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## Borough of Aylesbury

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PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT

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# ANNUAL REPORT

*ON THE HEALTH OF THE BOROUGH  
FOR THE YEAR 1956*

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M.B., CH.B., M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.P.H.

Barrister at Law,  
MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

W. EWART RUSE, A.R.S.H., F.A.P.H.I.  
BOROUGH PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR

HEALTH COMMITTEE.

(Constituted May, 1956)

Councillor T. Hutchison (Chairman)  
Alderman C. G. Cousins (Vice-Chairman)  
Councillor Glyn Davies (The Mayor)  
Councillor L. H. Goss (Deputy Mayor)  
Alderman F. C. Mayne  
Councillor P. Flower  
Councillor Mrs. F. G. Hinxman  
Councillor L. E. Purdom  
Councillor Mrs. K. M. White  
Councillor Mrs. P. E. Williams  
Councillor Mrs. Z. A. P. Williams

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STAFF OF THE PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT

John T. C. Sims-Roberts,

M.B., CH.B., M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.P.H.

Barrister at Law.

CHIEF PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR

W. Ewart Ruse, A.R.S.H., F.A.P.H.I.

ADDITIONAL PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTORS

Douglas Andrew, C.R.S.H.

Dennis W. Rixon, C.R.S.H.

CLERICAL STAFF

Colin Richardson

Eric W. J. Miller



## Borough of Aylesbury

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PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT,  
"FRIAR'S CROFT,"  
OXFORD ROAD,  
AYLESBURY.

*May, 1957.*

MR. MAYOR, ALDERMEN AND COUNCILLORS,

I have the honour to present the Annual Report on the health and vital statistics for the Borough of Aylesbury for the year 1956, together with the report of the Chief Public Health Inspector.

Included in the report are details of a third survey conducted in the Borough during May and June by the No. 1 Mass Radiography Unit at the Oxford Regional Hospital Board.

The total number of infectious diseases notified during the year was 238 and only 62 were treated in hospital.

There were five cases of Poliomyelitis notified, compared with forty-five last year, but none of the five occurred in the Borough. The single cases of Paratyphoid and Food Poisoning notified were only admitted to the Borough for treatment.

I am pleased to report that the two cases of Meningitis which were treated in hospital made a complete recovery. The increase in the number of Dysentery cases notified during the year was in a large measure due to an outbreak in a mental institution in the Borough.

The general standard of health in the town is good, and compares favourably with the rest of the country.

Excellent planning of the newer areas of the town will go far to ensure that this standard is maintained. Though not so grave a problem as in former years, suitable housing accommodation is still the need of many.

During the year two areas of condemned house property were confirmed as "clearance areas," in the centre of the town.

There are far too many houses of the older type with many years of life, lacking the modern amenities of bathrooms and suitable equipped kitchens and food stores. Every encouragement should be given in suitable cases towards the rescue of such properties so that the occupiers may enjoy the health promoting facilities afforded to dwellers in modern council houses.

It is my pleasant duty to thank the Mayor, Aldermen and Councillors for their support and guidance, and the staff of the Health Department for their splendid work throughout the year.

I am,

Your obedient Servant,

J. T. C. SIMS-ROBERTS.

M.B., CH.B., M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.P.H.

*Medical Officer of Health.*



## STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE AREA

Area ... ..	3,288 acres
Population (estimated mid 1956) ... ..	21,800
Number of inhabited houses (at end of 1956 according to Rate Books) ... ..	6,575
Rateable Value ... ..	£390,891
Sum represented by a penny rate ... ..	£1,493

## UNEMPLOYMENT.

At 31st December, 1955.	At 31st December, 1956.
34 women	35 women
30 men	40 men
—	—
64	75
—	—

## VITAL STATISTICS.

## BIRTHS.

*Live Births: —*

		M.	1955. F.	Total	M.	1956. F.	Total
Legitimate	...	178	141	319	179	172	351
Illegitimate	...	17	17	34	11	17	28
					1955.	1956.	
Rate per 1,000 estimated population	...				16.55	17.39	
Rate (corrected)	...	...	...	...	14.40	15.13	
Rate for England and Wales	...				15.0	15.7	

*Still Births: —*

	M.	F.	Total	M.	F.	Total
Legitimate ...	2	2	4	4	4	8
Illegitimate ...	—	—	—	—	2	2
Rate per 1,000 estimated population (live and still) births ... ..				1955. 16.74	1956. 17.84	

## DEATHS.

	M.	1955. F.	Total	M.	1956. F.	Total
Deaths ... ..	107	109	216	101	106	207
Rate per 1,000 estimated pop. ... ..				1955. 10.13	1956. 9.5	
Standardised Rate ... ..				10.84	9.22	
Rate for England and Wales ... ..				11.7	11.7	

*Death of infants under one year of age: —*

	1955.			1956.		
	M.	F.	Total	M.	F.	Total
Legitimate ...	2	4	6	3	2	5
Illegitimate ...	—	—	—	—	—	—

*Rate of infants under one year of age: —*

	1955.	1956.
All infants per 1,000 live births ...	17.00	13.19
Legitimate infants per 1,000 legitimate live births ...	18.81	14.25
Illegitimate infants per 1,000 illegitimate live births ...	—	—

*Deaths of infants under 4 weeks of age: —*

	1955.			1956.		
	M.	F.	Total	M.	F.	Total
Legitimate ...	1	2	3	2	2	4
Illegitimate ...	—	—	—	—	—	—

	1955.	1956.
Neo-Natal Mortality Rate per 1,000 births	8.50	10.55

## ANALYSIS OF DEATHS.

	M.	F.
Tuberculosis (Respiratory) ...	2	—
Syphilitic Disease ...	1	—
Malignant neoplasm, stomach ...	1	1
Malignant neoplasm, lung, bronchus ...	2	—
Malignant neoplasm, breast ...	—	1
Malignant neoplasm, uterus ...	—	2
Other malignant and lymphatic neoplasms ...	11	10
Leukaemia and Aleukaemia ...	3	—
Diabetes ...	—	1
Vascular lesions of nervous system ...	8	14
Coronary disease, angina ...	21	18
Hypertension with heart disease ...	2	5
Other heart disease ...	17	18
Other circulatory disease ...	5	9
Influenza ...	—	1
Pneumonia ...	6	6
Bronchitis ...	5	4
Ulcer of stomach and duodenum ...	3	—
Gastritis, enteritis and diarrhoea ...	1	1
Congenital malformations ...	1	—
Other defined and ill-defined diseases ...	10	9
All other accidents ...	1	4
Suicide ...	1	2
	<u>101</u>	<u>106</u>



## GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES.

### *Hospitals.*

During the year the Royal Bucks, Tindal General and Stoke Mandeville Hospitals have provided accommodation for surgical and medical cases whilst the Isolation Hospital continued to admit persons suffering from infectious diseases.

Stoke Mandeville Hospital also provided accommodation for para-plegic cases.

The above hospitals situated in the Borough are administered by the Royal Buckinghamshire and Associated Hospitals Management Committee who are responsible to the Oxford Regional Hospital Board.

### *Pathology Laboratory, Stoke Mandeville Hospital.*

Routine samples of milk, water and ice cream and other specimens requiring pathological examination are submitted to the above. When necessary the services of the Public Health Laboratories at Luton and Oxford are utilised.

### *Ambulance Services.*

Eight ambulances, including two sitting-case type, are stationed in Buckingham Street for use in the town and surrounding districts.

### *Maternity and Child Welfare.*

Infant Welfare Clinics are still held at Pebble Lane, Quarrendon Estate and Southcourt and controlled by the Bucks County Council.

### *Poliomyelitis Vaccination.*

The Bucks County Council control the vaccination of children against this disease. Vaccinations were commenced during the year among selected groups.

### *Diphtheria and Whooping Cough Immunisation.*

As the Local Health Authority, defined in the National Health Service Act, 1946, the Bucks County Council control the immunisation of children against these diseases.

### *Treatment of Venereal Disease.*

The Royal Buckinghamshire and Associated Hospitals Management Committee administer a clinic held regularly at the Royal Bucks Hospital for the treatment of the above disease.



## INFECTION DISEASE.

	Total notifications received.			Cases admitted to Isolation Hospital.	
	1955.	1956.		1955.	1956.
		Male.	Female.		
Measles ... ..	499	63	64	12	1
Whooping Cough ... ..	10	2	4	—	2
Dysentery ... ..	5	29	24	2	17
Pneumonia ... ..	—	3	2	—	3
Scarlet Fever ... ..	7	3	3	1	1
Puerperal Pyrexia ... ..	16	—	28	15	26
Poliomyelitis ... ..	45	3	2	45	5
Erysipelas ... ..	2	—	1	1	—
Food Poisoning ... ..	1	1	—	1	1
Paratyphoid B ... ..	1	—	1	1	1
Meningococcal Meningitis	—	1	1	—	2
Ophthalmac Neonatorum	—	2	1	—	3

*Incidence of Notifiable Diseases during the year with Analysis under Age Groups.*

[illegible]

## TUBERCULOSIS.

Age Groups.	New Cases			
	Respiratory.		Non-Respiratory.	
	M.	F.	M.	F.
0 — ... ..	—	—	—	—
1 — ... ..	—	—	—	—
5 — ... ..	1	—	—(1)	—
15 — ... ..	2(2)	1(3)	1	—
25 — ... ..	2(1)	—(9)	—	—
35 — ... ..	4(3)	1	—	—
45 — ... ..	3	—(1)	—	—
55 — ... ..	—	2	—	—
65 — and upwards	—	—	—	—
Age unknown ...	—	—	—	—
	12(6)	4(13)	1(1)	—

The figures in brackets denote the number of cases notified originally in other districts and who have moved into the Borough during the year.

The Isolation Hospital in Mandeville Road has a block containing 15 beds for the treatment of persons suffering from Tuberculosis.

The No. 1 (Northants) Mass Radiography Unit administered by the Oxford Regional Hospital Board provided facilities during the period of May to June for the X-ray examination of all residents in the area who wished to take advantage of the scheme.

The Unit made arrangements with local factories and offices for employees to attend during working hours.

It should be noted that the following details include the population of the Borough and also persons living in the district surrounding Aylesbury.

Percentage responses—Factories—Firms ... 81%  
 Schools ... 97%

Summary of Work.	Males.	Females.
Number of miniature films taken ...	5,019	4,198
Number of large films taken ... ..	150	101
Number recalled for clinical exam.	33	19
Number referred to chest clinic ...	21	8



*New cases discovered of significant Tuberculosis  
as a result of the Aylesbury Survey.*

Group.	Number X-rayed.	Active	Rate per thou.	Inactive.	Rate per thou.
Firms ... ..	5,528	6	1.09	3	.54
Schools ... ..	1,138	1	.87	—	—
General Public ... ..	2,551	3	1.18	2	.78

*SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES IN THE AREA.*

*Water Supply.*

The water supply of the Borough is obtained through the Bucks Water Board from wells situated at Dancers End, New Ground and Hawridge, which are on the Chiltern Hills.

Sampling has been carried out during the year by the Water Authority at their wells and also in the town. All samples were satisfactory.

Fifteen samples were taken and submitted for bacteriological examination by this Department from domestic sources in the Borough. Reports proved that the water was satisfactory in all cases.

All houses in the Borough are connected to the main supply and the quantity of water supplied to the town is adequate.

*Drainage and Sewerage.*

The drainage and sewerage of the Borough is partially on the separate system with surface water from streets and buildings being discharged to water courses, all post-war development is on this system, and partially on the combined system where all surface water discharged into the sewers is treated at the Sewage Disposal Works.

*Public Cleansing.*

Refuse disposal is carried out completely by controlled tipping, which is giving very satisfactory results. Salvage collection is made before and after tipping of the refuse.

The collection of refuse is done by modern dustless loading types of vehicles and both this service and that of street cleansing continues to be operated in an efficient manner. The maintenance of sufficient labour for this work is still difficult, particularly for the cleansing of streets.

*Open-Air Swimming Pool, Park Street.*

The water in the pool circulates continuously throughout the period of use, being filtered and chlorinated before re-introduction to the swimming pool.



Ten samples of water taken during the summer months and submitted for examination were satisfactory.

*Slipper Baths, Bourbon Street.*

The slipper baths continued to be used and their condition throughout the year has been satisfactory.

*Eradication of Bed Bugs.*

The number of rooms requiring disinfection was seven.

*Schools.*

The water supply and sanitary accommodation to all schools in the Borough are adequate.

*Local Rainfall.*

January ...	3.18 ins.	July ...	3.34 ins.
February ...	0.31 ins.	August ...	3.69 ins.
March ...	1.07 ins.	September ..	2.35 ins.
April ...	1.25 ins.	October ...	1.84 ins.
May ...	0.26 ins.	November ...	0.78 ins.
June ...	1.81 ins.	December ...	2.78 ins.

Total rainfall for the year ... 22.66 inches.

(Figures supplied by Mr. J. D. Dugdale, Borough Engineer and Surveyor).

Mr. Dugdale stated that rain fell on 138 days during the year, compared with 137 in 1955. Of the high recordings those for January (highest since 1948), July (highest since 1950) and August (second highest since 1928) have been exceeded only some half a dozen times in the last 50 years. Of the low recordings that for May was the lowest in 50 years whilst those for February and November were the third lowest for those months during that period. The highest daily recordings occurred on 8th July—1.26 ins., 2nd October—0.82 ins. and on 6th September—0.73 ins.

## INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD.

### (a) *Milk Supply.*

Messrs. Nesmilk Ltd., and the Aylesbury Co-operative Society are licensed by the Bucks County Council to pasteurise milk in the Borough. Both carry out this treatment on a large scale and their premises are equipped with "holder" type plants.

The Bucks County Council carry out sampling of this milk at the plants to ensure that it is being efficiently heat treated.

Forty-five samples of milk were taken in course of delivery to the consumer during the year, with the following results: —



Grade.	Samples Taken.	Complied with Regulations.	Test Inconclusive.
Tuberculin Tested ...	24	16	3
Tuberculin Tested Pasteurised ... ..	6	6	—
Pasteurised ... ..	15	15	—

There were five unsatisfactory "Tuberculin Tested" samples taken during the year. In all cases follow-up samples eventually proved satisfactory.

(b) *Meat and Other Foods.*

*Carcases Inspected and Condemned.*

	Cattle excluding Cows	Cows	Calves	Sheep and Lambs	Pigs
Number killed and inspected	3,208	353	1,078	12,519	4,361
<i>All Diseases except Tuberculosis.</i>					
Whole carcases condemned	—	4	3	4	4
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	812	32	1	152	256
Percentage of number inspected affected with disease other than Tuberculosis	25.31%	10.20%	.37%	1.25%	5.96%
<i>Tuberculosis only.</i>					
Whole carcases condemned	1	6	—	—	—
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	183	38	—	—	48
Percentage of number inspected affected with Tuberculosis ... ..	5.74%	12.46%	—	—	1.10%
<i>Cysticercus Bovis.</i>					
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	5	—	—	—	—
Carcases submitted for treatment by refrigeration ...	5	—	—	—	—
Generalised and totally condemned ... ..	—	—	—	—	—

Thirteen licences were issued to slaughtermen during the year.

## FACTORIES AND WORKPLACES.

Informal action has been taken where necessary under the provisions of the Factories Act, 1937, and the Public Health Act, 1936, to remedy contraventions of the requirements of these Acts in mechanical and non-mechanical factories and workplaces.

### ADMINISTRATION OF THE FACTORIES ACT, 1937.

#### 1. Inspections for the purposes of provision as to health.

Premises.	Inspections.	Number of Written Notices.	Occupiers Prosecuted.
Factories without mechanical power Factories with mechanical power	34	1	—

#### 2. Defects found.

	Found.	Remedied.	Referred by H.M. Inspector.
Sanitary Conveniences (Sec.7). Unsuitable or defective ... ..	1	1	1

#### *Outwork in unwholesome premises.*

There are seven outworkers' premises in the town, all of which are in a satisfactory condition.



# ANNUAL REPORT OF THE BOROUGH PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR.

PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT,  
"FRIAR'S CROFT,"  
OXFORD ROAD,  
AYLESBURY.

MR. MAYOR, ALDERMEN AND COUNCILLORS,

I have the honour to present the Annual Report on the work of the Public Health Department during the year 1956.

## *Housing.*

The inspection of the two remaining areas for Slum Clearance was completed during the year, and the second area, the Cambridge Place Clearance Area, containing 10 houses, was reported to Committee in February, and following an appeal against this Order, which was later withdrawn, both this and the George Street Clearance Area Order were confirmed later in the year. The third area comprising houses in Cambridge Street between Upper Hundreds and St. John's Road will be reported to the Committee during the ensuing year.

In addition to the Clearance Area procedure referred to above, 4 houses were closed for human habitation under the provisions of the Housing Acts.

No certificates of disrepair under the Housing Repairs and Rents Act, 1954, were applied for during the year.

General work carried out under the Housing Acts is detailed in the following table.

No. of houses inspected ... ..	61
Visits paid to above houses ...	182
Informal Notices served ... ..	19
Statutory Notices served ... ..	8
Houses repaired: —	
By owners ... ..	18
By the Borough Council in default ... ..	2

## *Overcrowding.*

Ten complaints of overcrowding were received and investigated during the year and referred to the Housing Department for assistance.



*Disinfestation.*

Two cases of bed bug infestation were reported during the year, and although this shows a 100% increase over the previous year, I feel there is no cause for alarm, and we can still anticipate the time when the town will be free of such vermin. The use of modern synthetic insecticides continues to give effective control over these pests.

*Public Health Act.*

The following is a summary of the work carried out under the above Act.

The majority of Statutory Notices under this Act dealt with repairs to sewers under Section 24 of the Act, which are carried out by the Council, the costs being recovered from the owners of the properties served.

No. of houses inspected ... ..	26
Visits paid to above houses ...	26
Drainage visits ... ..	332
Nuisances found ... ..	5
Nuisances abated ... ..	3
Informal notices served ... ..	4
Statutory notices served ...	6

All the notices were complied with.

*Food.**Slaughterhouses.*

Slaughtering again followed the usual pattern, although there was a slight drop in the kill in the 2nd quarter of the year as compared with the first. It will be noted that the total kill for the year increased by 50% and this is reflected in the increased amount of overtime spent on meat inspection.

Following on an outbreak of swine fever at a large pig farm in the rural district, and outbreaks of foot and mouth disease in the neighbourhood, two of the slaughterhouses were forced, as an emergency measure, to slaughter on a number of Sundays. As these were emergency slaughterings, no action was taken against the slaughter-house proprietors.

The increase in the number of cows killed in the last quarter of the year, and to some extent the increase in the number of carcasses condemned for tuberculosis, are accounted for by the fact that the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food intensified their activities with regard to the inspection of animals in connection with the Tuberculosis Eradication Scheme, and an increased number of reactors was sent to the slaughterhouses in consequence.



One hundred per cent inspection has been maintained and this has entailed 1,017 visits to slaughterhouses and the working of some 325 hours of overtime.

The number of animals slaughtered and results of inspections are shown in the following tables.

*Number of animals slaughtered and inspected during the year:—*

Quarter	Cows	Other Cattle	Calves	Sheep	Pigs	Total
1st	96	761	260	2,361	1,286	4,764
2nd	55	727	200	2,169	1,097	4,248
3rd	72	777	241	3,635	809	5,534
4th	130	943	377	4,354	1,169	6,973
Totals	353	3,208	1,078	12,519	4,361	21,519

*Tables showing Condemned Organs of Animals.*

## CATTLE.

	Head	Tongue	Liver	Lungs	Heart	Spleen	Kidneys	Udder	Skirt
Distoma Hepaticum ...			704						
Cavernous Angioma ...			3						
Actinomycosis ...	4	5							
Actinobacillosis ...	6	7							
Tuberculosis ...	85	85	30	151	6	6	2	1	5
Cystic ...			7	8		2			
Cysticercus Bovis	6	6			1				
Inflammation ...				13	5	7		1	
Congestion ...				4					
Abscessed ...			60	4			2		
Fatty Change ...			2						
Adhesions ...						1			
Tumoured ...			3	4					
Pericarditis ...					1				
Parasitic ...			1						
Fasciolae ...				3					

*Carcases Condemned (including all offal).*

Generalised T.B. ... ..	7
Oedema ... ..	1
Emaciation ... ..	1
Dropsy and Emaciation ... ..	1
Dropsical ... ..	1
Total ...	11

In addition to the above, 6 carcasses were found to be affected with *Cysticercus Bovis* and transferred to cold storage before being released for human consumption.

**SHEEP.**

	Liver.	Pluck.	Lungs.	Heart.
Distoma Hepaticum ...	114			
Parasitic ... ..	30			
Fatty Change ... ..	1			
Pneumonia ... ..		1	3	1
Cystic ... ..	1			
Abscessed ... ..		1		

*Carcases Condemned (incl. all offal).*

Fevered ... ..	1
Septic Pneumonia ... ..	2
Dropsy and Bruised ... ..	1
Total ...	4

**PIGS.**

	Head & Tongue	Liver	Lungs	Heart	Kidney	Pluck
Tuberculosis ...	45					2
Inflammation ...		2	26	44		4
Cirrhosis ... ..		3				
Congestion ... ..			11			
Pneumonia ... ..			102	2		2
Parasitic ... ..		46				2
Cystic ... ..					3	
Pericarditis ... ..				2		1
Nephritis ... ..					1	
Pleurisy ... ..			1			
Haemorrhagic ...			1		8	
Fatty change ...		3				
Hydronephrosis ...					2	



*Carcases Condemned (incl. all offal).*

Septic Peritonitis ... ..	1
Swine Erysipelas ... ..	1
Moribund ... ..	1
Septic Pyaemia ... ..	1
Total ...	4

## CALVES.

	Pluck
Pneumonia ... ..	1

*Carcases Condemned (incl. all offal).*

Septic Pneumonia ...	1
Immature ... ..	1
Pericarditis and Uraemia	1
Total ...	3

*Weight of Condemned Meat and Offal.*

	Lbs.
Cow Beef ... ..	5,304
Cow Offal ... ..	866
Other Beef ... ..	4,325
Other Bovine Offal ... ..	10,621
Pork ... ..	1,384
Pork Offal ... ..	1,972
Mutton ... ..	277
Mutton Offal ... ..	1,258
Veal ... ..	183
Veal Offal ... ..	4
Total ...	26,194

Total: 11 tons 13 cwts. 98 lbs.

Thirteen slaughtermen's licences were issued during the year.

The following foodstuffs were surrendered and disposed of from wholesale and retail premises in the Borough: —

	Weight		Number
	Lbs.	Ozs.	
Cheese ... ..	109	4	—
Fresh Meat ... ..	861	12	—
Tinned Vegetables ...	405	12	338
„ Fruit ... ..	759	6	579
„ Meat ... ..	429	5	238
„ Fish ... ..	49	1	49
„ Milk ... ..	153	8	100
Preserves ... ..	125	4	859
Miscellaneous ... ..	37	8	147
Total ...	2,930	12	2,310

Total Foodstuffs condemned during the year: —

Meat and Offal ... ..	11 tons.	13 cwts.	98 lbs.	— ozs.
Various Foodstuffs ...	1 ton.	6 cwts.	18 lbs.	12 ozs.
Total ...	13 tons.	— cwts.	4 lbs.	12 ozs.

Disposal of condemned food is left to the retailer.

#### *Milk and Dairies.*

As reported last year, Aylesbury is now a Designated Area in which only Tuberculin Tested, Pasteurised or Sterilised Milk may be sold, such milk being bottled, in the main, at the place of production. In consequence very few dairymen now bottle milk, and the need of supervision from this angle is less than previously.

Milk producers are licensed and controlled by the County Agricultural Committee, acting as agents for the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food, while the firms pasteurising milk are licensed by the County Council as the Food and Drugs Authority.

Three visits were paid to dairies during the year to ensure that the premises were maintained in clean and hygienic conditions, and the sampling of milk in course of



delivery was maintained to ensure that the milk conformed to the required standards. The results of these samples are contained in the Report of the Medical Officer of Health.

No action against milk retailers for contravention of the Regulation was necessary during the year.

Licences under the Milk (Special Designation) Regulations, 1949, were issued as follows: —

*"Tuberculin Tested" and "Pasteurised" Licences: —*

W. Cartwright & Son, 61 Buckingham Street, Aylesbury.  
 F. J. Child, 156 Cambridge Street, Aylesbury.  
 T. Elliott, 41 Market Square, Aylesbury.  
 G. W. Warner, 56 Victoria Street, Aylesbury.  
 L. J. Evett & Co., 99 Park Street, Aylesbury.  
 W. Hodgkins, 87 Wendover Road, Aylesbury.  
 Hornby & Clarke Ltd., Princes Street, Richmond.  
 J. Lisley & Son, 83 Tring Road, Aylesbury.  
 A. T. Piggott, 139 Wendover Road, Aylesbury.  
 A. Willis, 3 Tindal Road, Aylesbury.  
 H. H. Willis, 2 Ascott Road, Aylesbury.  
 W. H. Willis, 6 Manor Drive, Aylesbury.  
 Nestle Co. Ltd., High Street, Aylesbury.  
 S. Hall, 24C High Street, Aylesbury.  
 A. Tilbrook, 125 Oxford Road, Aylesbury.

*"Tuberculin Tested" Licences only: —*

Aylesbury Co-operative Society Ltd., High Street, Aylesbury.  
 Nesmilk Ltd., High Street, Aylesbury.

*"Sterilised" Licences: —*

A. T. Piggott, 139 Wendover Road, Aylesbury.  
 Hornby & Clarke Ltd., Princes Street, Richmond.

Two producers of "Tuberculin Tested" Milk licensed by the Milk Regulations Officer, County Farm, Stoke Mandeville, retail milk in the Borough: —

F. J. Davis & Son, Old House Farm, Bierton.  
 R. S. Pearce, Stoke Farm, Stoke Mandeville.

*Ice Cream.*

Eighty-eight premises are registered for the sale of ice-cream, and in the majority of cases pre-packed ice-cream made by one of the large wholesale firms is sold. Only one person manufactured ice-cream in the Borough, and in this case a cold mix ice-cream using previously heat treated ingredients was produced.

As most of the ice-cream sold in the Borough comes from some four wholesale firms, it would be mere repetition to take samples from all the retailers. 20 samples were



submitted for analysis during the year and all proved satisfactory. 22 visits were paid to registered premises.

*Food Shops, Restaurants, etc.*

The visits made to food shops, restaurants and food preparing premises for the purpose of examining foodstuffs and observing the compliance with or breach of the requirements of Food and Drugs Act, Regulations and Bye-Laws are set out in the following table. There is an increase in the number of visits paid to restaurants and food preparing premises, and the general standard of cleanliness and hygiene is good and no statutory action was necessary during the year. Continual vigilance is needed in this field to ensure that the standards are maintained, and that the facilities provided by the owners are properly used by the employees.

Market Stalls ... ..	500
Grocers ... ..	102
Butchers ... ..	42
Restaurants ... ..	36
Fishmongers ... ..	4
Food Preparing Premises ...	22

*Clean Food Campaign.*

In view of the fact that most of the aims of the Guild and Codes of Practice evolved by the Guild were covered by the Food Hygiene Regulations, the members of the Aylesbury Hygienic Food Traders Guild, at a special meeting, decided that there was no point in continuing the Guild and decided to disband. In doing so they expressed the view that the Guild had been worthwhile, and had prepared members in advance for the legislation which was now in force. No future item will appear in my report under this heading unless a special campaign or exhibition is held in the future.

*Water Supply.*

Every house in the Borough is supplied with piped water obtained from the Chiltern Hills by the Bucks Water Board.

The standard of bacterial purity of the water remained satisfactory. 15 samples taken during the year satisfied the standards laid down by the Ministry of Health.

*Prevention of Damage by Pests Act.*

This section of the department's duties continues on much the same level from year to year. As stated in pre-







*Factories Act, 1937.*

Mechanical factories on register requiring visiting ... ..	67
Non mechanical factories on register requiring visiting ...	23
Visits paid to Factories ... ..	34

*Shops Act, 1950.*

All shops in the Borough continue to close at hours earlier than those allowed in the Act, and no action was necessary against any shopkeeper for non-compliance with the Shops Act.

*Petroleum.*

Licences issued for storage of Petroleum Spirit and Mixtures	66
Licences issued for storage of Carbide of Calcium ... ..	1
Inspections of Petrol and Carbide Stores ... ..	58

Quantity licensed to be stored: —

Petroleum Spirit ... ..	134,794 galls.
Petroleum Mixtures ... ..	1,455 galls.
Carbide of Calcium ... ..	300 lbs.
Total of Licence Fees	£50/10/0d.

*Public Conveniences.*

The public conveniences in the town continue to attract the attention of misplaced energy and artistic ability of certain misguided, one is tempted to call them mentally defective, persons, but in spite of this the general standard of cleanliness and efficiency has been maintained.

Difficulty is encountered in times of illness and during holiday periods, when owing to lack of staff, the attendants have to work on occasions 3 and 4 weeks without any days off duty. At one time it was possible to obtain temporary help from the Borough Surveyor's staff, but this avenue is now closed, and the problem is sometimes acute.

The conveniences in the High Street, Old Stoke Road and at the Cattle Market continue to be kept open all night.

318 inspections of conveniences were made during the year.



*Miscellaneous.*

Other work of the Department not covered by any of the previous headings include the following: —

Miscellaneous Sanitary Visits ... ..	248
Interviews ... ..	537
Complaints received and investigated ...	102
Infected house visits ... ..	48
Smoke observations ... ..	15
Moveable Dwellings inspected ... ..	22
Marine Stores visits ... ..	8

*New Legislation.*

Two new Acts of Parliament affecting the Department came into force during the year. The first, the Clean Air Act, 1956, received the Royal Assent on July 5th and comes into force on a date to be appointed. In addition to consolidating and amending the law regarding smoke emissions from factories, it enables Local Authorities to control the smoke from domestic buildings by the setting up of Smoke Control Areas. This work will throw an increased burden on the Department, and I have already intimated that I propose to attempt to obtain the Smoke Inspectors Certificate of the Royal Society of Health in order to be better fitted to deal with the subject.

The second Act was the Sanitary Inspectors (Change of Designation) Act, 1956, which received the Royal Assent on August 2nd and had the effect of changing "Sanitary Inspector" overnight into "Public Health Inspector." The view has been expressed in many quarters that the mountain (Parliament) laboured and brought forth a mouse, but if I may be allowed to express a personal opinion I feel that the small amount of Parliamentary time spent on this measure was justified. The original title of officers in this department was Inspector of Nuisances, and this in fact was the designation under which my predecessor Mr. Alfred Lee was appointed here in 1909. This designation was later changed to Sanitary Inspector, when the word Sanitary had a wider meaning in the public mind than it has to-day. Over the years the meaning of the word has changed and to-day to the vast majority of people it conveys little more than a certain type of fitting connected with the smallest room in the house. Such people often expressed surprise that the Sanitary Inspector should concern himself with such things as meat and food inspections,

infectious disease investigation and similar matters, but that the Public Health Inspector should control these and the many other matters with which the Department is concerned is obvious to all. Finally it is surely logical that the technical officer of the Public Health Department should be the Public Health Inspector.

There has been no change of staff during the year, and the work of the Department has continued smoothly and efficiently.

In conclusion I would again like to express my thanks to the Members of the Council and Health Committee for their continued help and confidence, to members of my staff for their co-operation and support and to my fellow officers for advice and assistance, and particularly to thank everybody for their sympathy and consideration shown to me during the illness of my wife.

I am,

Mr. Mayor, Aldermen and Councillors,

Your obedient Servant,

W. EWART RUSE, F.A.P.H.I., A.R.S.H.  
*Borough Public Health Inspector.*



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their continued help and confidence in members of my staff  
for their co-operation and support and to my fellow officers  
for advice and assistance and particularly in thank every  
one for their courtesy and consideration shown to me  
during the period of my visit.

