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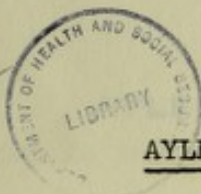
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AYLESBURY RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL

ANNUAL REPORT FOR THE YEAR

1968

OF THE

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

AND THE

CHIEF PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR

-----ooOoo-----

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH:

DR. A. W. PRINGLE, J.P., 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

DR. A.W. PRINGLE, J.P.,
B.A., M.B., B.CH., D.P.H.,
MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

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

June, 1969.

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 1968.

This year, the twentieth anniversary of the National Health Service, has been a year of assessment of past achievements and planning for the future. With the publication of the Ministry of Health's Green Paper and the Seebohm Report we are confronted with recommendations for radical changes in the organisation of the Health Service, especially that part administered by Local Authorities.

In his foreword to the Green Paper the Minister has made it clear that it should be regarded as a basis for discussion and there has been no lack of this since its publication. There has been general acceptance of one issue, that the Health Service should in future be administered on a unified basis. But beyond this the actual future administrative structure is by no means settled, and cannot be until the report of the Royal Commission on Local Government has been considered.

Steps have been taken in recent years to overcome some of the disadvantages inherent in a tripartite service. For example, the attachment of Health Visitors and District Nurses to general practices and the move towards practice from Health Centres jointly used by Local Authority Health Services and General Practitioners. These are encouraging signs that the will to work together is there, but it is hard to see how a properly integrated service can come into being without a unified administration.

The Seebohm Report, which broadly recommends the establishment of Social Service Departments, would separate the welfare element from

/Cont'd.....

Health Departments, and is still very much a matter for discussion. Again, its recommendations will have to be considered in the light of the report of the Royal Commission.

An examination of the vital statistics reveals only marginal changes from those of 1967. It may be noted with interest that whereas the birth rate for England and Wales has fallen over the last two years, that of the rural district has remained constant. Cancer and the degenerative diseases of the heart and circulation continued to be the main causes of death, and it is in an effort to avoid death in middle age from this latter group that transplant surgery has come into being. At the same time, advances in resuscitation have blurred the line between life and death, throwing a glare of publicity on the situation. It would seem that a breathing space is required to allow an unemotional assessment of these two great advances in relation to each other.

FOOD HYGIENE

A further course on food hygiene for those employed in the food industry in the area was held at the College of Further Education. There are ten lectures given by doctors and public health inspectors in each course, and an additional two revision classes for those who wish to take the examination of the Royal Institute of Public Health and Hygiene. Even allowing for movement of population in and out of the area there must by now be a good nucleus of trained people in the restaurants, shops and factories. There is also the educational aspect of regular visits to these establishments by the Public Health Inspectors whose job is not simply to enforce the regulations, but to instruct as well.

ENVIRONMENTAL HYGIENE

Your Chairman and Officers were received during May at the Ministry and the strongest possible case was put forward for loan sanction to enable urgent drainage and sewage disposal schemes in the District to be started. While the need for these was recognised by the Ministry, it was clear that shortage of money and schemes which were considered to merit higher priority would be the ruling factors. It is good to report, however, that the construction of the Haddenham sewage scheme got under way. It is to be hoped that other urgent schemes will not be long delayed because with a steady annual increase in the population of just under one thousand critical situations are bound to develop in a number of localities.

TUBERCULOSIS

Only two new cases of pulmonary tuberculosis were notified, a record low figure over the previous ten year period. The highest incidence was in 1957 when 15 cases were notified. It does not seem at present that tuberculosis will cease to exist in this country in the foreseeable future, but clearly the trend is downward. Credit for this cannot be given to any particular measure which has been taken over the years; it is due, rather to a combination of therapy, immunology and epidemiology being patiently applied day in and day out against the disease.

Each year in this section of the Report mention has been made of the part played by the Chest Clinic in tuberculosis control.

Dr. Stephen Hall, the chest consultant, has completed his last year of service, and I would like to record my gratitude to him for his ready help and guidance in this field. Although essentially a physician, he has always taken a great interest in the epidemiological side of his work and he can look back with satisfaction on the striking reduction in all forms of the disease during his years of work in this area.

/Continued.....

Tuberculosis (Continued)

MASS RADIOGRAPHY SERVICE

OXFORD REGIONAL HOSPITAL BOARD

Northern Area

HOUSE OF CITIZENSHIP
HARTWELL HOUSE, AYLESBURY.

9.2.68.

Response: 86%

<u>Summary of Work</u>	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>	<u>Total</u>
No. of miniature films taken ...	-	94	94
No. referred to chest clinic	-	-	-
No. referred to general practitioners.	-	1	1
No. previously examined by M.M.R. ...	-	41	41
No. not previously examined by M.M.R..	-	53	53

Results of cases referred to Chest Clinic: NIL.

Result of case referred to general practitioner:

Depressed sternum	-	1	1
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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>
Students	71	-	-	-	-
Staff & dependants	23	-	-	-	-
TOTAL	94	-	-	-	-

PLAYGROUP STAFFS.
OAKLEY AND BRILL.

17.10.68.

<u>Summary of Work</u>	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>	<u>Total</u>
No. of miniature films taken ...	2	57	59
No. referred to chest clinic	-	-	-
No. referred to general practitioners.	-	-	-
No. previously examined by M.M.R. ...	2	24	26
No. not previously examined by M.M.R..	-	33	33

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>
Oakley	33	-	-	-	-
Brill	26	-	-	-	-
TOTAL	59	-	-	-	-

/Cont'd.....

Tuberculosis (Continued)....

CRENDON CONCRETE LTD.
LONG CRENDON, AYLESBURY.

18.7.68.

<u>Summary of Work</u>	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>	<u>Total</u>
No. of miniature films taken	134	18	152
No. referred to chest clinic	-	-	-
No. referred to general practitioners..	-	-	-
No. previously examined by M.M.R.....	96	12	108
No. not previously examined by M.M.R...	38	6	44

Results of cases referred to Chest Clinic: NIL.

INFECTIVE JAUNDICE

The Public Health (Infective Jaundice) Regulations, 1968, came into operation on the 15th June. These regulations made infective jaundice notifiable throughout the Country, and were generally welcomed because up to that time it was difficult for a Medical Officer of Health to get an overall picture of the incidence of the disease. Three cases, two in the same family, were notified in the District. It is a difficult disease to control because of its long and variable incubation period, and the fact that people can suffer from it having only fleeting jaundice or no signs of jaundice at all. They may therefore quite unknowingly act as carriers. However, as in other infections, it is of the greatest help to have early notification.

OTHER INFECTIOUS DISEASES

Six apparently isolated cases of food poisoning due to salmonella infections were notified and investigated. A typical case was that of a lady notified during December. She had a lodger who was a farm worker and who had had gastro-intestinal symptoms some two weeks previously but had recovered without treatment. In visiting the farm it was found that three calves had recently died due to what was originally thought to be nitrate poisoning but on investigation some salmonella had been isolated. It is a fair assumption that the lady got her infection indirectly from the calves. Further cases were avoided by advice on proper precautions and treatment of infected cattle.

/Continued.....

Other Infectious Diseases (Continued).....

During the early months of the year there were a good many cases of what was presumed to be virus enteritis. They were characterised by sudden onset of vomiting followed by diarrhoea and the illness was of short duration. An outbreak of this illness in a school was investigated but no pathological organisms could be isolated from food or patients.

You will note from the infectious diseases tables that there has been a most striking reduction in the number of measles notifications. The immunisation campaign against measles started in May, 1968, and before the end of the year every child up to the age of 15 years in the area who had not had measles had been offered immunisation. This required a considerable effort in which the general practitioners also wholeheartedly joined.

The vaccine is made with live attenuated measles virus and underwent extensive trials before being accepted for general use. Very few reactions of any severity were reported in this area. If measles can be controlled, and there is every reason to hope that it will be, permanent damage to ears, chests and general health due to the disease, will be avoided. Judging by the initial response to immunisation, these factors are appreciated by the general public.

I would like to thank the members of the Committee for their continued advice and support throughout the year, my Deputy, Dr. Slocombe, 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, J.P., 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-1968).....	36,520
(c)	Number of inhabited houses (end of 1968) according to Rate Book.....	11,720
(d)	Rateable Value.....	£1,321,250
(e)	Sum represented by a Penny Rate.....	£5,400

VITAL STATISTICS

	1967			1968		
	Total	M	F	Total	M	F
Live Births - Legitimate	602	310	292	587	311	276
Illegitimate	32	17	15	43	24	19
Live birth rate per 1,000 population		17.3			17.3	
Birth rate (corrected)		17.8			17.8	
Birth rate for England & Wales		17.2			16.9	
Illegitimate live births per cent of total live births		5.2			6.8	
<u>Still Births</u>						
Number	3	2	1	4	1	3
Rate per 1,000 total live and still births		4.71			6.3	
Total live and still births	637	329	308	634	336	298

DEATHS

	1967			1968		
	Total	M	F	Total	M	F
	364	184	180			
Death Rate per 1,000 estimated population....				10.0		11.0
Standardised Death Rate				9.4		10.5
Death Rate for England and Wales.....				11.2		11.9
<u>Infant Deaths</u>						
Number	11	7	4	8	4	4
<u>Infant mortality rates:</u>						
Total infant deaths per 1,000 total live births		17.4			12.7	
-do- Legitimate		16.6			13.6	
-do- Illegitimate		31.25			-	
Infant mortality rate for England & Wales		18.3			18.0	
<u>Neo-Natal mortality rate:</u> (Deaths under 4 weeks per 1,000 total live births)						
Number	9	5	4	6	4	2
Rate		14.2			9.5	

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

	1967			1968		
	Total	M	F	Total	M	F
<u>Early Neo-Natal mortality:</u>						
(Deaths under 1 week per 1,000 total live births)						
Number	7	5	2	5	4	1
Rate	11.04			7.9		
<u>Perinatal mortality:</u>						
(Stillbirths and deaths under 1 week combined per 1,000 total live and still births)						
Number	10	7	3	9	5	4
Rate	15.7			13.7		
<u>Maternal mortality:</u>						
	NONE			NONE		
DEATHS FROM CANCER (all ages)	...	...	...	...	...	67

ANALYSIS OF DEATHS

Disease	1968		
	Male	Female	Total
Tuberculosis, respiratory	1	-	1
Tuberculosis, other	-	2	2
Other infective and parasitic diseases	-	1	1
Malignant neoplasm - stomach	2	3	5
Malignant neoplasm - lung, bronchus	17	2	19
Malignant neoplasm - breast	-	4	4
Malignant neoplasm - uterus	-	1	1
Leukaemia	3	1	4
Other malignant neoplasms	17	15	32
Benign and unspecified neoplasms	-	2	2
Diabetes mellitus	1	1	2
Other endocrine diseases	-	1	1
Other diseases of blood	-	1	1
Mental disorders	1	4	5
Other diseases of nervous system	2	1	3
Chronic rheumatic heart disease	1	3	4
Hypertensive disease	5	3	8
Ischaemic heart disease	61	40	101
Other forms of heart disease	8	10	18
Cerebrovascular disease	23	27	50
Other diseases of circulatory system	8	7	15
Influenza	1	2	3
Pneumonia	16	27	43
Bronchitis and emphysema	16	6	22
Other diseases of respiratory system	1	4	5
Peptic ulcer	2	2	4
Intestinal obstruction and hernia	3	3	6
Cirrhosis of liver	1	1	2
Other diseases of digestive system	4	3	7
Nephritis and nephrosis	1	1	2
Hyperplasia of prostate	1	-	1
Other diseases of genito-urinary system	2	1	3
Diseases of skin, subcutaneous tissue	-	1	1
Diseases of musculo-skeletal system	-	2	2
Congenital anomalies	2	1	3
Birth injury, difficult labour	-	1	1
Other causes of perinatal mortality	4	-	4
Symptoms and ill-defined conditions	1	-	1
Motor vehicle accidents	6	2	8
All other accidents	2	1	3
Suicide and self-inflicted injuries	-	2	2
All other external causes	-	1	1
	213	190	403

PREVALENCE OF AND CONTROL OVER INFECTIOUS AND OTHER DISEASES:

	1967		1968	
	No. of Cases Notified	No. of Deaths	No. of Cases Notified	No. of Deaths
Smallpox	-	-	-	-
Measles	439	1	24	-
Whooping Cough	8	-	33	-
Scarlet Fever	26	-	5	-
Pneumonia	-	39	1	43
Diphtheria	-	-	-	-
Acute Meningitis	-	-	1	-
Acute Anterior Poliomyelitis	-	-	-	-
Dysentery	6	-	-	-
Paratyphoid	1	-	2	-
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	-	-	-	-
Malaria	-	-	-	-
Typhoid	-	-	-	-
Food Poisoning	5	-	6	-
Pneumococcal Meningitis	1	-	-	-
Infective Jaundice	-	-	3	-
	486	40	75	43

TUBERCULOSIS

1968

Age Periods	New Cases				Deaths			
	Respiratory		Non-Respiratory		Respiratory		Non-Respiratory	
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
0	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
5	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
15	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
25	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
35	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
45	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
55	1	-	-	1	-	-	-	-
65	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	1
75 +	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	2	-	-	2	1	-	-	2

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.

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>Children Attending</u>	<u>Doctor Attends</u>
Aston Clinton	1st & 3rd Friday.	111	3rd Friday.
Brill	3rd Friday.	50	-
Grendon Underwood	2nd Monday.	61	Each session.
Haddenham	2nd & 4th Thursday.	128	-
Halton R.A.F. (Voluntary).	2nd & 4th Tuesday.	99	-
Long Crendon.	2nd & 4th Thursday.	119	2nd Thursday.
Quainton.	1st Tuesday.	53	Each session.
Stone.	4th Tuesday.	59	Each session.
Waddesdon.	2nd Friday.	59	
Wendover.	Each Monday.	440	Each session.
Weston Turville.	3rd Thursday.	64	Each session.
Whitchurch.	4th Friday.	79	Each session.

Mobile Child Welfare Centres;

Chearsley.	}		17
Cuddington.		1st Monday.	23
Dinton.			17
Ickford.	}		33
Worminghall.		4th Thursday.	20
Oakley.			58
Shabbington.	}	w.e.f. November, 1968.	9
Bierton.		1st Tuesday. (morning).	69

Attendances during 1968:

Total number of children attending during the year:

Child Welfare Centres	...	...	...	...	1,322
Mobile Child Welfare Centres	....	....	....	....	246
					<u>1,568</u>

As will be seen, there was a total of 1,568 attending these Clinics.

FACTORIES ACT, 1961

PART I

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

Premises	No. on Register	Number of		
		Inspections	Written Notices	Occupiers prosecuted
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)
(i) Factories in which Sections 1,2,3,4 & 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities.....	8	2	-	-
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority.....	54	7	-	-
(iii) Other Premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding out-workers' premises.	36	2	-	-
Total.....	98	11	-	-

PART VIII

(Sections 133 and 134)

OUTWORK

There are 16 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.

June, 1969.

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 during the year 1968.

PUBLIC CLEANSING

Refuse Collection:

The use of disposable polythene sacks continues to operate satisfactorily and the bonus system introduced at the beginning of 1968 has become well established, producing results beneficial to both the Council and employees.

The principal problem so far as collection is concerned is undoubtedly the increasing amount of large refuse which cannot be accommodated in either dustbin or refuse sack. This necessitates additional arrangements to the routine house-to-house collection and often costly hiring of reserve labour and a vehicle is not available. Local collection points have been considered for this type of refuse but the danger of these locations becoming tips or dumps is, I feel, too great. Householders are encouraged to report the need for special collections and some villages have collected and prepared a list of cases for attention to save waste of time and unnecessary mileage. Whilst there is still some illegal dumping of rubbish in ditches and along roadsides, this activity has, I think, diminished during the past year. Unfortunately there are a few places near the boundaries of our district where rubbish continues to be dumped and these are mainly at layby litter bins. When used properly these bins are very beneficial, but so often large rubbish is dumped around them and litter thrown towards the bin rather than placed in it, resulting in a deplorable mess and eyesore. The total removal of such bins has in a number of cases resulted in actual improvement.

Disposal:

The major part of the refuse collected is still disposed of at the Old Brickyards Tip, Hartwell, the remainder going to the small tip at Kingswood Lane. Unfortunately most of the available space has been used up at Hartwell and had we not obtained a slight extension of the site and undertaken a lot of work in reforming the tip, another site would have been needed by now. Even so it has become imperative to find another site and probably other means of disposal. The tipping of crude refuse as a means of disposal will almost certainly have to be abandoned in areas such as this. It is now probably impossible to find a suitable and acceptable site for controlled tipping which means co-operation between adjoining authorities to provide incineration plant. I consider this now to be unquestionably the right approach, as the rapid increase in the bulk of refuse, apart from other considerations, makes tipping an undesirable practice except possibly in areas where derelict land needs reclamation and even then some form of pre-treatment ought to be adopted.

Salvage:

Waste paper has been baled as and when labour has been available. Income amounted to £460.

Street Cleansing:

This work is only undertaken in the Parish of Wendover where one operator is employed.

Cesspool Emptying:

Another Cesspool Emptyer was replaced during the year and the three vehicles are engaged full time on this work. The number of pail closets has now been reduced to 137. The disposal of cesspool contents is still a most difficult problem, the lack of disposal sites entailing considerable extra mileage and, of course, time.

SEWERAGE AND SEWAGE DISPOSAL

The notable feature of 1968 was the heavy flows recorded. Severe flooding followed the thaw in January causing much difficulty and the continuing wet weather during a large part of the year kept flows at unusually high levels for extended periods.

The Haddenham scheme was approved in January, Tenders received in June and work commenced in October.

A deputation visited the Ministry regarding the Stone scheme in May, but no progress could be reported here at the end of the year.

The proposed scheme for Chearsley was advertised and the Consulting Engineers were asked to investigate a joint scheme to provide sewage disposal facilities for Brill after linking with Oakley and Worminghall.

Difficulties continued to be met in preparing schemes for Oving and Ludgershall in spite of various alterations being considered and investigated so far as sites were concerned. Investigations were also made into sites for Disposal Works and Pumping Stations at Dorton, Ashendon and Worminghall.

Instructions were given for a scheme to be prepared for an extension of the sewers at Aston Clinton. Details were prepared of drainage schemes for Council Housing development at Ludgershall, Brill and Chearsley, and negotiations commenced for the installation and eventual "take-over" of private Housing Estate sewage pumping stations at Long Crendon and Brill. The reconstruction of the Ickford Pumping Station and the installation of improved pumps was carried out during the year.

Negotiations with the adjoining tenant farmer were conducted which resulted in an agreed scheme for making-up part of the approach road to Waddesdon Sewage Disposal Site, and improvements were made in the storm overflow arrangements at Aston Clinton Works.

LAND DRAINAGE

Further investigation and surveys to deal with surface water flooding were undertaken during the year.

The conditions obtaining at Quarrendon had still not been alleviated but had actually become worse owing to the continued wet weather. It was clear that formal action would have to be taken as soon as weather conditions improved after the winter.

At Ickford extensive works were put in hand by the Thames Conservancy with a view to relieving the complicated problem in this Village.

At Waddesdon a start was made on an extended survey from the centre of the village out to Warmstone to improve surface water drainage facilities and eliminate flooding at certain points.

Other smaller local problems were also dealt with.

H O U S I N G

A housing survey of twenty-five houses in Wendover has been made and the following action has been taken:-

A Clearance Area has been declared in respect of eleven houses, negotiations to purchase these properties and one adjoining house for clearance and redevelopment by the Council are proceeding. Two houses are subject to individual Demolition Orders. Three houses are to be demolished by the highway authority for road improvement. Proposals to demolish four houses for private development are awaiting planning decision. Four houses all in owner/occupation were considered not to be unfit.

At Aston Clinton survey of a block of six houses has been followed by the declaration of a Clearance Area and negotiations for purchase by the Council are proceeding.

Repairs and Demolition:

43 properties were repaired as a result of formal and informal action during the year.

9 properties were represented as incapable of repair at reasonable expense and the appropriate notices were issued. As a result of these and earlier representations, 6 Demolition Orders and 3 Closing Orders were made, and 3 Undertakings to repair were accepted.

18 Demolition Orders and 1 Closing Order were cancelled after satisfactory completion of reconditioning works.

20 properties were demolished.

Improvement Grants:

The number of applications showed an increase compared with last year from 64 to 65. Approvals were given to 28 Discretionary and 36 Standard Grants. 1 Discretionary Grant was refused. Grants actually paid during the year for completed works totalled £12,657.

The total figures since the introduction of grants up to 31st December, 1968, are as follows:-

Discretionary Grants:

No. of Grants on Council property ...	...	...	3
No. of private properties covered by applications received ...	...	...	<u>716</u>
No. approved ...	...	...	648
No. refused ...	...	...	52
No. withdrawn before approval ...	...	...	<u>16</u>
			<u>716</u>

Grants paid during the year ... £ 6,931.

Standard Grants:

Total number of applications received to date ... 383.

Grants actually paid during the year for completed Standard Grant works totalled £5,726 in respect of 36 properties, of which 23 were Higher Limit Grants providing, in addition to the 5 standard amenities, 14 bathrooms, 4 piped water supplies and 10 septic tank drainage systems

LOCAL LAND CHARGES

Information concerning notices served is supplied when official search of the Land Charges Register is applied for. This information relates not only to Housing and Public Health Act notices but also Planning Permission conditions. 1,159 were dealt with during the year.

FOOD INSPECTION

Routine and special visits are made at food shops, catering establishments, one slaughterhouse and one cold store in the district. Carcasses affected with *cysticercus bovis* are sent to this cold store from adjoining areas for retention and checks are made before the carcasses are eventually released.

One case concerning unfit food was reported for prosecution. The case had not come to Court at the end of the year.

No. of visits to slaughterhouses	...	...	...	48
No. of carcasses inspected	...	...	...	186
Weight of meat condemned at slaughterhouses	...	...	...	121 lbs.
" " " " " wholesale premises	...	...	...	289 "
" " " " " retail premises	...	...	...	154 "
" " other foods condemned	...	...	...	94 "

Four additional premises were registered for the sale of ice-cream.

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, but the possibility of obtaining grant aid for one extension was being investigated.

PEST DESTRUCTION

This work is carried out by one operator who made a total of 925 visits during the year. These visits relate in the main to rats and mice infestations at dwellinghouses, business premises and Council tips and disposal sites. From time to time assistance and advice is given for dealing with other pests, e.g. flies, ants, wasps, etc. and even some animals such as moles and squirrels.

A number of rodent contracts are operated which with one or two exceptions relate to farms.

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 rec'ng a general inspection during the year.
Offices	-	36	3
Retail Shops	6	99	5
Wholesale shops, Warehouses	-	3	-
Catering establishments open to the public, canteens	-	21	2
Fuel storage depots	-	-	-
Total:	6	159	10

TOTAL NUMBER OF VISITS OF ALL KINDS BY INSPECTORS TO REGISTERED PREMISES UNDER THE ACT 60

ANALYSIS OF CONTRAVENTIONS

Section	No. of Contraventions found.	Section	No. of Contraventions found.
4	Cleanliness -	13	Sitting facilities -
5	Overcrowding -	14	Seats (Sedentary workers) -
6	Temperature 2	15	Eating facilities -
7	Ventilation 2	16	Floors, passage and stairs -
8	Lighting -	17	Fencing exposed parts machinery 1
9	Sanitary conveniences -	18	Protection of young persons from dangerous machinery -
10	Washing facilities -	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 General provisions 4
			<u>Other Matters</u> 9

Total No. of Contraventions = 18

ANIMAL BOARDING ESTABLISHMENT ACT, 1963

8 existing Licences were renewed for the year.

PET ANIMALS ACT, 1951

One Pet Shop Licence was renewed under the Act in respect of premises at which are kept tropical and cold water fish, terrapins and cage birds.

PETROLEUM STORAGE

94 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.

The standard form of licence to keep petroleum, adopted by many Buckinghamshire authorities, is under review following the issue by the Home Office of the Model Code of Principles of Construction and Licensing Conditions (Part 1). In the meantime regard is being had to the new code in the determination of applications for licence.

There are no Distributing Depots or major installations in the district.

SCRAP METAL DEALERS ACT, 1964.

5 registrations remained effective with this Authority at the end of the year.

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 812.
These are summarised as follows:-

Building Regulations - Town and Country Planning Acts.

Dwelling Houses

New	.. .. .	81 for 102 houses
Layout plans	.. .. .	17 for 243 houses
Outline applications	.. .. .	131
Conversions	.. .. .	31
Alterations and Additions	.. .. .	228
Change of Use	.. .. .	4

Industrial

New	.. .. .	9
Alterations and Additions to Factories and Workshops	.. .. .	9
Outline applications	.. .. .	25
Change of use	.. .. .	6

Miscellaneous

Agricultural Buildings	.. .. .	44
Private Garages	.. .. .	106
Caravans	.. .. .	14
Others	.. .. .	90
Applications cancelled	.. .. .	17

Number of Dwellings completed

Private	.. .. .	216
Local Authority	.. .. .	54
		270

Decisions on 13 Planning Appeals were received, of which 4 were allowed and 9 dismissed.

Two applications were granted for relaxation of Building Regulations during the year.

VISITS AND INSPECTIONS

New Buildings	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	2885
Abandoned Vehicles	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	43
Clean Air Act	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	78
Cleansing	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	134
Civic Amenities Act	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	75
Conversion Grants	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	4
Dangerous Buildings	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	70
Ditches & Watercourses	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	254
Drainage	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	794
Drain Tests	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	581
Animal Boarding Establishments and Pet Shops	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	12
Factories	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	11
Food Premises and Food Inspection	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	230
Housing Acts	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	440
Improvement Grants	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	453
Infestation and Infectious Diseases	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	24
Land Drainage	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	95
Levelling	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	62
Miscellaneous	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	395
Moveable Dwellings	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	108
Nuisances	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	162
Offices, Shops and Railway Premises Act, 1963	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	60
Petroleum Acts	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	97
Public Health	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	158
Refuse Collection and Scavenging	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	340
Refuse Collection (Work Study)	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	89
Rodent Control	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	925
Sewage Works	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	563
Sewerage	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	942
Scrap Metal Dealers Act	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	4
Slaughterhouses	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	48
Street Naming and Numbering	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	98
Trade Effluents	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	21
Water Supply	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	61

The only staff change in the Department during the year was the appointment of Mrs.B.Walters to fill the vacancy caused by the resignation of Mrs.M.Willoughby.

The end of the year under review marks the conclusion of my 40th year in the Council's service. The help I have received from the Chairmen and Members at all times, especially since I became your Chief Public Health Inspector, has been a source of great pleasure and encouragement to me. I also express my grateful thanks to a most loyal and efficient staff.

Your obedient Servant,

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

Chief Public Health Inspector and
Building Surveyor.

The only staff change in the Department during the year was the appointment of Mrs. B. Walters to fill the vacancy caused by the resignation of Mrs. M. W. Wiloughby.

The end of the year under review marks the conclusion of my 10th year in the Council's service. The help I have received from the Chairman and Members at all times, especially since I became your Chief Public Health Inspector, has been a source of great pleasure and encouragement to me. I also express my grateful thanks to a most loyal and efficient staff.

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