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# ASHFORD

## URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL



### ANNUAL REPORT

of the

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

and the

CHIEF PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR

for the YEAR 1970





PUBLIC HEALTH OFFICERS OF THE

LOCAL AUTHORITY, 1970

Medical Officer of Health

MARSHALL, J.

M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.

Chief Public Health Inspector

HAMMOND, S.F.

M.A.P.H.I., M.R.S.H.

Deputy Chief Public Health Inspector

PRATT, S.

M.A.P.H.I.

Additional Public Health Inspector

COULING, S.W.

M.A.P.H.I.

Additional Public Health Inspector

BLACKWELL, A.

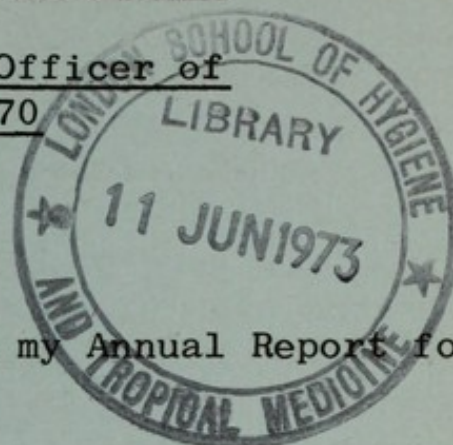
M.A.P.H.I.





ASHFORD URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL, KENT

Annual Report of the Medical Officer of  
Health for the year 1970



Mr. Chairman and Councillors,

I have the honour to present to you my Annual Report for the year 1970.

Population

The Registrar General's estimate of the mid-year Home Population was 36,290 an increase of 930 over that of the previous year.

Live Births and Rate

The number of live births was 658 (333 M. 325 F.) which was a decrease of 19 from that of the previous year. The crude birth-rate was accordingly 18.1 which after adjustment by the Registrar General's Comparability Factor computed from a population standardised for age & sex distribution, becomes 17.6 compared with that of 16.0 for England and Wales.

Stillbirths and Rate

The number of stillbirths was 6 (3 M. 3 F.) and the corresponding rate was 9.0 in comparison with that of 13.0 for England and Wales.

Infant Deaths and Mortality Rate

Nine infant deaths were registered seven of which were under four weeks of age, and the corresponding infantile mortality rate was 14.0 compared with that of 18.0 for England and Wales.

The causes of death were:-

Extreme prematurity	-	10 hrs.
Prematurity (1lb.12oz.)	-	2 days
Wordnigg-Hoffman Disease	-	7 months



Heart Failure, Congenital Malformation of Heart	- 2 days
Intestinal obstruction - Mongolism	- 3 days
Extreme Prematurity	- 5 hours
Extreme Prematurity	- 2 days
Extreme Prematurity	- 13 hours
Meningococcal Septicaemia	- 9 months

The hard core of causes of Perinatal Mortality (i.e. stillbirths and infant deaths under one week of age) is prematurity, asphyxia and atelectasis, birth injuries and congenital malformations, and the chief maternal factor is toxæmia of pregnancy.

#### Maternal Deaths and Mortality Rate

This rate was nil, as there were no deaths from Pregnancy, Childbirth or Abortion.

#### Total Deaths and Death Rate

The total number of deaths from all causes was 367 (200 M. 167 F.) and the corresponding crude death rate was 10.1 which after adjustment by the Registrar General's Comparability Factor, as for births, becomes 10.8 compared with that of 11.7 for England and Wales.

The chief group cause of deaths was Heart and Circulatory Diseases and Vascular lesions of the Nervous System, which are natural ultimate causes of death amongst the aged and of these were 152.

Diseases of the Coronary Artery of the Heart was the cause of 87 (56 M. 31 F.) in the following age groups; 1 between 35 - 44; 7 between 45 - 54; 19 between 55 - 64; 20 between 65 - 74 and 40 over 75 years of age. Sixty of those deaths were over 65 years, including forty over 75 years and it would seem that a degenerative process is one of the causative factors, although the cause is still obscure and many deaths occur in middle-age.

Cancer, as invariably in previous years, was the second highest cause of deaths of which there were fifty-one in the following age groups; 1 between 35 - 44;



5 between 45 - 54; 13 between 55 - 64; 20 between 65 - 74 and 12 over 75 years. The majority of the deaths were over 65 years. It is reasonable to assume that many patients seek medical examination too late for treatment which is curative in most cases if the disease is not too advanced.

Cancer of the Lung and Bronchus caused 22 deaths (17 M. 5 F.) in the following age-groups; 3 between 45 - 54; 6 between 55 - 64; 11 between 65 - 74 and 2 over 75 years. Cancer of the Lung/Bronchus occurs in earlier age-groups than Cancer of other sites excluding Cancer of the breast, and it may be assumed that the inhalation of tobacco smoke is a precipitating factor in those who are predisposed to the disease.

Cancer of the Breast was the cause of 8 deaths in the following age-groups; 1 between 35 - 44; 1 between 45 - 54; 2 between 55 - 64; 2 between 65 - 74 and 2 over 75 years. It is reasonable to assume that medical advice was sought too late, as Cancer in this site is comparatively easy to diagnose.

Cancer of the stomach caused 5 (3 M. 2 F.) deaths, 1 between 55 - 64; 3 between 65 - 74 and 1 over 75 yrs.

Cancer causes a relentless toll of human lives all over the world and is invariably the second highest cause of deaths of which heart and arterial diseases are the chief cause; the majority of the latter are due to old age and coronary thrombosis. However, many deaths from Cancer occur in younger age-groups, usually over the age of 40 years. The majority are in all probability due to delay by patients in seeking medical advice, having regard also to the fact that the onset of the disease is insidious or latent.

It is an old adage that 'prevention is better than cure' and there is sufficient modern knowledge about the causes of some forms of Cancer to enable their prevention.



Modern surgery and X-rays and other radiations used, singly or in combination, have transformed the treatment of this group of diseases.

Almost all skin Cancers and over 80% of Cancers of the Cervix of the Uterus can be cured if they are treated early. There were two deaths from Cancer of the Uterus, 1 between 65 - 74 years of age and 1 over 75 years which includes those from Cancer of the Cervix.  
(See page 17 for Clinic)

The other causes of death were miscellaneous and there were no exceptional mortality.

### The Infectious Diseases

#### Measles

Sixty-eight notifications of this disease were notified compared with seven-hundred and fifty in the previous year.

#### Whooping Cough

No cases were notified. In former years outbreaks of this distressful children's disease were common and there was a large number of deaths chiefly due to Broncho-pneumonia.

#### Scarlet Fever

No cases were notified. This illness is now mild and its formerly serious complications are becoming infrequent; if any does occur, treatment by a specific anti-biotic is invariably successful.

#### Food Poisoning

There were four cases of Food Poisoning notified during the year. This small number is an excellent



tribute to the invaluable routine prevention work in Food Hygiene carried through by the Public Health Inspectorate.

### Dysentery

There were no cases notified during the year.

### Infective Jaundice

No cases were notified compared with eight during the preceding year.

### Tuberculosis

One (male) new case of non-Pulmonary Tuberculosis was notified - the patient was 28 yrs. of age.

There were three deaths due to Pulmonary Tuberculosis, 1(M) 86 years of age and 2(f) 43 and 45 years of age.

This disease, which in past medical history has been a scourge of man and was known as the 'White Plague', is in these days almost completely under control, by prevention (including the elimination of housing overcrowding and a higher standard of living), and by treatment. Since 1950, the number of cases amongst adolescents amongst whom it was most common, has gradually decreased to a minimum. Protection of school children by B.C.G. vaccination, which is offered to those aged 13 years and over, has been an important factor.

### Influenza

Fortunately, there was no outbreak of this dangerous infection during the winter months.

A new era in the history of the prevalence of serious Infectious Diseases has been reached, in prevention and treatment. For example, the remarkable advance in this Century of medical science, with emphasis on the last 40 years, has prevented by vaccination and immunisation



lethal and disabling infections such as Poliomyelitis, Diphtheria and Whooping Cough and recently Measles and German Measles, and by treatment with specific Antibiotics and Sulpha drugs, diseases caused by bacteria such as Acute Meningitis, the Pneumonias, Puerperal Sepsis, Scarlet Fever, Erysipelas, Typhoid, Paratyphoid Fevers, and Food Poisoning etc.

All virus infections per se do not respond to treatment by the Anti-biotics or Sulpha drugs, but fortunately serious complications caused by bacteria usually respond successfully to treatment.

Vaccination against the virus of Measles and German Measles (for girls aged 14 years plus) has recently been introduced, and it is expected that the biennial outbreaks which occur will be eventually controlled. Vaccination is available at the Child Welfare Centres and from the Family Doctor.

In conclusion, I would like to take this opportunity of thanking you for your support of and interest in the Department and also the Staff for their very efficient service.

I am,

Your obedient Servant,

J. MARSHALL, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.

Central Public Health Office,  
14, Church Rd.,  
Ashford,  
Kent.

Tel. No. Ashford 24411.



## SECTION A

### STATISTICAL AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE DISTRICT FOR 1970

AREA ... 5,719 acres

#### REGISTRAR-GENERAL'S ESTIMATE OF

The Resident Population ... 36,290

#### NUMBER OF INHABITED HOUSES ACCORDING

TO THE RATE BOOKS ... 12,073

NUMBER OF BUSINESS PREMISES ... 1,019

RATEABLE VALUE (1-4-71) ... £1,591,322

#### SUM REPRESENTED BY A (NEW) PENNY

RATE (1-4-71) ... £15,750

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### SOCIAL CONDITIONS

Ashford is both an agricultural and an industrial town and a business and shopping centre for the large rural community which surrounds it. It merits importance by containing the largest agricultural market in Kent and in having a railway junction where five lines converge, associated with which is a Carriage and Wagon Works, and Electrical Carriage Repair and Inspection Shops. There is a constantly increasing number of Factories, including Caravan Works, Iron Foundry, Printing Works, Agricultural and Vehicle Repair Shops, Flour Mills, Electronics, Light Engineering and Electrical Engineering, Ordnance Depot, Bread, Cereal Products and Jam Factory, Starch/Glucose conversion factory, a large Food Processing and Dried Foods Factory, a Cosmetic Manufacturer, a Perfumery, Glass Scientific Instrument Firm, Graphic Art Reproducer, Wood Worker and Furniture Makers, Plastic Manufacturer and Recovery, Plating and Rubber Moulding firms.

Light industry (mainly medium and small firms) is coming to the district in co-ordination with the absorption into the town of London 'overspill.' Unemployment in the area is relatively low.



# EXTRACTS FROM VITAL STATISTICS

	<u>Total</u>	<u>M.</u>	<u>F.</u>		<u>ASHFORD</u> <u>U.D.</u>	<u>ENGLAND</u> <u>&amp; WALES</u>
1. <u>LIVE BIRTHS</u>	658	333	325	Birth Rate per 1,000	18.1	16.0
(a) Legitimate	617	311	306	estimated	(Adjusted Rate	
(b) Illegitimate	41	22	19	resident population	17.6	
2. <u>STILLBIRTHS</u>	6	3	3	Rate per	9.0	13.0
(a) Legitimate	6	3	3	1,000 total		
(b) Illegitimate	-	-	-	(live & still)births		
3. <u>TOTAL LIVE &amp; STILLBIRTHS</u>	664	336	328			
4. <u>DEATHS</u>	367	200	167	Death Rate per 1,000	10.1	11.7
				resident population	(Adjusted Rate 10.8	
5. <u>DEATHS FROM PREGNANCY, CHILD BIRTH, ABORTION</u>	-	-	-	Rate per 1,000 (live & still) births	Nil	Not Available
6. <u>DEATHS OF INFANTS UNDER 1 YEAR OF AGE</u>	9	-	9	Rate per 1,000 live births	14.0	18.0
(a) Legitimate	7	-	7	Rate per 1,000 live births (legitimate)	11.0	17.0
(b) Illegitimate	2	-	2	Rate per 1,000 live births (illegitimate)	49.0	26.0
7. <u>PERINATAL MORTALITY</u> (Stillbirths & deaths of infants under 5 1 week)		-	5	Rate per 1,000 total births	17.0	23.0
8. <u>ILLEGITIMATE LIVE BIRTHS PER CENT OF TOTAL LIVE BIRTHS</u>						6%



# CAUSES OF DEATH IN ASHFORD URBAN DISTRICT DURING 1970

<u>ALL CAUSES</u>				<u>Males</u>	<u>Females</u>
				200	167
1.	Tuberculosis of Respiratory System	...		1	2
2.	Malignant Neoplasm, Buccal Cavity etc...			2	-
3.	Malignant Neoplasm, Stomach	...		3	2
4.	Malignant Neoplasm, Intestine	...	...	5	5
5.	Malignant Neoplasm, Lung, Bronchus	...		17	5
6.	Malignant Neoplasm, Breast	...	...	1	7
7.	Malignant Neoplasm, Uterus	...	...	-	2
8.	Malignant Neoplasm, Prostate	...	...	2	-
9.	Leukaemia	...	...	2	-
10.	Other Malignant Neoplasms	...	...	11	17
11.	Diabetes Mellitus	...	...	-	4
12.	Meningitis	...	...	-	1
13.	Other diseases of Nervous System	...		3	2
14.	Chronic Rheumatic Heart Disease	...		2	4
15.	Hypertensive Disease	...	...	-	3
16.	Ischaemic Heart Disease	...	...	56	31
17.	Other Forms of Heart Disease	...	...	9	12
18.	Cerebrovascular Disease	...	...	18	26
19.	Other Diseases of Circulatory System	...		8	11
20.	Influenza	...	...	4	2
21.	Pneumonia	...	...	11	10
22.	Bronchitis and Emphysema	...	...	16	2
23.	Other Diseases of Respiratory System	...		3	2
24.	Peptic Ulcer	...	...	2	2
25.	Intestinal Obstruction and Hernia			-	3
26.	Cirrhosis of Liver	...	...	-	1
27.	Other diseases of Digestive System	...		1	1
28.	Nephritis and Nephrosis	...	...	1	-
29.	Hyperplasia of Prostate	...	...	1	-
30.	Other Diseases, Genito-Urinary System...			-	1
31.	Abortion	...	...	1	-
32.	Diseases of Musculo-Skeletal System	...		-	2
33.	Congenital Anomalies			5	-
34.	Birth Injury, Difficult Labour, etc.	...		1	-
35.	Other Causes of Perinatal Mortality	...		4	-
36.	Symptoms and Ill Defined Conditions	...		1	-
37.	Motor Vehicle Accidents	...		2	1
38.	All Other Accidents	...	...	4	4
39.	Suicide and Self-Inflicted Injuries	...		3	1
40.	All Other External Causes	...	...	-	1



NOTIFIABLE DISEASES DURING THE YEAR, 1970

<u>Disease</u>	<u>Total Cases Notified</u>	<u>Cases admitted to Isolation Hospital</u>	<u>Total Deaths</u>
Measles	68	-	-
Scarlet Fever	-	-	-
Whooping Cough	-	-	-
Food Poisoning	4	-	-
Acute Meningitis	-	-	-
Dysentery	-	-	-
Infective Jaundice	-	-	-

ANALYSIS UNDER AGE GROUPS

<u>DISEASES</u>	Under 1 Yr.	1	2	3	4	5-9	10- 14	15- 19	20- 34	35- 44	45- 54	55- 64	65	Un- Known
Measles	6	6	11	16	14	13	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	1
Scarlet Fever	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Whooping Cough	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Dysentery	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Food Poisoning	-	-	-	-	-	2	-	-	-	2	-	-	-	-
Infective Jaundice	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Acute Meningitis	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-



# TUBERCULOSIS

## New Cases and Mortality, 1970

<u>Age Periods</u>	<u>New Cases</u>		<u>Deaths</u>		<u>Total Cases on Register</u>		
	<u>Respiratory</u>	<u>Non- Respiratory</u>	<u>Respiratory</u>	<u>Non- Respiratory</u>	<u>Respiratory</u>	<u>Non- Respiratory</u>	<u>Respiratory</u>
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	F.
0 ...	-	-	-	-	149	98	28
1 ...	-	-	-	-			
5 ...	-	-	-	-			
15 ...	-	-	-	-			
25 ...	-	-	-	-			
35 ...	-	-	-	1			
45 ...	-	-	-	1			
55 ...	-	-	-	-			
65 & over	-	-	-	-			
TOTAL	-	-	1	2	1	-	-

Public Health (Prevention of Tuberculosis) Regulations, 1924 and  
Public Health Act, 1936 (Section 172)

No action was necessary during the year in accordance with the above powers.  
There was one death from Pulmonary Tuberculosis of a patient who had not been  
notified as suffering from this disease



# IMMUNISATION AND VACCINATION

<u>Year of Birth</u>	<u>Primary</u>							<u>Reinforcing</u>					
	Triple Antigen	Diphtheria Tetanus	Smallpox	Tetanus	Measles	Polio-myelitis	Rubella	Triple Antigen	Diphtheria Tetanus	Smallpox	Tetanus	Measles	Polio-myelitis
1970	1	-	-	-	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
1969	416	14	336	-	22	499	-	-	2	-	1	-	-
1968	170	21	-	-	71	346	-	23	234	-	3	-	-
1967	5	5	-	-	48	41	-	14	129	-	-	-	-
1966	2	1	-	-	35	8	-	-	19	-	3	-	13
1963-1964	2	3	-	1	13	-	-	7	118	-	6	-	155
1965	-	1	-	-	15	-	-	20	447	-	4	-	493
1954-1962	1	2	-	16	6	-	33	-	14	38	44	-	22
Total	597	47	336	17	210	896	33	64	963	38	61	-	683



# MASS RADIOGRAPHY SERVICE

The following table shows the number of X-ray films taken and results obtained during the regular weekly visits to the Ashford Vicarage Lane Car Park from 1st April, 1970 to 31st September, 1970.

	FILMS TAKEN			ACTIVE TUBERCULOSIS			INACTIVE TUBERCULOSIS			CANCER OF LUNG		
	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total
G.P. Cases	95	87	182	-	-	-	2	2	4	2	1	3
Public	1096	1341	2437	-	-	-	7	6	13	2	1	3
B.C.G.	1	1	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Total	1192	1429	2621	-	-	-	9	8	17	4	2	6



## SECTION B

### GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES

#### FOR THE DISTRICT

#### 1. Laboratory Facilities

The Public Health Laboratory Service is directed by the Medical Research Council for the Department of Health and Social Security and is situated in Preston Hall British Legion Village, Maidstone, and provides valuable services on behalf of the Public Health Departments of District Councils. For example, samples of water, milk, ice cream and other food-stuffs are regularly examined, and in relation to Infectious Diseases their bacteriological and virological reports are of great value.

Local General Hospitals also have their own Laboratories, which provide valuable services to the Consultants and to the Practitioners.

#### 2. Ambulance and Hospital Car Service

The County Council administers this service throughout Kent. The Ambulance Station is situated at Silverhill Road, Willesborough, where five ambulances and five sitting-case cars are garaged. The ambulance personnel numbers one Station Officer and one Assistant Station Officer. The twenty-five Driver/Attendant are supplemented by twenty Hospital Car Driver volunteers, whose devotion to duty merits appreciation.

#### 3. Treatment Centres and Clinics

All maternity and Child Health, School and Dental Clinics are administered by the County Council.

The following Clinics are held in Ashford:-

##### (i) Vicarage Lane

This is the central and chief clinic and is contained in an 'ad hoc' building. The outlying clinics are complementary.



Sessions are held on Tuesday and Thursday of each week from 2.00 p.m. The Doctor attends once weekly on Tuesdays.

(ii) Women's Institute Hall, Church Rd., North Willesborough

Sessions are held at 2.00 p.m. on alternate Fridays.

(iii) Women's Institute Hall, Faversham Rd., Kennington

Sessions are held at 2.00 p.m. on the 2nd and 4th Wednesdays of each month.

(iv) Brookfield Hall, South Ashford

Sessions are held at 2.00 p.m. on the 1st, 3rd and 5th Wednesday of each month.

School Medical Service Clinics

The following clinics of the School Medical Service are held at the main Vicarage Lane Clinic.

- (a) School Clinic.
- (b) Dental Clinic.
- (c) Ophthalmic Clinic.
- (d) Speech Therapy Clinic.

(e) Orthopaedic Clinic - this clinic is held at Ashford Hospital, is administered by the Regional Hospitals Board and is held on the 1st Thursday of each month at 2.00 p.m.

Venereal Diseases Clinic

This clinic is held at Ashford Hospital on Wednesdays from 9.0 a.m. and Fridays from 2.0 p.m.

Chiropody Service, Chiropody Clinic, Vicarage Lane, Ashford

This service is provided for men over 65 years and women over 60 years for physically handicapped persons and for expectant mothers. Appointments are made through the Principal Welfare Officer, K.C.C. Health Department,



27, High Street, Ashford. (Tel. No. Ashford 24451)

#### Cytology Clinic (Cervical Smear Clinic)

This is held at the Vicarage Lane Clinic (Mondays but by appointment only), and the family Practitioner is always available for advice. (Tel. No. Ashford 24915).

#### Tuberculosis Clinic

This clinic is held at Ashford Hospital on every 3rd Monday from 2.0 p.m. and every 3rd Friday from 9.0 a.m. Appointments must be made through the Lenham Chest Hospital. (Tel. No. Lenham 314).

#### Family Planning Clinic

This is held at the Vicarage Lane Clinic on Wednesdays and Thursdays from 6.30 - 8.30 p.m.

#### Geriatric Clinic - Ashford Hospital

Dr. Stevens holds the above clinic for out-patients on the 2nd and 4th Mondays of each month at 2.0 p.m.

#### Hospitals

- |                           |                           |
|---------------------------|---------------------------|
| (a) Ashford General       | - Accommodation 115 beds. |
| (b) Willesborough General | - Accommodation 109 beds. |
| (c) Warren Hospital       | - Accommodation 14 beds.  |

#### 4. Private Nursing Homes

There is one registered Nursing Home in the area accommodating eight patients.

#### 5. Home Nursing and Midwifery Service

The County Council administers these services. The standard of service given by the Nurses is excellent and there is complete co-operation between them and the Practitioners. The majority of patients nursed in their



homes are elderly and chronic sick, many of whom are awaiting beds in Chronick Sick Hospitals which are still inadequate to cope with the waiting list.

6. The Maternity and Child Welfare Service

This service is also administered by the County Council. There are four Child Welfare Centres within the District, which are conveniently situated for mothers, and the attendances are well maintained.

7. The Domestic Help Service, the Family Care Service, Evening and Night Attendant Service and the Family Welfare Service

These services are administered by the County Council and have become a very important health service in the home. Applications for assistance should be made to the local Domestic Help Organiser at 14, Church Road, Ashford. Tel. No. Ashford 24411).

Home Helps are paid at the rate of £0.3413 per hour and there is a sliding scale of charges based on the family income of the applicants - the maximum charge being £0.42 per hour.

8. Ashford Citizens' Advice Bureau  
14, Church Road, Ashford

Hours:- Mon., Tues., Thurs. & Fri. 2.0 - 4.0 p.m.

Tues. & Weds. 10.0 - 12.30 p.m.

9. Mass Radiography Service

The above mobile unit visits regularly the Vicarage Lane Car Park, Ashford on the first and third Thursday of every month from 10.0 - 11.0 a.m.



## HOUSING

The number of dwellings completed during the year 1970/71 was as follows:-

	<u>Completed</u> <u>1970/71</u>	<u>Previous</u> <u>Years</u>
<u>A. Pre-war Schemes</u>		
<u>Beaver Lane, Kingsnorth Rd. &amp;</u> <u>Hampden Rd.</u>		
(a) 2 bedroom type	-	10
(b) 3       "       "	-	406
(c) 4       "       "	-	20
<u>Norwood Gardens</u>		
(a) 2 bedroom type	-	10
(b) 3       "       "	-	40
(c) 4       "       "	-	6
<u>Willesborough</u>		
(a) 3 bedroom type	-	201
<u>Kennington</u>		
(a) 3 bedroom type	-	42
<u>B. Post war Schemes</u>		
<u>Woolreeds and Musgrove</u>		
(a) 2 bedroom type	-	49
(b) 3       "       "	-	458
(c) 4       "       "	-	26
(d) Bed/Sitter Flats	-	22
(e) 2 Bedroom Flats	-	58
<u>Court Wurtin</u>		
(a) 2 bedroom type	-	2
(b) Bed/Sitter Flats	-	4



	<u>Completed</u> <u>1970/71</u>	<u>Previous</u> <u>Years</u>
<u>Court Wurtin (Continued)</u>		
(c) 1 bedroom flats	-	6
(d) 2 bedroom flats	-	10
<u>Beaver Court O.A.P. Hostel</u>		
(a) 1 bedroom (O.A.D.s)	-	12
(b) Bed/sitter flats	-	20
(c) 2 bedroom house	-	1
<u>Beaver Green</u> <u>(Including Beaver Farm &amp; Elm Place)</u>		
(a) 2 bedroom houses	-	70
(b) 3 bedroom houses	-	486
(c) 4 bedroom houses	-	13
(d) Bed/Sitter flats	-	4
(e) 1 bedroom flats	-	1
(f) 2 bedroom flats	-	91
(g) 1 Bedroom O.A.D.s.	-	16
<u>Brookfield South</u>		
(a) 2 bedroom flats	-	71
(b) 3 bedroom houses	-	205
(c) 4 bedroom houses	-	11
(d) 3 bedroom 3 storey	-	105
<u>Repton</u>		
(a) 2 bedroom houses	-	30
(b) 3 bedroom houses	-	64
(c) 2 bedroom flats	-	48
<u>Godfrey Walk</u>		
(a) Bed/Sitter flats	-	13
(b) 1 bedroom flats	-	27
(c) 2 bedroom flats	-	28
<u>Croft Road</u>		
(a) Bed/Sitter flats	-	2
(b) 1 bedroom flats	-	3
(c) 2 bedroom flats	-	1



	<u>Completed</u> <u>1970/71</u>	<u>Previous</u> <u>Years</u>
<u>Willesborough (including Osborne Rd.,</u>		
<u>Aylesford Place, Mead, Gladstone,</u>		
<u>Milne Roads and Waterside</u>		
(a) 2 bedroom houses	-	34
(b) 3 bedroom houses	-	221
(c) 4 bedroom houses	-	6
(d) 1 bedroom flats	-	12
(d) 2 bedroom flats	-	20
(e) 3 bedroom flats	-	1
(f) 1 bedroom (O.A.D.s)	-	20
<u>Kennington (Burton)</u>		
(a) 2 bedroom houses	-	58
(b) 3 bedroom houses	-	98
(c) 2 bedroom flats	-	8
(d) 1 bedroom (O.A.D.s)	-	12
<u>Kennington (Bockhanger)</u>		
(a) 3 bedroom houses	-	158
(b) 4 bedroom houses	-	34
(c) 1 bedroom flats	-	34
(d) 2 bedroom maisonettes	-	70
(e) 3 bedroom maisonettes	-	66
<u>Kennington (Grosvenor)</u>		
(a) 2 bedroom flats	11	8
(b) 3 bedroom houses	38	44
(c) 4 bedroom houses	3	2
(e) 1 bedroom (O.P.Ds.)	14	-
<u>Stanhope</u>		
(a) 1 bedroom flats	-	132
(b) 2 bedroom maisonettes	-	264
(c) 3 bedroom houses	-	685
(d) 4 Bedroom houses	-	236



## Analysis of Applications for Council Houses

### Living in Ashford - Adequately housed

Retired persons	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	83
Single persons	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	16
Childless couples	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	61
One child families	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	66
Two/three child families	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	69
Four or more child families	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	7
Registered less than six months	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	27

### Living in Ashford - Inadequately housed

Retired persons	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	30
Single persons	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	29
Childless couples	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	31
One child families	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	42
Two/three child families	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	21
Four or more child families	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	9
Registered less than six months	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	47

### Living elsewhere, working in Ashford - Adequately housed

Retired persons	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	3
Single persons	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Childless couples	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	22
One child families	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	23
Two/three child families	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	50
Four or more families	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	14
Registered less than six months	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	17

### Living elsewhere, working in Ashford - Inadequately housed

Retired persons	....	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Single persons	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	4
Childless couples	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	12
One child families	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	14
Two/three child families	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	7
Four or more child families	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	3
Registered less than six months	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	14

Total applicants = 723



Report of the Public Health Inspectorate  
for the Year 1970

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I am pleased to present my Annual Report on various local environmental aspects of the Health Inspection services in 1970.

'Conservation Year' was a memorable one nationally and internationally for the attention focused on the need to conserve and protect our environment. One trusts that practicable benefit will be achieved in the future.

Enough experience has now been had of the effects of the delegation of powers by the Ashford Council to postulate that considerable benefit has been derived from being able to speed up and clear up many matters which previously had to be pigeon-holed awaiting Committee/Council approval for periods up to six weeks - and certainly did not help the 'image' of Local Government. Some of the matters concerned are included in this Annual Report.

Finally, I wish to place on record my sincere appreciation of the help and encouragement received from the Chairman and Public Health Committee members, the Medical Officer of Health, and not least to all my colleagues for their able and willing support.

Your obedient Servant,

S. F. HAMMOND

Chief Public Health Inspector



## GENERAL STATISTICAL SUMMARY OF VISITS

	Visits
1. <u>Housing</u>	
Dwellings re. repairs.....	553
Dwellings re. Demolition, Closure etc.....	61
Clearance Areas.....	21
General Survey & Assessment .....	48
Improvements (a) On tenant's request (Sec. 19).....	24
(b) Area inspections.....	11
(c) Routine (voluntary) grants.....	417
Multi-let accommodation.....	40
Overcrowding, survey.....	5
Adequacy of accommodation (for rehousing following application)...	 215
Rent Act (a) Certificates of Disrepair.....	-
(b) Remedying of Defects.....	-
(c) Miscellaneous .....	2
2. <u>Food</u>	
Abattoir .....	394
Bakehouses and Depots.....	9
Butchers.....	88
Catering Establishments & Clubs.....	89
Dairies.....	3
Fish (incl. fried).....	23
General Shops.....	88
Self Service and Super Markets.....	11
Licensed Premises.....	21
Market Food Stalls & Auctions.....	104
Mobile Stalls & Delivery Vans.....	82
Other Food Trades.....	44
Vending Machines.....	5
Food (unsound) Inspections.....	296
3. <u>General Public Health Matters</u>	
Rat & Mice destruction (Visits by P.H.I.s).....	89
Other vermin (Visits by P.H.I.s.).....	135
Dirty houses.....	20



Visits

Offensive (a) Accumulations.....	45
(b) Odours .....	68
Nuisance from (a) keeping of animals.....	23
(b) dust.....	-
Control of tents, vans and sheds.....	10
Caravans.....	20
Aged and infirm persons.....	7
Infectious diseases.....	7
Food Poisoning.....	24
Drains and sewers (including cesspools & septic tanks.....	386
Swimming Baths.....	18
Water Supplies.....	74
Agriculture, safety & welfare.....	1
Clean Air (a) observations.....	30
(b) visits.....	48
(c) monitoring stations.....	316
(d) miscellaneous.....	4
Noise (i) sources investigated.....	21
(ii) visits arising.....	164

4. Places of Work

Factories with power .....	50
Factories non power.....	11
Building & Engineering Works.....	9
Outworkers.....	6
Workplaces.....	8
Offices.....	69
Shops.....	151
Warehouses.....	13
Catering Establishments.....	20

5. Miscellaneous

Shops Act (hours etc.).....	3
Fireguard (Heating Appliances).....	8
Unclassified.....	593



## H O U S I N G

### Repairs or Clearance of Unfit Houses

The Minister of Housing and Local Government on the 30th April, 1970 confirmed without modification the Beaver Road Compulsory Purchase Order 1970 and the process of re-accommodating the occupants was started and by the end of the year was nearly complete. Patently it is necessary to pace 'slum' clearance work having regard to the availability of suitable housing and some action programmed for 1970 was accordingly deferred.

It was not until the very end of the year that Newtown passed from the British Railway Corporation to new owners. Meantime the slow deterioration of the Estate continued without any decision on long-term intentions being made, and with the older-type houses being closed as they became vacant.

With increasing house-ownership there has been a noticeable decrease in the number of complaints of defects in private houses. The repairs element in controlled rents have long since ceased to be adequate to meet increased costs of repair work and, unless overall modernization is undertaken (and rents adjusted), many repairs are allowed to continue unreported to the landlord.

The total inadequacy of the repair element in the rent of a controlled tenancy is indicated by comparing the rent of a pre-war unimproved Council house with that of its privately-owned counterpart. To take an example of a house rated £26 gross in November 1956. As a Council house the rent would be almost £2.0s.0d. a week (£1.99) and the annual repairs allowance £30. The same dwelling privately-owned would be let at a rent of just over £1 per week (£1.08) and the annual repairs factor would amount to £17½. This difference is accentuated by the much greater cost of repair work for the latter.



In the long term the system of 'fair rents' being fixed by the Rent Officer should be effective, but current maintenance is important and adjustment to rents to meet modern costs is overdue.

Considerable investigation and testing for carbon monoxide gas was carried on in a house subsequent to alleged high carboxyhemoglobin of the occupants. There is every likelihood that the defective state of the chimney stack - subsequently rebuilt - initiated the incident.

### Multi-let Accommodation

With the continuous slow growth of multi-let accommodation it was considered desirable to codify the standard to be used by Inspectors when considering existing or new proposals for numbers living in and facilities and amenities provided for such dwellings. The Code proposed was approved by the Council as suitable in the light of local circumstances and it is proving of value in practice.

In the course of the year only one additional 'direction' - in this case limiting the number of households was imposed - making a total of eleven premises on which Direction Orders have been made. No scheme operates in the Urban District for the compulsory registration of the multi-let house.



# Houses in clearance areas and unfit houses elsewhere

A. HOUSES DEMOLISHED	IN OR ADJOINING CLEARANCE AREAS declared under Section 42 of the Hsg. Act, 1957	Unfit for human habitation.	Number of houses Number of separate dwelling contained therein	24
		Included by reason of bad arrangement.	Number of houses Number of separate dwellings contained therein	Nil
		On land acquired under Sec. 43(2) Housing Act, 1957.	Number of houses Number of separate dwellings contained therein	Nil
		As a result of informal procedure under Sec. 16 or Sec. 17(1) Housing Act, 1957.	Number of houses Number of separate dwellings contained therein	4
	NOT IN OR ADJOINING CLEARANCE AREAS	Local authority owned houses certified unfit by the Medical Officer of Health.	Number of houses Number of separate dwellings contained therein	Nil
		Houses unfit for human habitation where action has been taken under local Acts.	Number of houses Number of separate dwellings contained therein	Nil



(Continued)		Houses included in unfitness orders made under para 2 of the Second Schedule to the Land Compensation Act, 1961	NOT IN OR ADJOINING CLEARANCE AREAS	Number of houses Number of separate dwellings contained therein	Nil
A.	HOUSES DEMOLISHED				
		Number of houses included above which were previously reported as closed in pursuance of closing orders or undertakings.		In or adjoining areas  Not in or adjoining clearance area	Nil  Nil
B.	UNFIT HOUSES CLOSED in pur- suance of closing orders or under- takings	Under Secs. 16(4), 17(1) & 35(1) Housing Act, 1957 and Sec. 26 Housing Act, 1961.		Number of houses Number of separate dwellings contained therein	1  1
				Number of houses Number of separate dwellings contained therein	Nil  Nil
		Under Secs. 17(3) and 26 Housing Act, 1957.	PARTS OF BUILDINGS CLOSED under Sec. 18 Housing Act, 1957	Number of dwellings	2
C.	NUMBER OF PERSONS DISPLACED	From houses to be demolished in or adjoining clearance areas  From houses to be demolished not in or adjoining clearance areas  From houses to be closed  From parts of buildings to be closed			27
					-
					4
					-



D. NUMBER OF FAMILIES DISPLACED	<p>From houses to be demolished in or adjoining clearance areas</p> <p>From houses to be demolished not in or adjoining clearance areas</p> <p>From houses to be closed</p> <p>From parts of buildings to be closed</p>	10 - 2 -
E. UNFIT HOUSES MADE FIT	<p>After informal action by local authority. By owner</p> <p>After formal notice under Secs. 9(1) and (a) By owner 16(1), Housing Act, 1957 (b) By Local Authority</p> <p>After formal notice under Public Health Acts</p> <p>Previously included in a clearance order which has been or will be modified or revoked under Sec. 24 Housing Act 61</p> <p>Previously included in a demolition order which has been or will be revoked under Sec. 24 Housing Act, 1957</p> <p>Previously included in a closing order which has been or will be determined under Sec. 27 Housing Act, 1957</p>	96 - - - Nil Nil 2
F. OTHER HOUSES IN WHICH DEFECTS WERE REMEDIED	<p>After formal notice under Public Health Act</p> <p>After formal action under Section 9 (1A) (a) By owner Housing Act, 1957. (b) By Local Authority</p> <p>After informal action by local authority</p>	- Nil 36



G. UNFIT HOUSES IN TEMPORARY USE (Housing Act 1957)	Retained for temporary accommodation.	Under Section 48  Under Section 17(2)  Under Section 46	Number of houses Number of separate dwellings contained therein  Number of houses Number of separate dwellings contained therein  Number of houses Number of separate dwellings contained therein	Nil  Nil  Nil  Nil  Nil
H. PURCHASE OF HOUSES BY AGREEMENT	Houses in clearance areas other than those included in confirmed orders or compulsory purchase orders		Number of houses  Number of occupants	Nil  Nil



## Improvements

After a slow start, considerable public interest was shown in the generous grants made available under the Housing Act, 1969. This is indicated in the table on page 33 and by the one hundred and forty seven schedules of improvements and repairs prepared by the Inspectors for owners (and prospective owners) of dwellings compared with ninety-two schedules last year. To fit in with the wide variations in types and conditions of houses, and not least the range of ideas and financial circumstances of owners the Inspectors are called upon to spend considerable time in giving the necessary detailed advice on the grants. It is however, rewarding in the positive contribution to bettering housing conditions which can be seen to be achieved.

No area in the town was considered appropriate at this time for declaring a 'general improvement area' under the provisions of the 1969 Act, although, given the necessary co-operation of the new owners of Newtown this could be useful there. Steady progress was made in securing the improvement of tenanted houses in the Improvement Areas which were declared under the 1964 Act and a positive contribution to the stock of fit, modernized houses, has thereby been achieved.

In the table which follows is shown a summary of grants paid for Improvements and Conversions and of applications approved. The figures in the brackets indicate comparable figures for 1969. The 'Standard' Grants authorized by me under delegation arrangements provided a speedy and useful service.

Notices for placing on counters drawing attention to the availability of grants were left at the various Estate Agent Offices and Building Societies and a fair measure of co-operation was received in this publicity. A good supply of official pamphlets and leaflets has also been made available to the public.



## Improvement Grants

<u>Type of Grant</u>	<u>Houses Improved &amp; Grant Paid</u>	<u>Applications Approved</u>		
		<u>Owner/ Occupier</u>	<u>Tenanted</u>	<u>Totals</u>
1. Conversion	- (2)	- (-)	2 (-)	2*(-)
2. Discretionary	9 (7)	8 (6)	5 (1)	13 (7)
3. Standard	39(27)	28(27)	15 (8)	43(35)
4. Standard with Plusages.	30(28)	27(23)	16(10)	43(33)
	78(64)	63(56)	38(19)	101(75)

(\* To provide four dwellings)

(Figures in brackets indicate 1969 figures)

Although all householders in Kent Avenue and Sussex Avenue were approached individually and house-to-house scheduling of improvements was undertaken two years ago, it is evident that the demand for improvement grants stimulated has been very little different from that from other comparable areas.

### Applications for Rehousing

The practice has been continued of the Inspectors inspecting and reporting upon the home conditions of applicants for Council houses. As these applications come from that section of the community most likely to be living in unsatisfactory housing this is of help in disclosing it and enabling action to remedy being taken. On occasions it is advisable to delay statutory action until tenants are re-accommodated. Some 161 reports on applications were made (205 in 1969).

### Rent Acts

No applications were received under the 1957 Act for Certificates of Disrepair, but a total of fourteen combined



applications for improvement grants and qualification certificates were received in accordance with the procedures laid down under the Housing Act, 1969. These enable an owner to bring a house up to a standard of repair and amenity and reward him by changing a 'controlled' to a 'regulated' tenancy let at a rent assessed as fair by the Rent Officer. In my opinion it was unfortunate to clutter up the improvement procedure with the complexities of securing a fair rent before the work of improvement can be put in hand. Delay was inevitable. Periods of 'Undertakings' to carry out work given in accordance with the Housing Act 1964 had to be extended because of these delays. It is not to be wondered at that of twenty 'combined applications' received since 1969 only seven qualification certificates have been issued under that particular procedure.

As respects houses described as already provided with modern amenities occupied by tenants paying a 'controlled' rent, only four applications were received to enable 'fair' rents to be fixed and type of tenancy changed during the year, of which only two were valid. Repairs were negotiated informally rather than refuse the Landlord's application and leave the process to be re-started. This proved successful.

Again it was extremely useful to be able to deal with these rather complex procedures by way of delegated powers.

### Overcrowding

No instances of statutory overcrowding were met with during the year.



## F O O D

### The Abattoir

The Ashford Abattoir, opened on 25th March, 1964, is owned by the Urban Council and operated under agreement by the Ashford Slaughtering Co. Ltd. - formed by a number of local butchers. It meets the needs of local traders and of the Ashford Cattle Market which is close by it, and was designed to be capable of serving an expanded Ashford.

The Health Inspectors are responsible for the inspection of all meat processed in the Abattoir. In Ashford, since the War, this inspection has always been one hundred percent. It is encouraging to record a substantial increase in the use of the Abattoir. Agreement was reached with a private wholesaler to lease a piece of the site to enable him to construct a small cutting room and meat store, and the arrangement is aimed to be mutually beneficial.

No pathological conditions of special interest presented themselves during the year apart from the presence of a malignant tumour (Haemangiosarcoma) in a calf's tongue. Careful note was taken of Ministry Veterinary reports of outbreaks of salmonella food poisoning among farm animals, especially in regard to casualty slaughtered animals. No animals from known infected sources were received, and with the exception of a man employed clearing out animal pens (not at the Abattoir) there were no locally contracted cases of food poisoning.

There was a substantial increase in the number of animals slaughtered at the Abattoir but in view of the good general standard of livestock processed for the butchers the rejection rate was low.



# Cattle Inspected & Condemned

	Cattle Exclud- ing Cows	Bulls	Cows	Calves	Sheep & Lambs	Pigs
Number killed	843 (664)	1 (-)	309 (227)	142 (145)	1024 (934)	8330 (6272)
Number <u>not</u> inspected	-	-	-	-	-	-
<u>All diseases except Tuberculosis &amp; Cysticerci</u>						
Whole carcasses condemned	2 (-)	- (-)	- (-)	1 (3)	5 (3)	10 (13)
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	171 (163)	- (-)	109 (73)	- (-)	65 (105)	956 (723)
<u>Tuberculosis only</u>						
Whole carcasses condemned	-	-	-	-	-	-
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	-	-	-	-	-	34 (21)
<u>Cysticerci</u>						
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	5 (4)	- (-)	- (-)	- (-)	- (-)	- (-)
Carcasses submitted to refrigeration	3 (1)	- (-)	- (-)	- (-)	- (-)	- (-)
Generalised and totally condemned	-	-	-	-	-	-

(Figures for the year 1969 are shown in brackets)



## Poultry

In the absence of poultry slaughtering and packing stations in the Urban area, control of poultry, game and rabbits is affected in the shops - mainly butchers - and at weekly auction sales at Ashford Market of dead stock. The improvement in the general standard of birds and rabbits at the Auctions is reflected in the low number of those accepted as voluntarily surrendered in the regular inspections carried out by the Inspectors of all the food deposited with the Auctioneers - to whom appreciation is due for their co-operation. Only eleven birds were 'condemned' (19 last year) out of 7,003 examined (4,665 in 1969). The number of rabbits examined again shows little change being 2,124 (2,167 last year) and of these eleven were rejected as against 58 last year.

Many persons are still unaware of the dangers attending the incomplete thawing out of frozen poultry. It is sometimes overlooked that a hard-frozen chicken needs twenty-four hours in an airy (but not hot) place to thaw it out completely and a turkey twice as long as that. A shorter time at a higher temperature is not satisfactory. Also, once removed from deep freeze the covering film should be taken off a bird.

## Milk Supplies

There are sixty-two registered distributors of milk, mostly from shop premises, but only four dairies. Routine sampling of milk in course of delivery is carried out throughout the year. The reduced number of sources of milk suppliers has minimised the number of samples necessary to affect representative coverage. The results are given in the following table:-

<u>Designation</u>	<u>Satisfactory</u>	<u>Unsatisfactory</u>
Untreated	4	-
Pasteurised	22	1
U.H.T.	-	-
Sterilised	-	-



Liaison is maintained with the County Council who are kept informed of changes in registration (or new ones) and applications for licences to deal in specially designated milks are handed on to them at the same time as a registration is made

The four samples of raw milk were all reported to be free from brucella infection but one sample of pasteurised milk failed the phosphatase test. As the milk had been processed elsewhere the matter was referred to the Local Authority concerned as were two cases of improperly cleansed bottles.

### Cream

Samples of cream were taken during the summer in collaboration with an investigation carried out by the Public Health Laboratory Service but are excluded from the following table which is confined to the results of routine sampling. Whereas the cream sold from shops has been pasteurised, that auctioned from the Market is invariably raw. The results shown in terms of methylene blue reduction are as follow:-

<u>Period decolourised</u>	<u>Market</u>	<u>Shops &amp; Dairymen</u>
Less than 2 hrs.	-	-
Less than 3 hrs.	1	-
Less than 4 hrs.	2	2
Over 4 hrs.	2	4
Total	5	6

In my opinion these results are quite good.



## Ice Cream

The number of premises registered for the sale of ice cream is 113 and it is also sold in clubs, schools and catering establishments. The results obtained, given in the table below, are very satisfactory indeed:-

Grade	Mobiles				Premises			
	I	II	III	IV	I	II	III	IV
Soft Ice Cream	11	1	1	-	-	-	-	-
Other loose	6	1	-	-	22	1	2	-
Wrapped	1	-	-	-	2	-	-	-

## Food & Drugs Act

### Registered Premises - Sausages and Preserved Foods

There are forty-five premises registered for the preparation and manufacture of sausages and preserved foods. These include food factories, butchers, fried fish shops, pie manufacturers, some shops and licensed premises with spit roasters or rotiseries and 'take-away' Chinese food establishments. Catering establishments are not registered but these premises are especially important in the protection of the public health.

Some progress was made on checking holding temperatures of hot pies and similar products where snacks or take-away lunches are cooked or warmed on the spot in rotiseries or small ovens respectively. There is need, in my opinion, for indicating thermometers to be fitted where foods are kept warmed, as tests so far suggest that control is very uncertain.

## Food Hygiene

It was not necessary to take any proceedings to enforce the appropriate Hygiene Regulations in either premises, or market or in regard to mobile traders. Many requirements of the Regulations are able to be



anticipated where plans for alterations and extensions are submitted for Planning and Building Regulation purposes.

Regular inspection is made of the various food stalls in the Ashford Saturday Market which comply reasonably well with the Food Hygiene (Markets, Stalls & Delivery Vehicles) Regulations. There are twelve 'Exemption Certificates' currently held by Market traders which, as the Market Company have provided certain facilities for the use of the traders, relieves them of the onus of each making his own arrangements.

Vehicles used in the retailing and delivery of food were, (with a few exceptions which were remedied informally) found to be up to a satisfactory standard and comply with the appropriate Regulations.

The following list records items of various aspects of food hygiene receiving attention during routine visits of food premises:-

Food Hygiene (General) Regulations, 1960 - Enforcement

	<u>Total</u>
<u>Wounds</u> exposed, warnings given.....	-
<u>Smoking</u> warnings given.....	-
<u>Clothes</u> storage made satisfactory.....	7
<u>First Aid</u> outfits provided.....	16
<u>Hand washing labels</u> - provided.....	14
<u>Hand washing facilities</u> improved.....	35
<u>Washing-up facilities</u> improved .....	22
<u>Cleanliness</u> generally improved .....	25
<u>Walls, floor &amp; ceiling finishes</u> improved .....	18
<u>Lighting</u> made adequate .....	1
<u>Preparation tops</u> made hygienic.....	2



	<u>Total</u>
<u>Ventilation</u> improved .....	5
<u>Equipment</u> - cleanliness made satisfactory .....	2
<u>Exposed food</u> - protection improved .....	24
<u>Temperature</u> control of food, warnings .....	3
<u>Storage food</u> improved .....	13
<u>Storage wrapping paper</u> and empties improved.....	1
<u>Miscellaneous</u> improvements.....	71

### Food Inspection

All foodstuffs tabulated below were rejected - as unfit were dealt with as a result of voluntary surrender:-

#### Unsound Food Surrendered or Condemned

		<u>Tons</u>	<u>cwts</u>	<u>lbs.</u>	<u>Tons</u>	<u>cwts</u>	<u>lbs.</u>
<u>Meat</u>							
a) Slaughter-	(i) Carcase Meat		19	98			
house	(ii) Offal	2	3	92	3	3	78
b) Wholesale	(i) Carcase Meat			69 $\frac{1}{4}$			69 $\frac{1}{4}$
Premises	(ii) Offal			-			
c) Retail Shops	(i) Carcase Meat		1	19		1	19
	(ii) Offal			-			
Cooked meat and meat products ...							-
Canned Meats ...						1	90 $\frac{3}{4}$
Other canned foods ...						5	30 $\frac{1}{2}$
Frozen foods ...						8	106
Fish (fresh) ...						5	2 $\frac{1}{2}$
Fruit & Vegetables (fresh) ...						15	12 $\frac{1}{2}$
Other foods ...							56
	Total ...				5	2	14 $\frac{1}{2}$



Rejected meat and offal from Ashford Abattoir is now, in accordance with the Meat (Sterilization) Regulations, 1969, removed from the Abattoir in a covered, closed, vehicle to a licensed processing plant near Faversham where it is converted into fertilizers etc. Other foodstuffs, are collected by the Department and dumped for immediate cover under refuse at the Council's refuse tip.

The relatively high amount of other foodstuffs disposed of is due to the fact that located in Ashford, are several large food distribution depots.

On the evidence of complaints alleging unsoundness of film-wrapped meats and poultry, some members of the general public do not appreciate that fresh food of this sort, unless it is intended to be kept at a freeze temperature, should - unless a manufacturer's instructions state otherwise - be taken out of the film wrap so that the air can get to it. We do have perfectly sound foodstuffs brought to us because of the escape of an accumulated odour when they have been unwrapped for the first time after having been allowed to reach room temperature.

### Food Complaints

The number of recorded food complaints at forty-four was twelve less than last year and largely concerned so-called 'foreign-bodies' in foods. Every complaint received was investigated and wherever possible the opportunity was taken to ensure that in future all practicable steps to prevent a recurrence were taken. In general, good co-operation is forthcoming from 'the trade' and a number of positive steps were initiated e.g. installation of metal detectors, coding by retailers, increased supervision etc.



The complaints are analysed in the following table:-

Commodity	Foreign Matter		Mould
	Number		Number
	<u>Home Produced</u> <u>Food</u>	<u>Imported</u> <u>Food</u>	
Milk	6	-	-
Butter	-	2	-
Cheese	-	-	-
Bread	5	-	7
Canned Meat	-	-	-
Cooked Meat	1	-	-
Meat Pies	1	-	1
Fish	1	-	-
Fruit	1	-	1
Jam	-	-	-
Vegetables	-	1	-
Cereals	1	-	-
Sweets	2	-	-
Confectionery	5	-	-
Other Food	5	2	2
Totals	28	5	11

One prosecution was instituted in respect of the presence of glass in an apple turnover in respect of which a fine of £20 with £10.50 costs was imposed by the Local Magistrates Court.

#### Education

Lectures were given on food hygiene to senior secondary school pupils. This presents a valuable opportunity to interest young people in the subject of food hygiene prior







# GENERAL PUBLIC HEALTH MATTERS

## Rat and Mice Destruction

Rodent control work was carried out as detailed in the following table:-

Total Premises Inspected as result	Local Authority	Dwellings (incl. Council)	All Other	Agri-culture
1. NOTIFICATION	2 (2)	176 (218)	54 (58)	1 (6)
No. found infested				
Rats	1 (2)	96 (155)	32 (35)	1 (6)
Mice	1 (-)	32 (32)	22 (27)	- (-)
2. SURVEY etc.	16 (36)	86 (95)	32 (6)	11 (18)
No. found				
Rats	12 (19)	43 (47)	18 (14)	8 (10)
Mice	- (-)	5 (8)	1 (2)	- (-)
Block Treatment	- (-)	11 (-)	27 (-)	- (-)

Once again the elements were kind to the rodent population and quite heavy migrations of rats into the Urban area were experienced. The idea was followed however, of making permanent baiting points around the Urban periphery selecting points on watercourses and at farms. About twenty such sites were set up and there were considerable takes of bait. This may (one hopes) have had the effect of reducing the number of infestations of rats - as reflected in the figures of the above table. Near one permanent baiting point spoiled wheat had been tipped years ago by a farmer on to waste land and although it appeared humus to the naked eye, rats were found to be consuming it again once the fields had been harvested. The results of the permanent baiting



points was encouraging enough to warrant continuing the trial. Permanent baiting has been maintained at the Council's refuse dump and sewage works for several years past.

The most difficult infestations to clear up are with mice, especially where there are plenty of alternative food supplies, and are in old premises or new ones in which little or no thought is given to avoidance of harbourage. Apart from the naturally highly resistance by mice there has been no indication to date of 'Warfarin resistance.'

No really heavy infestation by rodents were experienced. The Council operates a service for the control of rats and mice which is free to householders and although a charge is made for work on other premises this is kept deliberately low to encourage its use.

The sewers are tested for infestations in the spring followed by treatment as recommended by the Ministry and treated a second time in the late autumn. In addition, every inspection chamber in the town centre area (where there are some old sewers with many 'dead' connections, and many food premises) is baited twice a year. Those sewers in a limited number of roads with heavy traffic are treated with a direct poison - the rest receive Warfarin baiting.

### Weils Disease

There have been no cases of leptospirosis in humans notified during the year and once again the incidence of dogs exhibiting clinical symptoms of the disease as reported by the local veterinary surgeons has fallen - this time to three. For the second year running the autumn was mild and dry which may produce less favourable conditions for transfer of the infection to dogs - or the dog population may be better protected by vaccines.

### Eradication of Vermin

A free disinfection service is provided and by arrangement with the West Ashford R.D.C. this is made



available to tenants in the Stanhope Estate owned by the Urban but situated in the rural area, and the table below gives an indication of infestations dealt with:-

	<u>Bugs</u>	<u>Fleas</u>	<u>Cock- roaches</u>	<u>Ants</u>	<u>Wasps</u>
No. of cases occurring					
(a) Council Houses	3(9)	39(56)	24(14)	1(1)	32 (2)
(b) Other Houses	1(2)	22(11)	1 (-)	-(-)	62(12)
(c) Other Premises	-(-)	2(-)	4 (6)	9(5)	8 (2)

As the above table shows, there was a welcome drop in the number of bug and especially flea infestations. This latter was particularly encouraging in view of the long, warm, summer. (1969 figures are shown in brackets).

Efforts were continued to clear up some well-established cockroach infestations in certain pre-war housing, but complete success cannot yet be claimed.

The disinfection service to the local general hospitals was maintained and a good measure of control achieved. One problem being increasingly felt is that with the continuing growth of the town the demand for disinfection services grows and at times becomes difficult to meet, even impossible. Accordingly, some of the work at the Hospital has been carried out by Hospital staff with guidance from this Department. Again, as this was a 'wasp year' when wasp troubles became so frequent that it was not possible to deal with all the nests, advice had to be given in general terms to complainants to enable them to deal with the insects themselves. As it was, some 102 nests were destroyed by the staff and these included some quite unpleasant tasks.

#### Dustbins

A dustbin hire service for domestic premises is operated by the Department, a bin being supplied either on demand or if the rate payer does not provide one after



having been given ample opportunity to do so. Some fifty-one visits were made in this connection and at the end of the year records indicate that 537 were on hire. The Grosvenor Housing Estate belonging to the Urban District Council but located in the Rural District has been provided with a plastic liner system for refuse collection in collaboration with that Authority and together with a private estate in the Urban area equipped with paper sacks represent two pilot schemes to provide useful experience of these systems.

### Fly Infestations

The usual arrangements were followed for spraying refuse vehicles against flies and for regular treatment of the Council refuse dump with insecticidal powders. Happily the breakdown in normal refuse collections occurred too late in the season to cause a fly problem.

### Food Poisoning

The only notified case of food poisoning in the area occurred in a person likely to get infective contamination of his hands and who admitted handling his own food without first taking care to wash his hands. In the event he remained a carrier for three months. Similarly a family of four returned from a Spanish holiday after suffering 'tummy upsets' were all found to be carriers of a salmonella organism (*Salmonella Typhi Murium*) and potentially of danger to others. In my opinion any person similarly affected when travelling overseas should seek bacteriological clearance on returning home before handling the food of others whether in the home or elsewhere. The carrier state in the members of the family concerned persisted up to twelve weeks from their return home. There were no secondary cases arising.

An investigation was carried out of shellfish being implicated in what was alleged to be food poisoning cases. Samples of shellfish submitted for bacteriological examinations were reported to be satisfactory. Faecal samples from the persons 'at risk' were also negative and as the



'cases' had quickly recovered it could be pursued no further. There were no further incidents reported.

### Drains, Sewers and Cesspools

Progress continued in the elimination of cesspools by facilitating connections to main drainage and in particular nine dwellings in Warren Lane were eliminated with the construction of the Warren Lane sewer extension. This still leaves a number of cesspools and septic tank installations estimated at over 200, most of which are provided with a single free emptying each year.

Distinct from the maintenance carried out by the Surveyor's Department to the main sewers, some sixty-eight public sewers (lying in private gardens, courts and passages) were cleared of obstruction (fifty last year) and also twenty-five (31 last year) private drains were dealt with. This latter service is curtailed as much as possible owing to other increasing commitments. Drainage systems tested by smoke were nineteen (as against forty-six in 1969) and the figure for other tests applied to drainage systems was fourteen (against five 1969).

### Water Supply

The Mid Kent Water Company are the statutory water undertakers for a large area of Kent including the whole of the Urban District. Only one private dwelling house is known to be supplied from its own well.

The principal source of water is from Godmersham with an authorized extraction of up to three million gallons per day. A million-gallon covered service reservoir above Godmersham acts as a balance reservoir. Water from a subsidiary (greensand) source at Charing may reach the northern fringe of the district. Sources originally owned by the Ashford Council at Westwell and Henwood are maintained for standby purposes.

Chlorination of water supplies is maintained as an additional safeguard but regular bacteriological examination and chemical analysis at the sources confirm their



excellent quality and the table which follows gives details of the examination of water supplies. Samples are taken by the Health Inspectors every month from points on the distribution system in the Urban Area and examined at the Public Health Laboratory at Maidstone which provides a completely independent check.

	<u>Bacteriological Examination</u>		<u>Chemical Analysis</u>	
	<u>Samples Satisfactory</u>	<u>Samples Unsatisfactory</u>	<u>Samples Satisfactory</u>	<u>Samples Unsatisfactory</u>
<u>Mid Kent Water Co.</u>				
Treated Water	53	-	4	-
Raw Water	55	-	6	-
<u>Ashford U.D.C</u>				
Treated	37	-	-	-

The water supply is not plumbo solvent. Waters derived from the chalk source have a ph of 7.4 and are fairly hard but the degree of hardness is below the limit at which it is officially recognised as necessary to employ a softening process (total hardness 259 ppm., which includes 25 ppm. of non carbonate hardness). The natural flourine is low, namely 0.085 ppm. in the Godmersham supply, and substantially less than the recommended standard of 1.0. ppm.

In the course of the year the Council made 17 grants (normally one third cost) towards the expenses involved when a shared supply pipe to any dwelling house is found to be corroded up so that a new separate supply has to be laid on from the Undertaker's mains. This usually occurs when additional fittings are to be installed - as when a house is improved. The total sum so expended in grants amounted to £343 (£90 in 1969). This is in addition to renewals grant-aided as part of a modernization scheme to which (discretionary) improvement grants apply.



## Swimming Bath

The public swimming baths is an unheated open-air pool which, thanks to a kindly summer and autumn, was very well used. Turbidity is minimised by means of rapid sand filtration with a twelve-hour turn-over period - made unavoidable by the size of the bath 100 yards x 25 yards (capacity 600,000 gallons). The free chlorine level is aimed to be maintained between 1 and 2 ppm. and soda ash is added to adjust the pH and avoid unpleasant eye effects. Whilst breakpoint chlorination conditions are maintained the sterilizing efficacy is such that it was felt that sampling for bacteriological examination would be unnecessary. Accordingly two or three times a month during the period of popular use a series of independent tests for chlorine and the pH were made and only one set of four samples were taken for bacteriological examination. The results were entirely satisfactory - as were the on-the-spot tests.

Similar spot-checks on chlorine level and pH value were taken of the water in the swimming baths at the Ashford Boys Grammar School, Hythe Road and Kennington Primary School in Upper Vicarage Road, Kennington. In addition, five samples were taken for bacteriological examinations and the results of these and the tests were all satisfactory.

## Clean Air Acts, 1956 and 1969

The following table indicates some of the work undertaken under the above Acts:-

Nuisance from bonfires (domestic).....	6
Dark smoke from bonfires (non-domestic).....	19
Dark and black smoke contraventions noted.....	12
Furnaces - Notifications of new installations.....	16
Grit and dust emissions.....	-
Applications to approve height of chimneys.....	1
Number such applications approved.....	1



There were less complaints of garden bonfires. Most trouble was encountered from the actions of demolition contractors burning waste on sites they were clearing. In addition, informal action had to be taken to stop such practices as the burning of car bodies, and the burning of various industrial wastes on the ground. The stronger powers under the 1968 Act proved most useful.

In addition to the approval given for one chimney serving a furnace within the prescribed limits, informal arrangements were made in a number of cases when plans were submitted for approval under the Building Regulations for chimney heights serving small plants to be raised to heights more likely to achieve better dispersion of effluent.

Supplies of gas coke are rapidly dwindling and one hopes that burning of bituminous fuels will not take its place for domestic heating, in view of the air pollution it would bring.

With the tendency for installing central heating in new houses and, with the assistance of improvement grants, in older houses, there is less use being made of solid fuel heating generally. The increased use of electricity, gas and oil for domestic heating is reflected in the continuing fall in local recorded smoke ~~and sulphur~~ content of the atmosphere. Unfortunately, instances are being met with of the installation of domestic oil burning plants in garages, with short chimneys, which, although they comply with the Building Regulation requirements, terminate below eaves levels and give rise to complaints of odours.

I am pleased to record that an after-burning plant installed in the cupulas of the local foundry seem to have effected a very worthwhile improvement - certainly as much as had been expected. In addition to achieving more complete combustion the thermal uplift is that bit improved so that less downwash occurs in practice and dispersion is more frequently achieved.



The daily monitoring of sulphur and smoke content of the lower atmosphere continued at the daily recording station in Regents Place and at the eight-day automatic plant at the Brookfield Community Centre. Looking back over the recordings of the past eight years there is a pattern of a reduced smoke content with a small increase in the relatively low sulphur burden. The highest concentrations of smoke in particular have fallen markedly over the period. When this is viewed against the substantial increase in factories, businesses and population (28,450 in 1962) it is very re-assuring for the future. It is considered prudent however to continue the monitoring arrangements.

During the year the overall Regional and National Smoke and Sulphur Dioxide records for the two preceding years (1967 - 8 and 1968 - 9) were reviewed in depth by the Warren Spring Laboratory and the averages for smoke and sulphur in the South Eastern Region were considered a good target for the remainder of the country to achieve. The South Eastern Region averages in town in winter are, for smoke about 60<sup>m</sup>m<sup>3</sup> and about 100<sup>m</sup>m<sup>3</sup> sulphur. A comparative table is set out below and illustrates the effect on the atmosphere at the Regents Place (Town Centre) Station of an area of houses substantially burning coal on old-fashioned open fires, as opposed to the Brookfield Site in South Ashford where modern 'smokeless' appliances and gas heating only are installed in the houses. The records for the latter have consistently compared very favourably with the average for the Region.

In my opinion, unless gas or electric heating is installed in housing estates in the future, serious thought must be given to the possibilities of district heating. There should be a place for this on private estates.



<u>Month</u>	<u>Year</u>	<u>Smoke</u>		<u>SO2</u>	
		<u>Town Centre</u>	<u>South Ashford</u>	<u>Town Centre</u>	<u>South Ashford</u>
April	1969	39	24	59	37
May	"	29	65	48	38
June	"	12	33	34	28
July	"	17	56	30	34
Aug.	"	18	32	32	25
Sept.	"	19	18	35	29
Oct.	"	42	50	47	43
Nov.	"	65	39	57	47
Dec.	"	96	47	79	N
Jan.	1970	91	50	73	73
Feb.	"	67	36	93	68
Mar.	"	66	33	96	67
Apr.	"	38	22	62	44
May	"	22	19	43	39
June	"	15	11	31	35
July	"	11	8	28	21
Aug.	"	15	11	29	24

N = No results obtained.

(Figures relate to microgrammes per cubic meter of air:  $\mu\text{m}^3$ )

### Noise

<u>Noise &amp; Vibration Nuisances</u>	<u>Indust- rial</u>	<u>Commer- cial</u>	<u>Domes- tic</u>	<u>Total</u>
No. substantially confirmed	6(8)	7(3)	2(-)	15(11)
No. remedied informally	6(7)	7(3)	1(-)	14(10)
No. formal notices served	-(-)	-(-)	-(-)	- (-)

(1969 Figures in brackets)

Various measures agreed with factory managements, where all-night operating is practised, were taken during the year and resulted in the virtual elimination of noise from one



frequent source of past complaints and a good measure of control in another. Agreement was reached to cease the use of certain equipment after tea-time in another instance - rather than meet the cost of enclosure of plant. Steps were taken to secure the reduction of vibration and also noise from refrigeration plant attached to a supermarket. In this connection, plant arrangement varies, but where refrigeration plant is concentrated in a plant room it has proved necessary to introduce dampening and insulation arrangements, preferably done at the 'planning' stage where residential property is liable to be affected (during the night hours). There were two instances of this kind during the year. In other instances, with the co-operation of factory managements concerned, noise nuisance from fan noise in ducting, and from a yard public address system were both eliminated.

Only one source of complaint of noise from practising pop groups was received, but permission to use the accommodation for the purpose was withdrawn effectively restoring peace. Disturbance at night by a lorry tail-board lift operating at a depot in the town has been greatly reduced by siting the actuating pump mechanism inside the cab. As a result, except for one night when alternative transport had to be used (owing to a breakdown), no further complaint of nuisance from this source has been received.

I am pleased to report that the sight of an unmuffled road drill is now the exception rather than the rule, and many of the new generators seen are appreciably less noisy than such equipment used to be. In my opinion, it is high time manufacturers of local authority equipment such as road sweepers paid some attention to the need for producing less noisy mechanical contrivances.



# P L A C E S   O F   W O R K

## Factories Act, 1937

1. Inspections for purposes of provisions as to health (including inspections made by Public Health Inspectors).

Premises (1)	Number on Register (2)	Number of		
		Inspection (3)	Written Notices (4)	Occupiers Prosecuted (5)
1. Factories in which Secs. 1, 2, 3, 4 & 6 are to be enforced by Local Authority	16	11	2	-
2. Factories not included in (1) in which Sec. 7 is enforced by Local Authority	172	50	5	-
3. Other premises in which Sec. 7 is enforced by Local Authority (excluding Out-workers' Premises)	22	9	-	-
Total	210	70	7	-

(1969 Figures in brackets)

Various Measures agreed with factory managements, where all-night operating is practised, were taken during the year and most action to maintain the virtual silence in the factory



## 2. Cases in which defects were found:-

Particulars	No. of cases in which defects were found				No. of cases in which Prosecutions were instituted
	Found	Remedied	Referred		
			By H.M. Inspector	To H.M. Inspector	
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	
Want of Cleanliness (S.1)	-	5	-	-	-
Overcrowding (S.2)	-	-	-	-	-
Unreasonable Temp.(S.3)	-	-	-	-	-
Inadequate Vent.(S.4)	-	-	-	-	-
Ineffective drainage of floors (S.6)	-	-	-	-	-
San. Conveniences					
(a) Insufficient	-	-	-	-	-
(b) Unsuitable or defective	-	1	-	-	-
(c) Not separate for sexes	-	-	-	-	-
Other offences against the Act (not including offences relating to Outwork	-	2	-	-	-
Total	-	8	-	-	-

OUTWORKERS - There are 14 Outworkers in the district.



OFFICES, SHOPS & RAILWAY PREMISES ACT, 1963

SUMMARY OF STATISTICS FOR YEAR ENDED

31st DECEMBER, 1970

1. Record of Inspections

<u>Type of Premises</u>	<u>No. of Premises</u>	<u>No. of 'General' Inspec- tions</u>	<u>No. of Re-inspec- tions</u>
Offices	145 (134)	38 (32)	31 (16) )
Shops	238 (269)	82 (44)	69 (83) )
Wholesalers	33 (30)	9 (5)	4 (4) )
Catering	30 (28)	9 (9)	11 (18) )

(1969 Figures are given in brackets)

Total visits - 243 (211)

The aim is to have a 'general' inspection made of every registered premises at least once every four years in addition to the re-inspections carried out for a miscellany of purposes e.g. follow-up, accident investigations and so on. Many of the purposes of the legislation are incidentally attended to when inspections are made of premises primarily for other purposes, as part of an integrated routine and a proportion of this work goes unrecorded. All newly-registered premises are inspected without avoidable delay.



## 2. Total Persons Employed in Classes of Work in Various Categories of Premises

	Office Work	Shop Work	Whole-sale Work	Cater-ing Work	Canteen Work	Total all Staff	Total Female Staff
Offices	1403 (1072)	11 (18)	51 (46)	2 (1)	11 (11)	1478 (1148)	594 (554)
Shops	111 (111)	1350 (1385)	62 (42)	7 (7)	11 (11)	1541 (1556)	1098 (1070)
Whole-salers	62 (65)	7 (7)	172 (193)	- (-)	2 (-)	243 (265)	58 (59)
Cater-ing	8 (4)	4 (9)	- (-)	147 (154)	- (7)	159 (174)	132 (144)
Total	1584 (1252)	1372 (1419)	285 (281)	156 (162)	24 (29)	3421 (3143)	1882 (1827)

(1969 Figures are given in brackets)

The number of persons employed can best be judged as a trend and the totals for any one year are approximate only, as the figures for only about one third of the premises will have been checked during the year. It is worth reminding oneself that the office figures do not include those employed in central or local government. Experience too suggests that there has been a considerable decrease in the number of persons employed full-time in shops but the above figures do not show this as there has been a marked increase in part-time labour.

## 3. Exemption Certificates

None are in operation and none were applied for.



#### 4. Extent of Compliance with the Various Sections of the Act

The tables are compiled from records of visits made to registered premises during the year. Several complaints were received of insufficient heating and informal steps were taken to secure improvement. The majority however, of contraventions of Section 6 (temperature), relate to failure to provide a thermometer and of Section 24 (first aid), for equipment to be not up to the prescribed standard. It should also be recorded that where plans showing alterations or new buildings are submitted for approval in connection with the Building Regulations they are perused, and informal approach made to ensure, as far as is practicable, that the Act is fully taken into account at that stage. Occupiers of premises generally co-operate very well in meeting the requirements of the Act so that no recourse has had to be made to court proceedings.

<u>(a) Offices</u>	<u>Satisfactory</u>	<u>Unsatisfactory</u> <u>Notices Served</u>	<u>Notices Complied With</u>
Cleanliness (Sec. 4)	38	-	-
Overcrowding (Sec. 5)	36	2	2
Temperature (Sec. 6)	32	6	5
Ventilation (Sec. 7)	35	3	-
Lighting (Sec. 8)	35	3	1
Sanitary Conveniences (Sec.9)	33	5	2
Washing fac. (Sec. 10)	37	1	2
Drinking fac. (Sec.11)	36	2	6
Accdn. Clothing (Sec.12)	36	2	3
Seats for Sedentary Work (Sec.14)	38	-	3
Safety floors, steps & stair-cases (Sec. 16)	36	2	5
Safety of Machines (Sec.17)	36	2	3
Risk of bodily injury or health etc. (Sec.22)	38	-	-
First Aid (Sec.24)	30	8	7
Abstracts (Sec.50)	27	11	4



	<u>Satisfactory</u>	<u>Unsatisfactory</u> <u>Notices</u> <u>Served</u>	<u>Notices</u> <u>Complied</u> <u>With</u>
<u>(b) Shops</u>			
Cleanliness (Sec.4)	82	-	-
Overcrowding (Sec.5)	81	1	-
Temperature (Sec.6)	64	18	6
Ventilation (Sec.7)	76	6	3
Lighting (Sec.8)	81	1	1
San. Conveniences (Sec.9)	73	9	2
Washing Fac. (Sec.10)	78	4	4
Drinking Fac. (Sec.11)	80	2	-
Accdn. Clothing (Sec.12)	80	2	2
Sitting Fac. (Sec.13)	32	-	2
Seats for Sedentary Work (Sec.14)	57	-	-
Meal Facilities (Sec.15)	20	2	2
Safety floors, steps & staircases (Sec.16)	78	4	4
Safety of Machines (Sec.17)	18	2	2
Heavy Loads (Sec. 23)	82	-	-
First Aid (Sec.24)	61	21	7
Abstracts (Sec.50)	60	22	6

(c) Wholesale Dept. or Warehouse

Cleanliness (Sec.4)	8	1	-
Overcrowding (Sec.5)	8	1	1
Temperature (Sec.6)	8	1	1
Ventilation (Sec.7)	9	-	-
Lighting (Sec.8)	9	-	-
San. Convenience (Sec.9)	9	-	-
Washing Fac. (Sec.10)	9	-	-
Drinking Fac. (Sec.11)	9	-	-
Accdn. Clothing (Sec.12)	9	-	-
Seats for Sedentary Work (Sec.14)	9	-	1
Safety floors, steps & staircases (Sec.16)	7	2	-
Safety of Machines (Sec.17)	9	-	-
Risk of bodily injury or health etc. (Sec.22)	9	-	-
Heavy Loads (Sec.23)	9	-	-
First Aid (Sec.24)	6	3	2
Abstracts (Sec.50)	8	1	2



<u>Satisfactory</u>	<u>Unsatisfactory</u>	<u>Notices</u>
<u>factory</u>	<u>factory</u>	<u>Complied</u>
	<u>Notices</u>	<u>With</u>
	<u>Served</u>	

(d) Catering Establishments (Public)

Cleanliness (Sec.44)	9	-	-
Overcrowding (Sec.5)	9	-	-
Temperature (Sec.6)	9	-	-
Ventilation (Sec.7)	9	-	-
Lighting (Sec.8)	8	1	-
San. Convenience (Sec.9)	7	2	1
Washing Fac. (Sec.10)	9	-	-
Accdn. Clothing (Sec.12)	9	-	-
Drinking Fac. (Sec.11)	9	-	-
Seats for Sedentary Work (Sec.14)	9	-	1
Safety floors, steps & staircases (Sec.16)	8	1	1
Safety of Machines (Sec.17)	7	2	-
Risk of bodily injury or health etc. (Sec.22)	9	-	-
Heavy Loads (Sec.23)	9	-	-
First Aid (Sec.24)	8	1	1
Abstracts	7	2	1



(1) Recorded by Workplace - Accidents

	Number Reported		Total No. Investigated	Action Recommended			
	Fatal	Non Fatal		Prose-cution	Formal Warning	Infor-mal Advice	No Action
Offices	-(-)	3(2)	2(1)	-	-	2(-)	1(2)
Retail Shops	-(-)	11(9)	2(2)	-	-	-(2)	11(7)
Wholesale Shops Warehouses	-(-)	1(1)	-(1)	-	-	-	1(1)
Catering establish- ments open to public, canteens	-(-)	1(-)	-( -)	-	-	-	1(-)
Fuel Storage Depot	-(-)	-( -)	-( -)	-	-	-	-
Total	-(-)	16(12)	4(3)	--	-	2(2)	14(10)

(Figures in brackets are those for 1969)



(2) Accidents Analysed by Cause

	Office	Retail Shops	Whole-sale Ware-houses	Catering Estabs. open to public, canteens
Machinery	- (-)	- (-)	- (-)	- (-)
Transport	- (-)	- (-)	1 (-)	- (-)
Falls of Persons	2 (2)	5 (4)	- (1)	- (-)
Stepping on or striking against object or persons	- (-)	1 (-)	- (-)	- (-)
Handling Goods	1 (-)	3 (5)	- (-)	1 (-)
Struck by falling object	- (-)	- (-)	- (-)	- (-)
Fires and explosions	- (-)	- (-)	- (-)	- (-)
Use of hand tools	- (-)	2 (-)	- (-)	- (-)
Not otherwise specified	- (-)	- (-)	- (-)	- (-)

(Figures in brackets are those for 1969)



## The Working of the Act

As reported last year, lift installations in premises affected by the Offices, Shops and Railway Premises (Hoists & Lifts) Regulations, 1968 have been inspected as part of the normal routine and all those examined have been found to comply with the requirements of the Regulations. When carrying out the statutory examination in two instances only, lift engineers reported defects in lifts and these were rectified. One feels this to be a particularly useful provision of the Regulations. The Regulations are obviously soundly based and no doubt the application of similar requirements to lifts in factories has paved the way for their implementation.

The guarding of food slicing machines is now well established for the home market. This does not apply however to small hand-operated slicers nor to a small power-driven slicer seen recently, introduced from abroad, for the catering trade. One can foresee the possibility of problems of guarding for imported appliances, especially should this country join the Common Market. The booklet entitled 'The Safe Use of Food Slicing Machines' published during the year by the Department of Employment and Productivity has been found to be very useful.

Finally, there is a need, in the absence of a safe installation code in my opinion, for Regulations governing the fitting of control devices on belt conveyors within the reach of the operatives at loading and take-off points, and the incorporation of other recognised safety features.











