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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 NINE



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ABINGDON AND FARINGDON DISTRICTS JOINT PUBLIC HEALTH COMMITTEE

Members 1969-70

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

Mr. Chairman, Ladies, and Gentlemen,

I beg to present my annual report for 1969, in accordance with the Department of Health and Social Security Circular 1/70.

In view of my impending retirement, after almost twenty-two years, it is natural for me to look back and notice some of the major changes during that time.

The most striking change has been that in young children, as a result of the National Health Service. When I came here the medical examination of the 5-year-old school entrants showed that often a quarter or even a third of them had chronic defects which had been neglected or undetected because parents would not or could not afford a doctor. Now it is so rare to find untreated defects that there are frequent discussions as to whether School Medicals could be dropped.

This I would strongly deprecate, for as I have said here before, throughout my professional life I have found that the kind of help that most doctors can most often give is, in its various forms, reassurance.

A question I always ask every mother after examining her child is this: "Is there anything that worries you about him?" Whether this extracts the admission that he is a constant bed-wetter—a condition which it is extremely important, from the mental health aspect, to help parents and child to overcome—or whether it simply needs a single sentence* to end a constant losing conflict to make him eat up his cabbage, that often alone makes the visit to the school worthwhile.

There have been great changes, too, in the incidence of infectious diseases. In 1949 there were 64 new notified cases of Pulmonary Tuberculosis, most of them in the prime of life (aged 15 to 35), and in those days about half of those notified would not live another 5 years. Last year notified cases numbered 12, of whom only 3 were under 35; and, of course, these have the prospect of complete control or cure with modern treatment.

Paralytic Polio has lost all its terror: our last death being that of our loved Dr. Dick in 1956, and our last mild case of the disease was over 11 years ago.

Our last case of Diphtheria was in 1953, brought here by the annual travelling fair. Scarlet Fever, Whooping Cough, and recently Measles have given less and less trouble.

Great advances have also been achieved in housing, starting with the elimination of evacuees' and squatters' camps, and going on

*"Would you eat your lettuce if he cooked it as you cook his cabbage?"

to slum clearance, extensive Council and private building of new houses, and the adding of improvements and amenities to old houses.

The provision of running water in houses is illustrated by the reduction in the number of households dependent on stand-pipes from 1,015 in 1949 to 42 in 1969. During the same period modern sewage disposal has been extended throughout the area to all but a few of the smallest parishes.

In 1949 the only public sewage works that the Abingdon Rural Council operated served some 5,000 people in Kennington and parts of Botley. Now systems have been extended to an additional 30,000 residents leaving only the two smallest outlying parishes of Garford and Lyford, with a total population under 300, still to be sewered.

In the Faringdon Rural District only about 5,000 residents of Faringdon, Shrivenham and Ashbury had proper sewage disposal in 1949. Now only the five small parishes of Littleworth, Shellingford, Hatford, Pusey and Woolstone, totalling under 700, are still without sewerage and plans for 400 of these in Littleworth and Shellingford have already received Ministry approval.

In 1951 when I started giving talks to Women's Institutes, etc., on saving lives from Cancer there was widespread an atmosphere of taboo about the subject. Since then thanks to the heroic efforts of Dr. Malcolm Donaldson through the Cancer Information Association and Professor Stallworthy, its Chairman, thanks to the courage of Richard Dimbleby and others down to the present—Les Cannon and Lillian Board, the outlook is very much more helpful and hopeful.

To set against these great advances one is compelled to balance the quite appalling and unforgivable tragedy of the failure to prevent the destruction of many millions of children's teeth by the refusal to fluoridate the nation's water supplies.

June and July saw two publications, each of which contained ample evidence to cause any reasonable person to hurry to pass on such great benefits to our children. The first came from our own Department of Health and was "The Fluoridation Studies and the results achieved after eleven years." A summary of this report was sent to each Councillor. The second was the report of the Director General of the World Health Organisation and the resolution sponsored by 37 nations, including the U.K., Canada, Australia, New Zealand, Ireland, the Soviet Union, and the U.S.A. (See Appendix, page 7).

Alas many councillors of Health Authorities, including some in Berkshire and Oxford City who control our water supplies (though not our own Borough and District Councillors), prefer to distrust the claims and assurances of the overwhelming majority of the leaders of the medical, dental, and related scientific professions,

in this country, the Commonwealth, the U.S.A., and many other countries, who have fully studied the subject of fluoridation. Instead they prefer to believe the tiny handful of unscientific 'cranks'—to use the term applied to them by a former Minister of Health—who lead the 'antis' with such disastrous results for our children.

The current reason given by Oxford as to why they refuse to follow the urgings of successive Ministers of Health for the past 9 years to limit the decay in our (and their) children's teeth is almost incredible—namely that they can't afford it.

The cost per year per head of the population has been about sixpence in Watford and Anglesey and about threepence in Birmingham and these minute sums not only prevent in years to come much ill health and pain of dental decay but also save many times that amount of money in dentistry, etc.

Of course the simple way to answer this excuse is to pay the mere £2 million or so that would cover the cost for the whole country out of Central funds. I did my utmost to persuade Mr. Crossman to do this, giving Oxford as an example. I expect he now regrets that he didn't do so.

On these pages I have in past years given examples from my own experience to show how utterly unreliable statements put out by these leaders often are. But may I give just one more? On the 14th of May of the year under review I was asked to speak in a Committee Room of the House of Commons on Fluoridation, the occasion being a lecture in memory of a former Dentist M.P., to which Dentists were specially invited. Accordingly I opened by saying, as some local councillors have heard me say before, that my interest in this subject started in 1943 when I was on the staff of the only Western Dental School in China (West China Union University). During that summer a young Canadian dentist travelling on holiday towards Tibet, came across, in an isolated valley, a tribe with excellent teeth almost entirely free from caries. This he attributed to the presence of fluoride in their natural water.

The next circular which was distributed by the London Anti-Fluoridation Campaign to their hundreds of members, and to who knows how many councillors around the country, consisted of comments on the meeting by its Chairman, who was present taking notes. He opened his references to my remarks thus: "Dr. Parfit said he had encountered fluoridation in China some 17 years ago and that on returning to Britain he pressed the Government to adopt it. According to my information fluoridation—i.e. the deliberate addition of fluoride to public water supplies—has not been carried out in China." It would be difficult to concoct a grosser distortion of what I said, that would better suggest that I was either so ignorant of the facts about fluoridation that I could

make such an absurd statement, or alternatively to suggest that I was trying to tell a lie big enough to be believed.

It has become fashionable recently to point out how wrong Beveridge was to predict that the effect of the National Health Service would be so to reduce illness that its overall cost would gradually fall.

Some twelve years ago, when the high cost of hospitalisation and the long waiting lists were being discussed, I tried to suggest to a large audience of Local Authority councillors and officers at the Annual Health Congress a solution from the example of my own three children. Our third baby was born in a New York Maternity Hospital under such anti-septic conditions that during the ten days she was there I was only allowed to peep at her through a glass screen. The first two, on the other hand, partly to avoid Japanese bombs, were carried five hours after birth for several miles on an open litter through filthy streets in China, so crowded with teeming humanity that I often had to cycle in front to clear the way. The health, physical and mental, of the first two remain every bit as good as that of the third.

At that time most mothers in England stayed in hospital for a week or 10 days after delivery, whereas now the trend is strongly towards letting them go home after a day or so to the care of the district midwife or nurse.

A similar swing on a major scale to shorter stays in hospital, where daily costs equal or exceed that of a 5-star hotel, to home care from G.P., nurse and home help, could greatly reduce the very high costs of the Hospitals branch of the National Health Service.

This trend could be much facilitated by the ending of the sad tri-partite division of the N.H.S. into Hospital, G.P. and Local Authority sections, by the soon to be expected and long overdue reform of Local Government.

Before I close may I express my very sincere thanks to the many who have made these years so pleasant and rewarding.

First among these are the Health Inspectors. Without question it is the really high quality of their abilities, of their efficiency, and of their willingness to do their best, that has produced the very satisfactory result summarised each year in the pages which follow these introductions.

Then may I thank the General Practitioners and the nurses in the area for their continued co-operation and help always so cheerfully given.

And finally may I thank all the Councillors who have always been so friendly and may I add my heartfelt gratitude to all who have contributed so kindly to present me with such a very welcome parting gift which I shall use constantly as long as I live.

The ancient roll-top desk which you have given me will remind

me of the many years that I have used it in your service. I now hear that in addition your generosity has been such that the Oxford Cancer Information Association has received some fifteen guineas to help in its important work.

I very much look forward to watching for many years to come the continued progress of these three Authorities for which I have had some responsibility for the past two decades.

Yours most gratefully,

NORMAN PARFIT.

APPENDIX

RESOLUTION ADOPTED BY 22ND WORLD HEALTH ASSEMBLY, JULY, 1969

Fluoridation and Dental Health

Bearing in mind that dental caries is a widespread disease in many populations, and is becoming increasingly prevalent in many others;

Recalling that studies in several countries have consistently shown the prevalence of this disease to be markedly low whenever an optimal concentration of fluoride occurs naturally in water supplies;

Accepting the reports now coming from countries with experience of the procedure indicating that the adjustment of the fluoride content of water supplies to an optimal level is a practical, safe and efficient public health measure;

Noting that other equally effective means are not available for conferring on whole populations the beneficial effects of fluoride on dental health;

Emphasizing that in the extensive scientific literature on the subject no valid evidence has been forthcoming of any ill effects on human health from the use of water supplies with an optimal concentration of fluoride;

Recognizing that several authoritative and independent inquiries conducted in a number of countries have all reached similar conclusions to the above; and

Recognizing further that for many populations the provision of potable water supplies is a first consideration.

RECOMMENDS Member States to examine the possibility of introducing and where practicable to introduce fluoridation of those community water supplies where the fluoride intake from water and other sources for the given population is below optimal levels, as a proven public health measure; and where fluoridation of community water supplies is not practicable to study other methods of using fluorides for the protection of dental health.

REQUESTS the Director-General to bring this resolution to the attention of all Member States.

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 1968.

AREA AND POPULATION

The following table gives the area of each district with the estimated population at the middle of 1969. It shows that Abingdon Rural District however, has a density of three times that of the average Rural District, nearly half 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. 1969 Pop.	Increase on 1968	Persons per acre	Product of 1d. Rate
Abingdon Borough	1,754	17,820	530	10.16	£3,059
Abingdon Rural	41,185	37,270	180	0.90	£5,554
Faringdon Rural	55,726	16,450	120	0.29	£1,826
Total	98,665	71,540	830	0.72	£10,439

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-fifth 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	317	(318)	17.08		120	(155)	8.76	
Abingdon Rural	526	(565)	13.13		297	(286)	10.04	
Faringdon Rural	269	(274)	16.67		147	(134)	9.12	
Total	1112	(1157)	14.92	(15.71)	564	(575)	9.51	(9.42)
England and Wales	797,542		16.3	(16.9)	579,463		11.9	(11.9)

INFANT MORTALITY

District	Deaths of Infants under 1 year		Live Births		Infant Mortality per 1,000 Live Births
Abingdon Borough	1	(1)	317	(315)	3.15
Abingdon Rural	10	(7)	526	(563)	19.0
Faringdon Rural	6	(5)	269	(273)	22.3
Total	17	(13)	1,112	(1,151)	15.3
England and Wales					18.0

STILL BIRTHS

District	Legitimate	Illegitimate	Total	Per 1,000 total Births
Abingdon Borough	1 (3)	— (—)	1 (3)	3.1
Abingdon Rural	3 (2)	1 (—)	4 (2)	7.5
Faringdon Rural	7 (1)	— (—)	7 (1)	2.5
Total	11 (6)	1 (—)	12 (6)	10.7 (5.2)
England and Wales				13.0

CAUSES OF DEATH

The 564 deaths in the area were accounted for as follows:—

Causes	Abingdon Borough	Abingdon Rural	Faringdon Rural	Total 1969	Total 1968
Ischaemic Heart Disease	33	77	34	144	(139)
Hypertension with Heart Disease	1	5	4	10	(12)
Chronic Rheumatic Heart Disease	1	3	4	8	(5)
Other forms of Heart Disease	5	20	5	30	(19)
Total Heart Disease	40	105	47	192	(175)
Cerebrovascular Disease	10	30	29	69	(77)
Other Diseases of the Nervous System	1	4	1	6	(4)
Other Diseases of the Circulatory System	7	16	6	29	(24)
Cancer of the Lung	7	8	4	19	(26)
Cancer of the Womb	—	2	2	4	(2)
Cancer of the Breast	5	7	5	17	(16)
Cancer of the Intestine	9	8	3	20	(—)
Cancer of the Stomach	2	2	5	9	(13)
Leukaemia	1	1	1	3	(2)
Other Cancers	8	23	8	39	(71)
Total all Cancers	32	51	28	111	(130)
Pneumonia	8	17	5	30	(34)
Bronchitis	2	9	3	14	(29)
Influenza	1	6	3	10	(15)
Other Diseases of the Respiratory System	—	4	3	7	(11)
Motor Vehicle Accidents	2	9	1	12	(13)
Other Accidents	9	2	3	14	(11)
Congenital Anomalies	2	5	—	7	(—)
Birth Injury and Difficult Labour	—	2	1	3	(6)
Other Causes of Perinatal Mortality	1	2	2	5	(4)
Peptic Ulcer	—	2	1	3	(—)
Other Diseases of the Digestive System	1	2	3	6	(6)
Suicides	1	4	2	7	(5)
All other Causes	10	19	10	39	(21)
Total all Causes	128	288	148	564	(575)

INFECTIOUS DISEASES

The following table gives the number of cases of infectious diseases notified during 1969 (with the 1968 figures in brackets).

Diseases	Abingdon Borough	Abingdon Rural	Faringdon Rural	Total all Districts
Measles	8 (11)	40 (53)	12 (181)	60 (933)
Scarlet Fever	7 (10)	13 (8)	4 (4)	24 (14)
Infective Jaundice	6 (2)	2 (3)	9 (3)	17 (8)
T.B. (Pulm)	7 (4)	4 (5)	2 (1)	13 (10)
T.B. (Non-Pulm)	— (—)	— (2)	— (—)	— (2)
Whooping Cough	— (2)	— (10)	2 (—)	2 (12)
Dysentery	1 (1)	3 (19)	7 (1)	11 (21)
Food Poisoning	1 (—)	1 (—)	— (4)	2 (4)
Meningitis	1 (—)	1 (—)	— (—)	2 (—)
Leptospirosis	— (—)	1 (—)	— (—)	1 (—)
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	— (—)	1 (—)	— (—)	1 (—)
Totals	31 (30)	66 (100)	36 (194)	133 (334)

TUBERCULOSIS (New Cases)

The following table shows the number of new cases of Pulmonary Tuberculosis notified during the year. There were no notifications of Non-Pulmonary Tuberculosis.

Age Period	Abingdon Borough	Abingdon Rural	Faringdon Rural	Total all Districts
0—1	—	—	—	—
2—5	1	—	—	1
6—10	—	—	—	—
11—15	—	—	—	—
16—20	—	—	—	—
21—25	—	—	—	—
26—35	1	1	—	2
36—45	1	1	2	4
46—55	1	—	—	1
56—65	1	2	—	3
Over 65	1	—	—	1
Totals 1969	6	4	2	12
Totals 1968	5	4	1	10

ABINGDON BOROUGH

HOUSING CONSTRUCTION

The number of new houses completed during the year was 245, consisting of 95 Council houses and bungalows and 150 built by private persons. A further 323 houses were under construction at the end of the year, of which 111 were Council dwellings and 212 were private.

The above additional Council houses brought the number erected since the war to 1,893 and with the 583 pre-war houses makes a total of 2,476 Council houses (including those purchased) leaving 1,903 dwellings available for letting.

The rent of pre-war houses, including rates, ranged from £2 10s. 9d. to £3 9s. 10d. with an approximate average of £3 1s. 9d. per week for a 48 week year. Rents for post-war houses ranged from £2 10s. 9d. for a bed-sitter to £4 9s. 10d. for a four bedroom house with an average of £3 15s. 0d.

The number of applicants for Council houses at 31st December, 1969, was 438. This was 16 more than at the end of 1968.

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	1,902	2	0.1	825	43	—	3
Calves	160	—		2	1.2	—	5
Sheep	3,535	—		178	5	—	2
Pigs	22,566	73	0.3	4,857	21	—	43
Totals		75		5,862		—	72
1968	(29,722)	(57)		(3,945)		(—)	(87)

Analysis of Principal Causes of Condemnation of Carcasses

Disease	Cattle	Calves	Sheep	Pigs	Total
Emaciation	—	—	5	6	11
Peritonitis	3	—	—	2	5
Pleurisy	—	—	1	4	5
Moribund	—	1	3	9	13
Pyrexia	—	—	—	2	2
Oedema	—	1	11	1	13
Immaturity	—	—	—	1	1
Pneumonia	—	—	—	2	2
Pyæmia	—	—	—	4	4
Septicæmia	—	—	—	3	3
Other Conditions	—	3	1	9	13
Total	3	5	21	43	72

UN SOUND FOOD

The following quantities of food and meat, other than meat inspected at the slaughterhouse, were condemned during 1969:-

Meat	433 lbs.	Canned Meat	54 lbs.
Fish	42 lbs.	Frozen Food	73 lbs.
Dairy Products	213 lbs.		

FOOD PREMISES

The number and various types of premises subject to the Food Hygiene (General) Regulations 1960, together with 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 complying with Reg. 19	Number of Visits
Grocery and Provisions	42	39	42	42	12
Licensed Premises	31	30	31	31	10
Catering Premises	16	16	16	16	17
Butchers	16	16	16	16	10
Greengrocery	15	15	15	15	3
Sale of ice cream	8	7	8	8	6
Sale or manufacture of Preserved Foods	8	8	8	8	4
Fishmongers	5	5	5	5	6
Milk Distributors	2	2	2	2	1
Sausages and other meat products factory	1	1	1	1	11
Total	144	139	144	144	80

MILK

During the year 39 samples of milk were taken and submitted for bacteriological examination. The results were as follows:-

	No. Taken	Satisfactory	Unsatisfactory
Pasteurised	21	21	—
Untreated	18	16	2

ICE CREAM

Nineteen samples of ice cream were taken and submitted for examination. Eighteen were found to be Ministry of Health provisional grade 1, and one was provisional grade 3.

HOUSING

1. Houses which on inspection were considered unfit for human habitation	2
2. Houses in which defects were remedied as a result of informal action	7
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	2
4. Informal notices requesting execution of works	6
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	2
8. Number of houses demolished	Nil

IMPROVEMENT GRANTS

During the year 6 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	10	Water Closets	9
Wash Hand Basins	8	Alterations to Kitchen	4
Food Stores	4	New Bathrooms	7
Baths	7		

CARAVANS

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

REFUSE COLLECTION AND DISPOSAL

1. The quantity of refuse from domestic and business premises continues to increase with the quite rapid development of the town, but collection continued satisfactorily until, towards the end of the year, labour difficulties developed and collections, especially in the north end of the district, became spasmodic.
2. Partly as a consequence of these difficulties the Civic Amenities area became the disposal point for domestic and other refuse when ratepayers, tired of waiting for the collection to call, disposed of their own refuse.
3. Refuse disposal continued at the Wilsham Road tip under the management of the contractors, but again towards the end of the year householders in the Baker Road and adjoining areas began a campaign aimed at stopping tipping before the disposal area came near their houses.

SEWERAGE AND SEWAGE DISPOSAL

The standard of effluent has been maintained within Royal Commission standards, but the increase of population to over 18,000 has meant that the margin of safety has been reduced.

Improvements consisting of automatic screening plant at the main pumping station and improved sludge lifting machinery will be installed during 1970/71, and preliminary design work on extensions including a gasometer, secondary sludge digester, primary sedimentation tank and filters is in hand.

Speedy completion of this work is now essential.

Sludge digestion has been successfully maintained and disposal of a considerable volume of liquid sludge on adjacent farm land continues to be an effective way of dealing with the disposal problem.

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 satisfactory in quality.

MORTUARY

During the year a new mortuary with a larger capacity and improved examination facilities was under construction at the Marcham Road Hospital.

There were 175 admissions to the mortuary in 1969, 172 involving post mortem examinations. The figures for 1968 were 124 and 122 respectively.

OFFICES, SHOPS AND RAILWAY PREMISES ACT 1963

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

Type	No. of new registrations in 1969	Total No. of registered premises	No. of persons employed	No. of inspections
Offices	5	93	514	6
Retail Shops	2	124	610	6
Wholesale Shops and Warehouses	1	8	17	1
Catering Establishments and Canteens	1	16	83	1
Fuel Storage Depots	—	2	4	—
Totals	9	243	1232	14

FACTORIES ACT 1961

	No.	Inspections	Written Notices	Prosecutions
Factories without mechanical power	1	1	—	—
Factories with mechanical power	65	29	—	—
Totals	66	30	—	—

SUMMARY OF PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR'S VISITS FOR 1969

Mortuary	220
Refuse Collection and Disposal	118
Litter	66
Petroleum Acts	66
Pest Destruction	45
Drainage and Sewerage	32
Street Sweeping	31
Accumulations and Deposits	30
Factories Act	30
Public Conveniences	29
Swimming Pool	18
Caravans	16
Water Courses and Ditches	13
Clean Air Act	11
Housing Defects	10
Animals	8
Diseases of Animals Act	5
Welfare	4
Offensive Trades	3
Shops Act	3
Miscellaneous	116

HOUSING

Improvement Grants	70
Housing Inspections	6
Slum Clearance	5
Houses in Multiple Occupation	2
Improvements Areas	1
Miscellaneous	3

OFFICES SHOPS AND RAILWAY PREMISES, ACT, 1963

Offices	6
Shops	6
Accidents	4
Miscellaneous	4

FOOD AND DRUGS ACT

Meat Inspection	736	Grocers	12
Market Stalls	175	Licensed Premises	10
Sampling Milk	40	Butchers	10
Bakers	31	Mobile Shops & Hawkers ...	7
Slaughter House	30	Fishmongers	6
Food Complaints	29	Confectioners	5
Sampling Miscellaneous	25	Food Preparation Premises ..	4
Food Inspection	22	Greengrocers	3
Sampling Ice Cream	18	Food Poisoning	2
Sampling Water	17	Miscellaneous	15
Catering Establishments	17		

CIVIC AMENITIES ACT

Vehicles	46
Other Refuse	5
Miscellaneous	12

ABINGDON RURAL DISTRICT

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

Parish	Est. Pop. mid 1969	Area in acres	Total dwellings (a)	Council houses	Rateable value (b)	Product of 1d. rate (c)
Appleford	408	862	124	13	9433	39 1 0
Appleton-with-Eaton	932	2077	278	72	22178	89 5 2
Besselsleigh	78	906	22	2	2189	9 18 8
Cumnor	4766	5690	1388	316	169392	690 5 5
Draycott Moor	1232	1054	314	52	32366	129 13 10
Drayton	2371	2606	689	124	51805	210 10 6
Frilford	226	1148	72	—	9281	35 7 10
Fyfield and Tubney	592	183	189	39	16726	65 8 8
Garford	121	39	37	4	1870	7 4 7
Kennington	4409	1369	1235	195	130346	528 4 4
Kingston Bagpuize	268	1109	80	—	8042	37 16 11
Lyford	71	774	30	—	870	3 3 11
Marcham	1494	2513	455	178	46793	188 1 0
Milton	764	1466	260	36	50312	205 17 7
North Hinksey	5186	1069	1461	48	208084	817 8 7
Radley	2481	2862	433	86	77516	261 15 1
St. Helen Without (d)	2901	2005	1000	11	153312	633 10 2
South Hinksey	421	509	110	8	19375	77 14 3
Steventon	1573	2401	478	148	49819	200 16 5
Sunningwell	1448	1332	291	43	45047	181 8 6
Sutton Courtenay	2632	2101	799	323	103850	440 0 11
Wootton	2718	1523	797	207	99349	450 2 4
Wytham	178	1992	66	—	36901	152 17 8
Gas Board	—	—	—	—	2378	8 12 8
Electricity Boards	—	—	—	—	21988	90 13 7
Totals	37270	41185	10475	1905	1369222	5554 19 7
Totals for 1968	37090	41185	10274	1890	1329817	5356 3 5

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

(a) & (b) at 1.4.69.

(c) For year 1968/69.

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

PART 'A' HOUSING

CONSTRUCTION

The total number of new houses completed during 1969 was 213. 197 were built by private enterprise, 16 by the Council.

279 were under construction at the end of the year of which 145 were Council houses.

The following table shows their distribution:-

Parish	Council Houses		Private Enterprise	
	Completed	Under construction 31.12.69	Completed	Under construction 31.12.69
Appleford	—	—	8	3
Appleford-with-Eaton	—	—	2	2
Cumnor	—	—	75	15
Draycott Moor	—	—	33	54
Drayton	16	—	3	1
Kennington	—	—	33	9
Marcham	—	—	2	—
Milton	—	—	5	—
North Hinksey	—	54	—	2
Radley	—	—	17	21
South Hinksey	—	—	1	—
St. Helen Without	—	—	1	2
Steventon	—	8	2	1
Sunningwell	—	—	3	1
Sutton Courtenay	—	—	12	5
Wootton	—	83	—	18
Totals	16	145	197	134
Totals for 1968	17	16	136	175

TEMPORARY DWELLINGS

The 16 bungalows at Tubney are still in use and continue to serve a useful purpose.

IMPROVEMENTS

Following the introduction of the 1969 Housing Act a survey of all the dwellings in the district was commenced to ascertain the number of properties still lacking Standard Amenities. By the end of the year approximately 3,000 properties had been surveyed of which 130 were found to be in need of follow-up action. Applications for grants continue at approximately the same level as in 1968 as follows:—

(a)	No. approved 1969 ('68)	Total No. approved since	Amount paid 1969	Total amount paid
Standard Grants	18 (26)	1959 – 292	£5,352	£35,755
Discretionary Grants	10 (10)	1952 – 368	£3,360	£115,539

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

Parish	Conversions	Improvements
Kingston Bagpuize	1	1
Lyford	2	—
Milton	2	—
Steventon	—	2
Wootton	—	1
Totals	5	4

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

Parish	Baths/ Showers	W.C.'s	Hot Water Systems	Food Stores	Hand Basins
Appleton	6	6	6	5	6
Cumnor	2	2	2	2	2
Drayton	1	1	1	—	1
Frilford	—	1	1	1	—
Fyfield	2	2	2	2	2
Kennington	1	1	1	—	1
Milton	7	7	7	5	7
St. Helen Without	1	1	1	1	1
South Hinksey	1	1	1	1	1
Steventon	—	1	1	1	1
Sutton Courtenay	1	2	2	1	2
Wootton	2	2	3	—	3
Totals	24	27	28	19	27

RENT ACT, 1957

No Certificates of Disrepair were issued during the year.

HOUSING ACT, 1969

Qualification Certificates

(a) Improvement Cases

No. of applications received	1
No. of Certificates of provisional approval issued	1

HOUSING ACT, 1957

(a) Houses represented to Local Authority with a view to:—

(i) Serving notices requiring execution of works	1
(ii) The making of Demolition Orders	2
(b) Number of Demolition Orders made	2
(c) Number of Demolition Orders revoked	4

CARAVANS

Caravan Sites and Control of Development Act, 1960

Two hundred and fifty-one inspections were made during the year concerning caravan control as follows:-

Miscellaneous	40	Exempted sites	34
Council Sites	103	Unauthorised caravans	26
Private licenced sites	48		

Thirty-three applications for planning permission and site licence were considered during the year. Four out of ten new applications and all 23 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.

The waiting list for sites on the above parks remains substantially as during 1968 with an average of about 35 on the list, over 90% for bases on the Pebble Hill Park.

(b) Licenced private sites

Parish	No. of Sites		No. of Caravans	
	Permanent	Temporary	Permanent	Temporary
Appleford	—	2	—	2
Besselsleigh	—	1	—	1
Cumnor	6	2	15	2
Draycott Moor	1	1	6	1
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	—	85	—
St. Helen Without	—	2	—	3
South Hinksey	—	1	—	1
Sunningwell	1	—	16	1
Steventon	—	2	—	9
Wootton	1	1	2	1
Totals	16	21	181	46

(c) Exempted Sites

There is a continued reduction in the number of exempted sites in the area and by the end of the year only 12 remained. Constant surveillance of the area to detect the arrival of caravans in the back gardens of properties has resulted in the continued reduction in the number of sites.

(d) Unauthorised Sites

The number of itinerant caravanners visiting the area was much reduced during the year and it was necessary to make only 26 visits under this heading.

PART 'B' ENVIRONMENTAL CIRCUMSTANCES

WATER SUPPLY

(a) Quantity

Most of the rural district is supplied with mains water but there are still a number of wells in use. These are of the shallow type and rarely give trouble so far as quantity of water is concerned.

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

(i) OXFORD 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	278	253	—
Besselsleigh	22	20	—
Cumnor	1388	1308	—
Draycott Moor	314	281	—
Frilford	72	53	—
Fyfield and Tubney	189	148	—
Garford	37	36	—
Kennington	1235	1172	—
Kingston Bagpuize	80	71	—
Marcham	455	450	—
North Hinksey	1461	1461	—
Radley	433	386	—
St. Helen Without	1000	998	—
South Hinksey	110	110	—
Sunningwell	291	271	—
Wootton	797	780	—
Wytham	66	38	—
Totals	8093	7708	—

The supply to this area is from the Board's sources at Swinford and Farmoor, and is piped to the district via Becon Hill, Boar's Hill and Wootton Reservoirs.

The Oxfordshire and District Water Board report that no restriction of any kind took place during 1969.

(ii) THAMES VALLEY WATER BOARD

Parish	Total No. of dwelling houses	No. of dwelling houses supplied with mains water	No. of dwelling houses supplied by standpipe
Appleford	124	124	—
Drayton	689	684	1
Lyford	30	21	—
Milton	260	256	1
Steventon	478	478	3
Sutton Courtenay	799	788	6
Totals	2380	2351	11

Lyford is supplied from the Board's Childrey Warren source, Appleford and Sutton Courtenay from Compton and Drayton, Milton and Steventon from the Blewbury works.

The supplies were satisfactory in quantity during 1969.

(b) Quality

The quality of the mains supply continues to be highly satisfactory from a bacteriological point of view and the following table shows all the samples taken by the Department for Bacteriological Examination.

	Highly Satisfactory	Satisfactory	Suspicious	Unsatisfactory	Total
Wells	6	2	2	4	14
Mains	3	—	—	—	3
Reservoir	3	1	—	—	4
Bore hole	—	—	—	1	1
Totals	12	3	2	5	22

It will be seen that well supplies must still be regarded with suspicion. In the event of unsatisfactory results being obtained, occupiers are advised to boil all water intended for domestic purposes and are encouraged to connect to the main supply if this is available.

The Oxfordshire and District Water Board report that bacteriological samples were taken at least weekly from each of the service reservoirs in the area and from consumers taps and in almost every case these were satisfactory.

The Thames Valley Water Board report that the supply was satisfactory in quality during the year and add that the natural fluoride content is negligible.

PUBLIC CLEANSING

(a) Refuse Collection

The method of refuse collection in the District continues to be on the kerbside principle and there were no changes during 1969.

The vehicles now in use for collection are two 50 cu. yd. 'Pakamatics' and two 35 cu. yd. vehicles. One of the latter is held in reserve but during the year it was necessary to use it frequently to supplement the other vehicles due to the continued increase in the amount of refuse collected.

A new four ton lorry was obtained during the year as a replacement vehicle for use mainly on special collections. The total labour force is: 6 drivers, 8 loaders and one foreman.

(b) Refuse Disposal

The gravel pits at Radley continue to provide disposal facilities and tipping is carried out by the owner of the tip who is also responsible for maintenance of access roads, etc.

An uncompleted tip at Frilford Heath used several years ago was brought into use again. On completion the area will be grassed over and incorporated into the Golf Club's existing facilities.

Planning restrictions imposed on reclamation work at gravel workings following pollution of the Thames, have presented Local Authorities in North Berks with long term disposal problems. Suitable sites for controlled tipping are becoming progressively more difficult to acquire and a Working Party of officers from Abingdon Borough, Abingdon R.D.C., Wallingford Borough and R.D.C., Wantage U.D.C. and R.D.C. and Faringdon R.D.C. are actively considering alternative methods of disposal which will cater for the needs of the area as a whole until the end of the century.

(c) Litter

Converted oil drums continue to be used for litter at bus stops, outside shops, etc., and approximately 150 were in use in addition to a few large capacity precast concrete bins.

(d) **Civic Amenities Act, 1967**

Special collections continue at the request of householders but a reduction in these was evident when the large containers (6 cu. yd. capacity) were brought into use. The five in use at the end of 1968 were supplemented by an additional six and the success of these is evidenced by the fact that no less than 434 emptyings were necessary during the year at a cost to the Council of £1,302.

During the year 42 abandoned or unwanted cars were disposed of, 30 of these under the provisions of the Civic Amenities Act. The arrangement whereby a local car breaker removes them at the Council's request free of charge continues.

SEWERAGE AND SEWAGE DISPOSAL

Fyfield and Tubney Main Drainage

Phase I of the Fyfield and Tubney main drainage scheme, i.e. the sewers and pumping station serving the Tubney area, was completed during the year and a start made on Phase II to serve the villages of Fyfield and Tubney. The sewage disposal works at Appleton are being enlarged to deal with the anticipated additional flow and it is hoped that Ministry approval will be forthcoming for a further extension in the form of sludge pressing plant.

Southmoor

Two small extensions of the sewer to serve existing dwelling in Hanney Road, Southmoor, were begun and completed in the year.

Sugworth Lane, Radley

Proposals by the Ministry of Transport for the new A.34 Abingdon By-Pass necessitated the redesigning of the sewerage scheme for Sugworth Lane, Radley, to incorporate a sewage pumping station and rising main. The commencement of this scheme was, therefore, delayed until October.

Main Drainage of Other Areas

On the understanding that proposals for the main drainage of the Boars Hill area were shortly to be submitted by the Council's Consulting Engineers, instructions were given for schemes to be prepared for the following areas:-

- (a) Cothill — to serve the 24 dwellings and the boys' Preparatory school at an estimated cost of £20,000.
- (b) Dropshort — to serve 27 dwellings and two industrial sites at an estimated cost of £15,000.

Surface Water Drainage — Sugworth Lane, Radley

The Council, in November, considered a report on the flooding of bungalows in Sugworth Crescent and agreed to make application to the Ministry for approval to carry out a surface water drainage scheme in Sugworth Lane at an estimated cost of £12,600, but in the meanwhile to proceed with the culverting of a short section of stream in Sugworth Crescent at an estimated cost of £600.

DRAINAGE

One hundred and forty-seven visits were made by Inspectors during the year mainly in connection with defective septic tanks. Advice is given in most cases to improve unsatisfactory drainage systems. In one case it was necessary to serve notices under section 17 of the Public Health Act, 1961, involving 3 properties. The drain was cleansed by the owners as a result of this action.

ATMOSPHERIC POLLUTION AND SMOKE CONTROL

One notification was received under section 3 of the Clean Air Act, 1956, for the installation of a new furnace. An application was also received and granted for prior approval.

There were no serious difficulties during the year concerning this aspect of work and the total number of visits was 38.

DISINFESTATIONS

Although only 4 cases involving filthy premises came to the notice of the Department during the year, it was necessary for 43 inspections to be made concerning vermin. These were mainly for complains of fleas and ants and in every case, control measures were satisfactory.

RODENT CONTROL

This work continues to be carried out by a rodent officer and an operator engaged jointly by the R.D.C. and Abingdon Borough.

During the year 4,821 visits to premises in the district were made, of which 205 were agricultural. 713 premises were found to be infested and 361 bodies of rats and mice recovered.

SCRAP METAL DEALERS

There were 9 scrap metal dealers registered at the end of the year.

ANIMAL BOARDING ESTABLISHMENTS

Arrangements whereby a local veterinary surgeon carries out inspections on behalf of the Council of premises used for boarding dogs and cats continues and at the end of the year 3 licences were in force.

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

No serious difficulties were encountered concerning sanitary conveniences on farms.

Forty-seven visits were made and it was not necessary to serve any notices.

DISEASES OF ANIMALS (WASTE FOOD) ORDER 1957

Two premises continue to be licensed under the provisions of the above Order and during the year 16 visits were made and satisfactory conditions were maintained.

NOISE ABATEMENT ACT, 1960

Eleven complaints concerning noise were received during the year necessitating 19 visits.

Seven of the complaints concerned the noise created by a scaffold hire company and it was found that they were regularly loading and off-loading steel tubes at weekends and their activities, particularly on Sundays, were a nuisance to nearby residents.

Informal action resulted in an improvement in the conditions.

PETROLEUM (REGULATION) ACTS, 1928 AND 1936

A total of 65 premises were licensed for the storage of petroleum, all of which were visited at least once during the year.

A total of 165 inspections were made to enforce various provisions of the above Acts. No serious difficulties occurred.

HAIRDRESSERS

Section 129 of the Berkshire County Council Act, 1953, has been adopted by this Council requiring the registration of premises used as a barbers and hairdressers and at the end of the year, 14 were so registered.

Bylaws were also enforced in the district and these were implemented during the 32 visits to hairdressers.

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 148. The distribution of these premises was as follows:

Offices	47	Catering establishments	
Retail shops	73	open to the public	
Wholesale shops and		and canteens	23
warehouses	4	Fuel storage depots	1

All registered premises had received a general inspection by the end of the year and 146 such inspections were made during 1969. The total number of visits of all kinds was 311 and 43 contraventions were noted as follows:

Display of Abstracts	13	Temperature	3
Thermometer	13	Sanitary conveniences	3
First Aid	7	Others	4

All were dealt with informally and satisfactorily remedied.

No accidents were reported during the year.

PART 'D' FOOD INSPECTION AND SUPERVISIONS

Food Premises

The following table shows the nature of the 206 food premises in the district to which 1,072 inspections were made.

Premises	No.	Complying with Reg. 16	Reg. 19 applies	Complying with Reg. 19
Grocery and General Stores	60	60	51	51
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	8	8	8	8
Bakehouses	3	3	3	3
Cafes	3	3	3	3
Off Licences	7	7	—	—
Fishmongers	2	2	2	2
Food Factories	2	2	2	2
Chemists	1	1	—	—
Totals	204	204	176	176

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

Storage and sale of ice cream	62	Cooking of hams	4
Manufacture of sausages	5	Others	2

Note: Reg. 16 relates to the provision of wash hand basins, and Reg. 19 concerns the provision of sinks where necessary.

POULTRY INSPECTION

Total production at the poultry packing station at Kingston Bagpuize fell this year by 32.8%. This mainly affected the kill of capons and hens as turkey production figures were much the same as last year.

Summary of birds slaughtered:

Turkeys	—	175,557	
Capons	—	26,042	
Hens	—	60,914	
Total	—	262,513	(390,445)

Inspections at the plant were made as frequently as possible and after additional staff was engaged in July, became practically daily. The total number of visits by Public Health Inspectors was 113.

So far as post mortem inspection of the poultry was concerned, it is estimated that well over 50% of the total throughout was being inspected by a Public Health Inspector.

2,158 birds were rejected for various reasons, this figure being .082% of the total throughout.

Total weight condemned was 5 tons, 4 cwt., 52 lbs. (5,306 kg).

FOOD HAWKERS

The following 24 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 4, Butchers 3, Greengrocers 3, Bakers 5, Ice Cream 3, Caterers 4, General Provisions 2.

FOOD HYGIENE (MARKET STALLS AND DELIVERY VEHICLES) REGULATIONS 1966

There are no market stalls as such within the rural district but mobile shops and delivery vehicles were the subject of 39 inspections. Conditions were generally satisfactory.

MILK AND DAIRIES

The Berkshire County Council is the licensing authority for the retailers of milk and 13 premises were licenced at the end of the year. However, regard is paid to hygiene requirements of the Milk and Dairies Regulations when shops are visited for other purposes.

Bacteriological sampling is carried out by the Department and during the year 36 samples were procured, 18 from schools and 18 from dealers. All but one were satisfactory.

ICE CREAM

One hundred and twenty-five samples of ice cream were procured during the year from 63 different premises including at least one from all premises registered under the Food and Drugs Act.

Results were as follows:—

Provisional Grade 1	84
Provisional Grade 2	38
Provisional Grade 3	3

KNACKERS YARD

The beagle kennels attached to a local public school are licenced under section 62 of the Food and Drugs Act, 1955, by virtue of the fact that dead animals are collected from farms, flayed, dressed and processed prior to feeding to the dogs. The premises continue to be satisfactory.

UN SOUND FOOD

The following food was voluntarily surrendered or condemned:—

Meat at poultry packing station	5 tons 4 cwts. 52 lbs.
Meat at retail shops	1 " 59 "
Cooked meat and meat products	9 "
Other canned foods	1 " 26 "
Other foods	1 " 106 "
Total	5 tons 9 cwts. 28 lbs.

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

Nineteen complaints of unsatisfactory food were received during the year. All were investigated and two prosecutions were instituted. One for string in a Hovis loaf and the other for mouldy bread. In both cases the defendants pleaded guilty and were fined £25 and £15 respectively.

PART 'E' FACTORIES

Registered premises

The total number of premises registered at the end of the year was 64 as follows:—

(i) Factories without power:—

Joinery	5	Dressmaking	1
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(ii) Factories with power:—

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

Building, etc., Sites

Ten 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	64	124	2	—
Other premises	10	10	—	—
Totals	80	140	2	—

Ten outworkers, all of whom are engaged in the wearing apparel industry were subject to 9 inspections which proved to be satisfactory.

SUMMARY OF PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTORS' WORK 1969

Number of visits made	5603
„ „ complaints received	93
„ „ Statutory notices served	4
„ „ Prosecutions	2

Matters in relation to which visits were made:—

HOUSING

Housing inspections	39
Improvement grants	237
Housing survey	1267
Others	389

PUBLIC HEALTH

Health Education — lectures	8
Refuse collection	68
Refuse disposal	45
Litter	500
Accumulations and deposits	3
Filthy premises	4
Verminous premises	43
Animals	9
Housing defects	69
Drainage	79
Cesspools/septic tanks	68
Suitable and sufficient sanitary accommodation	4
Sanitary accommodation at refreshment houses	28
Hairdressers	32
Swimming baths	13
Water supplies — wells	13
Water supplies — mains	5
Water courses	29
Miscellaneous	80

CARAVANS

Council sites	103
Private licenced	48
Exempted	34
Unauthorised	26
Miscellaneous	40

CIVIC AMENITIES ACT

Abandoned cars	147
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NOISE ABATEMENT	19
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PETROLEUM	165
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DISEASES OF ANIMALS (WASTE FOOD)	16
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PREVENTION OF DAMAGE BY PESTS ACT	13
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FOOD AND DRUGS

Grocers	256
Kitchens (schools, canteens, etc.)	177
Poultry inspection	113
Food complaints	76
Butchers	89
Food factory	122
Food inspection	101
Street vendors, vans and stalls	39
Bakers	1
Confectioners	33
Greengrocers	29
Licenced houses	108
Fishmongers	21
Ice cream premises	165
Food poisoning	18
Off licences	22
Milk retailers	21
Knackers Yard	2
Chemist	1
Miscellaneous	9

OFFICES AND SHOPS

Retail shops	176
Offices	81
Catering establishments open to the public	29
Wholesale shops and warehouses	9
Accidents	2
Fuel storage depots	1
Miscellaneous	13

FACTORIES

Factories and workshops	126
Outworkers	9
Laundries	2
Bakehouses	12

AIR POLLUTION

Smoke observations	5
Installations	4
Miscellaneous	29

FARMS (SANITARY ACCOMMODATION)

47

SAMPLES

Ice cream	125
Water — wells	15
mains	6
Milk	36
Miscellaneous	2

FARINGDON RURAL DISTRICT

Parish	Est. Pop. Mid 1969	Area in Acres	Total Dwell- ings	Council Houses 31.12.68	Rateable Value (a)	Product ld. Rate (b)
Ashbury	656	5609	183	44	12655	£49 0 0
Baulking	122	1580	39	—	1606	£6 8 0
Bourton	318	1260	89	12	7037	£24 16 0
Buckland	558	4505	189	—	13860	£51 16 0
Buscot	248	2887	71	—	5662	£20 14 0
Charney Bassett	263	1209	94	—	6884	£27 1 0
Coleshill	224	2014	74	—	3636	£13 11 0
Compton Beauchamp	86	1812	38	—	2320	£9 5 0
Eaton Hastings	114	1570	36	—	2192	£8 11 0
Faringdon	3858	3547	1248	373	127334	£491 10 0
Fernham	217	1016	72	28	4494	£17 5 0
Great Coxwell	277	1435	110	12	6404	£25 19 0
Hatford	123	993	34	—	5228	£20 12 0
Hinton Waldrist	288	2016	97	23	4541	£17 12 0
Kingston Lisle	286	2040	79	12	5442	£21 19 0
Little Coxwell	186	887	71	—	4315	£16 12 0
Littleworth	218	2350	79	—	3618	£14 5 0
Longcot	439	1894	144 (c)	34	9659	£38 3 0
Longworth	893	2291	245	56	16986	£66 18 0
Pusey	98	1040	32	—	2077	£7 13 0
Shellingford	201	1761	67	2	4139	£16 0 0
Shrivenham	2725	2695	694 (d)	96	95878	£387 0 0
Stanford-in-the-Vale	1483	2927	432	96	31849	£125 10 0
Uffington	634	2929	202	54	11792	£44 10 0
Watchfield	1839	1517	508 (e)	70	61610	£252 12 0
Woolstone	81	1942	46	—	2729	£11 2 0
South Western Gas Board		—	—	—	2584	£10 3 0
Southern Electricity Board		—	—	—	7446	£30 0 0
Totals	16450	55726	4973	912	463977	£1826 7 0
Totals for 1968	16330	55726	4935	903	451924	£1785 7 0

(a) As at 31.12.69.

(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 38 of which 9 were Council bungalows and 29 were Private.

A further 34 Council properties and 31 Private houses were under construction as at 31.12.69.

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

Parish	Council Houses		Private Enterprise	
	Completed	Under construction	Completed	Under construction
	31.12.69	31.12.69	31.12.69	31.12.69
Charney Bassett	—	—	—	1
Faringdon	—	—	—	—
Fernham	—	—	—	—
Great Coxwell	—	—	5	3
Hatford	—	—	—	—
Hinton Waldrist	9	—	5	1
Longcot	—	—	—	—
Longworth	—	—	2	1
Shellingford	—	—	—	—
Shrivenham	—	—	6	8
Stanford-in-the-Vale	—	—	7	14
Uffington	—	34	2	1
Watchfield	—	—	1	—
Littleworth	—	—	1	—
Buckland	—	—	—	1
Woolstone	—	—	—	1
Totals	9	34	29	31
Totals for 1968	63	9	36	30

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 rents 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.

Rents for the 22 flats in the Council's aged amenity block is £3 12s. 10d. inclusive of central heating, hot water and rates. There is a resident Warden and residents have the use of certain communal facilities.

CARAVAN SITES AND CONTROL OF DEVELOPMENT ACT, 1969

One caravan site for 40 caravans and four individual caravans were licensed during the year. The table below shows the distribution. Three exempted sites were notified under paragraph (5) of the first schedule of the act: one in Littleworth, one at Uffington and one in Faringdon.

Parish	Sites	Caravans
Buckland	1	1
Eaton Hastings	1	1
Faringdon	1	40
Shrivenham	1	1
Uffington	1	1

REFUSE COLLECTION

The refuse collection service was maintained throughout the year without any difficulties being experienced.

A weekly collection is made throughout the district and it is, in general, a kerb-side one although bins are carried for the aged and infirm.

A special charge is made for collection of trade waste.

A new 38 cu. yd. compression type vehicle was put into service in October. This replaced a Fore and Aft machine. The fleet now comprises two compression type machines, plus a 24 cu. yd. Fore and Aft tipper which is used as a reserve.

The labour force employed on collection consists of four drivers and three loaders.

Disposal is by tipping in a sand pit at Stanford, facilities being shared by Wantage Rural District Council for a proportion of the refuse collected from their district.

A full time tip dresser is employed and a tracked bulldozer is in constant use.

WATER SUPPLY

The Oxfordshire and District Water Board are the main water authority in the area although the Parish of Kingston Lisle is supplied by the Thames Valley Water Board.

The quantity and quality of the water was satisfactory during the year and the water authority carry out routine sampling. Thirteen water samples were taken from private supplies during the year; two were unsatisfactory and advice was given.

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	1245	3
Fernham	72	71	1
Great Coxwell	110	110	—
Hatford	34	31	3
Hinton Waldrist	97	95	2
Kingston Lisle	79	78	1
Little Coxwell	71	70	1
Littleworth	79	79	—
Longcot	144 (a)	144	—
Longworth	245	241	4
Pusey	32	31	1
Shellingford	67	67	—
Shrivenham	694 (b)	694	—
Stanford-in-the-Vale	432	431	1
Uffington	202	196	6
Watchfield	508 (c)	508	—
Woolstone	46	42	4
Totals	4973	4942	31
Totals for 1968	4933	4905	29

(a) includes 11 Military Married Quarters.

(b) includes 82 Military Married Quarters.

(c) includes 347 Military Married Quarters.

DRAINAGE AND SEWERAGE

Village schemes of main drainage for Shellingford and Littleworth have been submitted to the Ministry and the Inquiry is expected shortly.

Preliminary work on the reconstruction of the sewerage system of Shrivenham and the enlargement of the Shrivenham/Watchfield Sewage Disposal Works is under way and it is expected that the scheme will be prepared for submission to the Ministry during 1970.

RODENT CONTROL

The Council's Chargehand devotes approximately 25% of his time to Rodent Control work. No problems have been met with during the year. The poison used is Warfarin in a maize meal base.

Sewer testing was carried out in Faringdon, Stanford-in-the-Vale, Watchfield and Shrivenham and there was an indication of a small infestation in a length of sewer in Faringdon and Stanford-in-the-Vale. These were treated.

MEAT

The only slaughterhouse in the district is in Faringdon and this has continued to operate during the year. It supplies local retail trade.

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

No. Inspected	Steers and Heifers	Calves	Sheep and Lambs
	371	4	702
All diseases except T.B.			
Whole carcasses condemned	—	—	—
Carcasses of which some part was condemned	96	—	35
Percentage of the number inspected with diseases other than T.B.	25.8		4.9
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.

- 46½ lbs of Tinned Meat.
- 288 lbs. of Fresh Meat.
- 126¼ lbs. of Fish.
- 16 lbs. of Fresh Vegetables.
- 113 packages of Frozen Foodstuffs.

MILK AND DAIRIES REGULATIONS

The Berkshire County Council issue licences under the Milk (Special Designations) Regulations. There is one dairy and eight milk distributors registered in the district. Routine sampling is carried out by the officers of the Berkshire County Council.

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	43	43	41	41
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	3	3	3	3
Fishmongers	1	1	1	1

FOOD AND DRUGS ACT, SECTION 16

Forty-seven premises are registered for the sale of Ice Cream and one for the manufacture and sale thereof.

Three premises are registered for the cooking of hams.

HOUSING

Houses inspected under the Housing Acts	...	...	...	22
Number of Closing Orders made	...	...	...	Nil
Number of Closing Orders Determined	...	...	...	Nil
Number of Demolition Orders	...	...	...	Nil

IMPROVEMENT GRANTS

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

Sixteen applications for Standard Grants were approved by the Council and altogether work was completed to ten properties during the year.

FACTORIES ACT 1961

Premises	No. on Register	Inspections Made	No. of Written Notices	Prosecutions
Factories without mechanical power	2	1	—	—
Factories with mechanical power	42	28	—	—
Totals	44	29	—	—

Cases in which defects were found — Nil.

No outworkers were notified during the year.

SUMMARY OF HEALTH INSPECTOR'S WORK DURING THE YEAR 1969

Number of visits made	1189
„ „ complaints received	107
„ „ notices served (Informal)	11
„ „ notices served (Statutory)	Nil
„ „ prosecutions	Nil

Miscellaneous matters in relation to which visits were made:-

Council House Applications	204
Refuse Disposal	100
Refuse Collection	141
Slaughterhouse (Meat Inspection)	138
Petroleum Storage	52
Butchers Shops	17
Cafes and Inns	30
Other Food Premises	70
Shops other than Food	42
Offices	10
Caravans	18
Water Supplies	32
Improvement Grants	42
Rodent Control	26
Factories and Workplaces	29
Milk Supplies	25
Water Courses	22
Schools	41
Water Samples	13
Mortuary	16
Housing Act	6
Nuisances	36
Swimming Baths	12
Food Stalls and Vehicles	8
Bakehouses	3
Dairies	4
Miscellaneous Visits	52

