Contributors

Brackley (England). Borough Council.

Publication/Creation

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BRACKLEY BOROUGH COUNCIL

ANNUAL REPORT

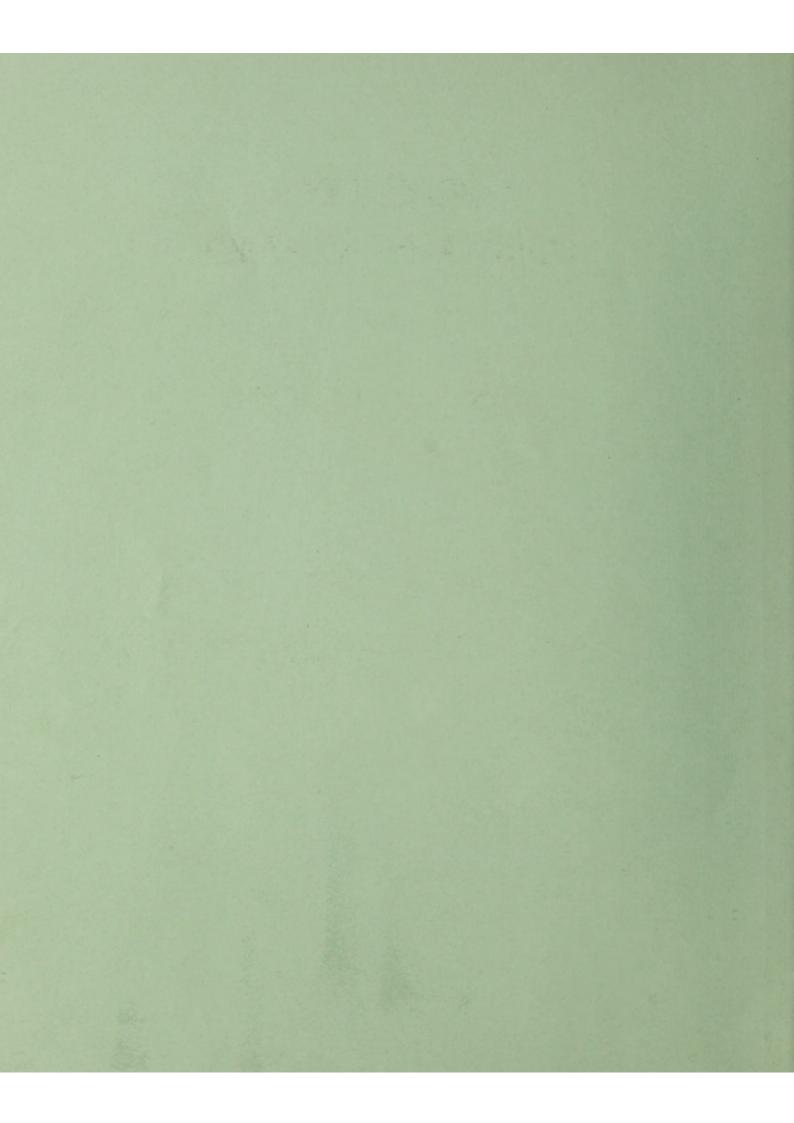
OF THE

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH



1969

JOAN M. ST.V. DAWKINS M.B., B.S., D.P.H., D.C.H.



BRACKLEY BOROUGH COUNCIL

ANNUAL REPORT

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MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

JOAN M.ST.V. DAWKINS M.B., B.S., D.P.H., D.C.H. 1969

BRACKLEY BOROUGH COUNCIL

ANNUAL REPORT

MEDICAL OFFICER

104N M.ST.V. DAWRING

Public Health Department, Municipal Offices, Market Place, BRACKLEY. November, 1970.

Tel: Brackley 2442/1

To the Mayor, Aldermen and Councillors of the Borough of Brackley.

Mr. Mayor, Aldermen and Councillors,

I have the honour to present the Annual Report of the Medical Officer of Health incorporating that of the Public Health Inspector.

The report is presented in six sections, each dealing with a separate aspect of environmental control; the first on natural and social conditions; the second on the provisions of health and welfare services; the third on sanitary circumstances; the fourth on housing; the fifth on food and the sixth on the control of infectious and other diseases. In addition, while, increasingly health prevention is becoming a matter of individual concern, a number of general observations are made on trends which could prove inimical to health either, now, or in the future.

According to the Registrar General's mid-year figure the population has risen to 5,120 from 4,480. This shows an increase of 640 persons, and it is probable that this figure was exceeded by the end of 1969. The deaths rose to 43 from 38 last year. The Standardised Death Rate of 7.4 is however well below the national rate of 11.9. Births rose to 93 from 69 in 1968. The excess of births over deaths was therefore 50, which is a high figure and would indicate that the new citizens of the town are young married couples. The birth rate of 18.6 is also above the national average of 16.3.

The control of food hygiene in the district is maintained at a high standard and there has been adequate control of food supplies. While the district has been fortunate during the year in having only one isolated case of food borne infection, the condition is generally far too prevalent. It is essential that there is constant vigilance in the maintenance of standards in the storage, preparation and sale of all food, and that individuals concerned with this trade should receive proper training and be aware of the potential risk to their customers should The local they fail to observe the strictest methods of hygiene. authority, by constant inspection, exhortation and sampling, makes every effort to prevent food borne infection, but the ultimate responsibility lies with those who handle the food. A lapse by an individual either in food premises or in the home is often the cause of illness. The public themselves, when observing failure in food premises, should refuse to accept unsatisfactory practices. In the home, high standards among families should be a routine matter.

- 1 -

Public Realth Department, Municipal Offices, Market Flace, BRACKLET. Fovember, 1970,

Tell: Brackley 2442/1

To the Reyor, Aldermon and Councilions

Mr. Mayor, Aldernen and Councillors,

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The town continues to provide excellent facilities for the elderly, both in the warden supervised individual homes and bungalow accommodation. These premises together with the County Council home at Brackley House in the High Street have catered adequately for the needs of the elder citizens and Brackley can be considered to be well provided in this very necessary housing occommodation. The voluntary organisations also contribute greatly to their welfare providing many services which improve life for the elderly. These public spirited voluntary workers fulfil a truly worthwhile function and the thanks of the community are extended to them.

During the year your Public Health Inspector visited all dwellings in the area which are deficient in standard amenities. All owners and occupiers were given information concerning grants and facilities available for bringing the dwellings up to standard as defined in the Housing Act, 1964. The district has in addition a large poultry processing factory where regular inspections, sampling and bacteriological tests are maintained.

Sanitary circumstances were maintained throughout the year. Refuse collection was carried out satisfactorily and is reported on in Section C.

Thus, the environmental control of the town has been maintained satisfactorily throughout the year, but while there is a gradual improvement annually, pressures are constant both in maintaining present standards and in dealing with new problems that occur. The national rise in population, if it continues at its present rate, will result in an increase of 20 million by the year 2000, thereby causing problems of great magnitude in the environment. Already some of these are evident in the United States of America. There will inevitably be increasing pollution of the air, sea, land and inland waterways: congestion of the roads resulting in more deaths from accidents: overcrowding of the cities with overspill and congestion of the countryside: a vast problem of refuse and sewage disposal: housing shortage: the need for more institutions, schools, teachers, hospitals and all the allied services: the problem of noise and its effect on mental health, and finally the ultimate result of overpopulation on the whole mental outlook of its While it is agreed that population control is a priority in people.

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Infections diseases notification was low: meanes vectoration continued, but owing to abortage of vaccine was not generally available. It is to be hoped that this faivereal, and often complicated infection will decline in fature years. Abile the incidence of infection is and, is any areas, too few. It is hoped that the use of the compter will bere therefore of relating the measures to incontent the use of the compter will fall infections could re-occur. It reaches visit is to whether the infections could re-occur. It reaches visit is apprendent for fall infections could re-occur. It reaches visit is apprend to the confidence to be immuniced for diphtheria, policeralists, whoping couch tetamus, analigor and now measures, with tubercolosis here, whoping couch tetamus, analigor and now measures, with tubercolosis here, whoping to could the introduction of hubble (formed here) to could the second for diphtheria, the take and the second tetamus, analigor and now measures, with tubercolosis here to be an introduction of hubble (formed here) to could the second for diphtheria, and an effective vecond the acclestion are also before universal for diris, as an effective vecond the acclestion developed.

The town continues to provide excellent facilities for the sharty, both in the worker supervised inividual names and based of peoperatics. These provides together with the Genety Council have at Dracking Kouse in the High Street have calered edequalaty for the costs of the sider efficient and Drawley can be considered to be well provided in this very entrances provide to their solution. The voli provided in this very entrances provide the solution of the voli provides to the soli entrances provide the solution. The volument was services which is prove if is for the olderly. These public solities and volument for fully in the for the olderly. These public solities and volument was in the to the solities and the the the solities of the constity are original to then.

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The year 1969 was notable for proposals for reform in Local Government structure and changes in the National Health Service. In the former, unitary all purpose authorities combining in Northamptonshire both the Borough and the County would take the place of the twenty two district councils of the County and County Borough. The Health Service was to be unified and its tripartite structure to cease, removing the personal preventive health services from the local authority, but leaving the control of environmental services with the unitary authority. Finally the social services, remaining with the local authority, would embrace a number of health functions. This proposed massive reorganisation occupied much thought in the year of this report.

Political changes which have occurred at the time of writing may cause some immediate deferral of these plans. However some reflection on the future of the preventive services and the challenges that have to be faced could be appropriate at this time.

It is now over twenty years since the inception of the National Health Service. From the outset a tripartite structure separating hospital, general practitioner and local authority services was potentially hazardous. The separation of the preventive services from the National Health Service, and the isolation of the medical personnel, allying them with other local government officers rather than their colleagues, has resulted in a steady decline in recruitment. Local Authorities have in some instances also failed to recognise the potential of their inheritance and while there has been expansion of hospital and general practitioner services there has been some stagnation in the preventive field. Foresight in expenditure on prevention could have resulted in saving on the curative services. However health needs are weighed against all other demands and, in practice, are often the ones to be curtailed in times of economic stringency. It is unfortunate that the results of preventive medicine are without immediate dramatic evidence; are slow, long term, and can only be assessed by the passage of time and often the study of statistics. It is unfortunate too that in the last twenty years the needs of prevention have become more subtle, depending now less on obvious environmental control such as the clearing of slums and prevention of infectious disease than on the individuals response to life in an affluent society.

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Finally, I emphasise each year, what are the future challenges. I maintain that there is a need for their constant reiteration. Health education has become, in its modern context, a perpetual battering at the bastions of ignorance, self-indulgence and complacency.

In the assessment of the needs for prevention there are three factors to be considered, first the primary one of preventing disease, which is exemplified by the total prevention of an illness by immunisation, the secondary factor of preventing premature death by means of early detection, modification of living habits, health education and other means, and thirdly the prevention of further deterioration of those who already suffer from chronic illness. Each facet of the field of prevention requires its individual disciplines; and it is necessary to consider the causes of premature death, and those afflictions who by their incidence lessen the quality of life.

The cause of premature death in the younger age groups, that is before the fifth decade (40 years), is now almost entirely from accidents, both in the home (among the youngest) and on the road (in the 1st, 2nd and particularly the 3rd decades). Once again I give some details on this subject on later pages of the report.

Next, in the middle aged, becoming evident now from the fifth decade there is the ever growing toll which is caused as a result of cigarette smoking. It is agreed that this is probably the greatest health challenge facing our society at this time. At least 50,000 deaths a year are contributed to by this habit, not only from cancer of the lung, but from coronary thrombosis, chronic bronchitis and pneumonia. In later pages I give in detail, some of the facts relating to the dangers of cigarette smoking. In the face of this massive challenge our efforts at prevention have, so far, been puny. Expenditure on the promotion of information and the use of all the modern media of communication has been negligible when compared with the cost to the nation of these premature deaths. So often too the premature death occurs in a male in his prime, at the time of his greatest contribution to society and to his family. Constant effort should be directed by all the means that are available towards the education of young people in an effort to persuade them that cigarette smoking is a foolish habit indulged in by those who are unable to resist the temptation rather than, as it is now so often presented by the cigarette manufacturers, as the smoker bearing an image of maturity and independence. This responsibility lies however not only with the health educators but with those members of the adult population who particularly have contact and influence with young people.

The prevention of early arterial disease resulting in incapacity or death from coronary thrombosis or strokes is more complex and its incidence in all civilised countries, particularly in males, relates more to a way of life than to a single habit such as smoking. However there is evidence that cigarette smoking can also contribute to the incidence of coronary thrombosis. The causes of early arterial disease

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are probably multiple, and though research is continuing in many fields, there is as yet no breakthrough. In some the condition has an inherited tendency. The one salient factor that has emerged is that occurrence is less likely in those who take regular physical exercise and who are not obese. Farmers and bus conductors suffer less than bus drivers and commercial travellers. It is disturbing to consider that while young people are at school they are physically active but this activity may cease when they leave. They often eat in excess of their needs and start smoking earlier than former generations. The prevention of arterial disease, and the presymptomatic detection in screening of individuals likely to suffer is a challenge to preventive medicine which, at the present time, is not being tackled in Britain. Apart from isolated pockets of individual research there is little other effort and none which is generally directed. A situation may be building up in which the incidecne of early arterial disease could assume epidemic proportions.

Much remains also, to be done in the field of chronic illness. The early detection of cancer, of diabetes, the prevention and alleviation of rheumatic diseases in all its manifestations, and finally in tertiary prevention, the needs of those who are the victims of chronic illness, particularly today with the increasing survival of the handicapped and the elderly, will require the organisation and deployment of many services. It is to be hoped that medical research may find the answer to some of these problems, but in the meantime in the organisation of the National Health Service there is an urgent need to assess the priorities in medicine and make the best use of the available resources.

Finally there is the disappointment that in a welfare state, where the relief of poverty and its attendant anxieties have been the primary aim of succeeding governments since the end of the war, there has been no lessening in the occurrence of mental ill health. Instead its incidence, together with those other manifestations of mental instability, such as drug taking, both of hard drugs and sedatives, delinquency, crime, child neglect and cruelty, divorce and a neglect of social obligations, indicate that a materially prosperous society requires also a firm basis of morality to be successful.

After 30 years of long and steadfast service, for many years as Borough Surveyor and Public Health Inspector, and from 1964-69 as Public Health Inspector, Mr. Clifford Morgan retired in May 1969. The Borough was without a Public Health Inspector until the 29th September when Mr. S.C.Drabble was appointed. My thanks are due to him for his assistance in the compilation of this report, and his co-operation at all times.

My thanks are also due to the officers and members of the Council for their interest and assistance. The County Medical Officer of Health is thanked for his co-operation in the supplying of information.

I remain, your obedient Servant,

JOAN M. ST. V. DAWKINS.

Medical Officer of Health.

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My thanks are also due to the officers and hambers of the Control for their interest and analatance. The Verbir Endlesh Officer of Feelth is the shaked for his co-operation in the uniphying of information.

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BOROUGH OF BRACKLEY

Public Health and Works Committee, December, 1969

Chairman:

Vice Chairman:

Aldermen:

Alderman N.W.F. Howard.

Councillor J.F. Yates

B.P.C. Sheppard R.J. Staniforth E. Whitley

Councillors:

F.T. Bartho Mrs. I.D. Bauer, Mrs. E.L. Eastwood N. Eastwood R. Farrow B.W. Law D. Margieson S.L. Pennell C.A. Sheppard J.R. Williams J.F. Yates

Public Health Officers

Medical Officer of Health:

Joan M. St. V. Dawkins M.B., B.S., D.P.H., D.C.H.,

Divisional Health Office, 7 Cheyne Walk, Northampton.

Tel: Northampton 34833

Also holds appointments of :-

Medical Officer of Health, Daventry Borough, Daventry R.D.C., Brackley R.D.C., Brixworth R.D.C., Towcester R.D.C., Northampton R.D.C. Senior Assistant County Medical Officer of Health, Northamptonshire County Council.

Acting Medical Officer of Health, Higham Ferrers Borough, Rushden, Raunds and Oundle U.D.C.'s, and Oundle and Thrapston R.D.C.

Public Health Inspector:

Clifford Morgan, C.R.S.H. (retired in May 1969). S.C. Drabble, M.A.P.H.I.. A.I.A.S. (commenced duties 29.9.69).

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Public Realth and Morit, Countities, December, 1969

Causes of Death at different periods of life during the year 1969

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SECTION A

SOCTAL CONDITIONS OF AREA AND STATISTICS

Summary of Vital Statistics, 1969

 Area of the Borough (Acres) 1,685

 Population (Estimated mid year 1969) 5,120

 Number of inhabited houses (end of 1969) 1,400

 Rateable Value of the Borough £144,459

 Sum represented by a penny rate £574

<u>AREA</u>: There was no change in the area of the administrative Borough during the year, which remains at 1,685 acres.

<u>POPULATION</u>: The resident mid-year home population as estimated by the Registrar General was 5,120 and the vital statistics are based on this figure. The Estimated Population is 640 more than that for the year 1968. The natural increase in population, that is, the increase of births over deaths is 50.

LIVE BIRTHS: The number of live births was 93 compared with 69 in 1968. The rate per thousand population was 18.2. Applying the Registrar General's Area Comparability Factor for births (1.02) to this figure the Standardised Birth Rate obtained for the area is 18.6 compared with 16.3 for England and Wales.

STILL BIRTHS: There were two still births during 1969. The rate per thousand live and still births was 21 compared with 13 for England and Wales.

<u>ILLEGITIMATE BIRTHS</u>: The number of illegitimate births in the area was 10, 8 males and 2 females. Shown as a proportion of the total number of live births this represents 11 per cent.

<u>DEATHS:</u> The total number of deaths assigned to the Borough for the year was 43, 5 more than in 1968. The crude death rate based on the mid-year population was 8.4 compared with 8.5 for last year. In order to compare the mortality in the Borough with the mortality for England and Wales it is necessary to make a correction to allow for the difference in age and sex distribution of the two populations. This is done by applying to the crude death rate of the Borough an "Area Comparability Factor" which has been estimated by the Registrar General as .88 for the Borough, giving a Standardised Death Rate of 7.4 compared with 11.9 for England and Wales.

<u>INFANT MORTALITY</u>: Three infants died before reaching their first birthday, two more than in 1968. The rate per thousand live births was 32 compared with 18 for England and Wales.

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LINVART MORTALITY: Three infants dial before reaching hour first birthday, two here than in 1963. The rate per thousand live birtha was 32 compared with 18 for degland and Walsan. NEONATAL MORTALITY: There were no deaths recorded in the Borough under four weeks.

<u>PERINATAL MORTALITY</u>: The Perinatal Mortality (still-births and deaths under one week combined per 1,000 live and still-births) for the Borough was 21.00. The rate for England and Wales was 23.00.

The following table gives the birth-rate, death-rate and infant mortality rate for the Borough, the administrative County of Northamptonshire and England and Wales for the past five years:-

	Bi	rth-rat	e	D	eath-ra	te	Infant mortality rate			
Year	Brackley Borough	Northampton- shire	Bngland & Wales	Brackley Borough	Northampton- shire	England & Wales	Brackley Borough	Northampton- shire	England & Wales	
1965 1966 1967 1968 1969	22.31 16.36 17.50 16.03 18.20	18.85 18.54 18.00 18.80 18.10	18.10 17.70 17.20 16.90 16.30	9.00 7.60 11.00 8.50 8.40	10.84 11.12 10.10 10.90 10.90	11.50 11.70 11.20 11.90 11.90	47.00 14.00 32.00	16.85 16.01 18.00 19.00 16.07	19.00 19.00 18.30 18.00 18.00	

Causes of Death

Diseases of the heart and circulation constitute over one half of the total deaths, with cancer and respiratory infection being the other two main causes.

It is probable that cigarette smoking is the greatest contemporary health problem. 50,000 deaths a year can be attributed to the habit. It is responsible for 9 out of 10 deaths from lung cancer, 3 out of 4 deaths from chronic bronchitis and 1 out of 4 deaths from coronary artery disease. It is estimated that twenty times more work days are lost through sickness from smoking than on industrial disputes.

In 1968, it was considered that about 75% of the male population and 41% of the female population smoked. Between 1956-68 the number of female cigarette smokers rose by a million. It is deeply disturbing to note that 42% of 16 year old boys and 30% of girls smoke more than 25 cigarettes per week.

The adverse effects on health of smoking unfortunately only become manifest after many years, and are therefore not obviously connected with the habit. Also in many countries, as the economic benefits from taxing tobacco products are large, governments have hesitated to change legislation, and it is not practicable to impose regulations on an unwilling population. However MECHATAN HONTALITY There were no deaths recorded in the Borough under

PERIMATED MORTALITY: The Perimetal Mortality (still-birthe and deaths under one week combined per 1.000 live and will-birthe) for the Sciongh was 21.00. The rate for England and Vales was 23.00.

The following table given the dirth-rate, death-rate and infant mortality rate for the Borough, the administrative County of Borthemptonabire and Sachard and Vales for the past five paras-

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biration of the heart and eirevistion constitute over one half of the total decide, with canner and respiratory infection being the other two with octaons.

It is probable that eigerette spoint in the greatest contemportry health problem. 50,000 denths a year can be attributed to the habit. It is responsible for 9 cut of 10 denths from lang cancer, 3 cut of 4 deaths from chronic breachilds and 1 dut of 4 deaths from dereasy artery disease It is estimated that twenty times nore work days are lost through sickness from analist than on industrial disease.

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It has been suggested in a recently published paper* that the most important approaches to combat the health hazards of smoking are as follows:-

1. The education of youth not to take up smoking.

(In this respect all those adults who are associated with and have influence over young people should by the force of their own example discourage them from starting to smoke. These include parents, teachers, youth leaders, sportsmen, actors, pop stars and others whom young people admire and may emulate.)

- The exerting of the influence of health workers.
 (The medical profession have recognised the hazard, and now only a quarter of British male doctors smoke. Their death rate from lung cancer is now only 2/5 of the national figure.)
 - 3. Group approaches to the control of cigarette smoking by adults.
 - 4. Mass approaches to the control of cigarette smoking.
 - 5. Reducing the effectiveness of the advertising and promotion of cigarettes.
 - 6. Less hazardous smoking.

The incidence of early degenerative disease of the arteries, particularly in males, is increasing in all cultivated societies of the world. Its prevention is one of the great challenges of modern medicine. Men in their prime at a time of their major contribution to their community are struck down by coronary thrombosis or strokes. The causes are multiple, and, as stated, cigarette smoking is probably a factor. As well as being part of the process of ageing hereditary factors are involved in some. Women are less affected until after the menopause, indicating a hormonal protection. The only clear evidence is that the incidence is lower in those who take regular physical exercise and who are not obese. This salient feature needs emphasis, as it is easy in a modern industrialised society with the majority occupied in sedentary occupations, the widespread use of motor transport and television, for many to become physically inactive. It is wise to establish a way of life soon after leaving school in which there is regular participation in physical exercise which can be suitably modified to the passing years. This combined with some moderation in the consumption of food, may help to prevent the early onset of arterial disease.

*Smoking and Health by Professor C.M. Fletcher & Dr.D. Horn. W.H.O. Publication.

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Pasilder, O.H. H. Arol and M. Matcher & Dr. D. Horn, M.H.C. Foblical

The yearly toll of injury and death from road accidents mounts steadily. In an overpopulated island with congested roads, and with an anticipated increase of numbers of vehicles annually, it must be expected inevitably that this death rate will not decline. However the majority of deaths (and injuries) occur in males in the age group 19-24. The young male would appear to be the participant and maybe the cause of transgression on the road. It would suggest that there is a field for action in the education of this group in the principles of road safety, which could start at school. In 1969 7383 were killed on the roads as compared with 6810 in 1968.

Deaths from accidents in the home are also continuing at a rate which is far too high, running at over eight thousand, together with injuries of approximately 125,000 receiving hospital treatment and a million and a half with slight injuries. Over three quarters of the fatalities occur in elderly people or in children under 5 years of age.

	Stor's	Age-	group (years)		S	Total		
Cause of Death	0-4	5-14	15-44	45-64	65 & +	Male	Female	Deaths	
Poisoning	33	13	316	494	624	637	843	1,480	
Falls	78	12	75	336	3,906	1,252	3,155	. 4,407	
Burns and scalds Suffocation and	123	45	60	135	428	325	466	791	
choking	526	7	71	74	64	421	321	742	
Others	114	38	115	89	133	288	201	489	
Total	874	115	637	1,128	5,155	2,923	4,986	7,909	
Death Rate*	18.8	1.5	3.0	8.5	77.5	11.2	18.1	14.8	

The statistics for Great Britain in 1967 are given in the chart below:-

*Deaths per 100,000 population

The following notes have been published in the Home Safety Journal (a publication of R.O.S.P.A.) in July 1970, and are acknowledged with thanks.

The roundy toll of injury and death from some avertant and the a method toll of injuries and the congented rouds, and with an untilities of the the tole of masters of masters of value of value and vith an until of a the this death routs of deaths (and injuries) occur in aslas in the are group 19-24. The young sale would appear to be the porticipant and maybe the cause of transgression on the road, if which is a field for action in the sale and any action in the same to a second the the sale and the sale and the sale and the there is a field to action in the sale at the sale of the sale o

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The following notes have been published in the Home Safety Jourgal (a publication of H.O.S.F.L.) in July 1970, and are orwnewledged with thanks.

Comparative Figures for 5 Years 1963-1967

The annual figures of home accident fatalities in Great Britain for the five years 1963-67, analysed according to cause, are given in the following table:-

Cause of Death	1963	1964	1965	1966	1967
Poisoning	2,124	1,782	1,697	1,719	1,480
Falls	4,830	4,641	4,538	4,660	4,407
Burns and scalds	1,058	886	872	951	791
Suffocation and Choking	792	896	900	812	742
Others	495	441	480	441	489
Total	9,299	8,646	8,487	8,583	7,909

Home Accidents - Cause of Death

Falls:

56% of total deaths - in one year (1967) (4,407 cases) 89% of victims were aged 65 or over 60% were falls on one level, tripping, slipping, stumbling 25% were falls from one level to another

Common causes of falls on one level are - slipping on wet floors or polished floors with or without loose rugs: tripping over obstacles or catching toes in floor coverings in poor repair; slipping on spilt grease; slipping in the bath.

Common causes of falls from one level to another are - lack of handrails or unsteady banisters causing falls downstairs; poor lighting on stairways; chairs used instead of household steps. Other falls of this nature include falls out of bed, out of prams and highchairs.

Physical causes include poor sight; undue haste; illnesses causing heart or chest troubles; stiff limbs; dizziness caused by reaching up or down unduly in elderly people.

<u>Prevention</u>: Risk of falls can be reduced by maintaining floor surfaces in good repair; wiping up spilt water or grease immediately; being tidy about the house; having safety rails by the bath; wearing shoes in good repair. Household steps should always be used to reach high shelves, etc., window safety catches should be used to control opening for the protection of young children and elderly people. Beds should not be too high; or chairs too low for easy use; extra handrails on the wall side of the stairs are helpful. Safety harness should be used in prams and highchairs.

Comperative Flaures for 5 Years 1963-1967

The annual flowers of here socident fstalities in Great Fritsin for the first years 1963-67, analysed according to cause, are given in the fellowing table:-

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Nome Accidents - Cause of Death

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Poisoning:

19% of all fatal home accidents in 1 year (1967) 43% of poisoning accidents involved household gas (642 cases). 57% involved drugs, chemicals and all other causes of poisoning (775 cases).

Common causes of gas poisoning are absentmindedness in leaving gas on, or partly lighted, lack of ventilation, using wrong (rubber) connecting tubing for appliances; bad installation or repair. The human factor, carelessness is most often the basic cause.

Other forms of poisoning include overdoses of medicines; leaving medicines within reach of children; failure to use medicine cupboard; not checking dosage; taking internally lotions, rubs, etc., designed only for external use; children eating cosmetics.

Domestic Chemicals such as bleach, disinfectant, detergent, pesticides, paint strippers, antifreeze, petrol, paraffin and other fluids cause accidents to children, often causing internal injury.

<u>Prevention</u>: To prevent gas poisoning have any suspected leak inspected and serviced by the Gas Board; form the habit of checking that burners are alight; keep adequate ventilation to ensure a change of air, never use rubber connecting tubing; see that gas geyser flues are clear of obstruction; tighten loose gas taps that can be accidentally knocked on.

To prevent medicinal poisoning - keep all medicines in a proper medicine cupboard (to British Standard Specification); check dosage every time; use the 5ml. spoon for liquid medicines; get rid of surplus medicines by flushing down the lavatory; keep medicines out of the reach of children; label all containers clearly; if in doubt destroy.

To prevent poisoning from chemicals - avoid transferring to other containers, especially those previously used for food or drink; label clearly; store out of the reach of children, especially in garage, shed or greenhouse; observe manufacturers' warnings and instructions.

Burns & Scalds:

10% of all fatal home accidents in 1 year (1967) were burns and scalds (791 cases).

Deaths are caused by - falling into unguarded fires; clothing catching alight; burns due to houses catching fire. Conflagrations are due to chimney fires. overturning oil heaters, careless use of smoking materials and electrical faults. Faulty electric blankets can cause burns and asphyxia. Scalding accidents are due to hot liquids - overturning kettles and saucepans, bath water, washing and washing-up water, hot starch, and bursting hot-water bottles.

- 13 -

195 of all fatal house accidents in 1 year (1967) 135 of poteouing accidents involved household gan (642 co 975 involved drugs, chemicals and all other causes of

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<u>Prevention</u>: To prevent burning accidents all coal fires should have fixed guards (to British Standards 2788 or 3140); gas, electric and oil fires should have integral guards. Winter clothing should be made of pure wool (slow burning), brushed nylon, or proofed cotton.

Clothing should never be aired near unguarded fires of any kind. Care should be taken when using flammable solvents for dry cleaning, or flammable adhesives for fixing tiles, etc., in the house. Paraffin and petrol should be stored in metal cans, and oil heaters filled, if possible outside the house. Polythene-type storage containers are increasingly popular and safe - metal cans can rust and therefore leak.

To prevent scalding accidents fill hot-water bottles carefully, using a thick protective cover; keep panhandles and kettle spouts away from the front of the cooker; keep toddlers out of the kitchen when doing laundry, washing up, cooking and dishing up are in progress; turn tablecloths under to prevent toddlers pulling hot liquids off the table. When using water for bathing and washing always run cold water before hot.

Suffocation and Choking

These accidents account for over 9% of all fatal home accidents. In one year (1967) there were 742 deaths. Two thirds of these were by inhalation and ingestion of food, the rest from suffocation in cots and cradles. Children under 5 years accounted for 71% of all cases of suffocation and choking.

<u>Prevention</u>: To prevent suffocation and choking never 'prop-feed' infants; ensure adequate rubbing of the baby's back to bring up wind before putting down to sleep. Keep talcum powder (which can clog the lungs) away from babies, and if a sponge is used for washing see that it is too large and firm to be put in baby's mouth. Keep plastic bags out of the reach of children; never use a pillow for a baby under twelve months old, remove bibs before putting a baby down to sleep, and use a net to prevent pets getting into cots or prams.

Other Risks

In one year (1967) 489 people died from other accidental causes: these included 75 drowning fatalities in baths, garden ponds, etc.; 27 from accidents with firearms: 70 from electrocution and 20 from foreign bodies in orifice.

Electrical Accidents

Due to amateur installations and repairs, faulty flex and plugs, misuse of domestic appliances, unearthed plugs, open sockets where there are children, also unguarded electric fires, touching electrical appliances with wet hands. Taking electrical apparatus into the bathroom, filling electric kettles without first disconnecting are also dangerous practices. "Frevention: To prevent burning accidents all coal fires should have fixed guarda (to Britinh Standarda 2788 or \$140): gas, electric and cil fires should have integral guards. Minter clothing should be wate of pure wool (slow burning), brushed sylon, or proofed cotton.

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The Human Factor in Accidents

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Every home accident involves a clash between a human being and something in the home environment, in which the human being sustains injury. Accidents are more likely to happen when people are ill, emotionally upset, depressed, or under physical strain.

Bodily conditions which may cause risk are poor sight, failure of the sense of smell, tendency to dizziness; weakened muscles, epilepsy, arthritic heart conditions, the lack of co-ordination of toddlers, slowing down of reaction in old age.

Astriances The County Council provide andulance services for the removal to hospital of all general bedical, surgical and infactions across. In antulance station is situated in the former's and the service is available at all times.

Child religion filmics The Child Welfare Clinic continued to operate Muring the year and sensions were hold on the second flaureis a every month at the Bealth Clinic, St. Inter's Read. Dental Classes Per school children emphased by the County Council continued to contain during the year when review.

Care and After Care Services the County authority provide a number of facilities for the emippled, aged persons, dishering the blind and these mentally ill, and are the responsible for personal data mervices in connection with Inbertukesis.

Anraine in the Acces, Additions and Meplik Visitor Access as a second services are provided directly by the Jourty Council and a second with visitor's office established in the Aprough. They also have a "second Balp' morvice available is essention with infirm and correctly association treated it home.

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SECTION B

GENERAL PROVISIONS OF HEALTH SERVICES

Laboratory Facilities:

The examination of pathological specimens is carried out by the Public Health Laboratory Service, Oxford and medical practitioners in the Borough submit specimens direct to the laboratory. The Service which is free has also undertaken to examine specimens of milk, ice-cream, water and other specimens submitted from the health department.

Hospital Services:

The Hospitals available to residents of the Borough are, the Horton General Hospital, Banbury, Northampton General Hospital and the Radcliffe Infirmary, Oxford. The Cottage Hospital situated in the Borough which has a small number of beds is available for certain cases.

Cases of infectious disease requiring hospital treatment are removed to the Isolation Hospital at Northampton and Oxford.

County Council Services:

<u>Ambulances</u> The County Council provide ambulance services for the removal to hospital of all general, medical, surgical and infectious cases. An ambulance station is situated in the Borough and the service is available at all times.

<u>Child Welfare Clinics</u> The Child Welfare Clinic continued to operate during the year and sessions were held on the second Thursday of every month at the Health Clinic, St. Feter's Road. Dental Clinics for school children organised by the County Council continued to operate during the year under review.

<u>Care and After Care Services</u> The County authority provide a number of facilities for the crippled, aged persons, diabetics, the blind and those mentally ill, and are also responsible for preventative services in connection with tuberculosis.

Nursing in the Home, Midwives and Health Visitor Service These services are provided directly by the County Council who have a health visitor's office established in the Borough. They also have a 'Home Help' service available in connection with infirm and chronic cases treated at home.

<u>Voluntary Organisations</u> The Darby and Joan Club which has been established many years meets every Wednesday afternoon in the Town Hall; it is very well attended and popular.

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SECTION B

CINERAL PROVISIONS OF HEALTH EMPLOYS

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The examination of pathological speciforms is carried out by the Fublic Health Laboratory Jervice, Orford and modical practitioners in a the Borough mubmit specia and direct to the Laboratory. The Service which is free has also undertained to examine appointers of milk, ice-green, water and other speciators submitted from the health department.

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County Council Services:

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Solid elfare binnes The Child Valters Clinic continued to operate Auring the year and sucal one ware bald on the second Thursday of overy month at the Moulth Clinic, St. Feter's Hoad. Newlal Blinics for acheel children organized by the County Council continued to operate during the year water review.

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voluntory Dread astions The Jerby and Joan Clab which has been established many years mashe every loomenday afternoon in the Town Hally it is very well attended and popular. <u>Meals on Wheels Service</u> This service is undertaken by Members of the Women's Voluntary Service in conjunction with the Fatstock Marketing Corporation's establishment in the Buckingham Road. The staff at the Corporation's canteen prepare the meals and these are delivered in sealed containers to needy cases in the Borough by members of the Women's Voluntary Service. The work of the staff at the canteen, and the ladies delivering the meals using their own cars is greatly appreciated.

The sources of this supply are varied and for the rajor portion of the Borough is based on the old Brackley woll with suggestation as processory from the Boards other supplies which itshade geer bares and

waterworks riant incorporator electronic and tolevision devices to ensure a constint flaw of information to central control on the state of the water, and distribution system generally.

The total momber of dwalling houses connected to the sains is 1. 50 and cut of A total population of 5,120 approximately 5052 are applied with water from the board's mains.

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by careful canegement of the dispesal works it has been robable to bathery the Great Council have guantitles of affluent teyool its aspects. The founcil have approved to extension scheme, and when completed the mobiles should be remedied. However, at prevent the works have to deal with surface anter and piped springs the "Counts have to deal with surface anter and piped springs the "Counts have to deal with surface anter and piped springs the "Counts have to deal with surface anter and piped springs the "Counts have to deal with surface anter and piped springs the "Counts have to deal with surface anter and piped springs the "Counts have to deal with surface anter and piped springs the source of the to provide a "aspect of this is not a factor peculiar fermions the partification facilities. This is not a factor peculiar fermions the printication facilities. This is not a factor peculiar fermions that arises is rearry all the old towns of this form by. Is is as not an the printication facilities and the towns of this fermion by the train to counts and the piped to the local deways and a firm and the but it is a hould be piped to the local deways and a firm and the but it is a hould be piped to the local deways and a firm and the <u>Maals on Wheels Service</u> This service is undertaken by Menhers of the Vomen's Voluntary Service in compunction with the Patatock Marketing Corporation's canteen prepare the Backinghan Road. The staff at the Bosporation's canteen prepare the meals and these are delivered in souled containers to needy canon in the Borough by sombers of the Soun's Voluntary Service. The work of the staff at the panteen, and the indice delivering the seals using their out onre is gravely approxisted.

SECTION C

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE DISTRICT

Water Supply:

Water is supplied to the Borough by the Bucks Water Board and with the exception of eight houses outside the area of the Board's supply, all dwellings in the area received a piped water supply during the year under review. Treatment consists of storage, sedimentation, chlorination, and rapid sand gravity filtration. The water is non-plumbo solvent, and fluoride is not added to the water which has a natural fluoride content of approximately .2 parts per million.

Generally the supply from the Board was satisfactory in quality and quantity. Twenty four samples were taken and submitted to the Public Health Laboratory for examination; the reports indicate that bacteriologically they were satisfactory.

The sources of this supply are varied and for the major portion of the Borough is based on the old Brackley well with augmentation as necessary from the Boards other supplies which include deep bores and wells in the lower greensand and chalk, and river water supplies. The waterworks plant incorporates electronic and television devices to ensure a constant flow of information to central control on the state of the water, and distribution system generally.

The total number of dwelling houses connected to the mains is 1,392 and out of a total population of 5,120 approximately 5,082 are supplied with water from the Board's mains.

Sewerage - Disposal Works:

By careful management of the disposal works it has been possible to satisfy the Great Ouse River Board in respect of the standard B.O.D. tests but the works are receiving quantities of effluent beyond its capacity. The Council have approved an extension scheme, and when completed the problem should be remedied. However, at present the works have to deal with surface water and niped springs in a "Combined system". On the new estates rabidly rising it has been possible to provide a "separate system" whereby purely surface waters are conveyed in their own mains and do not go to the works to overwhelm the purification facilities. This is not a factor peculiar to Brackley but arises in nearly all the old towns of this County. Is is an anomaly that rain produced surface waters from roofs, and naturally occurring underground springs should be piped to the local sewage works for treatment, but it is a very expensive problem to remedy where a separate system has not been adopted.

INTERPORT OF REPARTMENT OF THE DISTRICT

Tringers Madmin

the ercoption of sight houses nutside the area of the Seart Board and with the ercoption of sight houses nutside the area of the Seard's auply, all dwellings in the area received a pixed water supply during the year under review. Treatment consists of sicrees, sedimentation, chierination, and revid send gravity filtration. The water is non-plumbo solvent, and fluoride is not sided to the water which has a maintain fluoride bootent of surprisedely. 2 parts per sillen.

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An encoded memory and of the disposal works it has been manified to satisfy the Great term Elver Board is remember of the risonerd R.O. B. tests but the verse are receiving quantities of efficient borold its completed the problem abound to remedied. Supervis, at present the verte bave to deal with reprise around the remedied. Supervis, at present the positive system. The test and the remedied. Supervis, at present the converse to deal with reprise works and there are the strong as the purification facilities. The test of the verte to the verte to the purification facilities. This leaves of the test provides when the purification facilities. This leaves of the test provides a test the purification facilities. This leaves of the test provides to the test of the rest of the test of the test of the test provides to the test provide a respective of the test of the test provides to the test of the rest of the test of the test of the test of the test the purification facilities. This leaves of the test provides to the test of the test of the test of the facility count of the test of test of the test of the test of the test of the test of test of the test of the test of the test of the test of test of the test of the test of the test of test of test of the test of the test of the test of the test of test of the test of test of the test of the test of the test of test of the test of test of the test of the test of the test of test of test of test of the test of the test of the test of the test of test of test of test of the test of the test of the test of test of test of test of the test of the test of the test of test of test of test of the test of the test of the test of test of test of test of the test of the test of the test of the test of test of test of test of test of the test of the test of the test of t Under the Public Health Act 1936 Sec. 42 it has been possible for a Local Authority to modify their sewerage system so as to provide separate provision for surface waters and foul sewage, but in the Borough this has only been applied to new buildings comparatively recently. Should the present B.O.D. test be substituted by a more stringent test as seems possible, this problem will arise again. A survey of all the sewers was commenced during the year and information so far indicates that the main sewers are for the most part overloaded, and are damaged and broken on the Banbury Road and Magdalen Playing Fields areas. Possibly some new and larger sewers will be required to replace those sections now overloaded and some relaying, probably with sewers of greater capacity for the damaged lengths.

Difficult effluents

The only problem arising at present comes from poultry feathers which persistently choke the filter bed sprinklers. Bacteria killing discharges are not a problem in this Borough.

Smoke Abatement

No action has been found necessary in connection with smoke abatement, and our own refuse tip (where some incineration takes place) will be mainly closed when the new hammer mill grinding plant at Farthinghoe comes into operation next year.

Swimming Pool

The Swimming Pool owned by the Council has given much trouble this year and steps will have to be taken to remedy the defects for 1970. I have not been entirely satisfied with the continuing purity of the water, and it had to be closed on one occasion during the bathing season.

Verminous Premises

No action was found to be necessary in this connection.

Caravan Sites and Control of Development Act 1960

There are no large licensed sites in the area, and no problems with itinerant travellers.

Public Cleansing

House refuse is collected weekly on a sytem whereby the householder puts it out ready for removal. Special arrangements are however made in respect of the old, the handicapped and the infirm. When the new hammer mill plant at Farthinghoe comes into operation it is proposed to obtain a new, larger, screw-packing type refuse vehicle as the new Under the hubite Health Act 1936 Eec. 42 it has been possible for a Local Authority to modify their newerage system on an ic movide deparate provision for surface saters and foul searce, but in the Recently. Should the present 3.0.0. test be substituted by a norstringent test as search possible, this problem yill arise again. A sorrey of all the severe was measured during the year and information as for indicates the sale severe are for the best part overloaded, and are demaged and brokes on the Bestury Road und Magdalan Playing Fields areas. Forestbly aces new and large relevance will be required to replace those anothers now overloaded and relevance will be required to replace those anothers now overloaded and relevance.

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Rodent Control

The Borough is remarkably free from rat infestation and a parttime rodent operator is employed. Permanent baiting points are maintained at the refuse tip, sewage works and in two sections of the sewers and a special immediate effort is made to deal with any complaints received from the public in order to maintain as far as is practicable a rodent free town. Some increase in mouse infestation is noticeable and certain local establishments are ones which provide a natural habitat for the domestic mouse, but permanent baiting has shown some success.

. One problem with the refuse tip is the continuous migration of rats from the adjoining County of Buckinghamshire, a district outside the boundaries of the Rat Control Area.

The number of inspections and treatments carried out during the year were as follows:

Local Authority	premises	12
Dwelling houses		54
Number infested	by rats	16
Number infested	by mice	19
Other premises		9

During the year a campaign for rat control was initiated by the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food Pests Division concurrently in the three counties of Northamptonshire, Leicestershire and Rutland. Following a meeting held at Kettering in April a Rat Steering Committee was set-up, on which your medical officer served as a member, consisting of representatives of the Ministry of Agriculture, the Local Authorities and the National Farmers Union. Later members of many other authorities including river, waterways, waterboards, rail, electricity, county landowners association and the forestry commission were invited to co-operate. The date of November 24th was selected for wholesale baiting to begin. In the interim local meetings and demonstrations were then held in all the Local Authority areas throughout the year, and a wide publicity campaign was mounted. This included press reports, advertisements, posters, demonstrations and reports and discussions on radio and television. These local meetings were at selected premises where talks were given, practical measures to control and destroy rats and mice were shown at farm premises together with a film demonstrating the damage to health, property and foodstuffs caused by rat and mice infestations. There was some co-operation from the farmers but the numbers attending were not high. The council's Public Health Inspector visited the farms in the district before the campaign in order to stimulate interest.

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Rodent Santrol

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Munity of Arriculture, "I contact for the control was initiated by the in the three counties of Borthanenentre, holoestarihite and haland balancing a meeting hald at Kattaning in Arril a hat beam in but had the counties of the the faile of Arriculture, the local balancing and the hateonal former solice. Alter contains a local batton include failed in the counties of the failed of the local include a section power solice. Alter contains, the local batton and the hateonal former boild at failed of the counties, the local include river, whereau boild have a set to be a section include river, whereau boild have a set of the counties a state public of the interim local meetings and demonstrates the state public of an all the interim local meetings and demonstrates and the state of a section and the interim local meetings and demonstrates a state public of counter, the section and regards and demonstrates and the state in all the interim local meetings and demonstrates and the state in all the interim local meetings and demonstrates and the state in all the interim local meetings and demonstrates and the state in all the interim local meetings and demonstrates and the state in all the interim section and regards and disconstrates in the state were given. Freeting and regards at states and all and the states in all the interim and the states and the and the states are shown at fine provides and the states and and the farms in the district before the constrates in a state in all the interest. The scheme came into operation as arranged on November 24th and considerable success was achieved, but the need for efforts to be maintained continuously cannot be over-emphasised, to keep continually on the alert for any sign of the presence of rats and to institute immediate action before they get established and start breeding. The establishment of permanent baiting points is essential. These should be so placed that domestic animals cannot gain access and need constant inspection and replenishment.

Noise Abatement Act, 1960

Three cases have been dealt with during the year. In each instance a pneumatic road drill was operated in the town centre without a silencing muffler. No statutory action was necessary, and the drills were silenced after a request; it is interesting that the operators were not aware of any Noise Acts, but concurred in their necessity. Perhaps the Industrial Training Boards should emphasise this fact in their programme.

Aircraft noise has not really been a problem, but road traffic noise from the A43 which runs through what is in effect a Main Street Town continues to increase in volume and annoyance. The constructing of the Bye-Pass is necessary both from safety and a noise aspect, especially, as the Transport Authorities are at present planning to "speed up" through traffic. The prospect of the newly authorised 50 leviathans approaching the lower part of Bridge Street at 70 m.p.h. causes concern. The scheme cane into operation as arranged on horember 14th and considerable aucodes was achieved, but the oried for efforts to be saintained continuoualy emont be over-expinatized, to isee continually on the alart for any sign of the presence of rate and to institute impediate soil on before they get estabilished and start breading. The estabilishment of remannet baiting points is commital. These should be so placed that domestic animals connot gain access and need constant impediate and repleminicant

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SECTION D

HOUSING

No new Council dwellings were erected during the year, but plans are in hand for a new estate of about 66 houses.

Standard Improvement Grants amounting to £4,797 were paid during the year in connection with the Housing Act 1969. No discretionary grants were made.

Three private contractors continue to erect houses, and 102 new houses were completed during the year. The type of estates being erected are for houses upto a maximum of £5,000, but a new contractor has just arrived in the area and an estate of more expensive houses is to be developed. This will comprise about 29 dwellings ranging from £8,000/£11,000.

The overall position of the Corporation in respect of its own housing stock is unchanged from last year, and is a total of 376 houses (including fifty for senior citizens). Plans to adapt one Council house for a handicapped person are in hand; in this case a paraplaegic.

Housing Standards

A preliminary survey of the Borough is in hand, but not yet completed. Indications show some problems of which the following is an example:

In a terrace row of ten small houses, on a restricted site, four have already been improved - though owing to the restriction of the site the original decision to improve was probably lacking in foresight. Should the owners of the remaining six make application for Improvement Grants, there would be difficulty in making a decision to grant such improvements. Had the re-development been considered as a whole in the first instance, with the possibility of amalgamating two houses into one, a satisfactory solution might have been achieved.

- 22 -

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SECTION E

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD

Sample checks were made during the year and this included tests for salmonella contamination in poultry from a local factory. All were negative. Various other foods were sampled but only one sample of milk did not pass the standard and repeat samples proved satisfactory. The following weights of food were surrendered during the year to the Public Health inspector.

Poultry	16 tons	4	cwts	17	lbs
Ham				12	lbs

I am of the opinion that temperature control of food is an important matter and that it would be desirable to have some legislative help in arriving at standards. The normal refrigeration counter unit as used in the Borough gives a variation in temperature of the actual food from 30°F to 55°F but where milk bottles are kept at the top of the counter it can be as high as 60°F. There is not of course any standard laid down as to how cold food should be. One factor which often goes unnoticed is that these units occasionally break down, and then recover without the shopkeeper being aware of the fault. Later of course it is probably such a unit which breaks down altogether and the public health inspector is called in to accept surrender of the "limp" contents. In some instances in the Borough the breakdown of a unit is not reported to the inspector because the shopkeeper can obtain recompense by returning it to the wholesaler.

It is indeed surprising that a number of food shops have had to be advised not to store unwrapped exposed foodstuffs (i.e. bread, particularly) on the floors of storerooms and even in the shop itself. Advice has been given in several instances concerning the necessity of clean hand towels. Brackley has a weekly market, and the Council has a policy which makes available to all stall holders the privilege of utilising the hot water facilities of the Town Hall kitchen to assist cleansing of hands and equipment; the procedure normally is that a stall holder will take a bucket of hot water to the market stall, and of course the Town Hall conveniences are always open on Market Day. I consider this an excellent example of good public policy, and other markets in other towns could well copy.

Food shops and restaurants in the District are tending to take advice concerning dogs and a number are displaying the NO DOGS notices, it is considered that this tendency will increase as time proceeds.

<u>Food Inspection</u> The main concern is the local Poultry Processing Factory which has a throughput of about 90,000 birds per weeks. These consist mainly of broilers, but over a year a number of hens are processed.

STOTES

ODCE TO MODELEVERTHE GAA HOLTON GE

Samplo checks were and during the year and this included tests for salmonella contantnation in poultry from a loosi factory. All were negative. Various other foods were sampled but only one sample of milk did not pase the standard and repeat anaples proved satisfactory. The following weights of food were surrendered during the year to the Fabile Health frameworr.

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Food Inspection The main concern is the local Faultry Proceeding Factory which has a throughput of about 90,000 birds per years. These consist mainly of brollers, but over a year a number of hims are processed.

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Factory Data The total number of factory employees are approximately 300 (75% are women, 10% of immigrant origin men and women).

<u>Products</u> Oven ready poultry which are subject to freezing processes mainly but also some unfrozen top quality birds, and frozen packeted hen meat as a convenience food only requiring warming.

Market for the Product Is to manufacturers for processing.

Production Processes

Both broilers and hens are delivered to the factory in stainless steel cages as an integral part of the vehicle body; the lorries back into a bay and the birds are attached to an endless belt suspended by their feet. They are then electrocuted, bled by cutting, and go into a detergent chlorine hot washing bath. After passing through a rubber flail de-feathering machine they arrive (still attached to the endless metal belt) before a long line of workers sitting at the eviscerating tables. After this and certain trimming processes they are washed and then commence a partial refrigeration process, again in water at about freezing temperature. Thereafter the packing and polythene container sealing commences. At the packing stage the sound but poorer quality birds are segregated and become "seconds" suitably marked. The whole process is subject to colour coding. The hen meat is usually dealt with by batching, and at a certain stage these birds go to the steam ovens and are cooked at a temperature of 145°F. The hot carcases are douched with cold chlorinated water, and pass on a conveyor belt before a line of workbenches where the flesh on the bones is picked off, and put into trays and thereafter go on a wheeled carrier into the cold air quick refrigeration rooms and are frozen. Then they are packeted and become a "convenience" food for the housewife and caterer. In addition there are certain other processes in the course of the preparing chain such as the addition of hot chicken broths and fat for flavouring etc.

Public Health Precautions

This is not a simple task, and is time consuming. The factors involved are:- when the bird is alive whether it is healthy; if adequate cleaning out has taken place on the evisceration bench; if the chlorinated water was of sufficient strength (the trade objects to the slight odour of chlorine on the bird itself and this is retained in the polythene package.) The hen meat process is a vital matter. Here the flesh is cooked, but after there is much handling because dissembly is by hand. In this room all workers have medical checks at the factory medical centre to ascertain that they have no condition which would be likely to spread infection. In addition they robe in a primary washroom, and then in a second washroom, and use disinfectant barrier cream. Further cream dispensers are attached to the walls of the hen meat room. An electro-cutor fly killer is installed in the meat room. As the meat is only cooked to 145°F which, with the length of time involved will sterilise, but then douched with chlorinated water, contamination could occur during the removal of the hen meat from the bone. As the meat is only warmed up after purchase there could be a possibility of bacterial contamination.

Factory 1014 The total number of factory amployees are approximately 300 (75% are ween, 10% of inciderant origin net and woren).

Fredering Over ready poultry which are subject to freezing processes mainly but also even unfresses top qualify birds, and from a poketed her mask as a convenience food only requiring word ac.

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Production Processes

Public Health Freezention

This is for a simple that, and is the community. The factor involved at an , when the bird is ally a whether it is healthy. It should alsoning out has been place on the detrocention bench, it the chickled water was of antifetent strength (the trade objects to the slight odent of the heat and the bird itself and the is retained in the polythese protection of the there is an addiest strength whether. Here he flood is could but the there there is and the states. The barden is the should be after there is an addiest checks at the factory methed is the the state that there here an addiest checks at the factory methed is a strengt that there here no could the state will be the the by both is a strengt that the value of the best states will be the the by the is a strengt of the there are addiest checks at the factory methed is a strengt that the value of the best states will be the the by to strengt information and use distinct the best states will be the the by to strengt information to the walls of the best state the the the the trank then is a strengt in the transmitted is the state is and then is a strengt the the walls of the best state to the the trank the the doubled with the transmitted is the the state to the the trank the the doubled with a state be a possibility of best state to the trank the the doubled with a state trans the bone. As the state is the trank the state the trank the the doubled with a state transmitted with the state is the state the state of the the trank the trank the trank the trank the trank could be a possibility of best state is the trank and the transmitted with the trank Another aspect of the food inspection processes occur which involve liaison with the Divisional Veterinary Officer of the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food. Where a large number of birds (and this can be as many as 800) show signs of disease abnormalities, the D.V.O. is informed who will then contact the D.V.O. in the area from which the birds came. In a number of instances it has been discovered that in fact the Ministry already had a particular poultry farm under observation. These procedures usually mean that the Brackley factory does not receive any more birds from that source for a period of time.

The local D.V.O. is most helpful to the Public Health Inspector and has on occasion made his laboratory facilities available for detailed examination of carcases. As an example of the kind of abnormalities which occur, in one instance the poultry were suffering from a nutritional deficiency which caused the beaks to splay as if they were ducks, and the birds had been unable to eat adequately. The carcases (over 600 in one instance) showed gross emaciation and complete fat deficiency around the internal organs.

Food and Drugs Act, 1955

The provisions of this Act relating to the nature and substance of food supplied to the public, are operated by Mr. F.J. Evans, Chief Inspector, Weights and Measures Department of the County Council, to whom I am indebted for the following information relating to the work carried out by his department in the Borough during the twelve months ending 31st March 1970.

the 12 months en	ding	31s	t Mar	rch,1	970
Milk					14
Butter			•		1
Condiment					1
Dripping					1
Flavouring etc.		•••			1
Lard etc					1
Meat Products			 1		<u>13</u> <u>32</u>

Samples taken in Brackley Borough in

Remarks

It is again pleasing to be able to report that none of the samples taken in the Borough during the year were the subject of adverse report by the Public Analyst. Another aspect of the food increction processes coort which a involve listeon with the Divisional Veterinary Officer of the Ministry of Lyriculture. Fisheries and Food. Shore a large sumber of birds (and this can be as many as 800) abow signs of fine bounds of birds the D.V.O. in informed who will then contact the bill. In the area from which the birds case. In a number of instance is hus been discorrect that in fact the Hinterry already hat a particular poultry from ander observation. These procedures usually seen that the from ander observation. These procedures usually seen that the first a period of the

The local D.V.O. is nost beipful to the Fabilo Habith I sepector and has on conselfs and his inducatory faullithe available for devailed consistent of ancours. As an everyle of the that of shourselivited videh occur is one instance the coultry word softening from a maintained deficiency which examed the bests to aplay as if they ware and the birds bad been unable to as adequately. The chroases (over 600 in one instance) showed grees anactation and complete the deficiency around the internal organs.

Food and Region Act, 1955

The provisions of this Act relating to the values and submission of food subplied to the public, are operated by Mr. F.J. Evans. Chief Inspector, Weights and Mensures Countrants of the County Ocupoli, to viou i an indebted for the following information relating to the very cardied cut by als department in the Decough during the Malve south.

the foundation of the March 1970

It is again pleasing to be able to report that node of the samples taken in the Sarough doring the year well the subject of adverse report by the Robils Arelyst.

Offices, Shops and Railway Premises Act, 1963

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During this year concentration has been made on the food shops. One confectioners shop has been reconstructed and minor works carried out at a number of premises.

rood poisoning are in Sections 47 to 49 of the Boulth Carriers and Rublis

The infectious dimensions to be motified to the modical bilicov

OFFLoos, Shops and Mallvev Promines Act, 1963

Auring this year concentration has been made of the food shope.

SECTION F

PREVALENCE OF, AND CONTROL OVER INFECTIOUS AND OTHER DISEASES

Health Services and Public Health Act, 1968 <u>Public Health (Infectious Diseases) Regulations</u> Notification of food poisoning and infectious diseases

All provisions governing the notification of infectious disease and food poisoning are in Sections 47 to 49 of the Health Services and Public Health Act 1968 and the Public Health (Infectious Diseases) Regulations 1968.

The infectious diseases to be notified to the medical officer of health are:-

Acute encephalitis Acute meningitis Acute poliomyelitis Anthrax Cholera Diphtheria Dysentery (amoebic or bacillary) Infective jaundice Leprosy Leptospirosis Malaria Measles Opthalmia neonatorum Paratyphoid Fever Plague Relapsing fever Scarlet fever Smallpox Tetanus Tuberculosis Typhoid fever Typhus Whooping cough Yellow fever

Since 1968 notification of the diseases listed below is no longer required:-

Acute	influenzal pneumonia	Erysipelas
Acute	primary pneumonia	Membranous croup
Acute	rheumatism	Puerperal pyrexia

Responsibility for notifying a case or suspected case of food poisoning or infectious disease rests exclusively on the medical practitioner attending the patient unless he believes that another practitioner has already notified the case.

During the year 17 cases of infectious disease were notified, a decrease of 76 on last year's figure.

<u>MEASLES</u> The number of cases reported was 9, 70 less than last year. This highly infective illness from which few individuals escape has its incidence almost exclusively during childhood. It usually follows a biennial incidence, with high numbers occurring in alternate years. The course of the illness is almost invariably benign, but complications which include otitis media, pneumonia, eye infections and very occasionally encephalitis do occur, and the illness itself is often severe. Complica-

tions can be effectively dealt with by the many antibiotics which are now available, but these drugs are themselves not all without side effects, are expensive and involve medical supervision. An effective measles vaccine has now been developed, and this became available for general use in 1968. It is hoped that in future years measles in common with poliomyelitis and diptheria will be virtually eradicated.

<u>WHOOPING COUGH</u> Two cases, the same number as last year, were notified. Acceptance rate to immunisation is high and the incidence of this condition is low. Cases still occur as immunisation is not completely effective; however in the majority of children who have received immunisation the illness is usually mild.

SCARLET FEVER Two cases were notified. This diseases continues to exhibit its mild phase.

FOOD POISONING There was one case of food poisoning reported during the year, in late September when a case of Salmonella Paratyphoid B (phage type Taunton) was transferred to the Borough from a hospital outside the District. The patient had contracted the infection abroad. As the patient had been discharged from hospital in an infectious state, the strictest hygiene precautions and surveillance of home contacts was necessary throughout the period of infection. Matters were confused when one of the home contacts produced a single positive faecal specimen. However as the contact never produced another positive after repeated tests, had never shown any symptoms and was in fact perfectly well, it was assumed that the containers had, at the relevant time, been muddled at home. The patient and family co-operated fully with the public health department, and showed great restraint in remaining at home, and entertaining no visitors. Excellent and helpful co-operation was also received from the general practitioner.

<u>INFECTIVE HEPATITIS</u> No cases were notified. Acute Infective Hepatitis* is a disease caused by a virus which attacks the liver and causes jaundice. It is mainly an infection of young people, of faecal-oral spread, and with an incubation period of 15 to 50 days. The incriminative routes of infection are from food handlers, water, and children to their mothers. The virus is present in faeces 16 days before jaundice, and up to 8 days after.

Serum Hepatitis which is another form of infective hepatitis, has a longer incubation period of from 50 to 160 days and affects mainly adults and can spread by blood transfusion and inefficiently sterilized equipment used by doctors, dentists, nurses, drug addicts and in the various tatooing processes. The clinical groups of these two types of hepatitis are indistinguishable. There is no specific treatment and a jaundiced adult would be away from work from six weeks to two months, and might not feel really fit for a year.

*Original name for Infective Jaundice

tions can be effectively dealt with by the new antibuctics which are now available, but these drugs are themselves not all without aids affects, are expensive and involve medical supervision, in effective measies vacaine has now been developed, and this became available for genoral use is 1968. It is boyed that in future years measies in common with policarelities and diptheria will be virtually aredicated.

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SCARLAN FIVE Two cases were notified. This discases continues to

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Serve hopefitts which is another form of infective hepatities, has longer innovation period of from 50 to 160 days and affects mainly adu and can apread by blood transfusion and instituted and in the equipment tead by doctors, dentists, purces, drog addicts and in the various tateoing processes. The clinical groups of these two types of hepatities are indictinguishable. There is an imodific treatment and a jaunitors and two feel really fit for a reat Quarantine measures are of little value, and patients can be treated at home or in hospital provided adequate hand washing techniques are practised with current disinfection of excreta. Serum hepatitis can be virtually abolished if disposable equipment was generally introduced. In this County disposable equipment is used by the County Health Department in all procedures involving immunisation. Gamma globulin is of value for the protection of close contacts and pregnant women during epidemics. The disease has been locally notifiable since July 1962 in the County of Northamptonshire. Under the Health Services and Public Health Act 1968 infective jaundice has now become nationally notifiable.

<u>POLIOMYELITIS</u> No cases occurred. This gratifying state continues, and now with large numbers immunised, it is to be hoped that this infection will be eliminated. However, the importance of maintaining a high percentage of immunised individuals in the population cannot be over emphasised.

<u>DIPHTHERIA</u> There have been no cases of diphtheria in Northamptonshire since 1956. There is therefore with every successive year of freedom from infection a diminishing public recollection of this disease. Mothers with no knowledge of this illness may feel a false security and fail to have their young children immunised. It is only by keeping up the numbers immunised that this dread condition can be kept at bay. It is the duty of parents to have their children immunised. Should they fail they neglect their childrens welfare.

TUBERCULOSIS There was one case of meningeal tuberculosis which was treated at Oxford, and notified from there.

American the measures are of little value, and patients can be treated at home or in houghtal provided adequate hand weaking tochniques and practiced with correct distribution of erorets. Serum hopetitis dan be wirtually aboltabed if disposable equipment was generally introduced. In this County disposable equipment is used by the Gounty Sealth Repartment in all procedures involving impuniestion. Fragmant women during epidedice. The disease hest been locally reflicible affines July 1962 in the County of Northanptementies. Under the Health Services and Fublic Health Act 1968 infective jaundtes has now become maticually notifiable.

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TUR SCHROLLS There was one case of semingeal tuberculosis which was treated at Darord, and sofilised from there.

SUMMARY OF PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTORS VISITS TO PREMISES

	House Inspection	•••	•••	43
	Factories and Workshops			31
	Inspection of bakehouses			16
	Inspection of meat hawkers and food vans			12
	Inspection of fried fish shops			17
Pastor.	Inspection of other food shops	•••		74
	Inspection under Offices, Shops and Railway Premises Acts (other than food shops)			14
	Inspection of Catering Establishments, Cafes Canteens	or		22
	Drainage Tests			7
Local,	instanty 15 21			

FACTORIES ACT 1961

PRESCRIBED PARTICULARS ON THE ADMINISTRATION OF THE FACTORIES ACT, 1961, FOR THE YEAR 1969

PART 1 OF THE ACT

1. <u>INSPECTIONS FOR PURPOSES OF PROVISIONS AS TO HEALTH</u> (including inspections made by Public Health Inspectors)

Premises				Number o	f
		No. on Register	Inspec- tions	Written Notices	Occupiers prosecuted
(i)	Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities	7	9	-	_
(ii)	Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority	15	21		
(iii)	Other premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (ex- cluding out- workers' premises	-	-	-	-
000 5 ht	Total:	22	30	-	-

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PACTORIES ADT 1961

THE PARTENCE FAITLAND ON THE ADMINISTRATION OF

TOA SHT NO 1 PRAT

1. - INSPECTIONS FOR PUPPOSES OF PROVISIONS AS TO HEALFH (including inspections made by Public Health Inspectors)

(1) Pactories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorithes		

CASES IN WHICH DEFECTS WERE FOUND

Dentionland			uses in wh were foun		No. of cases in
Particulars	Denal	D	Refe	rred	which prosecu-
	Found	Remedied	to H.M. Inspec.	by H.M. Inspec.	tions were instituted
Want of Cleanliness (S.1)	-	-	-	-	_
Overcrowding (S.2)	-	-	-	-	-
Unreasonable temperature (S.3)	-	-	-	-	-
Inadequate ventilation (S.4)	-	-	-	-	-
Ineffective drainage of floors (S.6)	-		-	-	-
Sanitary conveniences (S.7)					
(a) Insufficient(b) Unsuitable or	4	4	-	-	-
(c) Not separate for	-	-	-	-	-
sexes	-	-	-		-
Other offences against the Act (not including offences relating to Outwork)	-	-	-	-	-
Total:	4	4	-		-

ant of Cleanlines'						

