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**Contributors**

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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 1966

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B.A., M.B., B.CH., D.P.H.,  
MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

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DEPUTY MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

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



**HEALTH COMMITTEE**  
**(Constituted May, 1966)**

Alderman D. B. Harrison (Chairman)  
Councillor B. G. Hyde (Vice-Chairman)  
Alderman G. Davies, J.P. (Mayor)  
Councillor C. G. Cousins, J.P. (Deputy Mayor)  
Alderman H. D. Smith  
Councillor Mrs. Clarke  
Councillor H. Cordery  
Councillor Mrs. Hindley  
Councillor R. S. Pearce  
Councillor Mrs. Roberts  
Councillor B. G. L. Switzer

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**STAFF OF THE PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT**  
**MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH**

A. W. Pringle, B.A., M.B., B.CH., D.P.H.

**DEPUTY MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH**

G. F. Slocombe, M.B., B.S., L.R.C.P., M.R.C.S., D.P.H.

**CHIEF PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR**

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

**SENIOR ADDITIONAL PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR**

Douglas Andrew, C.R.S.H., M.A.P.H.I.

**ADDITIONAL PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTORS**

Dennis W. Rixon, C.R.S.H.  
Kenneth E. Evans, C.R.S.H., M.A.P.H.I., H.N.D.(Bldg.)

**CLERICAL STAFF**

Miss V. Slingsbury  
Miss V. Fowler



THE STATE OF TEXAS,  
COUNTY OF DALLAS.

I, the undersigned, Judge of the County of Dallas, do hereby certify that the within and foregoing is a true and correct copy of the original of the same as the same appears from the records of the County of Dallas.

WITNESSED my hand and seal of office at Dallas, Texas, this 1st day of January, 1901.

JOHN W. BROWN, Judge of the County of Dallas.

Attest my hand and seal of office at Dallas, Texas, this 1st day of January, 1901.

JOHN W. BROWN, Judge of the County of Dallas.

Attest my hand and seal of office at Dallas, Texas, this 1st day of January, 1901.

JOHN W. BROWN, Judge of the County of Dallas.

# Borough of Aylesbury

PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT,  
TOWN HALL, AYLESBURY

June, 1967

MR. MAYOR, ALDERMEN AND COUNCILLORS,

An examination of the health statistics for the year does not suggest that there are any important trends or disturbing factors. On other occasions I have drawn attention to the limitations of the statistics as they are required to be presented in annual reports, concerning themselves as they do mainly with births and deaths. It is also worth noting that when dealing with small numbers a small increase or decrease can give rise to a sharp difference in the rate. An example of this is the rise from 14.93 deaths of illegitimate infants per 1,000 illegitimate births in 1965, to 50.85 for this year, which is caused by two more deaths of illegitimate infants.

I commented last year on the high percentage of illegitimate births, and I am pleased to report that there is a decrease this year.

Of the main groups of diseases causing death, malignant tumours accounted for 23% and degenerative disease of the heart and blood vessels 37%. There are sixteen deaths due to motor and other accidents.

## Food Hygiene

Periodic inspections of hotels, restaurants and food shops in the Borough were continued throughout the year. It is not always understood that the function of these visits is not simply to enforce the Food Hygiene Regulations, but also to educate people working in the industry by explaining on the spot why certain safeguards must be applied.

A further course on food hygiene for people employed in the food industry was held at the Aylesbury College of Further Education. Since these courses started 72 people have completed courses, and 20 of these have successfully taken the examination for the Certificate of the Royal Institute of Public Health and Hygiene.

## Tuberculosis

The table below shows that there was a small increase in the tuberculosis rate during 1966:—



### New Cases

<i>Year</i>	<i>Population</i>	<i>Total</i>	<i>Respiratory</i>	<i>Rate per 1,000 of Population</i>
1956	21,800	17	16	0.73
1957	22,360	16	14	0.63
1958	22,960	16	11	0.48
1959	23,580	22	17	0.72
1960	24,410	12	6	0.25
1961	27,040	5	5	0.18
1962	29,090	10	7	0.24
1963	31,030	17	15	0.48
1964	32,510	9	7	0.22
1965	33,680	9	6	0.11
1966	34,380	11	8	0.23

Looking back to 1963, when there was a sharp reversal of the downward trend, almost half the cases notified during that year were immigrants from either Pakistan or Italy. Last year only two of the eleven cases notified were immigrants from these countries, and it is probable that this reduced proportion reflects the more restrictive policy at present applied to immigration.

Fifty-six immigrants gave Aylesbury addresses at the port of disembarkation, and the Health Visitors visited these addresses, but were not always successful in finding the immigrants. The purpose of the visits is to explain the existing health services and, in particular, to encourage early registration with general practitioners

### Venereal Disease

Figures obtained from the Royal Bucks Hospital of persons living in Aylesbury and attending the special clinic show a slight increase on the previous year. There were eight new cases of syphilis and twenty-five new cases of gonorrhoea. Other venereal diseases showed an increase also.

There was a rapid decline in the national statistics following the war time peak, and hopeful views about the conquest of venereal disease were expressed. However, in recent years the number of persons infected annually has been showing an increase in spite of propaganda on television and by poster campaigns. I have been having discussions on venereal disease with groups of school leavers, and my impression is that they have found these interesting and helpful. Since the trend is towards an increased incidence amongst the late teenage and early twenties group, this approach to the problem seems worth trying.

### Notifiable diseases

There was an outbreak of a mild form of smallpox (*variola minor*) in the west Midlands and south Wales which started in June. Because of the difficulty which is sometimes experienced in differentiating this disease from chickenpox, general practitioners were asked to let me know of any cases of chickenpox presenting unusual or suspicious features. A few such cases were seen by me, but happily suspicions proved unfounded.



The outbreak of sonnei dysentery, which I reported on in my last Annual Report, continued into 1966 with a peak of 92 cases notified during March. Thereafter, it died out rapidly. In spite of all the visiting and specimens taken for bacteriological reports, I am left with the disheartening impression that the outbreak was not shortened by one day due to our efforts. The initial number of cases notified (74 during the last three weeks of December, 1965) was too great to allow control by the usual methods, but at least the schools only suffered to a very minor degree, due, perhaps, to strict exclusion of cases until cleared bacteriologically. I can only hope that my remarks on the subject of personal hygiene contained in last year's Annual Report will have made an impact. At least those who suffered from this unpleasant disease are unlikely to forget them. My thanks are due to the general practitioners in the Borough for their ready co-operation. The following incident is reported to illustrate how early action can control a limited outbreak.

On 11th May, 1966, cases of sonnei dysentery were reported from The Orchard Reception Home for Children, Aylesbury. Those affected were the house-parents and two of their children, also one of the inmates, a boy of three years. After treatment three specimens were taken from each and found to be negative.

From enquiries it was found that another staff member had recently had symptoms suggestive of dysentery, and it was decided to exclude her from food and child handling duties until such time as she could be investigated. She was found to be a case of sonnei dysentery, and responded to treatment.

Clearance specimens were taken from all the other eighteen inmates of the Home and two boys, each 8 years old, were found to be carriers of the germ. They were given a course of treatment. One was discharged from the Home before clearance and later followed up, and the other had three specimens taken for clearance. No pathogens were found in the remaining sixteen. One swab was considered sufficient for the children over 5 years old and the remainder of staff; but for the two children under 5 years three consecutive specimens were taken. No further cases arose.

There was a severe measles epidemic during the year. Of the four hundred and nine cases notified, one hundred and sixteen occurred in children under the age of 2 years. This is the age group which is more prone to develop complications, especially if the infant is unhealthy for any other reason. Although early treatment with the antibiotic group of drugs may cure complications such as ear and chest infections, their complete avoidance will not be achieved until a satisfactory measles vaccine is available for general immunisation of the child population.

### **Diseases acquired from pet animals**

I think it is worth writing on this subject because over the years there have been a number of cases, some serious, of diseases acquired from domestic pets. It is often difficult to prove bacteriologically the exact mode of transmission of these diseases, but there is no doubt that they can be and are transmitted to humans. A list of them would serve no useful purpose here, but some remarks about precautions which should be taken to avoid risk of infection are well worth recording.



All sick animals should be seen by a veterinary surgeon, and discharges and excretions should be treated as possibly infectious. The same applies to any skin ailment. Hands should be carefully washed after handling a sick animal.

Puppies and kittens should be "wormed" when about one month old, and again at six months. The mother herself should also be "wormed" during the time she is feeding.

Never allow food to remain unprotected from animals. Raw meat intended for animals should be kept well away from food for human consumption. It is unwise to buy raw meat for pets which has been declared unfit for human consumption, because it may be infected with food poisoning germs which, although harmless to the animal, may be excreted by it. If you are going to prepare food after handling a pet, wash your hands.

Do not allow animal excreta to remain where young children play, and protect sandpits in particular.

An increasing number of exotic animals, such as monkeys and birds, are being imported as pets. It would be sensible to consult a veterinary surgeon before acquiring any of these.

Lastly, there is no point in having a pet unless you are prepared to see that it is kept fit and well. A neglected animal is often an unhealthy animal.

I would like to thank the members of the Committee for their continued advice and support throughout the year, and the Borough Public Health Inspector and all members of the Public Health Department for their willing co-operation at all times.

I am,

Your obedient Servant,

A. W. PRINGLE,

B.A., M.B., B.CH., D.P.H.,

Medical Officer of Health



## STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE AREA

Area .. .. .	3,594 acres
Population (estimated mid-1966) .. .. .	34,380
Number of inhabited houses (at end of 1966 according to Rate Books) .. .. .	10,506
Rateable Value .. .. .	£2,076,702
Sum represented by a penny rate .. .. .	£8,626

### VITAL STATISTICS BIRTHS

#### Live Births:—

			1965			1966		
			M	F	Total	M	F	Total
Legitimate .. .. .			351	358	709	416	346	762
Illegitimate .. .. .			34	33	67	32	27	59
			1965			1966		
Rate per 1,000 population .. .. .						23.04		23.88
Rate (corrected) .. .. .						19.58		20.30
Rate for England and Wales .. .. .						18.1		17.7
Illegitimate live births (per cent of total live births) ..						8.63		7.19

#### Still Births:—

			1965			1966		
			M	F	Total	M	F	Total
Legitimate .. .. .			2	4	6	6	8	14
Illegitimate .. .. .			1	2	3	—	1	1
			1965			1966		
Rate per 1,000 total live and still births .. .. .						11.46		17.94

### DEATHS

			1965			1966		
			M	F	Total	M	F	Total
Deaths .. .. .			160	129	289	184	123	307
			1965			1966		
Rate per 1,000 population .. .. .						8.58		8.93
Standardised Rate .. .. .						11.58		11.70
Rate for England and Wales .. .. .						11.5		11.7

#### Deaths of infants under one year of age:—

			1965			1966		
			M	F	Total	M	F	Total
Legitimate .. .. .			7	4	11	6	5	11
Illegitimate .. .. .			—	1	1	—	3	3

#### Death rate of infants under one year of age:—

			1965	1966
All infants per 1,000 live births .. .. .			15.46	17.05
Legitimate infants per 1,000 legitimate live births ..			15.51	14.44
Illegitimate infants per 1,000 illegitimate live births ..			14.93	50.85
Infant Mortality Rate for England and Wales ..			19.0	19.0



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

			1965			1966		
			M	F	Total	M	F	Total
Legitimate .. ..			5	2	7	6	3	9
Illegitimate .. ..			—	1	1	—	3	3
Neo-Natal Mortality Rate per 1,000 total live births						1965		1966
						10.31		14.62

### Deaths of infants under 1 week of age:—

			1965			1966		
			M	F	Total	M	F	Total
Legitimate .. ..			4	2	6	6	3	9
Illegitimate .. ..			—	1	1	—	3	3
Early Neo-Natal Mortality Rate (deaths under 1 week per 1,000 total live births)						1965		1966
						9.02		14.62
Perinatal Mortality Rate (still births and deaths under 1 week per 1,000 total live and still births)						20.38		32.30

### Maternal Mortality:—

Number of deaths (including abortion)	..	..	—	—
Rate per 1,000 total live and still births	..	..	—	—

### ANALYSIS OF DEATHS

	M	F
Malignant neoplasm, stomach .. ..	4	7
Malignant neoplasm, lung, bronchus .. ..	14	2
Malignant neoplasm, breast .. ..	—	6
Malignant neoplasm, uterus .. ..	—	1
Other malignant and lymphatic neoplasms .. ..	29	7
Leukaemia, aleukaemia .. ..	—	1
Diabetes .. ..	—	5
Vascular lesions of nervous systems .. ..	8	20
Coronary disease, angina .. ..	39	14
Hypertension with heart disease .. ..	4	1
Other heart disease .. ..	13	14
Other circulatory disease .. ..	5	10
Influenza .. ..	1	—
Pneumonia .. ..	10	4
Bronchitis .. ..	13	5
Other diseases of respiratory system .. ..	5	2
Ulcer of stomach and duodenum .. ..	1	—
Gastritis, enteritis and diarrhoea .. ..	2	—
Hyperplasia of prostate .. ..	1	—
Other infective and parasitic diseases .. ..	1	—



Congenital malformations	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	2
Other defined and ill-defined diseases	..	..	..	..	..	..	19	17
Motor vehicle accidents	..	..	..	..	..	..	8	2
All other accidents	..	..	..	..	..	..	4	2
Suicide	..	..	..	..	..	..	2	1
							<hr/> 184	<hr/> 123

## 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 paraplegic 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 ice cream and water and other specimens requiring bacteriological examination were sent to this Laboratory throughout the year. Reports were received with the minimum delay, and the help and advice given by the Medical Director were much appreciated.

### Ambulance Services

These are provided by the Bucks County Council, and are under the direction of the County Medical Officer. Ten ambulances and four dual purpose vehicles were available at the Ambulance Headquarters, Buckingham Road, for use in the Borough and surrounding districts. In addition, there is also a convertible 'ambulance car' for the carrying of sitting or stretcher cases who have to be conveyed by road over long distances. There is two-way radio link between all vehicles and Headquarters.

The majority of long distance journeys are carried out by train, stretcher cases being accommodated in reserved compartments. All casualties in the Borough are conveyed to the Casualty Department of the Royal Bucks Hospital.



## Maternity and Child Welfare Clinics

The following Clinics were functioning during the year:—

<i>Times open</i>	<i>Clinic</i>	<i>Number of attendances</i>	<i>Number of children attending</i>	<i>Sessions</i>	<i>Doctor attended</i>
77	Pebble Lane	2,447	562	Every Tuesday, 2nd and 4th Wednesday	Each Session
54	Quarrendon	2,631	595	Every Wednesday	Each Session
24	Southcourt	800	171	1st and 3rd Wednesday	Each Session
72	Limes Avenue, Tring Road	3,684	707	Every Monday, 2nd and 4th Wednesday	Each Session
<hr/> 227 <hr/>		<hr/> 9,562 <hr/>	<hr/> 2,035 <hr/>		

Besides advice on the health of infants and toddlers given to individual mothers, there were talks on a variety of health subjects for groups at the Clinics. Courses of immunisation against smallpox, poliomyelitis, diphtheria, whooping cough and tetanus were available, or could be given by the family doctor. Almost all parents who attended the Clinics were anxious that their children should have the maximum immunity against these diseases, but there was still a minority of the population who failed to take this advantage.

## INFECTIOUS DISEASE

	Total Notifications received			Cases admitted to Isolation Hospital	
	1965	1966		1965	1966
		Male	Female		
Measles .. .. .	258	201	208	—	—
Whooping Cough .. .. .	8	2	3	—	—
Dysentery .. .. .	108	126	141	18*	6 } 8*
Scarlet Fever .. .. .	12	7	4	—	—
Pneumonia .. .. .	2	—	4	—	—
Paratyphoid Fever .. .. .	1	—	—	1	—
Puerperal Pyrexia .. .. .	3	—	—	1	—
Food Poisoning .. .. .	2	1	2	2	—
Ophthalmia .. .. .					
Neonatorum .. .. .	2	—	—	2	—
Malaria .. .. .	—	1	—	—	1

\*Manor House



**Incidence of Notifiable Diseases during  
the year with analysis under age groups**

	Under 1 year	1-2 years	3-4 years	5-9 years	10-14 years	15-24 years	25-44 years	45-65 years	Over 65 years	Age unknown	Totals
Measles ..	17	99	123	164	3	2	1	—	—	—	409
Whooping Cough	—	1	1	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	5
Dysentery ..	19	51	24	80	11	15	57	8	2	—	267
Scarlet Fever	—	—	3	8	—	—	—	—	—	—	11
Pneumonia ..	—	1	1	—	—	—	1	1	—	—	4
Food Poisoning	—	—	—	1	—	—	2	—	—	—	3
Malaria ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	1

**TUBERCULOSIS**

	New Cases			
	Respiratory		Non-Respiratory	
	M	F	M	F
Age Groups:—				
0—	—	—	—	—
1—	—	—	—	—
5—	—	—	—	—
15—	2 (1)	—	1	—
25—	1 (3)	4	—	—
35—	—	—	—	1 (1)
45—	—	—	1 (1)	—
55—	1	—	—	(1)
65 and upwards	—	—	—	—
Age Unknown	—	—	—	—
Total:	4 (4)	4	2 (1)	1 (2)

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



**MASS RADIOGRAPHY SERVICE**  
**No. 1 Unit, Oxford Regional Hospital Board**  
**Report of survey carried out on staff at**  
**Stoke Mandeville Hospital, on 10/2/1966**

**Summary of Work**

	<i>Male</i>	<i>Female</i>	<i>Total</i>
No. of miniature films taken .. .. .	55	127	182
No. referred to Chest Clinic .. .. .	—	—	—
No. previously examined by M.M.R. .. .. .	39	67	106
No. not previously examined by M.M.R. .. .. .	16	60	76

**Report of survey carried out at H.M. Prison, Aylesbury,**  
**on 4/3/66**

**Summary of Work**

	<i>Male</i>	<i>Female</i>	<i>Total</i>
No. of miniature films taken .. .. .	129	—	129
No. referred to Chest Clinic .. .. .	—	—	—
No. previously examined by M.M.R. .. .. .	117	—	117
No. not previously examined by M.M.R. .. .. .	12	—	12

**Summary of newly discovered significant**  
**cases of Tuberculosis**

<i>Group</i>	<i>No. Examined</i>	<i>Active P.T.</i>	<i>Inactive P.T.</i>
Prisoners .. .. .	103	—	—
Staff .. .. .	26	—	—
<b>Total:</b>	<b>129</b>	<b>—</b>	<b>—</b>

**Report of survey carried out at**  
**General Precision Systems Ltd., on 5/5/66 and 6/5/66**

Response:—76 %

**Summary of Work**

	<i>Male</i>	<i>Female</i>	<i>Total</i>
No. of miniature films taken .. .. .	501	111	612
No. referred to Chest Clinic .. .. .	3	—	3
No. previously examined by M.M.R. .. .. .	440	81	521
No. not previously examined by M.M.R. .. .. .	61	30	91

**Results of cases referred to Chest Clinic**

	<i>Male</i>	<i>Female</i>	<i>Total</i>
Bronchial carcinoma .. .. .	1	—	1
Pneumonitis .. .. .	1	—	1
Normal .. .. .	1	—	1
	<b>3</b>	<b>—</b>	<b>3</b>



**Report of survey carried out on staff at  
Stoke Mandeville Hospital, on 15/9/66**

**Summary of Work**

	<i>Male</i>	<i>Female</i>	<i>Total</i>
No. of miniature films taken .. .. .	64	153	217
No. requiring further investigation .. .. .	—	2	2
No. previously examined by M.M.R. .. .. .	40	95	135
No. not previously examined by M.M.R. .. .. .	24	58	82
<b>Results of cases requiring further investigation</b>			
Acquired cardiac abnormality .. .. .	—	1	1
Normal .. .. .	—	1	1
	—	2	2

**Report of survey carried out at  
H.M. Prison, Aylesbury, on 7/10/66**

**Summary of Work**

	<i>Male</i>	<i>Female</i>	<i>Total</i>
No. of miniature films taken .. .. .	93	—	93
No. referred to Chest Clinic .. .. .	—	—	—
No. previously examined by M.M.R. .. .. .	78	—	78
No. not previously examined by M.M.R. .. .. .	15	—	15

**Summary of newly discovered significant  
cases of Tuberculosis**

<i>Group</i>	<i>No. Examined</i>	<i>Active P.T.</i>	<i>Inactive P.T.</i>
Prisoners .. .. .	85	—	—
Staff .. .. .	8	—	—
Total:	93	—	—

**Report of survey carried out on staff at  
Royal Bucks Hospital, on 13/10/66**

**Summary of Work**

	<i>Male</i>	<i>Female</i>	<i>Total</i>
No. of miniature films taken .. .. .	46	158	204
No. requiring further investigation .. .. .	—	2	2
No. previously examined by M.M.R. .. .. .	36	108	144
No. not previously examined by M.M.R. .. .. .	10	50	60
<b>Results of cases requiring further investigation</b>			
Congenital cardiac abnormality .. .. .	—	1	1
Acquired cardiac abnormality .. .. .	—	1	1
	—	2	2



**Report of survey carried out at  
H.M. Detention Centre, Aylesbury, on monthly visits during 1966**

**Summary of Work**

	<i>Male</i>	<i>Female</i>	<i>Total</i>
No. of miniature films taken .. .. .	409	—	409
No. referred to Chest Clinic .. .. .	5	—	5
No. previously examined by M.M.R. .. .. .	78	—	78
No. not previously examined by M.M.R. .. .. .	331	—	331

**Results of cases referred to Chest Clinic**

Pneumonitis .. .. .	1	—	1
Normal .. .. .	4	—	4
	<hr/> 5	<hr/> —	<hr/> 5

**Summary of newly discovered significant cases of Tuberculosis**

<i>Group</i>	<i>No. Examined</i>	<i>Active P.T.</i>	<i>Inactive P.T.</i>
Boys .. .. .	399	—	—
Staff .. .. .	10	—	—
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
Total:	409	—	—

**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, Hawridge, and High Wycombe.

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

Seventeen samples of water were taken from the main service by this Department during the year, all of which proved to be satisfactory.

Following suggestions in the daily press that water contained in imported plastic drink coolers in the shape of pink elephants had been found to be contaminated, one dozen of these were purchased at a store in the Borough. The water contained in them was examined at the laboratory, and was found to be free from contaminating organisms.

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

**Drainage**

Although the whole of the surface water has not been separated from the foul drainage within the central area, it can be assumed that the Borough is drained on the separate system.

**Sewage Disposal Works**

The new Sewage Disposal Works constructed at the confluence of the Bear Brook and the River Thames is producing effluent well within the Thames Conservancy's standard. Sludge disposal is by means of tankers and is distributed in liquid form on surrounding farms.



## Public Cleansing

Refuse disposal is carried out by controlled tipping at Calvert, thirteen miles on the Bicester side of Aylesbury. The new controlled tip has been in operation since May, 1964, and is proving satisfactory.

A comprehensive salvage collection scheme is in operation. The Corporation has two suction type sweepers, and both sweepers have proved themselves invaluable during the year.

## 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. Seventy-two samples of water were taken for chlorine content and pH value during the summer months.

## Hot Baths

Attendances at the Hot Baths, adjoining the Swimming Pool at Park Street, amounted to a total of 1,689 during the year. The total for 1965 was 3,612.

## Schools

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

## Local Rainfall

January	..	..	.77 ins.	July	..	..	2.30 ins.
February	..	..	2.48 ins.	August	..	..	2.39 ins.
March	..	..	.72 ins.	September	..	..	2.61 ins.
April	..	..	3.06 ins.	October	..	..	5.15 ins.
May	..	..	1.94 ins.	November	..	..	1.83 ins.
June	..	..	2.60 ins.	December	..	..	3.58 ins.

(Figures supplied by Mr. B. G. Hannay, Borough Engineer and Surveyor)

Mr. Hannay stated that the total rainfall for the year was 29.43 inches, which is well above the yearly average of 24.79 inches, and the highest recorded for the past six years. Rain fell on 178 days, compared with 179 days in the previous year.

The readings for February were the highest for 8 years, and those for April the highest for 30 years. The October figure of 5.15 inches is the highest for that month recorded for 60 years, apart from 1949 when the amount was 6.08 inches. The January recording was the second lowest for 15 years, and the March recording the second lowest for 10 years.

The highest daily rainfall occurred on 30th September when 1.58 inches were recorded.



## INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD

### Meat and Other Foods

#### Carcases Inspected and Condemned

	Cattle excluding Cows	Cows	Calves	Sheep and Lambs	Pigs
Number killed and inspected	809	128	11	1,703	1,238
<b>All Diseases except Tuberculosis</b>					
Whole carcases condemned ..	1	—	2	11	12
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned ..	358	15	1	264	209
Percentage of number in- spected affected with disease other than Tuberculosis ..	44.38 %	11.72 %	27.27 %	16.15 %	17.85 %
<b>Tuberculosis only</b>					
Whole carcases condemned ..	—	—	—	—	—
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned ..	—	—	—	—	4
Percentage of number in- spected affected with Tuberculosis .. ..	—	—	—	—	0.32 %
<b>Cysticercus Bovis</b>					
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned ..	3	—	—	—	—
Carcases submitted for treat- ment by refrigeration ..	3	—	—	—	—
Generalised and totally con- demned .. .. .	—	—	—	—	—

Ten 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, to remedy contraventions of the requirements of this Act in mechanical and non-mechanical factories and workplaces.

## ADMINISTRATION OF THE FACTORIES ACT, 1937

### 1. Inspections for the purpose of provisions as to health

	Number of		
	Inspections	Written Notices	Occupiers Prosecuted
Factories without mechanical power	75	—	—
Factories with mechanical power			

### 2. Defects found—Nil

#### Outwork in unwholesome premises

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



# ANNUAL REPORT OF THE BOROUGH PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR

Public Health Department,  
Town Hall, 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 1966. The figures in brackets denote work carried out during 1965.

## HOUSING

Substantial progress was made with the slum clearance programme during the year; three further Areas, Walton Green and Walton Place, St. John's Road, and Park Street, being declared during the year. Inquiries were heard against objections to the Walton Green and Walton Place, and Park Street Areas, and by the end of the year confirmation of the clearance of Walton Green and Walton Place had been received. A report from the Ministry in respect of Park Street had not been received by the end of the year. An Inquiry into the St. John's Road Area was ordered, but owing to the departure of one of the owners to Pakistan the hearing was adjourned and had not been held before the end of the year.

In addition to this work, the re-housing of the tenants of Mount Street was completed and the houses demolished. The houses contained in the St. John's Road 1965 Clearance Order were also demolished. In addition to the foregoing work, two individual houses were closed under the provisions of section 16 of the Housing Act, and a Closing Order in respect of one house was determined on completion of the work to make the house fit.

Houses in multiple occupation continued to occupy a considerable amount of the time of the Department, and visits were made both in the case of new properties coming into multiple occupation, and in connection with means of escape in case of fire. With one exception, the general standard of these houses remained reasonable. Consideration was given to the serving of a Management Order in the case of the house which was causing difficulty, but the owner made efforts to reduce the number of persons occupying the house and to improve the conditions, and following consultation between the owner and his solicitor, and the Borough Public Health Department and a representative from the Town Clerk's Department, considerable improvement was achieved. At the end of the year the number of occupants in the house had been considerably reduced, and efforts were being made by the owner to secure the removal of the remaining tenants in order that he could sell the property.

No further formal action was taken with regard to the improvement area procedure in the Victoria Park area of the town, but following a letter to all owners in the area stating that consideration was being given to declaring an Improvement Area, ten applications were received for improvement grants. Consideration will now be given towards formal action to secure the improvement of the remaining houses in the district.

Three cases in which rent books had not been supplied, as required by the Landlord and Tenant Act, were reported during the year, but following informal action by the Department the rent books were supplied.

The general work carried out by the Department under the Housing Act is set out in the following table:—



Number of houses inspected	..	..	..	58	(304)
Visits paid to above houses	..	..	..	220	(362)
Informal Notices served	..	..	..	61	(37)
Statutory Notices served	..	..	..	6	(1)
Miscellaneous housing visits	..	..	..	98	(45)
Multi-occupation housing visits	..	..	..	275	(241)
<i>Houses repaired:—</i>					
By owners	..	..	..	27	(27)
By the Borough Council in default	..	..	..	—	(—)

## PUBLIC HEALTH ACTS

The modern tendency to introduce specific legislation for dealing with matters affecting environmental hygiene and health, previously dealt with in omnibus fashion under the Public Health Acts, has had the result of leaving only a relatively small number of matters, the chief of which are drainage and matters appertaining to drainage, and nuisances, within the ambit of these Acts. As will be seen from the following table the main work of this Department under this heading relates to drainage and nuisances, and the notices served under the Public Health Acts are confined almost entirely to these two matters:—

Number of houses inspected	..	..	..	44	(61)
Visits paid to above houses	..	..	..	112	(143)
Drainage visits	..	..	..	522	(510)
Drainage tests	..	..	..	25	(22)
Nuisances found	..	..	..	125	(125)
Nuisances abated	..	..	..	125	(125)
Informal Notices served	..	..	..	—	(12)
Statutory Notices served	..	..	..	24	(12)

## NOISE ABATEMENT ACT, 1960

The problem of noise is one which is attracting more attention, both from the general public and from central government. This is evident from the fact that during the year a Committee on the problem of noise was set up to enquire into the whole aspect of noise, including industrial noise, airport noise, noise in towns, ice cream chimes and other matters. So far as Aylesbury is concerned, complaints were again received during the year concerning the use of chimes on ice cream vehicles outside the permitted hours, and although it was not found necessary to take a prosecution during the year, one vendor was notified of the requirements of the Act, and informed that any further contravention would result in prosecution.

No complaints were received during the year concerning the factory to which reference was made in my last Report, but complaints were received concerning another factory who had recently erected a new building and installed modern and sophisticated machinery. Part of this machinery consisted of extraction plant to remove unwanted material from the point at which it was produced by means of trunking assisted by extract air. It was felt that the noise problem, which was reported from both close to the factory and from houses some  $\frac{1}{2}$  to  $\frac{3}{4}$  mile distant, was due to



the discharge of the air to the atmosphere rather than to any part of the machinery itself. The firm were contacted and employed consulting acoustic experts who confirmed that this was the cause of the nuisance, and suggested remedial action. At the end of the year orders had been given to carry out the works required, but work was still in progress and it is too early as yet to state whether the proposed remedy will, in fact, be effective.

### FACTORIES ACT, 1937 AND 1948

The increase in the number of mechanical factories suffered a slight setback during the year by a reduction of one, whilst non-mechanical factories increased by one, so that the total number of factories remained static. This is contrary to the experience over the past few years, but one realizes that there must be a time in town expansion schemes when, for a variety of reasons, there is a brief pause in the rate of progress. The duties of the Department in connection with mechanical factories is limited to the inspection of conveniences, whilst all other aspects of cleanliness, heating, ventilation etc., in such factories is in the province of the Factory Inspector. Visits are from time to time made to the factories in the town, particularly food factories in connection with food hygiene visits, <sup>and</sup> to all factories where canteens are provided in connection with those facilities. All these visits are included in the section of the Report connected with food and food hygiene, so that the number of visits shown under this section is not a true reflection of the visits actually made to factories.

Mechanical factories on register requiring visiting	113	(114)
Non-mechanical factories on register requiring visiting .. .. .	17	(16)
Visits paid to factories .. .. .	75	(62)

### OFFICES, SHOPS AND RAILWAY PREMISES ACT, 1963

Encouraging progress was made in work under this important legislation during the year. Following the resignation reported last year of the Assistant appointed for this work, a replacement was obtained in July, who devoted most of his time to this work. Nine hundred and sixty-five visits were made in connection with the Act during the year, and at the end of the year most of the premises registered had received their initial inspection.

Ninety-nine informal notices were served during the year, the majority referring to minor infringements of the Act, i.e., provision of thermometers, first-aid boxes, abstracts of the Act, and similar matters. Very little difficulty is experienced in securing compliance with the notices, and in no instance has it been necessary to institute legal proceedings for the enforcement of a notice.

Ten accidents were reported during the year, none of which was fatal. In the majority of instances the accidents were caused by slipping on newly polished surfaces; one was caused by an employee carrying a stack of goods over which she could not look, and stumbling over a wheeled trolley used for the transport of goods, and which was not left in a safe position, whilst a further accident was caused by goods falling off a stock fixture. Where it was felt necessary advice was given on steps which might be taken to prevent similar accidents occurring in the future.



Class of Premises	Number of premises registered during the year	Number receiving a general inspection during the year	Total number of registered premises at end of year	Total number of persons employed
Offices .. .. .	13	79	145	1,376
Retail Shops .. ..	20	102	223	1,464
Wholesale Shops, Warehouses .. ..	5	4	19	304
Catering Establishments open to the public, Canteens .. .. .	3	4	21	291
Fuel Storage Depots ..	—	—	1	32

### SHOPS ACT, 1950

During the year representations were received from certain shopkeepers with a view to altering the existing Closing Orders for the Borough to enable grocery shops, and in particular supermarkets, to remain open until 8 p.m. on Fridays. The persons who made the initial approach to me were advised of the action taken some twelve months earlier in regard to the early closing day, when no satisfactory conclusions could be obtained from answers to a questionnaire submitted to the shopkeepers. The enquirers were advised that a single approach on the question of the late night opening was not sufficient for the Council to take action, but if they could obtain support for their application further action could be taken by the Council. Eventually a letter from some two dozen shopkeepers that they were desirous of remaining open until 8 p.m. on Fridays was received, and on the strength of this approach all shopkeepers in the town were circularised and asked to state whether they were in favour of the alteration of the late night opening from Saturday to Friday. Approximately 50% of the questionnaires sent out were returned, and some 75% of those returned indicated that they were in favour of the change. Steps were accordingly taken to communicate with the Home Office for permission to alter the existing Order. The Home Office stated that the replies received from the questionnaires were not sufficiently conclusive and it would be necessary to take a full referendum in the statutory form before any action could be taken. Attention was drawn to the fact that the Government were considering taking action, similar to that already taken in connection with the early closing day, enabling shopkeepers to choose their own late night, and in view of this, and the complexity of any further referendum that would have to be taken, it was decided that no further action be taken in the matter.

Twenty-one visits were made in connection with the Act during the year, and five informal notices, three in connection with the closing hours, were served on shopkeepers, all being complied with.



## PREVENTION OF DAMAGE BY PESTS AND DISINFESTATION

A survey of the figures showing the work carried out under this heading shows that although visits to Local Authority premises and business premises were slightly down on last year, all other figures in connection with rodent control show a marked increase. The number of private premises treated have increased by seventy, points laid were some four hundred more than in the previous year, and over one hundred and fifty more rat and mouse bodies were found following treatment. When one considers that for over twenty years there has been a full-time rodent operator employed by the town, and a continuous war has been waged on rats and mice, the increase in the number of reports of rodent activity gives cause for concern. The reasons for this increase are difficult to pinpoint, but one or two possible reasons are the disturbance and disclosure of rats in areas of demolition and rebuilding, the extension of housing into the countryside, whilst a further factor could well be the suitability or otherwise of the winter, in particular, for the breeding of rats. The one bright spot in this picture is the fact that on the annual testing of the manholes in the sewerage system of the town no takes were recorded, and it does seem that work carried out in the past on the sewers has been effective, and no further infestation has so far taken place.

The agreement service for the treatment of factories and shops still continues, and is appreciated by those firms participating.

Work carried out on business premises not covered by agreement is charged for, whilst free service to private householders is continued. The number of wasps nests destroyed was less than 50% of the previous year, being thirty-eight as compared with eighty-three. This, as previously stated, is largely due to weather conditions, and not to any work of the Department or other people.

In addition to the above, one infestation of fleas was reported and dealt with.

A summary of the work carried out under this Act during the year is appended:—

Private Premises treated .. .. .	265	(195)
Business Premises treated .. .. .	101	(103)
Local Authority Premises treated .. .. .	11	(19)
Rat bodies found .. .. .	612	(526)
Mouse bodies found .. .. .	329	(268)
Points laid—Private Premises .. .. .	829	(521)
Points laid—Business Premises .. .. .	738	(591)
Points laid—Local Authority Premises .. .. .	108	(105)
Manholes treated .. .. .	80	(85)
Visits made by Public Health Inspectors .. .. .	79	(116)
Wasps Nests destroyed .. .. .	38	(83)



## CLEAN AIR ACT, 1956

A survey of the Broughton Pastures area of the town was made with the view to bringing into effect the second Smoke Control Area. From this survey it appeared that some 50% of the houses which would be eligible for grant were already using smokeless fuels, and that therefore only 50% of the houses would require conversions. Because of the national position with regard to supplies of gas coke, the Ministry of Housing and Local Government had agreed that where owners of property wished they would be entitled to claim grant on the provision of appliances capable of burning hard coke, electric storage heaters, oil convector heaters, and gas fires. As a result of the survey previously mentioned, it appeared that the trend was more towards the installation of appliances capable of using 'instant' fuels, i.e., gas and electricity rather than solid fuel, and an estimate based on this fact was submitted to the Committee. Whilst Committee accepted this estimate and recommended to the Council that the necessary steps to implement the No. 2 Smoke Control Order be instituted, this decision was reversed by the Council and the matter was deferred for a further twelve months. It is my sincere hope that no further deferment in this matter will be necessary, as it is now over four years since the No. 1 Smoke Control Order was declared, and the Council at that time stated their intention of proceeding as soon as possible to cover the whole town with Smoke Control Areas. If it is possible to proceed and declare one Smoke Control Area per annum, I estimate that it will take some eight years to cover the whole Borough, and that, therefore, the longer action is deferred, the later will be the date by which the Borough will become totally smoke controlled.

It was again necessary to draw the attention of certain householders in Bedgrove to the fact that they were living in a Smoke Control Area, but no formal action was necessary during the year. Very few complaints were received of industrial smoke and those that were were dealt with informally.

Six hundred and seventy-eight visits were made in connection with this Act during the year.

## INVESTIGATION OF ATMOSPHERIC POLLUTION

The measurement of atmospheric pollution at the four stations in the Borough was continued during the year, but during the school holidays in August, the two stations situated in schools were closed down. The latest set of tables I have received from Warren Spring Laboratory is up to July, 1966, and I append a table showing the monthly average concentrations of smoke and sulphur dioxide at the various stations.

It will be seen from the figures that the pattern remains the same as in previous years, the Town Hall showing the highest concentrations, with the site in Bicester Road lowest, and the Grammar School and Oak Green School sites coming somewhere between the two extremes.



**Monthly average concentrations of smoke and sulphur dioxide  
in microgrammes per cubic metre**

<i>Month</i>	<i>Smoke</i>				<i>Sulphur Dioxide</i>			
	<i>Site 1</i>	<i>Site 2</i>	<i>Site 3</i>	<i>Site 4</i>	<i>Site 1</i>	<i>Site 2</i>	<i>Site 3</i>	<i>Site 4</i>
Aug. 1965	14	21	N	N	22	31	N	N
Sept. 1965	22	36	27	30	21	32	33	23
Oct. 1965	N	68	58	69	N	92	60	72
Nov. 1965	63	91	67	78	76	111	86	80
Dec. 1965	47	101	65	67	44	102	72	49
Jan. 1966	84	94	85	107	95	148	147	118
Feb. 1966	31	52	33	46	35	86	79	60
March 1966	28	72	44	39	32	88	66	45
April 1966	30	42	30	46	44	69	53	61
May 1966	12	20	19	16	30	41	35	31
June 1966	10	15	12	12	28	37	33	27
July 1966	9	16	12	13	24	30	42	24

Site 1—Unigate Creameries Ltd., Bicester Road

Site 2—Town Hall

Site 3—Grammar School, Walton Road

Site 4—Oak Green School

Note: 'N' indicates that insufficient results were received to give a fair average.

Following complaints of nuisance from diesel fumes thought to arise from the running of the diesel engines on the trains standing overnight in the siding between Stoke Road and Aylesbury Station, an approach was made to Warren Spring Laboratory to see if any measurement could be taken in connection with the complaints. The only suggestion made was that possibly measurement of nitrous oxides produced by the diesels might give an indication of the extent of the nuisance, and accordingly apparatus was borrowed from Warren Spring Laboratory and set up at two stations, one in the Walton Vicarage in Walton Street, and one in a house in York Place. These were run for a period of some three weeks, but unfortunately, the results did not provide sufficient evidence to show that the running of diesels in this siding at night was actually giving rise to nuisance. Despite this lack of evidence the matter was taken up with British Railways, and certain alterations were carried out which have resulted in a lessening of the time the engines are run, and it is hoped that there will be no recurrence of the nuisance in the future.

## FOOD

### Slaughterhouse

Slaughtering is still confined to the one slaughterhouse licensed in the Borough, and conditions under which the meat is slaughtered and prepared are satisfactory and comply with the regulations in force.

Under the Meat Inspection (Amendment) Regulations, 1966, which came into operation on 30th September, and gave Local Authorities powers to control the hours of slaughtering, the Council made an Order regulating the hours of slaughter from 7 a.m. to 7 p.m. on weekdays, with no slaughtering on Saturdays or Sundays, except



in the case of an emergency and on one Saturday over the Christmas period, provided that seven days' notice was received by the Council. The owner of the slaughterhouse requested that the hours of slaughter be extended beyond 7 p.m., if necessary, in the week immediately prior to Christmas, and this was agreed, provided that seven days' notice of such intention was given to the Council.

All meat killed is inspected in accordance with the regulations, and meat passed as fit for consumption is stamped in such a manner as to indicate the Local Authority in which it was inspected, and the identity of the Inspector.

The number of animals slaughtered again showed a decrease, falling from 5,451 to 3,889, but the number of visits paid to the slaughterhouse was only reduced from 450 to 427, and the hours worked outside normal office hours from 154 to 119, which included inspection on four Saturdays.

The table showing the number of animals killed and inspected and the number and percentages affected with disease, are rather interesting this year. In all cases there has been a marked decrease in the number of animals killed, but in the case of all diseases, except tuberculosis, the number affected with disease has risen in all cases except pigs, where the percentage affected continues to show a decrease on the previous year. It is rather difficult to explain the reason for the increase in the case of the other animals, but except for sheep and lambs, the increase in all cases is connected with carcasses in which some part or organ only was condemned, and not total condemnations. In the case of cattle and sheep, the largest single increase in condemnations is in relation to livers affected by distoma hepaticum in the case of cattle, and distoma hepaticum and parasites in the case of sheep. Both of these conditions are parasitic, and are probably a reflection not so much on the husbandry of the farmer as on the weather conditions in the twelve months prior to slaughter. When we come to the tables for tuberculosis, it is noteworthy that in the case of cattle, no tuberculosis was found, and in the case of pigs, only four carcasses were found to be affected in one or more organ with tuberculosis, the percentage affected dropping to .32%.

In addition to the detailed tables of causes of condemnation which follow, three carcasses were found to be affected with cysticercus bovis, the affected parts being condemned and the carcasses transferred to cold storage before being released for human consumption.

Ten slaughtermen's licences were issued during the year.

#### Number of animals slaughtered and inspected during 1966

Quarter	Cows	Other Cattle	Calves	Sheep	Pigs	Total
1st ..	45	223	5	383	378	1,034
2nd ..	25	196	3	319	281	824
3rd ..	21	185	2	552	272	1,032
4th ..	37	205	1	449	307	999
Total: ..	128	809	11	1,703	1,238	3,889
Totals for 1965 ..	190	959	30	2,194	2,078	5,451



Table showing condemned organs of animals

CATTLE

	Liver	Lungs	Head	Tongue	Heart	Spleen
Distoma Hepaticum ..	283	—	—	—	—	—
Abscessed .. ..	34	2	—	—	—	—
Inflammation .. ..	1	23	—	—	—	7
Cavernous Angioma ..	13	—	—	—	—	—
Pneumonia .. ..	—	5	—	—	—	—
Congestion .. ..	—	2	—	—	—	—
Cysticercus Bovis ..	—	—	3	2	1	—
Actinobacillosis ..	—	—	4	4	—	—
Cystic .. ..	—	1	—	—	—	—
Fasciolae .. ..	—	1	—	—	—	—
Emphysema .. ..	—	1	—	—	—	—
Parasitic .. ..	1	—	—	—	—	—
Cirrhosis .. ..	3	—	—	—	—	—

Carcases Condemned (including all offal)

Imperfect Bleeding and Congestion .. 1

SHEEP

	Liver	Pluck
Parasitic .. ..	213	—
Distoma Hepaticum ..	30	—
Abscessed .. ..	2	1
Oedema .. ..	—	4
Lymphadenitis .. ..	—	1
Pneumonia .. ..	—	1

Carcases Condemned (including all offal)

Oedema .. .. 9  
 Injured by dogs .. .. 1  
 Lymphadenitis .. .. 1

Total: 11



## PIGS

			Lungs	Heart	Liver	Pluck	Head	Kidney
Tuberculosis	..	..	—	—	—	—	4	—
Parasitic	..	..	1	—	102	1	—	—
Pneumonia	..	..	37	1	—	3	—	—
Pericarditis	..	..	—	3	—	1	—	—
Inflammation	..	..	32	20	—	13	—	—
Pleurisy	..	..	—	—	—	1	—	—
Cirrhosis	..	..	—	—	2	—	—	—
Septic	..	..	—	—	—	1	—	—
Cystic	..	..	—	—	—	—	—	6
Oedema	..	..	—	—	—	1	—	—

### Carcases Condemned (including all offal)

Peritonitis and Pleurisy	..	1
Generalised Oedema	..	1
Pyæmia	.. ..	3
Septic and Arthritis	..	1
Oedema	.. ..	5
Septicaemia	.. ..	1
Total:		12

## CALVES

	Pluck
Immaturity and Imperfect Bleeding ..	1

### Carcases Condemned (including all offal)

Moribund	.. ..	1
Immaturity and Imperfect Bleeding	.. ..	1
Total:		2



### Weight of Condemned Meat and Offal

			lbs.
Cow Offal	..	..	251
Other Beef	..	..	480
Other Bovine Offal		..	4,263
Pork	..	..	999
Pig Offal	..	..	708
Mutton	..	..	503
Sheep Offal	..	..	589
Veal	..	..	88
Calf Offal	..	..	3

Total: 7,884

Total: 3 tons 10 cwts. 1 qtr. 16 lbs.

Total for 1965: 4 tons 10 cwts. — qtr. 17 lbs.

The amount of foodstuffs surrendered and disposed of from wholesale and retail premises in the Borough as a result of inspections carried out, often on request from shopkeepers, follows:—

	WEIGHT		Number
	lbs.	ozs.	
Butter .. ..	56	—	—
Fresh Fish .. ..	45	—	—
Fresh Meat .. ..	347	14	—
Cheese .. ..	7	4	—
Eggs .. ..	36	—	216
Tinned Vegetables ..	2,574	14	1,585
Tinned Fruit .. ..	5,518	3	1,737
Tinned Meat .. ..	2,076	—	800
Tinned Fish .. ..	528	6	1,023
Tinned Milk .. ..	58	11	51
Preserves .. ..	130	15	156
Miscellaneous .. ..	582	6	916
Total:	11,961	9	6,484

Total foodstuffs condemned during the year:—

Meat and Offal .. ..	3 tons 10 cwts. 1 qtr. 16 lbs. — ozs.
Various Foodstuffs .. ..	5 tons 6 cwts. 3 qtrs. 5 lbs. 9 ozs.
Total:	8 tons 17 cwts. — qtrs. 21 lbs. 9 ozs.
Total for 1965 .. ..	11 tons 1 cwts. 3 qtrs. — lbs. 9 ozs.



Eleven complaints concerning foreign bodies in food were received during the year. The commodities complained of included butter, bread, tinned meat, tinned vegetables, chips, sausage roll, fish, tea and soup powder. All the cases reported were investigated, and one concerning a tin of imported chopped ham was taken up through the Embassy concerned, and a letter was received stating that action had been taken in the country of origin to prevent a recurrence of the incident. In two instances prosecutions were instituted, both of which were successful. One concerned beetles in a packet of powdered soup, and in this instance the retailer who was summonsed joined the wholesaler in the case; the retailer was dismissed from the case and the wholesaler was fined. The second case concerned maggots found infesting herrings in a fishmongers shop, and again the prosecution was successful, and a fine was imposed. The total of both fines and costs was £55.5.0. In the other cases warnings were given to the persons concerned, as it was felt in these cases there were certain mitigating circumstances.

In addition to these instances, complaints were also received in respect of wafer biscuits, beef sandwiches, fancy cakes, apple pies and cauliflowers. In only one of these instances, that of the apple pie containing mould, was a prosecution instituted, and in this case, because of variations in the evidence as to the day of purchase, the case was dismissed, but the Court declined to give costs against the Council.

## MILK AND DAIRIES

The only duty now remaining with the Borough Council under this heading is that of registering milk retailers. The milk distribution trade is now confined to the distribution of milk in bottles and containers as received from wholesalers, and supervision by this Department is very much less important than it was in previous years. Eight visits only were made to dairy premises during the year. Milk producers are licensed and controlled by the County Agricultural Committee acting as agents for the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food.

## ICE CREAM

One hundred and fifteen premises in the area are registered for the sale of ice cream, in addition to which a number of vendors who are not subject to registration tour the streets in various vehicles selling ice cream and ice lollies. The majority of the ice cream sold in the Borough by the various retailers is produced by a relatively small number of large manufacturers, and it is therefore unnecessary to take a large number of samples to check the methods of production. Fifteen samples of ice cream were submitted for analysis during the year and were graded as follows:—

Grade 1	..	10 samples
Grade 2	..	2 samples
Grade 3	..	1 sample
Grade 4	..	2 samples

Thirty-four visits were paid to registered ice cream dealers premises during the year.



## FOOD SHOPS, RESTAURANTS, ETC.

The general standard of cleanliness and hygiene in food premises remained satisfactory throughout the year, and no cause for formal action arose. Constant vigilance is needed in relation to food shops to ensure that the need for food hygiene is realized and maintained by the staff, and efforts are made to ensure that all restaurants and canteens, in particular, are visited at least twice each year.

The table setting out the inspections made in this connection follows:—

Market Stalls	..	..	..	689	(660)
Grocers	..	..	..	131	(153)
Butchers	..	..	..	40	(27)
Restaurants and Canteens	..			33	(45)
Fishmongers	..	..	..	23	(23)
Food Preparing Premises	..	..		22	(46)

Eleven informal notices were served under the Food Hygiene Regulations during the year, ten of which were complied with by the end of December.

## WATER SUPPLY

Every house in the Borough is supplied with piped water obtained from the Chiltern Hills by the Bucks Water Board. Seventeen samples of water were taken from the main service during the year, and all proved satisfactory.

## PETROLEUM

As will be seen from the following table, the number of petroleum licences issued during the year has risen, as also has the total quantity of petroleum spirit stored.

In addition to the work of supervision of the installations at the three new stations concerned, action was also taken during the year to secure the safety of old and disused petrol tanks by ensuring that these were filled, in the case of temporary closure, with water, and in the case of permanent closure, with a cement slurry.

One interesting point which arose in connection with petroleum storage during the year was an application for approval in principle to the installation of a self-service station in the Borough. This is the first time that such an approach has been made in Aylesbury, but enquiries showed that this type of station has been in successful operation in other parts of the country for a number of years. Visits were made to a self-service station at Hemel Hempstead and at Epsom, and particulars obtained from other Local Authorities who had experience of this type of forecourt operation. Additional requirements for the installation and operation of self-service stations were drawn up, and approved by the Council, and provisional consent was given to the applicant to proceed with the installation, subject to the conditions set out. At the end of the year the station was not in operation.

Particulars of licences issued and quantities licensed to be stored are as follows:—

Licences issued for storage of Petroleum Spirit and Mixtures	..	70	(67)
Licences issued for storage of Carbide of Calcium	.. ..	1	(1)
Inspection of Petrol and Carbide Stores	.. ..	46	(91)



Quantity licensed to be stored:—

Petroleum Spirit .. .. .	248,140 galls.	(180,344 galls.)
Petroleum Mixtures .. .. .	2,249 galls.	(4,240 galls.)
Carbide of Calcium .. .. .	300 lbs.	(300 lbs.)
Total of Licence Fees .. .. .	£79.5.0	(£64.15.0)

## PUBLIC CONVENIENCES

The public conveniences in the town were maintained throughout the year in a satisfactory condition. Several changes in the staff occurred, but towards the end of the year we had a fairly stable staffing condition, with men who were carrying out their work conscientiously. The damage and disfigurement previously referred to continued, and it seems that, like the poor, this problem will always be with us.

## MISCELLANEOUS

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

Miscellaneous Public Health Visits	494	(450)
Interviews .. .. .	1,406	(1,343)
Complaints received and investigated	259	(217)
Infectious Disease Visits .. .. .	172	(74)
Smoke Visits .. .. .	23	(44)
Moveable Dwellings Inspected .. .. .	3	(2)
Pet Animals Act Visits .. .. .	34	(27)
Public Convenience Visits .. .. .	668	(713)

Ten scrap metal dealers are registered in the Borough.

## GENERAL

There were two changes in the staff of the Department during the year. Miss L. Rickard left in May and was replaced in June by Miss V. Fowler, who has proved a willing and able addition to the staff, and in July Mr. J. Knight was appointed as Technical Assistant in connection with work under the Offices, Shops and Railway Premises Act, 1963. Later in the year Mr. Knight assisted in the survey of the proposed second Smoke Control Area, and his work in both connections has been satisfactory. The remainder of the staff carried out their duties with their accustomed efficiency and cheerfulness, and I should like to pay tribute to their continued loyalty.

Finally, I would like to express my thanks to the Members of the Council and Committee for their continued confidence, and to fellow Officers for their help and assistance always readily forthcoming.

I am,

Mr. Mayor, Aldermen and Councillors,

Your obedient Servant,

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



THE  
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THE JOURNAL OF THE ROYAL ANTHROPOLOGICAL INSTITUTE, VOLUME 10, PART 1, 1880, contains the following articles:

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2. THE CAUCASIAN CAUCASIANS, BY DR. H. H. SCHLEGEL.

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