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Contributors

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AYLESBURY RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL

ANNUAL REPORT FOR THE YEAR

1969

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

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MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH:

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

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

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AYLESBURY RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL

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

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

HEALTH DEPARTMENT.

84, WALTON STREET.

AYLESBURY.

BUCKS.

June, 1970.

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

As this Report is concerned with the last year of the nineteen sixties it is of some interest perhaps to look back at any changes which might have taken place in the vital statistics over the past decade.

With the exception of 1965 the birth rate has remained higher than the rate for England and Wales but both rates show a steady decline over the ten year period. It would be unwise to firmly predict that it would continue its present trend, but there is the obvious possibility that the increase in family planning activities will further reduce the rate in future.

The percentage of live births which were illegitimate has increased from 3.29% in 1960 to 6.0% in 1969. It might be expected that this upward trend might be at least halted by the more ready availability of abortions under the Act.

The death rate has remained constantly lower than that for England and Wales and has shown little variation with the exception of 1963 when, possibly due to the very hard winter, it was slightly raised.

The infant mortality rate has decreased by 3.5 deaths per 1,000 live births and this coupled with the fact that there was only one maternal death in ten years reflects credit on the maternity services.

During the period under review the estimated population of the Rural District increased by 4,530.

Looking at the unfavourable health trends during the year there was an increase in notifications of "food poisoning". This is, perhaps, an out-of-date description because it brings to most people's imagination a picture of meat which smells or tastes bad. In fact a wide range of food from broiler chickens to raw milk can be infected, and the usual organism of infection is a member of the salmonella group. It is unusual to find that taste or smell is altered in any way.

Salmonellae are widespread in the animal kingdom, and it is difficult to assess whether the increased incidence is real or apparent. Certainly more outbreaks in cattle are being reported by the veterinary services, but this may be due to greater awareness of the disease and better diagnostic facilities. When these occur a visit is made to the farm by me or your Health Inspectors with the object of preventing the infection spreading to farm workers and the general public by unpasteurised milk. There were several classic examples in which all those who drank raw milk from a herd became infected. Their illness led to investigation of the herd and isolation and treatment of infected cattle. All this has led to a good deal of extra work but the closer liaison with the veterinary profession which is building up will be a potent factor in preventing the spread of animal diseases which can be transmitted to man.

There has been some interesting work done in recent years to estimate the amount of infected imported meat. Samples examined arriving from Holland showed that 3.8% were contaminated, and from the Republic of Ireland 4.5%, and doubtless the figures from other sources are no better. It is comforting to know that salmonellae are destroyed by ordinary cooking, but not, let it be noted, by spit-roasting of chickens which may not produce a high enough temperature in the birds' interior.

At the request of another Authority samples of washings from broiler houses in the district were examined, but no salmonellae were found in these.

One notice under Section 20 of the Milk and Dairies Regulations 1959 was served on a milk producer requiring him to pasteurise all milk for human consumption because samples were found to be infected with brucellosis. It was possible to lift this order some months later when results of sampling proved satisfactory.

Food Hygiene

Besides routine visits to food shops and restaurants all notifications of dysentery and food poisoning were followed up with a view to ensuring that nobody with these diseases returned to work even remotely connected with food handling until he or she was no longer excreting the germs. In practice it is very seldom necessary to use statutory power to obtain exclusion of a case or contact from food handling because those concerned are anxious to co-operate in avoiding an obvious risk to public health.

From time to time complaints that food, such as corned beef, has caused illness or was "bad" when purchased are investigated. In all cases shop keepers are requested to withdraw from sale stocks of the particular food until laboratory examinations are complete. Two such complaints were investigated but no pathogenic organisms were isolated.

A further course of lectures on food hygiene for those employed in the food industry was held at the College of Further Education.

Tuberculosis

During the year 7 new cases of tuberculosis were notified; 5 were pulmonary and 2 were non-pulmonary. One male, aged over 75 years died of the disease.

Other Infectious Diseases

During November four passengers who disembarked from the S.S. Angelina Laura at Southampton were confirmed as typhoid cases. Of the 200 or so other passengers, two families were traced to destinations in this area, and were cleared following laboratory tests. Other holidaymakers were similarly followed up on returning from the North African coast, following the typhoid outbreak in a hotel at Hammamet, Tunisia.

It has been reported that half the cases of typhoid notified in England and Wales in 1967 were infected abroad. This certainly indicates that people travelling to North Africa and the Middle East should consider being immunised well in advance of their journey. Travel agents will normally be prepared to advise clients who are going to Southern Europe on the need for immunisation when visiting particular areas.

There were 7 notifications of infectious hepatitis, these were isolated cases with no apparent connection with each other.

Measles Immunisation

There was a setback to the immunisation campaign in March, 1969, when one of the major manufacturers of the vaccine had to withdraw all supplies because there was some evidence that their vaccine was not entirely safe. Production from other sources was only sufficient to allow immunisation of priority groups, such as delicate children. The campaign had only been going for ten months before this setback, but nevertheless, all children up to the age of 15 years in the area who had not had measles had been offered immunisation. It would, however, be over optimistic to think that all susceptible children were immunised, and that should there be an epidemic there would be a sufficiently high level of immunity in the child population to halt it completely. I am glad to report that at the time of writing sufficient supplies of vaccine are available to start general immunisation again.

Drug Dependence

No-one knows how many people use the so called soft drugs but we do know that it is a small minority. As for the hard drugs, in 1968 the total known number of heroin addicts under the age of twenty was 709. It might be thought that 709 out of four million teenagers is a very small proportion, but the fact is that the number has risen quite sharply in recent years. There is, therefore, no grounds for complacency.

Meetings took place throughout the year with doctors and other groups who would be likely to know of drug activity in this area. The general assessment of the present situation was that there is a very limited amount of soft drug (cannabis, barbiturates and pep-pills) activity in the Borough, and no evidence of use of hard drugs in the area beyond one or two isolated cases under treatment. A Committee is being formed to look at the situation in the County, and to advise on any preventive measures which might be required over and above those already included in the health education programme.

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It is tempting to think that because no real problem exists locally at present, all will be well in future, but clearly unless there is a reversal in the national trend it cannot be expected that young people in this area will remain isolated from risk. The fact that drug taking has become a symbol of rebellion to some young people does not make it any easier to put over the real danger of addiction.

Influenza Epidemic

A sharp epidemic of influenza, due to the Hong Kong variant of influenza virus A2, hit this area about the middle of December 1969. Starting in South-East England it spread fairly rapidly to the rest of the country, having a high attack rate in most places. An epidemic had been expected the previous year and steps were taken to immunise old people and others, such as known cases of chest disease, but it did not materialise. The duration of immunity conferred by immunisation then was not long enough to give individual protection against this unexpected epidemic, and there was pressure on medical beds in the local hospitals, especially the chest wards at Tindal General Hospital. As influenza is not a notifiable disease it is not possible to say how many local people caught the infection, but it is certain that many will not have happy memories of Christmas 1969.

Third London Airport

It became known that Cublington was to be considered by the Roskill Commission as one of the possible sites for a third London Airport. The proposal was at once opposed by the County Council and all the District Councils in the area. A local organisation was also formed to collect funds and present an independent case in opposition to the idea.

It is difficult to obtain concrete evidence from research on the effect of aircraft noise on people because it must of necessity be subjective in that it has to be based on people's reactions. It must be conceded, however, that many people, especially those living or working near the proposed site and in the flight paths, would react badly and would suffer some deterioration in wellbeing or leave the area.

/Cont'd.....

The modern concept of health is not simply freedom from disease but that the individual should also have a positive sense of wellbeing. How can a person feel really well when he is subjected to the continual irritation of noise which if made by another source would be described as a statutory nuisance ? One hears much of cost analysis in this connection, but how does one evaluate the loss of peace of mind and appreciation of surroundings ? It seems hard to believe that it should even be contemplated that an area in the centre of this crowded island should be sterilised for reasonable living for the foreseeable future.

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, 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-1969)	37,240
(c) Number of inhabited houses (end of 1969) according to Rate Book	11,984
(d) Rateable Value	£1,370,818
(e) Sum represented by a Penny Rate	£5,560

VITAL STATISTICS

	1968			1969		
	Total	M	F	Total	M	F
Live Births - Legitimate	587	311	276	567	284	283
Illegitimate	43	24	19	39	25	14
Live birth rate per 1,000 population	17.3			16.3		
Birth rate (corrected)	17.8			16.8		
Birth rate for England & Wales	16.9			16.3		
Illegitimate live births per cent of total live births	6.8			6.0		
<u>Still Births</u>						
Number	4	1	3	6	4	2
Rate per 1,000 total live and still births	6.3			10.0		
Total live and still births	634	336	298	612	313	299

DEATHS

	1968			1969		
	Total	M	F	Total	M	F
	403	213	190	387	187	200
Death Rate per 1,000 estimated population ...	11.0			10.4		
Standardised Death Rate	10.5			9.8		
Death Rate for England and Wales	11.9			11.9		

	1968			1969		
	Total	M	F	Total	M	F
<u>Infant Deaths</u>						
Number	8	4	4	7	3	4
<u>Infant mortality rates:</u>						
Total infant deaths per 1,000 total live births	12.7			12.0		
- do - Legitimate	13.6			12.0		
- do - Illegitimate	-			-		
Infant mortality rate for England & Wales	18.0			18.0		
<u>Neo-Natal mortality rate:</u>						
(Deaths under 4 weeks per 1,000 total live births)						
Number	6	4	2	1	0	1
Rate	9.5			2.0		

	1968			1969		
	Total	M	F	Total	M	F
<u>Early Neo-Natal mortality:</u>						
(Deaths under 1 week per 1,000 total live births)						
Number	5	4	1	-	-	-
Rate		7.9				
<u>Perinatal mortality:</u>						
(Stillbirths and deaths under 1 week combined per 1,000 total live and still births)						
Number	9	5	4	6	4	2
Rate		13.7			10.0	
<u>Maternal mortality:</u>						
		-			-	

DEATHS FROM CANCER (all ages) ... 75

Disease	ANALYSIS OF DEATHS			1969		
	Male	Female	Total	Number of Deaths		Total
				Male	Female	
Tuberculosis, respiratory	1	-	1			
Other infective and parasitic diseases	-	1	1			
Malignant neoplasm - buccal cavity etc.	2	-	2			
Malignant neoplasm - oesophagus	1	-	1			
Malignant neoplasm - stomach	6	4	10			
Malignant neoplasm - intestine	3	5	8			
Malignant neoplasm - lung, bronchus	14	3	17			
Malignant neoplasm - breast	-	9	9			
Malignant neoplasm - uterus	-	2	2			
Malignant neoplasm - prostate	2	-	2			
Leukaemia	4	2	6			
Other malignant neoplasms	11	5	16			
Benign and unspecified neoplasms	-	2	2			
Diabetes mellitus	3	3	6			
Other endocrine, etc. diseases	2	1	3			
Anaemias	-	1	1			
Other diseases of blood, etc.	1	-	1			
Mental disorders	2	5	7			
Other diseases of nervous system, etc.	1	2	3			
Chronic rheumatic heart disease	2	3	5			
Hypertensive disease	4	3	7			
Ischaemic heart disease	41	44	85			
Other forms of heart disease	5	8	13			
Cerebrovascular disease	13	22	35			
Other diseases of circulatory system	12	16	28			
Pneumonia	19	22	41			
Bronchitis and emphysema	12	7	19			
Other diseases of respiratory system	4	4	8			
Peptic ulcer	1	1	2			
Appendicitis	-	1	1			
Intestinal obstruction and hernia	1	1	2			
Cirrhosis of liver	-	2	2			
Other diseases of digestive system	1	6	7			
Nephritis and nephrosis	-	1	1			
Hyperplasia of prostate	1	-	1			
Other diseases, genito-urinary system	2	1	3			
Disease of musculo-skeletal system	-	4	4			
Congenital anomalies	-	2	2			
Symptoms and ill defined conditions	1	-	1			
Motor vehicle accidents	5	4	9			
All other accidents	7	3	10			
Suicide and self-inflicted injuries	2	-	2			
All other external causes	1	-	1			
	187	200	387			

PREVALENCE OF AND CONTROL OVER INFECTIOUS AND OTHER DISEASES:

	1968		1969	
	<u>No. of Cases Notified</u>	<u>No. of Deaths</u>	<u>No. of Cases Notified</u>	<u>No. of Deaths</u>
Smallpox	-	-	-	-
Measles	24	-	39	-
Whooping Cough	33	-	1	-
Scarlet Fever	5	-	3	-
Pneumonia	1	43	-	41
Diphtheria	-	-	-	-
Acute Meningitis	1	-	-	-
Acute Anterior Poliomyelitis	-	-	-	-
Dysentery	2	-	9	-
Paratyphoid	-	-	-	-
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	-	-	-	-
Malaria	-	-	-	-
Typhoid	-	-	-	-
Food Poisoning	6	-	11	-
Pneumococcal Meningitis	-	-	-	-
Infective Jaundice	3	-	7	-
	75	43	70	41

T U B E R C U L O S I S

1 9 6 9

New Cases Notified

Deaths

Age Periods	<u>New Cases Notified</u>				<u>Deaths</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	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
15	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
25	1	-	1	-	-	-	-	-
35	2	-	-	1	-	-	-	-
45	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
55	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
65	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
75 +	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-
	5	-	1	1	1	-	-	-

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, five dual purpose vehicles and one ambulance/sitting/wheelchair purpose-built vehicle with hydraulic tail lift are 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, Whooping Cough and Measles 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 Health Clinics

<u>Fixed Centres:</u>	<u>Sessions</u>	<u>Attendances</u>	<u>Doctor Attends</u>
Aston Clinton	1st & 3rd Friday	460	3rd Friday
Bierton	1st Tuesday	149	Each session
Brill	3rd Friday	213	-
Grendon Underwood	2nd Monday	243	Each session
Haddenham	2nd & 4th Thursday	627	-
Long Crendon	2nd & 4th Thursday	620	2nd Thursday
Quainton (A)	1st Tuesday	317	Each session
Stone	4th Tuesday	229	Each session
Waddesdon	3rd Tuesday	218	-
Wendover	Each Monday	3086	Each session
Weston Turville	3rd Thursday	242	Each session
Whitchurch	4th Friday	228	Each session
Halton	2nd & 4th Tuesday	565	-

Mobile Health Clinics

Cuddington	}	1st Monday	52	Each session
Chearsley		"	79	Each session
Dinton		"	67	Each session
Shabbington		3rd Thursday	99	Each session
Ickford		"	113	Each session
Worminghall		"	79	Each session
Oakley		"	141	Each session

Attendances during 1969:

Total number of attendances during the year:-

Child Health Clinics	...	...	...	7,197
Mobile Child Health Clinics	...	...	...	630
				7,827

FACTORIES ACT, 1961

PART I

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

Premises (1)	No. on Register (2)	Number of		
		Inspections (3)	Written Notices (4)	Occupiers Prosecuted (5)
(1) 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 17 outworkers registered in the District, 16 engaged in the making of wearing apparel and 1 in the making of fireworks. 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, 1970

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 1969.

HOUSING

The Housing Act, 1969 made some notable changes, particularly in relation to Grants. The maximum for Improvement Grants was increased to £1,000 (£1,200 for conversions) and for Standard Grants to £200 for the installation of standard amenities. In certain circumstances the Standard Grant can be increased up to £450.

The Act also introduced a new system governing the rent of privately rented dwellings which have been brought up to a satisfactory standard. The chief responsibility of Local Authorities in relation to these provisions is to deal with applications for certificates known as Qualification Certificates which relate to the state of dwellings let on a controlled tenancy. The qualifying conditions are:-

- (a) that all the standard amenities are provided for the exclusive use of the occupants of the dwelling;
- (b) that the dwelling is in good repair having regard to its age, character and locality and disregarding internal decorative repair; and
- (c) that the dwelling is in all other respects fit for human habitation.

The standard of fitness for human habitation is laid down in section 4 of the Housing Act 1957 as amended by section 71 of the Housing Act 1969. A dwelling is "fit for human habitation" if it is reasonably suitable for occupation having regard to repairs, stability, freedom from damp, internal arrangement, natural lighting, ventilation, water supply, drainage and sanitary conveniences, and facilities for preparation and cooking of food and for the disposal of waste water.

Repairs and Demolition:

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

17 properties were represented as incapable of repair at reasonable expense and the appropriate notices were issued. As a result of these and earlier representations, 10 Demolition Orders and 3 Closing Orders were made, and 1 Undertaking to repair was accepted.

5 Demolition Orders and 3 Closing Orders were cancelled after satisfactory completion of reconditioning works.

5 properties were demolished.

Improvement Grants:

The number of applications showed a decrease compared with last year from 65 to 62. Approvals were given to 26 Improvement and 31 Standard Grants. 5 Improvement Grants were refused. Grants, Improvement and Standard, actually paid during the year for completed works totalled £14,690.

The total figures since the introduction of grants up to 31st December, 1969, are as follows:-

Improvement Grants:

No. of Grants on Council property	...	...	...	3
No. of private properties covered by applications received	...	...	...	747
No. approved	...	...	...	674
No. withdrawn before approval REFUSED	...	...	...	57
No. withdrawn before approval	...	...	...	16
				<u>747</u>

Grants paid during the year £7,652

Standard Grants:

Total number of applications received to date ... 414

Grants actually paid during the year for completed Standard Grant works totalled £7,038 in respect of 40 properties, of which 26 were Higher Limit Grants providing, in addition to the 5 standard amenities, 21 bathrooms, 5 piped water supplies and 8 septic tank drainage systems.

Refuse Collection:

The collection service has, I believe, maintained an excellent standard during the year and given general satisfaction.

Since the introduction of a new collection system in 1967 following change to disposable containers and work study there has been steady growth of the work load due to new development and increasing volume of refuse. It was evident that spare capacity of the rounds would soon be absorbed and at the end of the year new route schedules were being prepared ready for introduction early in 1970.

The use of polythene sacks has continued and since these are both economic and effective I do not anticipate any change being made. There is, of course, the occasional complaint of "animal attack" but purpose-made doors are available at cost price to complete the guarding of the refuse unit. It is also possible to improvise protection by use of wire mesh netting.

The main problem has been, and will continue to be, the collection of large refuse, which cannot be placed in any type of domestic refuse container and for which special collection arrangements have to be made. This will be a regular feature of refuse collection in future and will need to be dealt with systematically rather than casually.

A number of abandoned cars have been dealt with during the year and in addition to disposing of these many worn-out vehicles have been brought in to the Depot by the owners. So far this modern feature has not presented really serious difficulties but it is reaching proportions which could add to the problems of waste disposal, particularly if the demand for metal scrap should decrease.

The deteriorating condition of main road lay-bys is occasioning increasing concern and will call for special arrangements to be made before conditions can be improved.

Disposal:

The main tip at Hartwell, though still in use, is filling rapidly and although proposals for incineration are now actively under consideration the tip cannot last until such plans come to fruition. At the present time I can only foresee long and costly haulage to a site outside the district if this can be negotiated.

Disposal: continued....

The future proposals were being discussed jointly with the Borough Council and a Joint Committee was set up towards the end of the year after visits had been made to plants near Leicester and Manchester.

One detailed check weighing was made which totalled 132½ tons for one week, exclusive of special collections. Analysis of samples was also commenced to obtain further data for the eventual planning and design of incineration plant.

Salvage:

Waste paper was baled and disposed of during the year to the value of £ 487.17s.5d.

Street Cleansing:

This work is only undertaken in the Parish of Wendover.

Cesspool Emptying:

Three vehicles continue to be employed on this work. The number of pail closets was further reduced to 130 at the end of the year.

The great need is for more tipping areas, lack of which makes this work more expensive than it should be.

Proposals were in hand at the end of the year to carry out a Work Study programme on this service, together with that of Sewage Disposal.

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. 1,018 were dealt with during the year.

The Haddenham scheme which was commenced in October, 1968 was still in course of construction at the end of the year.

The Oving scheme was publicly advertised in December.

The scheme for Chearsley was technically approved but still not sanctioned to proceed.

Some limited sewer extensions were carried out during the year at Bierton and Aston Clinton and approach road improvements at Waddesdon Disposal Site.

The work of the mobile gang dealing with emergencies and special sewerage problems has been most valuable. Not only have they been on call for sewer obstruction at all hours, but much useful work has been carried out for private owners where special equipment has been needed. The availability of our own fitter has also been a great help in dealing with plant problems and breakdowns which seem to have a tendency to occur at very inconvenient times.

LAND DRAINAGE

The work at Waddesdon extending from Baker Street to Warmstone was eventually commenced in October and was nearing completion at the end of the year. The tender figure was £2,244.

A small scheme at Kingswood was completed.

The long-standing problem at Quarrendon moved a stage further. The major part of the ditching was completed but the road culvert still remained to be dealt with.

A serious flooding problem arose at Bierton where cottages were threatened by a possible overflow from the old brick-pits. A new 9" overflow was eventually constructed by a private owner after considerable assistance from the Council with plant and technical advice.

FOOD INSPECTION

One prosecution concerning unfit food was taken during the year and resulted in a fine of £80 with £10.10s.0d. costs being imposed.

Routine visits are made to shops and catering establishments also to one slaughterhouse and one cold store. Carcasses for retention in the cold store are received from outside the area and these are checked before eventual release.

No. of visits to slaughterhouses	...	...	...	48
No. of carcasses inspected	...	...	...	169
Weight of meat condemned at slaughterhouses	...	...	...	2 cwts. 16 lbs.
" " " wholesale premises	...	...	...	-
" " " retail premises	...	...	...	7 cwts. 57 lbs.
" " " other foods condemned	...	...	...	9 cwts. 73 lbs.

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.

PEST DESTRUCTION

This work is carried out by one operator who made a total of 1717 visits during the year. These visits relate in the main to rat 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. Destruction of wasp's nests is only undertaken at a charge as and when circumstances permit.

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	1	36	9
Retail Shops	1	98	27
Wholesale shops, Warehouses	-	3	-
Catering establishments open to the public, canteens	-	21	9
Fuel storage depots	-	-	-
Total:	2	158	45

TOTAL NUMBER OF VISITS OF ALL KINDS BY INSPECTORS TO REGISTERED PREMISES UNDER THE ACT 145

Only three minor contraventions were dealt with during the year.

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

88 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.

Application was received for a licence in respect of a self-service petrol station. The Council decided to licence the installation upon satisfactory completion and subject to special conditions.

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 DEVELOPMENT

The development of new housing estates has given rise to some difficulties which will need close attention in future, viz: estate roads, amenity areas and surface water drainage. The condition of some estate roads prior to final completion has occasioned strong and justifiable complaints. A satisfactory standard should be achieved at an early state in development, and if at all possible as a first priority.

The idea of amenity areas is very good, but it is, in my view, essential that responsibility for subsequent maintenance should be established at the outset.

Provision, other than simple soakaway systems, should be made for adequate surface water drainage where a ready outlet to a stream or watercourse is not available. Consideration will have to be given to ways and means of obtaining a standard for surface water sewers to avoid possible complications and difficulties with foul water systems.

NEW BUILDINGS

The number of plans submitted during the year totalled 857.

These are summarised as follows:-

Building Regulations - Town and Country Planning Acts.Dwelling Houses

New	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	66 for 105 houses
Layout plans	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	4 for 102 houses
Outline applications	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	139
Conversions	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	15
Alterations and Additions	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	265
Change of Use	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	27

Industrial

New	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	4
Alterations and Additions to Factories and Workshops	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	11
Outline applications	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	3
Change of use	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	4

Miscellaneous

Agricultural Buildings	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	59
Private Garages	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	129
Caravans	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	15
Others	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	105
Applications cancelled	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	11

Number of Dwellings completed

Private	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	113
Local Authority	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	38
								<u>151</u>

Decisions on 14 Planning Appeals were received, of which 4 were allowed and 10 dismissed.

One application was granted for relaxation of Building Regulations during the year.

VISITS AND INSPECTIONS

New Buildings	2704
Abandoned Vehicles	45
Clean Air Act	65
Cleansing	135
Cleansing (Work Study Surveys)	3
Civic Amenities Act	66
Conversion Grants	6
Dangerous Buildings	54
Ditches & Watercourses	274
Drainage	682
Drain Tests	602
Animal Boarding Establishments and Pet Shops	3
Factories	4
Food Premises and Food Inspection	179
Housing Acts	301
Improvement Grants	525
Infestation and Infectious Diseases	21
Land Drainage	102
Levelling	47
Miscellaneous	236
Moveable Dwellings	99
Nuisances	219
Offices, Shops and Railway Premises Act, 1963	145
Petroleum Acts	109
Public Health	160
Refuse Collection and Scavenging	267
Refuse Collection (Work Study)	55
Rodent Control	1717
Sewage Works	462
Sewerage	949
Scrap Metal Dealers Act	4
Slaughterhouses	48
Smoke Abatement	3
Street Naming and Numbering	80
Trade Effluents	23
Water Supply	41
Water Samples	10

There was one staff change in the Department during the year, Mr.R.Newall being appointed to fill the vacancy caused by the resignation of Mr.J.Baker.

In conclusion I would like to express my thanks to the Members and Officers of the Council for their courtesy and assistance and in particular to the staff of the Health Department.

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.

There was one staff change in the Department during the year. Mr. R. H. Newell being appointed to fill the vacancy caused by the resignation of Mr. J. J. Baker.

In conclusion I would like to express my thanks to the Members and Officers of the Council for their courtesy and assistance and in particular to the staff of the Health Department.

Chief Public Health Inspector and Health Officer for the City of New York	1
Assistant Chief Public Health Inspector	4
Food and Drug Inspector	17
Housing Agent	101
Inspector of Buildings	525
Inspector of Sewerage and Sanitation	12
Land Drainage	101
Levelling	47
Miscellaneous	236
Movable Buildings	99
Recreation	219
Offices, Shops and Railway Premises Act, 1963	145
Petroleum Acts	179
Public Health	160
Refuse Collection and Sweeping	267
Refuse Collection (Ways Study)	55
Sanitary Control	1717
Sewage Works	432
Sewerage	949
Scrap Metal Dealers Act	4
Slaughterhouses	148
Smoke Abatement	3
Streets and Public Places	30
Trade Effluents	13
Water Supply	44
Waste Disposal	10