the only temporary dwellings owned by the Council and are in current use.

IMPROVEMENTS

The improvement of old properties continued at a steady rate and required a total of 171 visits. Applications for Grants were slightly less than in 1967 and details of these are shown in table (a). Table (b) shows the extent of work completed during 1968 with the aid of Grants.

(a)	No. approved 1968 ('67)	Total No. approved since	Amount paid 1968	Total amount paid
Standard Grants	26 (34)	1959 274	£2,778	£30,403
Discretionary Grants	10 (10)	1952 358	£4,416	£112,179

(b) (i) No. of properties modernised with aid of Discretionary Grants.

Parish	Conversions	Improvements
Cumnor	—	1
Kennington	—	2
Kingston Bagpuize	1	—
Marcham	—	2
North Hinksey	3	—
Sutton Courtenay	1	—
Tubney	—	1
Wootton	—	1
Totals	5	7

(b) (ii) Amenities provided with aid of Standard Grants.

Parish	Baths/ Showers	W.C.'s	Hot Water Systems	Food Stores	L/Bs
Appleford	1	1	1	—	1
Appleton-with Eaton	1	1	1	1	1
Cumnor	4	4	4	3	4
Drayton	—	—	1	1	1
Marcham	1	2	1	1	1
North Hinksey	2	2	4	2	3
Radley	1	2	2	2	2
Sunningwell	1	1	1	1	1
Tubney	1	1	1	1	1
Wootton	—	—	1	—	1
Totals	12	14	17	12	16

RENT ACT, 1957

No Certificates of Disrepair were issued during the year.

HOUSING ACT, 1957

(a) Houses inspected under Section 3 of the above Act	8
(b) Houses represented to Local Authority with a view to:-	
(i) Serving notices requiring execution of works	Nil
(ii) the making of Demolition Orders	1
(iii) the making of Closing Orders	1
(c) Number of Closing Orders made	1
(d) Number of Demolition Orders made	1
(e) Number of Demolition Orders revoked	3

CARAVANS

Caravan Sites and Control of Development Act, 1950

Visits concerning caravan control remain at approximately the same level as in 1967. 213 inspections were made as follows:-

Miscellaneous	17	Exempted sites	37
Council sites	74	Unauthorised caravans	37
Private licensed sites	48		

11 applications for Planning Permission and Site Licence were considered during the year, two out of eight new applications and all three renewals were approved.

The distribution of caravans in the district was as follows:-

(a) Council owned sites

Pebble Hill Caravan Park, Radley	100 caravans
Woodland Caravan Park, Radley	108 caravans

There continues to be a demand for sites on these parks, particularly Pebble Hill. The waiting list remained at a steady level with an average of about 35. The 'turn over' on the Woodland Park exceeds that of Pebble Hill by about six to one resulting in an extended period of waiting for prospective Pebble Hill residents.

(b) Licensed Private Sites

40 licences involving 241 caravans were in force at the end of the year distributed as follows:-

Parish	No. of Sites		No. of Caravans	
	Permanent	Temporary	Permanent	Temporary
Appleford	—	2	—	2
Besselsleigh	—	1	—	1
Cumnor	5	5	14	17
Draycott Moor	1	2	6	3
Drayton	1	4	50	19
Frilford	—	1	—	2
Kennington	2	—	2	—
Kingston Bagpuize	2	—	5	—
Marcham	—	2	—	2
Milton	—	1	—	1
North Hinksey	—	1	—	1
Radley	2	—	83	—
St. Helen Without	—	2	—	4
South Hinksey	1	1	1	1
Sunningwell	1	—	16	—
Steventon	—	1	—	8
Wootton	1	1	2	1
Totals	16	24	179	62

The above is a decrease on 1967 of two sites with single caravans.

(c) Exempted Sites

The number of exempted caravans was reduced from 28 to 16.

Close control is exercised over this type of use in order to ensure that caravans are not relet when the bona-fide exempted residents leave the site.

(d) Unauthorised sites

The number of visits to such sites was 50% less than 1967 and can largely be explained by the marked reduction in the use of the temporary "camping" places by itinerant caravanners.

Proceedings under Section 1 of the Act was necessary in the case of a single caravan and a fine of £20 was imposed.

PART 'B' ENVIRONMENTAL CIRCUMSTANCES

WATER SUPPLY

(a) Quantity

Most of the rural district is supplied with mains water but a number of wells are still in use. These are all of the shallow type and a survey was commenced during the year to determine their precise number and location.

The following table gives the information required concerning the supplies of the two Water Boards serving the area.

(i) OXFORDSHIRE AND DISTRICT WATER BOARD

Parish	Total No. of Dwelling Houses	No. of Dwelling Houses supplied with mains water	No. of Dwelling Houses supplied by standpipe
Appleton	276	250	—
Besselsleigh	22	20	—
Cumnor	1315	1289	—
Draycott Moor	281	273	—
Frilford	72	53	—
Fyfield and Tubney	189	148	—
Garford	37	36	—
Kennington	1202	1160	—
Kingston Bagpuize	80	71	—
Marcham	322	322	—
North Hinksey	1465	1462	—
Radley	416	383	—
St. Helen Without	1000	998	—
South Hinksey	109	108	—
Sunningwell	288	271	—
Wootton	797	779	—
Wytham	66	37	—
Totals	7937	7660	—

The supply to the area is from the Board's sources at Swinford and Farmoor, and is piped to the district via Becon Hill, Boars Hill and Wootton Reservoirs. During 1968 the total quantity of water treated at Swinford and Farmoor was 3,924,257,000 gallons. The supply to consumers was adequate and no restrictions had to be imposed.

(ii) THAMES VALLEY WATER BOARD

Appleford	116	116	—
Drayton	671	668	1
Lyford	30	20	—
Milton	255	252	1
Steventon	478	467	3
Sutton Courtenay	787	781	6
Totals	2,337	2,304	11

During the year, the water supply was satisfactory in quality and quantity and has been obtained from the same sources as in previous years. Commissioning of the new reservoir at Steventon in April provided an improved supply to the area.

PUBLIC CLEANSING

(a) Refuse Collection

1968 saw no dramatic change in the method of refuse collection and the kerbside method continues to be used.

In October a second 50 cu. yd. Pakamatic vehicle was delivered and has proved to be an excellent replacement for two old vehicles. The vehicles now in use are two 50 cu. yd. 'Pakamatics' and one 35 cu. yd. vehicle with a further 35 cu. yd. vehicle held in reserve. A four ton lorry is also in use but is engaged mainly on 'special collections'. The total labour force is six drivers, nine loaders and a foreman.

(b) Refuse Disposal

Gravel Pits at Radley and Abingdon continue to provide adequate disposal facilities and controlled tipping is carried out by the owner of the tip who is also responsible for maintenance of access roads, etc.

(c) Litter

Approximately 150 litter bins (converted oil drums) continue to serve the district which can be, and are, replaced at very low cost as and when necessary.

In addition, two large capacity precast concrete bins are sited where it is important to preserve visual amenities.

(d) Civic Amenities Act, 1967

For many years a scheme has been operated by this Council for bulky articles to be collected free of charge. The introduction of the Civic Amenities Act has now made this service a statutory obligation for all Local Authorities and the need for this is shown by the fact that 238 special collections were made by the Department during the year.

To further assist householders, it has been decided to launch a pilot scheme whereby five large containers (six cu. yd. capacity) will be sited at points throughout the District for the reception of bulky articles. If the scheme is successful, it is intended to extend the idea.

During the year, 30 abandoned or unwanted motor cars were disposed of, 14 of these under the provisions of the Civic Amenities Act. No expense is incurred by the Council for this work and an arrangement exists with a local car breaker whereby the vehicles are removed at the Council's request free of charge.

SEWERAGE AND SEWAGE DISPOSAL

Fyfield and Tubney Main Drainage

Work on Phase I of this scheme progressed throughout the year and in July Ministry approval was granted for the second and third phases. A price for this additional work of just over £100,000 has been agreed with the contractor who is at present still engaged on phase one. A start was made towards the end of the year on the extended scheme which will serve the areas of Frilford Village, Frilford Heath, Fyfield and Netherton.

Main drainage of other areas

Following the approval of phase II of the above scheme the Council gave consideration to other areas of the district which remain unsewered. This resulted in the Council's Consultant being instructed to prepare schemes for Sugworth Lane, Radley, and Boars Hill, and it is hoped that work on the Sugworth Lane Scheme will be put in hand at an early date.

Flooding within the Rural District

Following the storms of 10th July, 1968, when rainfall varying from 2.8 inches to 3.2 inches was recorded in the northern Parishes of the District, the Council asked for a comprehensive report covering the whole rural district. From information received and from personal observations during the flood period, the Surveyor was able to report,

- (i) the rainfall was unprecedented and serious flooding occurred where, in normal periods of heavy rain, no flooding is evident.
- (ii) Some of the flooding might have been prevented by better maintenance of ditches and culverts.
- (iii) In some areas there is clearly a need for surface water drainage schemes.
- (iv) Serious surcharging of foul sewers occurred. This was due to the influx of storm water through unauthorised connections and from the simple expedient by numerous people to avoid flooding in their own houses of lifting manhole covers in flooded areas.

Having considered these facts the Council decided to instruct their Consulting Engineers to prepare a detailed scheme for Phases II and III of the Botley Surface Water Drainage Scheme and Outline Proposals for surface water drainage at Appleton, Fyfield and Marcham, Kennington, Wootton and Sunningwell and Drayton.

DRAINAGE

A survey was commenced during the year to determine more accurately the number of septic tanks and cesspools in current use throughout the district and these visits accounted for three quarters of the 609 visits made during the year concerning various aspects of drainage. Septic tanks continue to be a source of nuisance and the Department is often called upon to give advice to bring about improvements to unsatisfactory drainage systems.

ATMOSPHERIC POLLUTION AND SMOKE CONTROL

Two notifications were received under Section 3 of the Clean Air Act, 1956 for the installation of new furnaces. Both applied for and obtained Prior Approval.

No serious difficulties were experienced during the year concerning this aspect of work and the total number of visits was 22.

DISINFESTATIONS

A total of 38 visits were made to filthy or verminous premises and there was a marked increase in the number of infestations of fleas, lice, bed bugs and cockroaches.

RODENT CONTROL

This work continues to be carried out by a rodent officer and one operator engaged jointly by the R.D.C. and Abingdon Borough and during the year 3,671 visits to premises in the district were made of which 205 were agricultural. 281 premises were found to be infested and 479 bodies of rats and mice were recovered.

SCRAP METAL DEALERS

7 scrap metal dealers were registered with this authority at the end of the year.

ANIMAL BOARDING ESTABLISHMENTS ACT, 1963

A local veterinary surgeon carried out inspections, on behalf of the Council, of premises used for boarding dogs and cats under the above Act. At the end of the year 3 licences were in force.

AGRICULTURE (SAFETY, HEALTH AND WELFARE PROVISIONS) ACT, 1956

Sanitary conveniences on farms were generally found to be satisfactory and it was not necessary to serve any notices. 42 visits were made under this heading during the year.

DISEASES OF ANIMALS (WASTE FOOD) ORDER 1957

Only two premises are licensed under the provisions of the above Order and both were found to be quite satisfactory.

NOISE ABATEMENT ACT, 1960

Six complaints concerning noise were received during the year resulting in a total of 16 inspections. The worst complaint concerned grass track motor cycle racing but after a full survey it was felt that no action by the Council was justified.

PETOLEUM (REGULATION) ACTS, 1928 & 1936

The total number of premises licensed for the storage of petroleum was 64, all of which have been visited at least once during the year. In all, 123 visits were made to apply the various provisions of the above Acts. Five informal notices were served.

HAIRDRESSERS

Fourteen premises were registered as barbers and hairdressers during the year, under Section 129 of the Berkshire County Council Act, 1953. Byelaws also became operable during August 1968 which are applied to all such businesses.

PART 'C' OFFICES AND SHOPS

Offices, Shops and Railway Premises Act, 1963

The total number of registered premises at the end of the year was 139, an increase of 18 over 1967. The distribution of these premises was as follows:-

Offices	41	Catering establishments	
Retail shops	71	open to the public	
Wholesale shops and		and canteens	23
warehouses	3	Fuel storage depots	1

All registered premises had received a general inspection by the end of the year and 92 such inspections were made during that time. The total number of visits of all kinds was 162 and 33 contraventions were noted as follows:-

Temperature	13	Washing facilities	1
Ventilation	1	First aid	10
Sanitary Conveniences	1	Others	7

All were dealt with informally and remedied.

Four accidents were reported during the year.

PART 'D' FOOD INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION

Food Premises

The following table shows the nature of the 209 food premises in the District to which 875 inspections were made.

Premises	No.	Complying with Reg. 16	Reg. 19 applies	Complying with Reg. 19
Grocery and general stores	67	67	57	57
Public Houses	46	46	35	35
Confectionery	13	13	13	13
Butchers	12	12	12	12
Kitchens (schools, canteens, etc.)	47	47	47	47
Greengrocery	7	7	7	7
Bakehouses	3	3	3	3
Cafes	3	3	3	3
Off Licences	7	7	—	—
Fishmongers	1	1	1	1
Food Factories	2	2	2	2
Chemists	1	1	—	—

76 premises were registered under Section 16 of the Food and Drugs Act, 1955, as follows:-

Storage and sale of ice cream	65	Cooking of hams	4
Manufacture of sausages	5	Others	2

POULTRY INSPECTION

Following the pattern of previous years, production at the only poultry packing station in the area increased, yet again, by 26.5%. The number of birds slaughtered is summarised as follows:-

Turkeys	196,280
Capons	44,737
Hens	149,428
	390,445

In 1967 the total was 308,591

It was apparent at the beginning of the year that there was every likelihood of production being increased and accordingly efforts were made to increase the number of visits by Public Health Inspectors. In fact, 72 such visits were made when both poultry and the premises were subjected to inspection.

3,256 birds were rejected for various reasons, as being unfit for human consumption, this figure being .83% of the total passing through the station. The total weight of condemnations was approximately 117 cwts.

It is estimated that approximately 10% of all birds killed were examined in varying degree but the number passing through without being examined by our own staff is undesirably high. Available qualified staff to carry out the necessary inspection is limited and it is clear that additional qualified staff must be engaged if we are to provide an adequate inspection service.

Strict surveillance of all aspects of the processing is maintained whilst the Inspector is present and although these premises are not purpose built, every effort has been made to keep the station as hygienic as possible.

The new sanitary block was completed during the year and is a considerable improvement upon the previous arrangements.

FOOD HAWKERS

The following 20 businesses were registered under Section 122 of the Berkshire County Council Act 1953, permitting the selling of food to be carried out within the district:-

Fishmongers 3, Butchers 3, Greengrocers 3, Bakers 5, Ice cream 3, Caterers 3.

FOOD HYGIENE (MARKET STALLS AND DELIVERY VEHICLES) REGULATIONS 1966

There are no market stalls as such within the rural district but the many and various mobile shops and delivery vehicles were the subject of 54 inspections. In general, the conditions were found to be satisfactory.

MILK AND DAIRIES

12 premises are licensed by the County Council for the sale of milk and regard is paid to the hygiene requirements of the Regulations when visiting the shops for other purposes.

Bacteriological sampling is carried out by the Department and during the year 27 samples were procured, 18 from schools and 9 from dealers and all but one were satisfactory. The only failure was procured from a retailer and did not satisfy the keeping quality test. This was pursued with the dairy concerned.

ICE CREAM

As far as was possible to ascertain, a sample of ice cream was procured, for bacteriological examination, from every premises handling this commodity. A total of 100 samples were taken and were classified as follows:-

Provisional Grade 1	— 56
Provisional Grade 2	— 38
Provisional Grade 3	— 2
Provisional Grade 4	— 4

KNACKERS YARD

A local public school with beagle kennels attached rely upon the collection of dead animals (viz, calves, sheep, pigs, etc.) from farms and remove them to their kennels for flaying, dressing and processing prior to feeding to the dogs. The definition of a knackers yard clearly includes such premises and accordingly they were licensed under Section 62 of the Food and Drugs Act, 1955.

Apart from the occasional complaint of cooking smells, no serious nuisance was found to exist.

UN SOUND FOOD

The following food was voluntarily surrendered or condemned:-

Meat at poultry packing station	5 tons	17 cwts.	1 lb.
Meat at retail shops	2	"	20 lbs.
Canned meats	1	"	90 "
Other canned foods	4	"	14 "
Fresh fruit and vegetables	7	"	45 "
Other foods	1 ton	10 "	37 "
Total	8 tons	2 cwts.	94 lbs.

The poultry is disposed of by the occupiers of the packing station and it is removed daily together with viscera, etc., for purposes of fertilizer manufacture. All other food is collected by the Department and disposed of on the Council's refuse tip.

19 complaints of unsatisfactory food were received during the year. All were investigated in detail and two prosecutions were instituted. One for a mouldy meat pie where the defendant pleaded guilty and was fined £10. The second case concerning the mouldy condition of loin chops delivered to a local school was lost on a legal technicality, i.e. that proof of delivery was unavailable.

PART 'E' FACTORIES

Registered premises

The total number of premises registered at the end of the year was 63 as follows:

(i) Factories without power:-

Joinery	5
Dressmaking	1

(ii) Factories with power:-

Motor vehicle repairs	19	Carpentry	1
Agricultural engineering	5	Oar manufacture	1
Light engineering	4	Plastics	1
Bakehouses	3	Waterworks	1
Saw mills	2	Plant repairs	1
Electrical engineering	3	Asphalt	1
Laundry	2	Joinery works	2
Tyre remoulding	2	Electrical repairs	2
Radio repairs	2	Concrete columns	1
Electrical vehicle sales and service	2	Assembly of sheet steel ducting	1
Dry cleaners	1		

Building etc., Sites

14 building and engineering sites in the district were inspected concerning sanitary accommodation and in every case were satisfactory. No complaints were received during the year from employees.

	No.	Inspections	Written Notices	Prosecutions
Factories without mechanical power	6	6	—	—
Factories with mechanical power	57	50	2	—
Other premises	14	14	—	—
Totals	87	70	2	—

10 outworkers all of whom are engaged in the wearing apparel industry were subject to inspections which proved to be satisfactory.

SUMMARY OF PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTORS' WORK 1968

Number of visits made	3978
" " complaints received	120
" " Informal Notices served	124
" " Statutory Notices served	2
" " Prosecutions	4
Matters in relation to which visits were made:-	
HOUSING	
Housing inspections	114
Improvement Grants	171
Others	487
PUBLIC HEALTH	
Refuse collection	71
Refuse disposal	20
Litter	30
Accumulations and deposits	37
Filthy premises	12
Verminous premises	26
Animals	21
Scrap metal dealers	5
Housing defects	22
Drainage	102
Cesspools/septic tanks	407
Inadequate sanitary accommodation	28
Suitable and sufficient sanitary accommodation	45
Sanitary accommodation at refreshment houses	19
Hairdressers	27
Swimming baths	6
Water supplies — wells	427
Water supplies — mains	9
Water courses	18
Miscellaneous	113
CARAVANS	
Council sites	74
Private licensed	48
Exempted	37
Unauthorised	37
Miscellaneous	17
CIVIC AMENITIES ACT (Abandoned cars)	31
NOISE ABATEMENT	16
PETROLEUM	123
DISEASES OF ANIMALS (WASTE FOOD)	4
PREVENTION OF DAMAGE BY PESTS ACT	11

FOOD AND DRUGS

Grocers	234
Kitchens (schools, canteens, etc.)	119
Poultry inspection	72
Food complaints	72
Butchers	78
Food factory	61
Food inspection	61
Street vendors, vans and stalls	54
Bakers	11
Confectioners	40
Greengrocers	36
Licensed houses	46
Fishmongers	5
Ice cream premises	139
Food poisoning	8
Off licences	30
Milk retailers	10
Miscellaneous	12

OFFICES AND SHOPS

Retail shops	125
Offices	14
Catering establishments open to the public	8
Wholesale shops and warehouses	5
Accidents	10
Miscellaneous	7

FACTORIES

Factories and workshops	49
Outworkers	13
Laundries	2
Bakehouses	1
Building sites	14
Miscellaneous	4

AIR POLLUTION

Miscellaneous	3
Smoke observations	2
Installations	17

FARMS (SANITARY ACCOMMODATION)

42

SAMPLES

Ice cream	100
Water	
Wells	16
Mains	7
Other	4
Milk	27
Miscellaneous	6

FARINGDON RURAL DISTRICT

This table gives essential figures as a background against which the following pages can be viewed:-

Parish	Est. Pop. Mid 1968	Area in Acres	Total Dwellings 2	Council Houses 31.12.68	Rateable Value (a)	Product of 1d. Rate (b)	
						£	s.
Ashbury	656	5609	183	44	12607	48	5
Baulking	122	1580	39	—	1570	6	1
Bourton	318	1260	89	12	5987	20	7
Buckland	558	4505	189	—	13682	51	19
Buscot	248	2887	71	—	5690	21	10
Charney Bassett	263	1209	94	—	6793	26	6
Coleshill	224	2014	74	—	3606	13	3
Compton Beauchamp	86	1812	38	—	2310	8	18
Eaton Hastings	114	1570	36	—	2917	8	2
Faringdon	3858	3547	1248	373	119662	473	7
Fernham	217	1016	72	28	4039	14	0
Great Coxwell	261	1435	105	12	5647	21	18
Hatford	123	993	34	—	7780	31	11
Hinton Waldrist	243	2016	83	14	4470	17	2
Kingston Lisle	286	2040	79	12	5261	22	11
Little Coxwell	186	887	71	—	4320	15	19
Littleworth	215	2350	78	—	3605	13	13
Longcot	439	1894	144 (c)	34	9487	37	15
Longworth	887	2291	243	56	16540	63	8
Pusey	98	1040	32	—	2063	7	12
Shellingford	201	1761	67	2	4016	14	19
Shrivenham	2706	2695	688 (d)	96	93779	378	17
Stanford in the Vale	1461	2927	425	96	31288	121	3
Uffington	628	2929	200	54	11784	45	11
Watchfield	1836	1517	507 (e)	70	61536	251	11
Woolstone	81	1942	46	—	2570	9	19
SouthWestern Gas Board	—	—	—	—	2276	10	0
Southern Electricity Board	—	—	—	—	7359	30	0
Totals	16330	55726	4933	903	452904	1785	7
Totals for 1967	16150	55726	4836	833	438047	1753	16

(a) As at 31.12.67.

(b) To nearest shilling.

(c) Includes 11 Military Quarters.

(d) Includes 82 Military Quarters.

(e) Includes 347 Military Quarters.

HOUSING CONSTRUCTION

New houses completed during the year numbered 99, of which 63 were Council Houses and 36 were Private.

A further 9 Council Houses and 30 Private Houses were under construction on 31st December, 1968.

The distribution of these houses is shown by the following table:-

Parish	Council Houses		Private Enterprise	
	Completed	Under construction 31.12.68	Completed	Under construction 31.12.68
Faringdon	40 houses 23 Flats	—	11	1
Great Coxwell	—	—	3	—
Hatford	—	—	1	—
Hinton Waldrist	—	9	—	3
Longworth	—	—	2	3
Shellingford	—	—	1	—
Shrivenham	—	—	15	7
Stanford in the Vale	—	—	2	5
Watchfield	—	—	1	2
Totals	63	9	36	30
Totals for 1967	13	23	50	34

RENTS

Maximum rents, which are based on the gross value for rating purposes, are now calculated on a 50 week basis.

They range in the case of pre-war houses from £1 15s. 0d. to £2 3s. 3d. and for post war houses from £1 17s. 10d. to £3 18s. 4d. Tenants, however, receive rebates which may amount to 10/10d. for pre-war and 11/6d. for post-war houses.

These rebates may reduce rent to minimum figures between £1 4s. 11d. and £1 12s. 5d. for pre-war houses and between £1 8s. 5d. and £3 1s. 3d. for post-war houses.

In addition to normal houses the Council has also built a block of 22 aged persons flats to accommodate persons of 70 or over. The average rent is £3 12s. 10d.; this includes central heating, hot water and rates. A warden's service is in operation, plus the use of communal lounge and laundry.

CARAVAN SITES AND CONTROL OF DEVELOPMENT ACT, 1969

The following shows the distribution in individual parishes of the 47 Caravans which were licensed for varying periods under the above Act. This number is one more than in 1967.

Parish	Sites	Caravans
Buckland	1	1
Eaton Hastings	1	1
Faringdon	1	40
Fernham	1	1
Shellingford	1	1
Shrivenham	1	1
Uffington	2	2

REFUSE COLLECTION AND DISPOSAL

Weekly kerb-side refuse collection was maintained throughout the year. The collection fleet consists of one 35 cu. yd. compression type vehicle

and two Fore and Aft tippers, one of which is used approximately two days a week and a reserve machine. It is the intention to purchase a second machine (compression type) during 1969. Although the collection is kerb-side, bins are carried for the aged and infirm.

The trade waste collection, which was commenced in 1967, continued to operate satisfactorily.

The refuse is disposed of by tipping in a sand pit at Stanford. This tipping site is also used by Wantage for disposal of approximately half their refuse. Material is purchased for intermediate cover and there have been no complaints during the current year. A full time tip dresser is employed and the bulldozer, which was overdue for replacement, was destroyed by fire during the year and replaced with a new machine.

WATER SUPPLY

Quality

The water supply was satisfactory both in quality and quantity.

Examinations

The Oxfordshire and District Water Board, as the Water Authority in the area, carry out routine sampling of mains supplies and copies of the reports are received.

12 water samples were taken from private supplies during the year and submitted for bacteriological examination. All were satisfactory.

DETAILS OF DWELLINGS RECEIVING WATER FROM PIPED SUPPLIES EITHER PUBLIC OR OTHER SOURCE

Parish	Dwellings	Inside the House	Standpipes
Ashbury	183	180	3
Baulking	39	39	—
Bourton	89	88	1
Buckland	189	189	—
Buscot	71	71	—
Charney Bassett	94	94	—
Coleshill	74	74	—
Compton Beauchamp	38	38	—
Eaton Hastings	36	36	—
Faringdon	1248	1246	2
Fernham	72	70	—
Great Coxwell	105	105	—
Hatford	34	31	3
Hinton Waldrist	83	81	2
Kingston Lisle	79	78	1
Little Coxwell	71	70	1
Littleworth	78	78	—
Longcot	144 (a)	144	—
Longworth	244	240	4
Pusey	32	31	1
Shellingford	67	67	—
Shrivenham	688 (b)	688	—
Stanford-in-the-Vale	425	424	1
Uffington	200	194	6
Watchfield	507 (c)	507	—
Woolstone	46	42	4
Totals	4933 (4836)	4905 (4772)	29 (30)

(a) includes 11 Military Married Quarters.

(b) includes 82 Military Married Quarters.

(c) includes 347 Military Married Quarters.

DRAINAGE AND SEWERAGE

Faringdon main drainage scheme was completed and brought into commission during the year thus providing for the much needed expansion of the town.

The village sewerage and sewage disposal schemes for both Littleworth and Shellingford have been designed and are awaiting submission to the Minister, but it is not anticipated that work on construction will commence until the economic situation of the Country improves.

Preliminary work has commenced on providing sewers for Hatford which would be extended to Stanford-in-the-Vale for treatment at the existing Disposal Works.

RODENT CONTROL

Rodent control work in the district is carried out by the Charge-hand as part of his duties. It is estimated that approximately 25% of his time is so employed.

Warfarin mixed in maize meal is used as a main bait and this continues to prove successful.

The service to domestic properties is free but a charge is made for all business premises treated. There was a noticeable increase in the number of infestations during the Autumn and early Winter but no serious problems were met with.

MEAT

The small slaughterhouse in Faringdon was the only one in operation in the Rural District — animals slaughtered here are for local retail trade.

The following is a list of carcasses inspected and meat found to be unfit for human consumption:-

	Steers and Heifers	Calves	Sheep and Lambs
No. Inspected	361	11	927
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All diseases except T.B.			
Whole carcasses condemned	—	—	—
Carcasses of which some part was condemned	29	—	48
Percentage of the number inspected with diseases other than T.B.	8.03		5.18
Tuberculosis only	No meat was found to be infected with T.B.		

OTHER FOODS

During the year the following foodstuffs were voluntarily surrendered after examination had shown them to be unfit for human consumption:-

89 Mixed Packets of Frozen Foodstuffs	531 lbs. Tinned Ham. One 6 lb. Tin Corned Beef.
36 lbs. Frozen Chicken Portions.	8 Steak and Kidney Puddings.
6 lbs. Lambs Liver.	

MILK AND DAIRIES REGULATIONS

All licences under the Milk (Special Designations) Regulations are issued by the Berkshire County Council. There is one Dairy and seven milk distributors registered in the district. No complaints were received during the year and the premises concerned were satisfactory. Routine sampling is carried out by the Berkshire County Council and copies of the reports received.

FOOD PREMISES

The number of food premises in the district is set out in the following table. Conditions generally were found to be satisfactory.

Category of Trade	Number of Premises	Number of Premises fitted to comply with Regulation 16	Number of Premises to which Regulation 19 applies	Number of Premises fitted to comply with Regulation 19
Licensed Premises	48	48	46	46
Grocers and General Stores	44	44	42	42
Butchers	7	7	7	7
Confectioners	7	7	—	—
Cafes	5	5	5	5
Bakehouses	4	4	4	4
Greengrocers	3	3	3	3
Fish Frying Establishments	2	2	2	2
Fishmongers	1	1	1	1

Food and Drugs Act, Section 16

46 Premises are registered for the sale of Ice Cream and one for the manufacture and sale thereof.

3 Premises are registered for the cooking of hams.

HOUSING

Houses inspected under the Housing Acts	4
Number of Closing Orders made	—
Number of Closing Orders Determined	—
Number of Demolition Orders	—

IMPROVEMENT GRANTS

Seven applications for Discretionary Grants under the Housing (Financial Provisions) Act, 1958, were approved by the Council. Altogether work under the Scheme was completed to thirteen properties during the year.

Twenty-one applications for Standard Grants were approved by the Council and altogether work was completed to thirty-five properties during the year.

FACTORIES ACT 1961

Premises	Inspections			Prosecutions
	No. on Register	Inspections Made	No. of Written Notices	
Factories without mechanical power	7	1	—	—
Factories with mechanical power	36	26	—	—
Totals	43	27	—	—

Cases in which defects were found — Nil.

There was one outworker in the district employed on manufacture of wearing apparel.

**SUMMARY OF HEALTH INSPECTOR'S WORK
DURING THE YEAR 1968**

Number of visits made	1208
" " complaints received	70
" " notices served (Informal)	14
" " notices served (Statutory)	Nil
" " prosecutions	Nil

Miscellaneous matters in relation to which visits were made:-

Council house applications	174
Refuse disposal	130
Refuse collection	112
Slaughterhouse	124
Petroleum storage	41
Butchers Shops	20
Cafes and Inns	25
Other Food Premises	81
Shops other than Food	31
Offices	16
Caravans	29
Water Supplies	41
Improvement Grants	48
Rodent Control	40
Factories and Workplaces	26
Milk Supplies	31
Water Courses	29
Schools	34
Water Samples	16
Mortuary	29
Housing Act	4
Nuisances	42
Sewerage	3
Food Stalls and Vehicles	12
Bakehouses	2
Dairies	5
Miscellaneous Visits	63





