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AYLESBURY RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL

May, 1968.

ANNUAL REPORT FOR THE YEAR

1967

OF THE

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

AND THE

CHIEF PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR

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MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH:

DR. A. W. PRINGLE, B.A., M.B., B.CH., D.P.H.

DEPUTY MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH:

DR. G. SLOCOMBE, M.B., B.S., D.P.H.

CHIEF PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR:

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

DEPUTY CHIEF PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR:

W.A.MATHER, A.M.I.P.H.E., M.A.P.H.I.

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AYLESBURY RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL

ANNUAL REPORT FOR THE YEAR

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MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH:

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DEPUTY MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH:

DR. G. SLOAN, M.B., B.S., D.P.H.

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W.A. MATHER, A.M.I.P.H.E., M.A.P.H.I.

AYLESBURY RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL

HEALTH DEPARTMENT.
84, WALTON STREET,
AYLESBURY,
BUCKS.

May, 1968.

To the Chairman and Members of the
RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL OF AYLESBURY

I have the honour to present the Annual Report on the health and vital statistics for the year 1967.

There are several features of the statistics which are worthy of comment; there has been a small increase in the birth rate in contrast to a decrease in the County as a whole and England and Wales, the infant mortality rate has increased from its very low level of last year but is still well below that rate for England and Wales, and again there were no maternal deaths. These figures should give encouragement to our local domiciliary and hospital maternity services, working as they do under pressure for beds and sufficient trained nursing staff. There would seem to be ample justification for the so-called 48 hours admissions to hospital for delivery in normal cases who require this for social or other reasons. On discharge they are handed over to the domiciliary nursing service for the remainder of their confinement.

Another welcome feature is a further reduction in the percentage of illegitimate births. It will be interesting to see what effect, if any, the proposed Abortion Act will have in this respect, and also the National Health Service (Family Planning) Act, 1967 which extended the categories of women who might be referred to family planning clinics.

FOOD . . . HYGIENE

The circumstances of every local case of food poisoning are reported fully to the Ministry of Health, and recent statistics based on these reports show a more encouraging national picture. In 1957 there were 7,071 outbreaks, involving 15,100 cases and 36 deaths. In 1966 there were 3,744 outbreaks, involving 8,784 cases and 26 deaths. These figures are still intolerably high, but they show a steady decline in incidence and encourage those of us who place our hopes in supervision of food handlers, control of outbreaks and education of the general public

Food Hygiene (Cont'd).....

The salmonella group of organisms, which infects both man and animals, is the largest single group of food poisoners, and over the ten-year period shows the least decline. However, with a reduction of 58% in the number of cases of food poisoning over this period there are grounds for hope that present methods of control are working, however slowly.

A further course on food hygiene, which was quite well attended by those employed in the food industry, was held at the College of Further Education during the year.

TUBERCULOSIS

There were 6 new cases of tuberculosis notified during 1967 giving the low figure of 0.16 per 1,000 population and one death due to the disease, a man aged 56 years.

So far few immigrants have wished to live in the Rural District. However, as a result of discussions with the County Chest Physician some alterations were made in the scheme for detection of tuberculosis in recently arrived immigrants.

Where previously the immigrant was urged when first visited to register as soon as possible with a general practitioner who would consider if chest x-ray was necessary, he is now given a fixed appointment for himself and family to attend the chest clinic. Very few appointments have failed, and if they have, a further home visit has been made. There is the additional advantage that the children can be skin tested and given B.C.G. vaccination, if necessary, at the clinic.

/Cont'd.....

Tuberculosis (Continued).....

MASS RADIOGRAPHY SERVICE

Oxford Regional Hospital Board

(Northern Area)

WINTERTON HOUSE

OLD PEOPLE'S HOME, WENDOVER.

20. 7. 67.

<u>Summary of Work:</u>	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>	<u>Total</u>
No. of miniature films taken ...	9	26	35
No. referred to chest clinic ...	-	-	-
No. referred to general practitioners ...	-	-	-
No. previously examined by M.M.R. ...	5	8	13
No. not previously examined by M.M.R. ...	4	18	22

Results of cases referred to Chest Clinic:

NIL

SUMMARY OF NEWLY DISCOVERED SIGNIFICANT CASES OF TUBERCULOSIS

<u>Group</u>	<u>No. examined</u>	<u>Active P.T.</u>	<u>Rate per Thousand</u>	<u>Inactive P.T.</u>	<u>Rate per Thousand</u>
Staff	5	-	-	-	-
Residents	30	-	-	-	-
TOTAL	35	-	-	-	-

OTHER INFECTIOUS DISEASES

In December a case of food poisoning due to Salmonella Typhimurium in a farm worker was notified. When the farm was visited it was found that another farm worker and the farmer himself had had similar symptoms to the case some months previously. It further transpired that a number of calves had been lost due to diarrhoea and that raw milk from the herd was distributed on the farm. Tests were carried out on all those likely to have become infected and the farmer's wife proved to be a carrier of the Salmonella germ.

The probability is that an infected calf or cow was brought into the herd and infected the others or that the existing beasts got their infection from imported cattle feed. The infection then passed to the people concerned via raw milk or directly by handling the animals.

/Cont'd.....

Other Infectious Diseases (Continued).....

The Ministry of Agriculture's Veterinary Service and the local Veterinary Surgeon were informed of the circumstances and precautions against re-infection were instituted at the farm.

It is worth giving one further example of this type of outbreak which also occurred during the year. A farmer, his wife and a farm worker became ill with food poisoning symptoms. The farm was an isolated one and their movements and diet before the illness did not suggest an outside source of infection. On investigation it was found that in all eleven calves had died in recent months, one having been sent for post mortem examination and proved positive for Salmonella Typhimurium. This germ was also isolated from the human cases. All other contacts, including two children of school age, were cleared by tests.

The mode of infection in this case was similar to that in the previous one except that the farmer was sure that it originated from a calf he had bought prior to the deaths of the others. The Veterinary Services were notified of the circumstances because as long as the infection remained in the herd the risk to people visiting or working on the farm would continue, in spite of advice on precautions to minimise this.

These outbreaks illustrate two important points. Firstly, the importance of early diagnosis of the disease in cattle so that infected animals can be isolated and treated as soon as possible and farm staff be alerted to the danger of infection and how to avoid it. Once other beasts in the herd become infected the farmer is usually in for serious economic loss and elimination of the infection becomes a slow and difficult business.

Secondly, the need for co-operation between veterinary and preventive medical services is clear. The old attitude of division of responsibility between the disease in animals on the one hand and in humans on the other, each working in isolation, is a thing of the past. Anxiety also has been expressed about the widespread use of antibiotics in the prevention and treatment of a variety of animal diseases because of the risk of creating resistant germ strains.

Other Infectious Diseases (Continued)....

This should become another field of co-operation, initiated, one would hope, at national level. Because of the high price of farm animals and intensive farming methods which have developed the conflict of interests is too great to be settled at local levels.

A young man living in the Rural District was admitted to the Slade Hospital, Oxford, having returned from a camping holiday in Germany two weeks previously. The diagnosis, confirmed by laboratory tests, was paratyphoid fever. The hospital was able to supply a list of nine young people living locally who had been on the holiday with him. All were traced and co-operated in having tests done which eliminated the possibility of any of them being carriers of paratyphoid.

For the second year running there was an epidemic of measles. It seems certain that a start will be made in vaccination against measles during the coming year. Only children who have not had the disease will require vaccination, and in view of the high infection rate in recent years there should not be very many, in the school age group at least, who will require this. If measles can be prevented it will be of enormous benefit to children and parents alike, and my hard worked colleagues in general practice will certainly heave a sigh of relief.

I would like to thank the members of the Committee for their continued advice and support throughout the year, my Deputy, Dr. Slocombe, for assisting in the preparation of this Report, and the Chief 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

(a) Area of District	89,307 acres.
(b) Total Population (estimated mid-1967)	36,570
(c) Number of inhabited houses (end of 1967) according to Rate Book	11,400
(d) Rateable Value	£1,254,296
(e) Sum represented by a Penny Rate	£5,100

VITAL STATISTICS

	<u>1966</u>			<u>1967</u>		
	<u>Total</u>	<u>M</u>	<u>F</u>	<u>Total</u>	<u>M</u>	<u>F</u>
Live Births - Legitimate	558	294	264	602	310	292
Illegitimate	37	19	18	32	17	15
Live birth rate per 1,000 population	16.5			17.3		
Birth rate (corrected)	16.99			17.8		
Birth rate for England & Wales	17.7			17.2		
Illegitimate live births per cent of total live births	6.22			5.2		
<u>Still Births</u>						
Number	3	1	2	3	2	1
Rate per 1,000 total live and still births	5.02			4.71		
Total live and still births	598	314	284	637	329	308

D E A T H S

	<u>1966</u>			<u>1967</u>		
	<u>Total</u>	<u>M</u>	<u>F</u>	<u>Total</u>	<u>M</u>	<u>F</u>
	379	200	179	364	184	180
Death Rate per 1,000 estimated population	10.5			10.0		
Standardised Death Rate	10.2			9.4		
Death Rate for England and Wales	11.7			11.2		
<u>Infant Deaths</u>						
Number	7	6	1	11	7	4
<u>Infant mortality rates:</u>						
Total infant deaths per 1,000 total live births	11.8			17.4		
- do - Legitimate	10.75			16.6		
- do - Illegitimate	27.0			31.25		
Infant mortality rate for England and Wales	19.0			18.3		
<u>Neo-Natal mortality rate:</u>						
(Deaths under 4 weeks per 1,000 total live births)						
Number	6	6	-	9	5	4
Rate	10.1			14.2		

/Cont'd....

Infant Deaths (Cont'd).....

<u>Infant Deaths</u>	(Cont'd).....	<u>1966</u>			<u>1967</u>		
		<u>Total</u>	<u>M</u>	<u>F</u>	<u>Total</u>	<u>M</u>	<u>F</u>
<u>Early Neo-Natal mortality:</u>							
(Deaths under 1 week per 1,000 total live births)							
	Number	6	6	-	7	5	2
	Rate		10.1			11.04	
<u>Perinatal mortality:</u>							
(Stillbirths and deaths under 1 week combined per 1,000 total live and still births)							
	Number	9	7	2	10	7	3
	Rate		15.0			15.7	
<u>Maternal mortality:</u>							
	Number	-	-	-	-	-	-
	Rate		-			-	

DEATHS FROM CANCER (all ages) 70

ANALYSIS OF DEATHS1967

<u>Disease</u>	<u>Number of Deaths</u>		
	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>	<u>Total</u>
Tuberculosis, respiratory	1	-	1
Tuberculosis, other	-	-	-
Measles	1	-	1
Other infective and parasitic diseases	-	1	1
Malignant neoplasm, Stomach	5	4	9
Malignant neoplasm, lung, brochus	18	3	21
Malignant neoplasm, breast	-	6	6
Malignant neoplasm, uterus	-	2	2
Other malignant and lymphatic neoplasms	15	17	32
Leukaemia, Aleukaemia	-	-	-
Diabetes	-	2	2
Vascular lesions of nervous system	18	22	40
Coronary disease, angina	44	22	66
Hypertension with heart disease	1	5	6
Other heart disease	11	18	29
Other circulatory disease	9	12	21
Influenza	-	-	-
Pneumonia	18	21	39
Bronchitis	7	11	18
Other diseases of respiratory system	4	-	4
Ulcer of stomach and duodenum	3	3	6
Gastritis, enteritis and diarrhoea	1	2	3
Nephritis and nephrosis	2	2	4
Hyperplasia of prostate	1	-	1
Congenital malformations	2	1	3
Other defined and ill-defined diseases	13	17	30
Motor vehicle accidents	6	1	7
All other accidents	1	6	7
Suicide	3	2	5
Homicide and operations of war	-	-	-
	184	180	364

PREVALENCE OF AND CONTROL OVER INFECTIOUS AND OTHER DISEASES:

	1966		1967	
	<u>No. of Cases Notified</u>	<u>No. of Deaths</u>	<u>No. of Cases Notified</u>	<u>No. of Deaths</u>
Smallpox	-	-	-	-
Measles	166	-	439	1
Whooping Cough	-	-	8	-
Scarlet Fever	8	-	26	-
Pneumonia	1	26	-	39
Puerperal Pyrexia	-	-	-	-
Erysipelas	-	-	-	-
Diphtheria	-	-	-	-
Cerebro-Spinal Meningitis	-	-	-	-
Acute Anterior Poliomyelitis	-	-	-	-
Dysentery	11	-	6	-
Paratyphoid	-	-	1	-
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	-	-	-	-
Malaria	-	-	-	-
Typhoid	-	-	-	-
Food Poisoning	3	-	5	-
Pneumococcal Meningitis	-	-	1	-
	<u>189</u>	<u>26</u>	<u>486</u>	<u>40</u>

TUBERCULOSIS

1 9 6 7

New Cases

Deaths

<u>Age Periods</u>	<u>Respiratory</u>		<u>Non-Respiratory</u>		<u>Respiratory</u>		<u>Non-Respiratory</u>	
	<u>M</u>	<u>F</u>	<u>M</u>	<u>F</u>	<u>M</u>	<u>F</u>	<u>M</u>	<u>F</u>
0	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
5	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-
15	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
25	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
35	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-
45	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
55	2	-	-	-	1	-	-	-
65	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
75 +	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	<u>4</u>	<u>2</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>

GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES

Hospitals

The Hospitals serving the District are the Royal Bucks, Tindal General and Stoke Mandeville. Infectious disease cases are admitted to the Aylesbury Isolation Hospital which is attached to Stoke Mandeville Hospital and the Grove Hospital, Linslade is available for the admission of cases of smallpox at short notice.

Accident cases are taken to the Accident Department at the Royal Bucks Hospital.

These hospitals are administered by the Royal Bucks and Associated Hospitals Management Committee.

Pathology Laboratory, Stoke Mandeville

Routine samples of milk, water and other specimens requiring bacteriological examination were sent to this laboratory throughout the year. Reports were received with the minimum of 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. Eleven ambulances and five dual purpose vehicles were available at the Ambulance Headquarters, Buckingham Road, for use in the Borough and surrounding Districts. 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.

Diphtheria, Tetanus and Whooping Cough Immunisation, and Poliomyelitis Vaccination.

The Bucks County Council, being the Local Health Authority as defined by the National Health Service Act, 1946, administer these services.

Treatment of Venereal Disease

A venereal disease clinic is held regularly at the Royal Bucks Hospital, Aylesbury, where free treatment is given. This clinic is administered by the Royal Bucks and Associated Hospitals Management Committee.

Child Welfare Centres:

<u>Fixed Centres:</u>	<u>Sessions</u>	<u>Doctor attends</u>
Aston Clinton	1st & 3rd Friday	3rd Friday
Brill	3rd Friday	-
Grendon Underwood	2nd Monday	Each session
Haddenham	2nd & 4th Thursday	-
Halton R.A.F. (Voluntary)	(January to March:- 2nd & 4th Thursday - Replaced by :- April onwards 2nd & 4th Tuesday).	-
Long Crendon	2nd & 4th Thursday	2nd Thursday
Quainton	1st Tuesday	Each session
Stone	4th Tuesday	Each session
Waddesdon	2nd Friday	-
Wendover	Each Monday	Each session
Weston Turville	3rd Thursday	Each session
Whitchurch	4th Friday	Each session

Mobile Child Welfare Centre:

January to October:

Westcott	}	1st Monday
Upper Winchendon		
Lower Winchendon		
Cuddington	}	1st Monday
Replaced by (November onwards)		
Chearsley		
Cuddington	}	4th Thursday
Dinton		
Ickford		
Worminghall	}	1st Tuesday (morning)
Oakley		
Bierton		

Attendances during 1967:

Total number of children attending during the year:-

Child Welfare Centres	...	...	...	...	1,192
Mobile Child Welfare Centres	...	...	...	...	196
Total attending	...	...	...	...	1,388

As will be seen, there was a total of 1,388 attending these Clinics

FACTORIES ACT, 1961

PART I

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

<u>Premises</u>	<u>No. on Register</u>	<u>Number of</u>		
		<u>Inspections</u>	<u>Written Notices</u>	<u>Occupiers prosecuted</u>
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)
(i) Factories in which Sections 1,2,3, 4 & 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities.....	8	4	-	-
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority	54	18	-	-
(iii) Other Premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding out-workers' premises).37		4	-	-
Total.....	99	26	-	-

2. Cases in which DEFECTS were found: NONE

PART VIII

(Sections 133 and 134)

OUTWORK

There are 14 outworkers registered in the District, all engaged in the making of wearing apparel. The premises in which the work is carried out have been inspected and found to be satisfactory in accordance with conditions laid down in the Act.

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

Premises		No. on Register	Inspections	Written Notices	Number of
		(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)
(i) Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4 & 5 are to be enforced by Local Authorities.....		8	1	-	-
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority.....		24	18	-	-
(iii) Other Premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding out-workers' premises). 37		4	-	-	-
Total.....		36	19	-	-

2. Cases in which DEPOSITS were found: NONE

PART VIII

(Sections 123 and 124)

OUTWORK

There are 14 outworkers registered in the District, all engaged in the making of wearing apparel. The premises in which the work is carried out have been inspected and found to be satisfactory in accordance with conditions laid down in the Act.

AYLESBURY RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL

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

CHIEF PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR,

BUILDING SURVEYOR,

DEPUTY -

W. A. MATHER, A.M.I.P.H.E., M.A.P.H.I.

TELEPHONE: AYLESBURY 4211 (THREE LINES).

HEALTH DEPARTMENT,

84, WALTON STREET,

AYLESBURY,

BUCKS.

May, 1968.

To the Chairman and Members of the
RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL OF AYLESBURY

I have the honour to report on the work of the Inspectors' branch of the Department for 1967.

PUBLIC CLEANSING

Refuse Collection:

Last year I reported the completion of the change from the skep system to the use of disposable sacks throughout the district. After a full year's operation, I am convinced that the Council's decision has been fully justified; inevitably there have been some minor difficulties and some complaint but there is no doubt that for household refuse this system is regarded as a big improvement by the great majority of householders and by the collectors.

The work study programme on refuse collection was introduced towards the end of January and, taking advantage of the introduction of refuse sacks, has had the effect of reducing the number of drivers and collectors from 27 to 16 and of taking two vehicles out of routine service. Employees within the scheme earn a bonus equivalent to one third basic pay for satisfactory completion of the scheduled task.

I am pleased to report that by with-holding the setting up of a sewer maintenance gang and by not replacing normal wastage of labour it was possible to make the change without redundancy.

The introduction of bonus working was delayed for a few days by the Government's wage freeze and as your Consultants were anxious to complete their programme on time, the new rounds were started in mid-week. This caused some dislocation of the service but after ten days the new routine was established and has since operated satisfactorily.

Demonstrations under working conditions with two makes of screw-impellor compression vehicles indicated that good compression ratios and uninterrupted loading were to be obtained. The reduction of voids and laceration of plastic sacks also indicated there would be a much better initial tip consolidation and an order was placed for a 16cu.yard screw-impellor continuous loading refuse vehicle to be delivered in 1968.

During the year there has been an exceptionally high rate of sickness among employees and the slender reserves of labour have not been adequate to fully man vehicles at all times. The incentive scheme has been valuable in bringing work up to date under such difficulties and at an economical cost. There is no evidence that the high sickness rate is directly connected with working conditions.

The Ministry of Housing and Local Government issued the Report of the Working Party on Refuse Collection during the year. It is gratifying that the Council was already conforming with the main recommendations on the collection of house refuse in that it undertakes a weekly collection of household refuse from each property using a sack system with units provided by the Council; that it operates rear loading refuse vehicles; and has adopted work study and incentive Bonus schemes.

The only receptacles for household refuse recommended in the report are continental type dustless loading bins and paper sacks but it advised that experiments with plastic sacks continue. Extensive trials in this district with all types of sack indicated that high grade polythene was no less satisfactory than good quality paper sacks and had distinct advantages. These polythene sacks proved less costly on tender and were generally preferred by householders and collectors. Cheaper sacks of lower quality - whether paper or plastic - were found to be unsatisfactory.

Considerable interest has been shown by other local authorities in the one hundred per-cent use of polythene sacks coupled to a bonus incentive scheme based on work study. In answer to

/Continued.....

numerous enquiries, I produced a duplicated report on experience in this District. There have been several visits by representatives from other Councils to examine the working of our collection system.

While I am satisfied with the organisation for collection of household refuse, I must express a growing concern over the demands for special collections and for clearing unauthorised dumping on roadside verges and common land. This has now reached such proportions that the occasional use of the refuse teams on overtime basis cannot cope with the problem. The Civic Amenities Act 1967 places direct responsibility on the Council and the Report of the Working Party envisages a much wider service than the collection of purely household refuse.

There is also a growing demand for collection of trade refuse and I propose during the next year to have this problem evaluated and to report whether it may be expedient to set up a special service for the collection of trade and special classes of refuse.

Disposal:

The site at Hartwell Old Brickyard continues to receive almost all the refuse collected, only one or two loads per week going to the small auxiliary tip at Kingswood.

The negotiations for extending the tip at Hartwell were concluded and a lease obtained on another acre of land which may be used only for deposit of inert material.

Drainage of the tip has continued to be a problem and a detailed survey of the entire site has been undertaken to determine the best method of drainage, the levels to which tipping can continue, and the future capacity of the site.

Ditches and drains have been installed to divert drainage from the adjoining land away from the tip; also to drain the tip area and to prevent the fouling of adjoining land and watercourses by tip drainage. The drainage from decomposing refuse is most offensive and has to be collected and pumped back onto inert areas of the tip for filtration before it can be discharged off site.

In order to comply with the conditions governing the use of additional land and to cover and face the tip, it is necessary to excavate and move large quantities of inert materials from the older parts of the tip thus providing space for incoming crude refuse.

The shortage of tip space is further aggravated by the increase of bulky articles such as vehicle shells and furniture and the Civic Amenities Act 1967 places responsibilities on the Council which may be expected to further increase demands on tip space.

I cannot stress too strongly that our present tipping area cannot be relied upon to serve the district beyond 1973 and that it will be increasingly costly to operate. I am convinced that the Council must seriously consider the incineration of refuse as being not only advisable, but of dire necessity.

Salvage:

Income from the sale of waste paper amounted to £562.12s.3d. This is a further reduction due to lack of labour resulting from the incidence of illness already mentioned.

Street Cleansing:

This work is undertaken in the Parish of Wendover. The labour position was easier during 1967 and I think a creditable standard has been maintained.

Cesspool Emptying:

Three vehicles are now engaged full-time on this work. The problem of disposal is as difficult as ever. Conversion grants have helped to further reduce the number of pail closets which were down to 152 at the end of the year.

A limited amount of special work was undertaken, the accounts for which totalled £141.19s.0d.

One Cesspool Emptyer was replaced during the year and an order placed for a second machine. One of the replaced vehicles had been in service for 19 years.

SEWERAGE AND SEWAGE DISPOSAL

There were only two sewerage Contracts in progress during the year; work on the Bierton (Rowsham Rd.,) sewers and pumping station was completed in July and the reconstruction of the Ickford pumping station commenced in September. A three-phase electricity supply was provided at Worminghall Works.

There was however considerable activity in the preparation of schemes, and reports in respect of Oving, Ickford and Worminghall, Oakley, Ashendon, Dorton and Ludgershall were brought forward for consideration, together with preliminary information relating to a number of other Parishes. The Council's attention was also drawn to the need for improvements to the Disposal Works at Waddesdon, Brill, Long Crendon, Quainton and Grendon Underwood.

In April an informal Enquiry was held by the Ministry in connection with the proposals for Stone and the adjacent Villages and later in the year the Haddenham Enquiry took place. There was little further progress regarding Stone but, after the very protracted negotiations in connection with the proposals for Haddenham there were definite signs of the possibility of work commencing during 1968.

Whilst it might sometimes be assumed that the acquisition of sites for Disposal Works and Pumping Stations ought to be a comparatively easy matter in a Rural District, this is not the case in practice and delay is often experienced in having to negotiate with various owners; this is particularly the case where the site can, from an engineering point of view, be located anywhere within a given area. In such circumstances Compulsory Purchase is fraught with difficulty because it can be shown that other sites than the one in question would be equally satisfactory. Again, planning considerations sometimes rule out sites which are the most suitable from the engineering aspect and a compromise has to be made.

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The appointment of a Works Supervisor to deal with the maintenance of the various Disposal Sites, Pumping Stations and sewerage systems has been of great benefit to the Department and has also been welcomed by the Council's employees who, in general, have shown increased interest in the work for which they are responsible.

The employment of a Fitter has meant that defects in mechanical plant have been avoided to some extent, and when they have arisen it has been possible to deal with them quickly and with the minimum of interruption of the services. Perhaps to an even greater extent, this has also been true of the sewer maintenance team which, though small, has carried out a tremendous amount of useful work in dealing with sewer blockages, the routine examination of sewers, grass cutting, relief duty on Disposal Sites and Pumping Stations etc., together with the multifarious "odd jobs" which continually need doing.

The effect of the steady growth of the District on sewerage and sewage disposal facilities is not always so obvious as in other services, but nevertheless it results in a continually increasing amount of work. With the shortage of land for development, there is a greater tendency for sites to be built on which cannot be sewered by gravity; there have therefore already been a few small pumping stations constructed which were taken over, on certain terms, by the Council and this situation is likely to continue and the number grow more rapidly. Another point to be borne in mind is that, with the increasing re-use of water for domestic purposes, the standards of effluent discharged to watercourses may possibly be raised in the not too distant future; if this occurs, both the capital and running costs of Disposal Works will be substantially increased.

LAND DRAINAGE

Investigations and surveys concerning surface water flooding in various parts of the district were carried out.

The bad conditions at Quarrendon, particularly on a section of the former gated road, continued in spite of strenuous efforts to get improvements put in hand. Towards the end of the year a start was eventually made but Foot and Mouth Disease restrictions slowed even this limited progress and at the close of the year a considerable amount of work remained to be done.

The complicated problem of flooding at Ickford had also not been resolved. In this case the difficulties are such that delay is inevitable and it may well be a long time before any effective remedial works can be organised.

H O U S I N G

Improvement Grants:

The number of applications showed an increase compared with last year from 59 to 64. Approvals were given to 19 Discretionary and 45 Standard Grants. Grants actually paid during the year for completed works totalled £16,546.

The total figures since the introduction of grants up to 31st December, 1967, are as follows:-

Discretionary Grants:

No. of Grants on Council property	...	...	3
No. of private properties covered by applications received	...	...	687
No. approved	...	...	620
No. refused	...	...	51
No. withdrawn before approval	...	...	16
			<u>687</u>
No. withdrawn after approval	...	...	53
Grants paid during the year	...	...	£13,478

The number of applications showed an increase compared with last year from 59 to 64. Approvals were given to 19 Discretionary and 45 Standard Grants. Grants actually paid during the year for completed works totalled £16,546.

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FOOD INSPECTION

In addition to food shops, catering establishments, etc., which received routine inspections, there is also one slaughterhouse in use in the District, a cold store where cysticercus bovis cases are held before eventual release, and two poultry killing establishments with an approximate weekly throughput of 1,000 birds.

Reports were made concerning contraventions of hygiene regulations involving mobile "shops" and proceedings were taken in respect of one poultry killing establishment which resulted in fines and costs totalling £40.10.0d.

No. of visits to slaughterhouses	...	...	60
No. of carcasses inspected	...		177
Weight of meat condemned at slaughterhouses			177 lbs.
" " " " " wholesale premises			30 lbs.
" " " " " retail premises			107½ lbs.
" " other foods condemned	...	...	205 lbs.

Five additional premises were registered for the sale of ice-cream and one for preparation and manufacture of preserved foods.

WATER SUPPLY

The District is effectively covered by the Bucks Water Board mains. No extensions needing financial assistance from this Authority occurred during the year.

PEST DESTRUCTION

This work is carried out by one operator who made a total of 1,042 visits in the year.

A number of contracts are operated by the Council in respect of business premises, mainly farms.

Routine visits to refuse tips and sewage works, periodical test baiting and treatment of sewers is undertaken in addition to the work at dwelling houses.

Various forms of infestation are dealt with in addition to rats and mice, although this is not a statutory duty. Following the report of difficulties in dealing with complaints about wasps, it was decided to restrict the service offered to certain types of cases and for a charge to be introduced when such work was undertaken.

OFFICES, SHOPS AND RAILWAY PREMISES ACT, 1963

The following is a statistical summary of work under this Act during the year:-

REGISTRATIONS AND GENERAL INSPECTIONS

Class of Premises	No. of premises registered during the year	No. of Registered premises at end of year	No. of registered premises receiving a general inspection during the year.
Offices	1	36	8
Retail Shops	4	99	11
Wholesale shops, Warehouses	-	4	-
Catering establishments open to the public, canteens	-	21	3
Fuel storage depots	-	-	-
Total:	5	160	22

TOTAL NUMBER OF VISITS OF ALL KINDS BY INSPECTORS TO REGISTERED PREMISES UNDER THE ACT

110

ANALYSIS OF CONTRAVENTIONS

Section	No. of Contraventions found		Section	No. of Contraventions found	
4	Cleanliness	5	13	Sitting facilities	-
5	Overcrowding	-	14	Seats (Sedentary workers)	-
6	Temperature	2	15	Eating facilities	-
7	Ventilation	-	16	Floors, passage and stairs	1
8	Lighting	-	17	Fencing exposed parts machinery	-
9	Sanitary conveniences	-	18	Protection of young persons from dangerous machinery	-
10	Washing facilities	1	19	Training of young persons working at dangerous machinery	-
11	Supply of drinking water	-	23	Prohibition of heavy work	-
12	Clothing accommodation	-	24	First Aid	4
				General provisions	9
				Other Matters	9
				TOTAL	22

ANIMAL BOARDING ESTABLISHMENTS ACT, 1963

8 existing Licences were renewed for the year.

PET ANIMALS ACT, 1951

One Pet Shop Licence was renewed under the above Act during the year.

PETROLEUM STORAGE

96 Licences to store petroleum spirit were in force at the end of the year. It has not been necessary to take any proceedings for offences.

Latched nozzles of approved design and a few blender pumps have been introduced but no self-service filling station has been licensed in the District. The Council has given careful consideration to the problem of self service and is not prepared to licence any unattended self service filling stations but will reconsider this decision if Home Office Codes are issued in relation to this type of installation.

One licence has been issued for storage of benzine to be used in a process within the jurisdiction of the Factories Inspector.

SCRAP METAL DEALERS ACT, 1964

9 Registrations remained effective with this Authority.

STREET NAMING AND NUMBERING

Street naming and numbering was confined to new estates and similar developments. A limited amount of re-numbering had to be undertaken.

CLEAN AIR ACT, 1956

One instrument is operated in this District in connection with the National Survey of Air Pollution. The weekly readings are recorded and sent to the Department of Scientific and Industrial Research every month.

NEW BUILDINGS

The number of plans submitted during the year totalled 845.

These are summarised as follows:-

Building Regulations - Town and Country Planning Acts.

Dwelling Houses

New	..	..	..	..	..	..	101 for 178 houses
Layout plans	..	..	..	..	..	..	9 for 197 houses
Outline applications	..	..	..	..	..	..	131
Conversions	..	..	..	..	..	..	7
Alterations and Additions	..	..	..	..	..	..	222
Change of Use	..	..	..	..	..	..	9

Industrial

New	..	..	..	..	..	..	10
Alterations and Additions to Factories and Workshops	..	..	..	..	..	..	12
Outline applications	..	..	..	..	..	..	21
Change of use	..	..	..	..	..	..	9

Miscellaneous

Agricultural Buildings	..	..	..	..	..	..	56
Private Garages	..	..	..	..	..	..	122
Caravans	..	..	..	..	..	..	13
Others	..	..	..	..	..	..	108
Applications cancelled	..	..	..	..	..	..	15

Number of Dwellings completed

Private	..	..	..	..	..	..	152
Local Authority	..	..	..	..	..	..	79
							<u>231</u>

Decisions on 19 Planning Appeals were received, of which 5 were allowed and 14 dismissed.

Three prosecutions were taken during the year under Section 1 of the Caravan Sites and Control of Development Act, 1960 for use of land as caravan sites without site licences, and fines were imposed in all three cases.

Also during the year one notice was served under Section 65 of the Public Health Act, 1936 requiring the removal of buildings which had been erected in contravention of the Building Regulations.

VISITS AND INSPECTIONS

New Buildings	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	2958
Abandoned Vehicles	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	66
Clean Air Act	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	40
Cleansing	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	126
Conversion Grants	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	9
Dangerous Buildings	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	59
Ditches	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	185
Drainage	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	934
Drain Tests	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	709
Animal Boarding Establishments and Pet Shops	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	15
Agricultural (Safety, Health & Welfare Provisions) Act 1956.	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	7
Factories	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	26
Food Premises and Food Inspection	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	271
Housing Acts	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	298
Improvement Grants	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	590
Infestation and Infectious Diseases	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	41
Levelling	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	49
Miscellaneous	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	332
Moveable Dwellings	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	210
Noise Abatement Act	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	3
Nuisances	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	189
Offices, Shops and Railway Premises Act, 1963	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	110
Petroleum Acts	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	135
Public Health	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	147
Refuse Collection and Scavenging	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	339
Refuse Collection (Work Study)	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	108
Rodent Control	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1047
Sewage Works	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	576
Sewerage	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1180
Scrap Metal Dealers Act	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	29
Slaughterhouses	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	60
Street Naming and Numbering	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	71
Trade Effluents	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	23
Water Supply	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	49

The only staff change in the Department during the year was the appointment of Mr.J.Baker who took up his duties as Junior Clerk in January to fill the vacancy caused by the resignation of Mr.G.Fincher.

Finally, I have much pleasure in once again expressing my appreciation of the help and support afforded me at all times by the Chairman and Members of the Public Health Committee, and also of recording thanks to the Staff for their work and effort during one more year.

Your obedient Servant,

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

Chief Public Health Inspector and
Building Surveyor.