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**Contributors**

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RURAL DISTRICT OF BRACKLEY



# ANNUAL REPORT

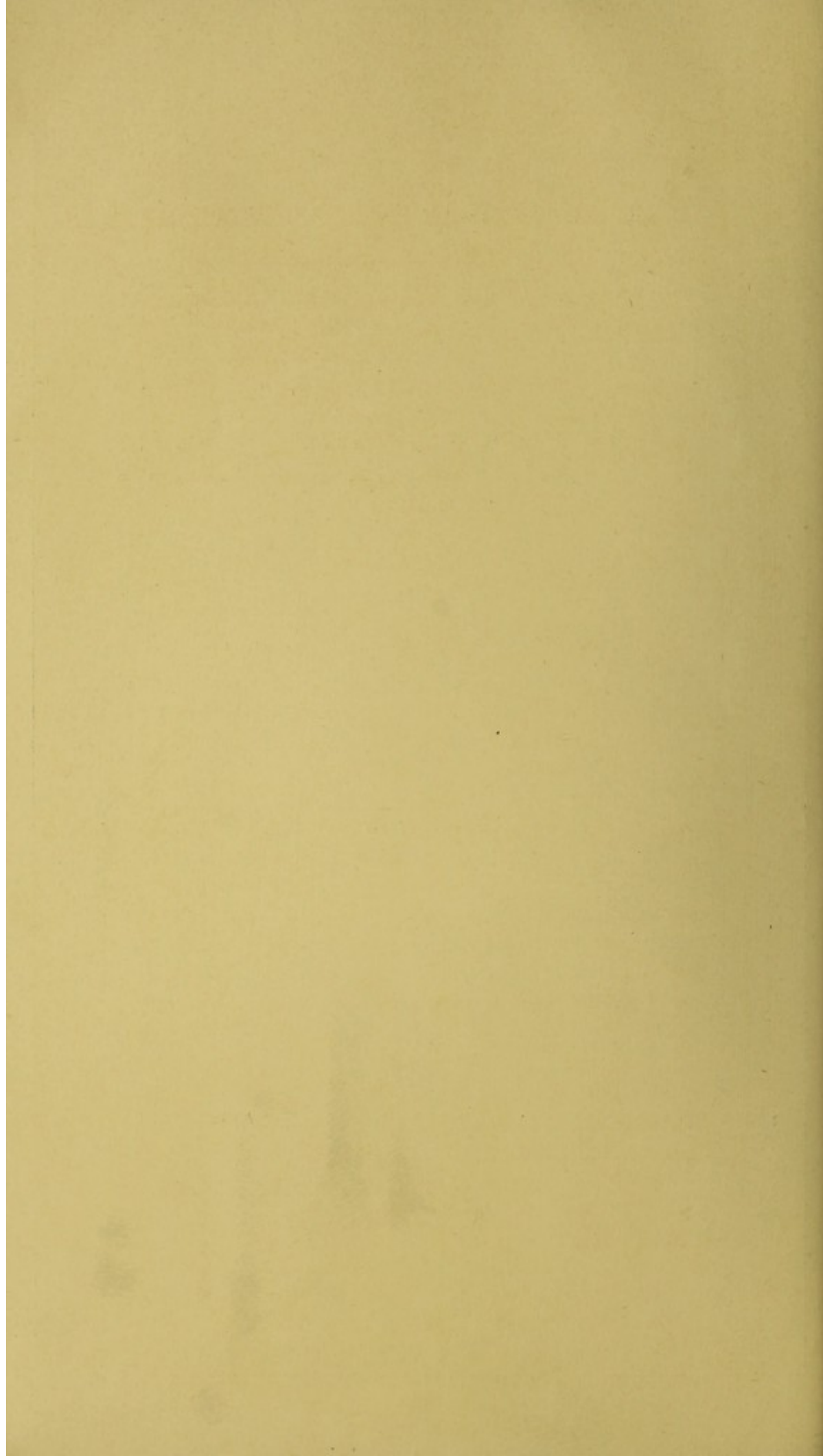
OF THE

Medical Officer of Health

FOR THE

Year 1965

•  
ARTHUR LUCAS



BRACKLEY RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL

CHAIRMAN: MR. L. C. BARTLETT, J.P.

VICE CHAIRMAN: MR. L. S. PROSSER.

PUBLIC HEALTH COMMITTEE.

<u>Chairman:</u>	Mr. L. S. Prosser,
<u>Vice - Chairman:</u>	Mr. L. F. Warren,
<u>Councillors:</u>	Mrs. I. S. Forrest,
	Lt. Col. V. G. Toler - Aylward,
	Mr. P. W. Henn,
	Mr. F. Mason,
	Mr. E. E. McGowan,
	Mr. J. J. H. Rippin,
	Rev. R. J. Rowbury,
	Mr. J. A. C. Thornycroft,
	Rev. Sir C. W. Wigram, Bt.

The Chairman of the Council is an ex officio member of the Public Health Committee.

PUBLIC HEALTH OFFICERS

Medical Officer of Health: Arthur Lucas, L.R.C.P., L.R.C.S., D.P.H.,  
County Hall, Guildhall Road,  
Northampton. Tel: Northampton 34833.

Also holds appointments of :-

Medical Officer of Health in Brackley Borough, Towcester R.D.C.,  
Northampton R.D.C., and Assistant County Medical Officer of Health and  
School Medical Officer, Northamptonshire County Council.

Senior Public Health Inspector: W. E. Turbitt, M.R.S.H., M.A.P.H.I.

Additional Public Health Inspector: N. R. Caley, M.R.S.H., M.A.P.H.I.

Clerk to the Public Health Inspectors: Miss. M. E. Fullbrook.

Rodent Operative: Mr. W. G. Readman.





TO THE CHAIRMAN AND MEMBERS OF THE RURAL DISTRICT  
COUNCIL OF BRACKLEY.

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Due to the untimely death of Dr. Arthur Lucas in May, 1966, I submit the Annual Report for the year 1965 on his behalf. Dr. Lucas was appointed Medical Officer of Health in 1949, and was held in affectionate esteem by all who worked with him. During the past two years, his health had been failing and he was well aware of the outcome of his affliction. He bore this knowledge with courage and continued to work until his last illness. He will be greatly missed.

The report follows the pattern set in previous years, each section dealing with an aspect of environmental control, and indicating that, in all respects, this is proving to be satisfactory. Slum properties are gradually being eradicated and replaced by good houses. Adequate sewage works are being provided and regular refuse collection and disposal instituted. Vigilance, which needs to be constant, is being maintained in respect of infectious disease, of which this year, there have been no outbreaks, in the supervision of shops, factories and in the handling and preparation of food.

The statistics show that the district follows the national pattern with a rising birth and falling infant death rate. The great preponderance of deaths are caused by heart and circulatory disease and the cancers, causes which prevail largely in the older age groups. However, it is prudent to note that of the 123 deaths, 34 occurred before the age of 65, and that there were seven deaths from cancer of the lung one in a man of under 45 years of age. There was only one death from a motor accident, a male under the age of 35 years.

The statistics for immunisation are now included with the total of the County Council figures, and are not broken down for individual districts. The local figures are, therefore, no longer available. It is necessary however, to stress annually in this report, the need for parents to continue to have their children immunised to diphtheria, tetanus, whooping cough, poliomyelitis and smallpox, and in the early teenagers to tuberculosis. It is only by the maintenance of a high level of immunisation in the community that these diseases continue to be prevented. As there were no notifications of whooping cough in this area, one may assume that in this area this high level is being maintained.

This annual report has been largely prepared by the Senior Public Health Inspector and his staff, and I express my thanks to them both for their diligent work throughout the year, and for their present help and co-operation to me while acting as Medical Officer of Health.

I have the honour to be,  
Your obedient servant,

JOAN M. St. V. DAWKINS,  
Acting Medical Officer of Health.

Public Health Department,  
Rural District Council Offices,  
Brackley Lodge,  
Brackley.  
Northants.

22nd. June, 1966.

TO THE CHAIRMAN AND MEMBERS OF THE RURAL DISTRICT  
COMMITTEE OF HEALTH

Dr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Due to the untimely death of Dr. Arthur Jones in May, 1966, I submit to Annual Report for the year 1965 on his behalf. Dr. Jones was appointed Medical Officer of Health in 1958, and was held in affectionate esteem by all who knew him. During the past year, his health had been failing and he well aware of the nature of his affliction. He bore this knowledge with stoicism and continued to work until his last illness. He will be greatly missed.

The report follows the pattern set in previous years, each section dealing with an aspect of environmental control, and indicating that, in all cases, this is proving to be satisfactory. Some properties are gradually being renovated and replaced by good houses. Septic tanks are being provided and regular refuse collection and disposal maintained. Villages, which need to be constant, in being maintained in respect of infectious diseases, which this year, there have been no outbreaks, in the supervision of shops, factories and in the handling and preparation of food.

The statistics show that the district follows the national pattern with a rising birth and falling infant death rate. The great preponderance of deaths caused by heart and circulatory diseases and the cancers, caused which are well largely in the older age groups. However, it is prudent to note that the 15 deaths, 5 occurred before the age of 65, and that there were seven deaths from cancer of the lung and in a man of under 45 years of age. There was only one death from a motor accident, a male under the age of 25 years.

The statistics for immunisation are now included with the total of the County Council figures, and are not broken down for individual districts. Local clinics are, therefore, no longer available. It is necessary, however, to stress annually in this report, the need for parents to continue to have their children immunised to diphtheria, tetanus, whooping cough, poliomyelitis and measles, and in the early teenagers to tuberculosis. It is only by the maintenance of a high level of immunisation in the community that these diseases continue to be prevented. As there were no notifications of whooping cough this year, one may assume that in this area this high level is being maintained.

This annual report has been largely prepared by the Senior Public Health Inspector and his staff, and I express my thanks to them both for their diligent work throughout the year, and for their prompt help and co-operation to me in acting as Medical Officer of Health.

I have the honour to be,  
Your obedient servant,

JOHN H. DE V. DUNN  
Acting Medical Officer of Health

Public Health Department,  
Rural District Council Offices,  
Buckley Lodge,  
Buckley,  
Northampton.

Sent, June, 1966.



# SECTION A.

## SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF AREA AND STATISTICS.

### SUMMARY OF VITAL STATISTICS 1965.

Area in acres	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	58,132
Population	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	12,570
Number of separate dwellings occupied in 1965	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	3,943
Rateable values @ 1st. April, 1965	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	£274,333
Product of penny rate @ 1st. April, 1965	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	£1,152

#### LIVE BIRTHS.

	<u>Males.</u>	<u>Females.</u>	<u>Total.</u>
Legitimate.	107	115	222
Illegitimate.	3	5	8
			<hr/> 230

<u>BIRTH RATE</u> (per 1,000 population. Area comparability factor = 1.12)			
	<u>Brackley R.D.C.</u>	<u>Northamptonshire.</u>	<u>England &amp; Wales.</u>
	18.3	18.8	18.1

#### STILL BIRTHS.

	<u>Males.</u>	<u>Females.</u>	<u>Total.</u>
Legitimate.	1	1	2
Illegitimate.	-	-	-
			<hr/> 2

#### STILL BIRTH RATE. (per 1,000 births.)

	<u>Brackley R.D.C.</u>	<u>Northamptonshire.</u>	<u>England &amp; Wales.</u>
	8.7	14.7	15.7

#### DEATHS. (per 1,000 population. Area comparability factor = 1.05)

	<u>Brackley R.D.C.</u>	<u>Northamptonshire.</u>	<u>England &amp; Wales.</u>
	9.7	10.8	11.5

There were no deaths from puerperal sepsis or other puerperal causes.

#### INFANT MORTALITY.

	<u>Males.</u>	<u>Females.</u>	<u>Total.</u>
Legitimate.	1	4	5
Illegitimate.	-	-	-
			<hr/> 5

#### INFANT MORTALITY RATE.

	<u>Brackley R.D.C.</u>	<u>Northamptonshire.</u>	<u>England &amp; Wales.</u>
	21.7	16.8	19.0

<u>DEATHS FROM:</u>	Cancer (all ages)	...	...	...	...	27
"	"	Diarrhoea (under 2 years)	...	...	...	Nil.
"	"	Measles	...	...	...	Nil.
"	"	Whooping Cough	...	...	...	Nil.
"	"	Infectious Diseases	...	...	...	2 (pneumonia)
"	"	Tuberculosis	...	...	...	Nil.



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THE REGISTERED CAUSES OF DEATH WERE:-

Causes of Death.	Males.	Females.	Totals.
1. Tuberculosis, respiratory	-	-	-
2. Tuberculosis, other	-	-	-
3. Syphilitic diseases	-	-	-
4. Diphtheria	-	-	-
5. Whooping cough	-	-	-
6. Meningococcal infections	-	-	-
7. Acute Poliomyelitis	-	-	-
8. Measles	-	-	-
9. Other infectious and parasitic diseases	-	1	1
10. Malignant neoplasm, stomach	-	2	2
11. Malignant neoplasm, lung, bronchus	5	2	7
12. Malignant neoplasm, breast	-	3	3
13. Malignant neoplasm, uterus	-	-	-
14. Other malignant and lymphatic neoplasms	10	4	14
15. Leukaemia, aleukaemia	1	-	1
16. Diabetes	1	1	2
17. Vascular lesions of the nervous system	6	16	22
18. Coronary diseases, angina	8	11	19
19. Hypertension with heart disease	1	1	2
20. Other heart diseases	9	14	23
21. Other circulatory diseases	2	2	4
22. Influenza	-	-	-
23. Pneumonia	1	1	2
24. Bronchitis	3	-	3
25. Other diseases of the respiratory system	1	-	1
26. Ulcer of stomach and duodenum	3	-	3
27. Gastritis, enteritis and diarrhoea	-	-	-
28. Nephritis and nephrosis	-	-	-
29. Hyperplasia of prostate	1	-	1
30. Pregnancy, childbirth, abortion	-	-	-
31. Congenital malformations	-	1	1
32. Other defined and ill-defined diseases	3	4	7
33. Motor Vehicle accidents	1	-	1
34. All other accidents	1	1	2
35. Suicide	1	1	2
36. Homicidal and operations of war	-	-	-
TOTALS:	58	65	123



## SECTION B.

### GENERAL PROVISIONS OF HEALTH SERVICES.

#### 1. LABORATORY FACILITIES.

The Public Health Laboratory Service, Oxford, examine all swabs submitted by General Practitioners in the area and have also undertaken the examination of milk, ice cream, water samples and other specimens submitted from this district. This most useful and efficient service is under the control of Dr. W. H. H. Jebb to whom I am indebted.

#### 2. HOSPITAL SERVICES.

Horton General Hospital, Banbury.  
Slade Isolation Hospital, Oxford. (Infectious cases).  
Cottage Hospital, Brackley.

#### 3. COUNTY COUNCIL SERVICES.

##### (a) Ambulances.

The County Council provide ambulances for the removal to hospital of all general, medical, surgical and infectious cases. A new Ambulance Station has been built in Brackley, this was opened in 1965.

##### (b) Child Welfare Centres and Clinics.

Infant Welfare Centres are held at Brackley, Middleton Cheney, Kings Sutton and Helmdon. Transport facilities are provided by the County Council in various parts of the district for mothers and children to attend clinics at a nearby centre.

##### (c) Nursing in the Home, Midwives and Health Visitor Service.

The district is well covered, and all villages have the services of both District Nurse and Health Visitor.

##### (d) The Home Help Service.

This service is in operation in several parishes of the district. It is a very necessary service and affords considerable benefit to the community, both to domiciliary and maternity cases, and especially in the care of old people who can remain comfortably at home, and whom, without this help, would be in institutions.

##### (e) Care and After Care Service.

The County Council provided a number of facilities in respect of the crippled, aged persons, diabetics and the mentally ill. They are also responsible for the preventive services for tuberculosis.



SECTION C.

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES.

GENERALLY:

By and large I am again able to report satisfactorily on the various aspects of sanitary circumstances prevailing in the district which are improving steadily each year. Mains water being available to most habited premises has correspondingly increased the advantages of water-borne sanitation. There has been a marked increase in the number of new homes built during the year consistent with the reconditioning of an encouraging number of existing houses. A satisfactory system of house refuse collection is in operation whereby domestic refuse is collected every eight days or thereabouts. A scheme is at present being prepared by the Council's Consulting Engineers for dealing jointly with the sewage disposal in respect to the villages of Aynho, Charlton and Kings Sutton, and it is hoped that the scheme will be ready for the invitation of tenders during the summer of 1966. The new sewage disposal works at Eydon is now in operation. Laying of new sewers in Evenley is almost completed and work is proceeding with the new sewage disposal works there. The proposed extension to the sewage disposal works at Croughton is at the outline stage with the Consultants as are proposed new sewage and sewerage disposal works at Upper Middleton Cheney. The scheme at Whitfield is now under construction. The Consulting Engineers have also been instructed to prepare schemes for the proper sewerage of the small parishes of Crowfield and Hinton-in-the-Hedges. From what I have said it is clear that the Council are truly ambitious for the efficient sewerage of the district as a whole and details of what has already been achieved in this respect and what it is hoped will be done in the not too distant future is shown in the following table:-

<u>Place.</u>	<u>Sewerage.</u>	<u>Sewage Disposal Works.</u>
Aston-le-Walls	Completed	Completed
Aynho	Completed	Scheme being prepared in conjunction with Kings Sutton.
Boddington	Completed	Completed
Chacombe	Completed	Completed
Charlton	Scheme being prepared.	Scheme being prepared in conjunction with Kings Sutton
Chipping Warden	Completed	Completed
Croughton	Completed	Scheme in preparation
Crowfield	Completed	Scheme being prepared
Culworth	Completed	Completed
Evenley	Work in progress	Work in progress
Eydon	Completed	Completed
Farthinghoe	Completed	Completed
Greatworth	Completed	Completed
Helmdon	Completed	Completed
Hinton-in-the-Hedges	Scheme being prepared	Scheme being prepared
Kings Sutton	Completed	Joint scheme being prepared with Aynho and Charlton
Marston St. Lawrence	Scheme being prepared	Scheme being prepared
Middleton Cheney (lower)	Completed	Completed
Middleton Cheney (upper)	Scheme being prepared	Scheme being prepared
Moreton Pinkney	Completed	Completed
Overthorpe	Completed	Completed
Radstone	Deferred	Deferred
Sulgrave	Completed	Completed
Syresham	Completed	Completed
Thenford	Deferred	Deferred
Thorpe Mandeville	Completed	Completed
Whitfield	Work in progress	Work in progress



## WATER SUPPLY (REGIONAL SCHEME).

The physical and bacteriological condition of the water supplied to this district by the Bucks Water Board may be said to be satisfactory. There were, however, complaints made by some consumers to the Health Department concerning mainly discoloration of the water. This was quickly dispelled by flushing out the mains in the particular locality. Also complaints are received occasionally that the water tastes or smells strongly of chlorine. The Water Board are always willing promptly to take appropriate remedial measures whenever this is necessary and a good relationship exists between the officers of the Board and this Council.

Practically every month samples are taken by the Public Health Inspectors for bacteriological examination, so that throughout the year every parish in the district is sampled three or four times. This year 100 such samples were taken and found satisfactory. Details of where these were taken are shown in the table on the following page. In addition to the bacteriological samples two samples are yearly taken for chemical analysis and the reports on these for this year appear in detail on the following page, giving the chemical constituents in the water together with the Analyst's opinion as to the suitability of the water for use for drinking purposes. It should be noted that the organic quality of the water is not as good as one would wish it to be. The water is non-plumbo solvent and Fluoride was not added to the water in 1965.

The following table shows the number of dwellinghouses and the population supplied with water from the public mains. Water is taken inside the houses in most cases and in only a few instances is it supplied by standpipe outside.

<u>PARISH</u>	<u>DWELLINGHOUSES</u>	<u>ESTIMATED POPULATION</u>
Aston -le-Walls	52	190
Aynho	200	510
Boddington	131	360
Chacombe	95	320
Chipping Warden	134	523
Croughton	146	1010
Culworth	132	410
Edgecote	Private Supply	-
Evenley	125	390
Eydon	124	340
Farthinghoe	99	360
Greatworth	143	550
Helmdon	200	500
Hinton-in-the-Hedges	30	90
Kings Sutton	489	1560
Marston St. Lawrence	65	190
Middleton Cheney	790	2024
Moreton Pinkney	97	250
Newbottle	120	400
Radstone	15	70
Sulgrave	124	340
Syresham	166	670
Thenford	19	84
Thorpe Mandeville	42	140
Warkworth	5	40
Whitfield	45	150
<hr/>		
TOTALS:	3592	11471

WATER SUPPLY (REGIONAL SCHEME).

The Bucks Water Board took 293 water samples and the number of these in which coliform organisms were detected was 292. E. Coli was present in 280 samples. The Board obtained a total of 1029 treated water samples from Foxcote Works in addition to 78 from consumers taps in the area of this Council. The number of treated water samples taken at Foxcote Works in which coliform organisms were detected was 48 of which 13 showed E. Coli to be present. Samples from consumers taps showing coliform organisms was 1 which was of faecal origin.

BACTERIOLOGICAL SAMPLES OF REGIONAL SUPPLY.

Details of samples taken in 1965 are as follows:-

<u>Parish or Village</u>	<u>Satisfactory</u>	<u>Unsatisfactory</u>	<u>Total</u>
Aston-le-Walls	2	-	2
Aynho	3	-	3
Upper Boddington	2	-	2
Lower Boddington	2	-	2
Chacombe	3	-	3
Chipping Warden	2	-	2
Croughton	4	-	4
Crowfield	3	-	3
Culworth	3	-	3
Evenley	7	-	7
Eydon	3	-	3
Farthinghoe	5	-	5
Greatworth	5	-	5
Halse	3	-	3
Helmdon	2	-	2
Hinton-in-the-Hedges	3	-	3
Kings Sutton	5	-	5
Marston St. Lawrence	3	-	3
Middleton Cheney	7	-	7
Moreton Pinkney	4	-	4
Newbottle	4	-	4
Overthorpe	3	-	3
Radstone	3	-	3
Sulgrave	2	-	2
Syresham	4	-	4
Thenford	2	-	2
Thorpe Mandeville	4	-	4
Warkworth	4	-	4
Whitfield	3	-	3
	<hr/> 100	<hr/> -	<hr/> 100



# CHEMICAL SAMPLES OF REGIONAL SUPPLY.

BOSTOCK, HILL & RIGBY,  
Public Analyst's Laboratories,  
37, Birchfield Road,  
BIRMINGHAM 19.

Water Analysis Results expresses in parts per 1,000,000.

Received on : 15 March, 1965.

From : W. E. Turbitt.

Description : Sample of water from Fox Inn, Farthinghoe.

Appearance	...	...	...	...	Bright, few small particles.	
Ammoniacal Nitrogen	...	...	...	...	...	0.012
Albuminoid Nitrogen	...	...	...	...	...	0.11
Chlorine in Chlorides	...	...	...	...	...	57.5
Nitrate Nitrogen	...	...	...	...	...	3.5
Oxygen absorbed from permanganate at 27°C. in 4 hours	...	...	...	...	...	1.4
Total solids dried at 100°C.	...	...	...	...	...	560
Nitrite Nitrogen	...	...	...	...	...	Absent.
pH	...	...	...	...	...	7.65
Free Chlorine	...	...	...	...	...	0.25
Radioactivity	...	...	...	...	...	-
Electrical Conductivity at 20°C.	...	...	...	...	...	653 micromhos.
Iron in solution	...	...	...	...	...	0.1
Total	...	...	...	...	...	0.35

The above results show that this water is organically of fair quality. It contains free Chlorine, and with satisfactory bacteriological results, it would in its present condition be safe for drinking purposes.

(signed) BOSTOCK, HILL & RIGBY,  
Public Analysts.

Water Analysis Results expressed in parts per 1,000,000.

Received on : 1st. September, 1965.

From : W. E. Turbitt.

Description : Water mains supply from Skaigh House, Evenley.

Appearance	...	...	...	...	Bright, few large particles.	
Ammoniacal Nitrogen	...	...	...	...	...	0.051
Albuminoid Nitrogen	...	...	...	...	...	0.4
Chlorine in Chlorides	...	...	...	...	...	40.0
Nitrate Nitrogen	...	...	...	...	...	0.9
Oxygen absorbed from permanganate at 27°C. in 4 hours	...	...	...	...	...	1.6
Total Solids dried at 100°C.	...	...	...	...	...	400
Nitrite Nitrogen	...	...	...	...	...	Absent.
pH	...	...	...	...	...	7.3
Free Chlorine	...	...	...	...	...	0.08
Radioactivity	...	...	...	...	...	-
Electrical Conductivity at 20°C.	...	...	...	...	...	547 micromhos.
Iron, in solution	...	...	...	...	...	0

The above results show that this sample is of poorer organic quality than the last sample examined in March. It contains free chlorine, however, and subject to this and continued satisfactory bacteriological examinations the water would be suitable for use for drinking purposes.

(Signed) BOSTOCK, HILL & RIGBY,  
Public Analysts.



## CARAVAN SITES AND CONTROL OF DEVELOPMENT ACT 1960.

The number of licensed caravan sites in the district does not vary very much. There are now 16 sites involving some 25 caravans. Both the sites and the caravans are fairly well maintained and do not present any problem.

On occasions Gypsies visit us, and their gaily painted caravans and sturdy ponies which draw the vans may be seen encamped on the grass verges of the roads and lanes in our district. These folk lend colour to the countryside and move on their way usually without leaving more than the signs of their campfires behind. Not so, unfortunately, can this be said of some motorists who use our lay-bys and other stopping places who all too frequently leave behind their litter and even use the places as public lavatories. Of this problem I wrote at some length in my Report for 1964.

## SCHOOLS.

Mainly for the purposes of sampling water and milk the Public Health Inspectors made 102 visits at schools in addition to making 4 inspections at school canteens.

There are still 19 schools serving the area, one of which is a Private Preparatory School; the others being under the control of the Northamptonshire County Council.

Although I report favorably on schools in the area because they compare with other rural schools in the County, I should nevertheless like to see a general improvement in toilet facilities. Ideally these should be provided inside the main building and not sited at the furthestmost position in the school playground, which is usually the case here with one exception. But unfortunately this would necessitate the erection of costly new additions to the main building or the construction of a complete new school incorporating inside toilet blocks. It would seem that schools are lagging behind somewhat when one sees modern toilets provided inside factories and a considerable number of public houses now have them inside.

## OFFICES AND SHOPS.

The Offices, Shops and Railways Premises Act 1963 required as from 1st. May 1964, certain office and shop premises to be registered with the Local Authority, the main provisions of the Act coming into operation as from the 1st. August 1964. It concerns the health, welfare and safety of persons employed in these premises.

In this district some 36 premises are registered in which a total of approximately 103 persons are employed.

The larger offices attached to factories are the responsibility of H.M. Inspector of Factories whilst the remainder, which are the concern of this Council, are staffed by one or, at the most two employees.

Likewise the retail shops are staffed by one, two or not more than three persons. Quite a number are run by husband and wife and do not there



fore come within the purview of the Act.

All premises registered with the Local Authority have been inspected and a number of contraventions of the Act remedied.

A special report on lighting standards was required which necessitated the taking of lightmeter readings at all registered premises. The month of November 1965 was suggested at the time for this to be done, but as the Department had some difficulty in acquiring a lightmeter the bulk of the inspections made for this purpose took place in December. The inspections were completed however, and reported upon in the 1965 Annual Report to the Ministry of Labour.

With few exceptions the introduction of this new Act in the area has been favorably received by both employers and employees.

Because this is a rural area with the majority of registerable premises small and the employees few in number, a certain amount of elasticity has to be allowed in administering this important Act. Practically all the shops are food premises of one kind or another, already well known to the Public Health Inspectors, and which receive constant visits by them under the Food Hygiene Regulations.

#### SMOKE ABATEMENT.

No action was necessary during the year.

#### SWIMMING BATHS AND POOLS.

Apart from a few privately owned swimming pools there are unfortunately no public facilities available in this rural area.

#### VERMINOUS PREMISES.

No action necessary.

#### PUBLIC CLEANSING.

Collection and disposal of house refuse is under the supervision of the Engineer and Surveyor. The present rotational scheme whereby house refuse is collected every 8-10 days seems to be working well and must be appreciated by householders.

Disposal of the refuse takes place by tipping at Greatworth and Moreton Pinkney. The tip at Greatworth is to be increased in area despite a certain amount of local opposition, but available land for this purpose is becoming very restricted. The ultimate solution to this difficult problem of disposal of refuse has markedly changed in recent years since much of the foods used by householders is contained in packets and cans which considerably increases the bulk to be disposed of.

#### FACTORIES ACT 1961.

There are now 22 factories on the register, several additions having been notified by H.M. Inspector of Factories during the year. It was possible to make only 5 inspections this year.



# PART VIII - OUTWORKERS.

Only 2 outworkers have been notified by the Borough of Banbury as working in their homes in this area for a factory in Banbury. The homes of these outworkers have been visited and found suitable for the work carried on therein.

## PART 1. OF THE ACT.

1. Inspections for the purpose of provision as to health (including inspections made by the Public Health Inspector).

<u>Premises.</u>	<u>Number on Register.</u>	<u>Inspections.</u>	<u>Written Notices.</u>	<u>Occupier Prosecuted.</u>
(i) Factories in which Sections 1,2,3,4 & 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities.	2	2	-	-
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority.	20	3	1	-
(iii) Other premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding outworkers premises)	-	-	-	-
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>-</b>

2. Cases in which defects were found.

<u>Particulars.</u>	<u>Number of cases in which defects were found.</u>			<u>Number of cases of which pro- secutions were instituted</u>	
	<u>Found.</u>	<u>Remedied.</u>	<u>Referred To H.M. Inspector</u>	<u>By H.M. Inspector</u>	<u>instituted</u>
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 defective	1	1	-	-	-
(c) Not separate for sexes.	-	-	-	-	-
Other offences against the Act (not including offences relating to Outwork).	-	-	-	-	-
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>Nil</b>	<b>Nil</b>	<b>Nil</b>



# SUMMARY OF PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTORS' VISITS TO PREMISES DURING 1965.

Inspections - Housing Act	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	89
Re - inspections	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	40
Inspections - Public Health Act	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	139
Notices served	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	14
Re - inspected	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	112
No. of Public Health Notices complied with	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	12
No. of complaints received	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	174
Factory Inspections	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	5
Factory Notices served	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	3
Factory Notices complied with	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	4
Building Inspections	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	916
Interviews with Owners, Builders, etc.	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	40
Offices and Shops Act	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	47

## VISITS TO:-

Butchers Shops	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	108
Bakehouses	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	18
Fishmongers	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	5
Dairies and Milkshops	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	35
Public Houses	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	81
Provision Shops	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	189
Greengrocers	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	6
Ice Cream Places	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	145
Cafes and Caterers	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	45
Schools and School Canteens	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	106
Infectious Disease enquiries	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	8
Petroleum Stores	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	26
Miscellaneous	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	10
Caravans	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	13
Anim' Boarding Establishments	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	14
Fairgrounds	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
Factory Canteens	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
Food Notices served	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	5
Food Notices complied with	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	8

## SUMMARY OF COMPLAINTS RECEIVED 1965.

Complaints made in writing, by telephone or verbally during the year totalled 174 and concerned the following matters, viz:-

Drainage, sewerage, and sanitation	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	44
Insanitary accumulations and disposal of refuse	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	14
Insanitary dwellings	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	-
Insect Pests	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Nuisance from keeping animals	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	8
General Housing defects	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	24
Water supply	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	12
Noise Nuisance	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
Rats and Mice	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	60
Food and Milk	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	6
Miscellaneous	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	3

TOTAL: 174

## STATEMENT OF HOUSING REPAIRS OR IMPROVEMENTS DEALT WITH DURING THE YEAR 1965.

Completely reconditioned as a result of statutory action by the Council	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	8
New drainage systems and water - closets installed	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	57
Sundry repairs and improvements carried out after service of notice	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	9

## NUISANCES ABATED UNDER THE PUBLIC HEALTH ACT 1936.

Accumulation of refuse removed	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	9
Nuisances from keeping animals abated	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	9
Drainage and sewerage defects	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	17



## SECTION D.

### HOUSING.

#### THE PROVISION OF NEW HOUSES.

##### Council Houses.

The number of new dwellings built by the Council this year was 34; i.e. 20 at Middleton Cheney, 2 at Evenley and 12 at Greatworth. Two sub-standard cottages which had been acquired at Evenley were modernised and plans are being prepared for the conversion of three more cottages, which have been acquired in the same village, to provide two additional dwellings.

At the end of the year 11 dwellings were under construction at Helmdon and 4 flats at Eydon.

The table on the following page shows the distribution of Council dwellings throughout the District.

##### MODERNISATION OF COUNCIL HOUSES.

The modernisation of 346 pre-war Council dwellings is continuing satisfactorily; over 200 of these dwellings have now been provided with baths, inside W.C.s and a piped supply of hot water.

##### PRIVATE ENTERPRISE HOUSES.

The number of private enterprise houses constructed during the year was 126. This is 42 less than the previous year but the rate of building continues to be high and in fact about four times as many houses are being built each year than were being built in the years prior to 1962.

##### SLUM CLEARANCE.

The Council made 4 Closing Orders and 3 Demolition Orders during the year. Since 1954, when 'Slum Clearance' was given impetus, 172 dwellings and 66 wartime hutments have been demolished and a further 150 dwellings have been thoroughly reconditioned and provided with modern amenities. Of the original list of sub-standard dwellings prepared in 1954 only some 65 remain to be dealt with. In addition to these houses there are of course a number of dwellings worthy of preservation which are still without the basic amenities which would be required in order to qualify for a Standard Grant (viz:- an internal W.C., a bathroom, a supply of hot water and a foodstore). The exact number of such houses can best be determined by a 'house to house' inspection of the district undertaken by the Public Health Inspectors.

##### SLUM CLEARANCE ACTION TAKEN IN 1965.

	<u>Number of Dwellings.</u>
Demolished ... ..	8
Closed(Closing Orders & Undertakings) ... ..	4
Reconditioned and made fit for habitation ... ..	8
Demolition Orders made ... ..	3

##### IMPROVEMENT GRANTS 1965.

###### STANDARD GRANTS.

	<u>Owner/occpd Houses</u>	<u>Tenanted Houses</u>
Number of Applications received ... ..	18	3
Number of Applications approved ... ..	18	3
Number of Applications refused ... ..	-	-
Amount paid in Grants ... ..	£2,559 0. 0.	
Average Grant per dwelling ... ..	£ 142 3. 4.	

###### DISCRETIONARY GRANTS.

	<u>Owner/occpd Houses</u>	<u>Tenanted Houses</u>
Number of Applications received ... ..	6	8
Number of Applications approved ... ..	5	8
Number of Applications refused ... ..	1	-
Amount paid in Grants ... ..	£5,490 0. 0.	
Average Grant per house ... ..	£ 366 0. 0.	



# STATEMENT OF HOUSING PROGRESS.

## PROVISION OF COUNCIL DWELLINGS.

	Pre-war and War-time dwellings	Post-war dwellings	Sub-standard dwellings acquired & reconditioned	TOTAL	Dwellings subsequently sold
Aston-le-Walls	16	5	-	21	-
Aynho	-	30	6	36	-
Boddington (Upper & Lower)	6	21	-	27	-
Chacombe	17	21	-	38	-
Chipping Warden	-	45	-	45	-
Croughton	8	19	-	27	-
Culworth	21	21	-	42	-
Edgcote	-	-	-	-	-
Evenley	-	13	2	15	-
Eydon	12	9	-	21	-
Farthinghoe	10	20	-	30	-
Greatworth and Halse	16	41	-	57	-
Helmdon	16	34	-	50	1
Hinton-in-the-Hedges	-	6	-	6	-
Kings Sutton	66	181	-	247	1
Marston St. Lawrence	6	12	-	18	2
Middleton Cheney and Overthorpe	72	210	-	282	2
Moreton Pinkney	8	9	-	17	-
Newbottle and Charlton	18	27	-	45	-
Radstone	-	-	-	-	-
Sulgrave	14	25	-	39	-
Syresham	38	37	-	75	-
Thenford	-	-	-	-	-
Thorpe Mandeville	6	6	-	12	-
Warkworth	-	-	-	-	-
Whitfield	-	6	-	6	-
TOTALS:	350	798	8	1156	6



## SECTION E.

### INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD PREMISES.

#### Generally.

It must be emphasised that the standards of hygiene in food premises depends on the Public Health Inspector explaining the nature of hygiene practices and the necessity for their adoption, and then persuading the shopkeeper and food handlers into putting those precepts into daily use. As has been mentioned in my previous Reports there is no substitute for competent routine inspection by the Public Health Inspector.

Throughout the year numerous visits were made to the various food premises in the district of which details are given on the following pages. The number of food premises in the district has not varied much during the year. A general provision shop closed down at Evenley which was a relief to the Department as the premises were old and too restricted in size to enable such a business to be carried on satisfactorily. The proprietor of this shop opened up another general provisions shop in another position in the same village by converting a building, which had formerly been used as a village club, into a modern shop which, incidentally, has since changed ownership. Another general provisions shop in Kings Sutton has changed proprietorship. A butchers shop in Middleton Cheney, which had been closed for a period, has reopened this year as a butchers shop after a complete modernisation.

An isolated case of *Salmonella london*, affecting an aged man at Thorpe Mandeville, was notified by the Oxford City Health Authority after the patient had been admitted to the Slade Hospital, Oxford, with abdominal pains, diarrhoea and vomiting. Enquiries made at the patient's home failed to establish the cause of the infection. He has since returned home cured.

I am happy to state that the standard of food premises throughout this area is comparatively satisfactory and that the provisions of the Food Hygiene Regulations are in the main being observed by those persons responsible for the sale and handling of food for the public at large. An exception was in the case of a Baker and Confectioner who failed to keep his premises up to standard, despite many warnings over a period. Because of failure to co-operate and carry out the required work at his premises this person was reported to the Public Health Committee who authorised legal proceedings which, however, were not taken as the premises were eventually satisfactorily dealt with.

In the early part of the year it was discovered that one of our food vendors, who sells most of his goods from a 'travelling shop' was buying from a wholesaler outside the district, considerable quantities of damaged canned foods. These he obtained at a reduced price and was therefore able to sell them to his customers at a 'bargain price'. Apparently there is a ready sale for cans of food even in this condition to certain members of the public. Damage to some cans was so great as to cause the ends to be 'domed' or 'blown'. Others were rusty in varying degrees, in addition to severe denting, and some cans were without labels identifying the nature of the contents. When asked how he was able to sell a can of food without a label he replied, that he was usually able to correctly guess the nature of the contents by shaking the can and listening to the sound, and that these cans of food were sold 'at a knock-down price'.

This situation naturally gave much concern to the Health Department as to the fitness of the food in such cans, because if the damaged cans contained even minute perforations, or possibly damage seams, the contents were likely to be adversely affected from a bacteriological aspect. No can was visibly leaking. Could then these cans be confiscated as being unfit without first obtaining the result of a bacteriological examination



of the contents? It was considered that the risk was too great to allow these articles of food to be sold to the public whilst awaiting the result of an examination. Fortunately, by persuasion, the food vendor surrendered some 5 dozen of these badly damaged cans after it had been pointed out to him the grave consequences which might ensue if the contents were in fact bacteriologically or otherwise contaminated then eaten by a consumer. Alternatively, this quantity would have been purchased by the Department as a safety measure.

Twenty of these cans of food were taken for bacteriological examination to the Public Health Laboratory at Oxford, who, when they first saw them expressed an opinion that they ought not to be sold to the public. The examination revealed a growth of aerobic spore-bearing organisms in 5 cans and micrococci in another. The remainder showed no bacterial growth.

As a further check, 6 cans were sent to the Research Department of the Metal Box Co. Ltd., at Acton, who are responsible for the manufacture and testing of receptacles used in the canned foods industry. They too deplored the sale of canned foods in such a bad physical state. Each can was subjected to an air pressure leak test when empty, whilst the contents were examined bacteriologically. One can was found perforated due to severe damage and infected with bacteria in consequence. Another was perforated due to external rusting, but contained no bacteria. The seam structure of another can was affected by denting and consequently could have admitted bacteria. The Metal Box Co. Ltd., who are experts in this particular field, stated that the physical condition of these cans of food submitted to them, in their opinion, would categorise them as unsuitable for sale.

Because contamination of the contents of these cans could not be proved at the time they were discovered the Public Health Committee could only recommend that a letter of warning be sent to the food vendor concerned pointing out the potential dangers of such a practice. Apparently Public Health Law, as at present existing, does not provide for dealing with a situation such as I have just described. One would have thought that these articles could have better been dealt with by the Local Authority in which the wholesalers premises are situated by at least trying to induce voluntary surrender of the articles there, rather than allow them to be passed on to Retailers for resale. Also one wonders why certain members of the public are willing to buy damaged food such as this. Undoubtedly the cheap price is the temptation.

Two cases of foreign bodies found in bread were reported to the Public Health Committee. One concerned an unwrapped loaf manufactured in the district and which contained what appeared to be rat faeces. In the other loaf which was wrapped and had been manufactured outside the area, a piece of sacking was found embedded in the bread. In each case the Committee decided that a severe warning should be sent to the respective firms concerned pointing out that legal proceedings would follow any similar happening.



## BACTERIOLOGICAL EXAMINATION OF FOOD SPECIMENS.

The following six articles of food were taken at random and subjected to bacteriological examination with a view to ascertaining the presence of any food poisoning organisms.

<u>Food Specimen</u>						<u>Result of Examination.</u>
Pork Sausages	...	...	...	...	...	In each case no organisms of the Shigella or Salmonella groups isolated.
Pork Sausages	...	...	...	...	...	
Pork Sausages	...	...	...	...	...	
Pork Sausage Meat	...	...	...	...	...	
Sausages	...	...	...	...	...	No staph. Aureus or CI. welchi isolated.
Meat Pie	...	...	...	...	...	

The above results were entirely satisfactory and I would like to see many more of these samples taken as the results of such examinations casts some reflection on methods employed in the manufacture of the foods and has a tendency to keep the food handler's "on their toes" so to speak when they know that sampling is likely to take place from time to time.

### DETAILS OF MORE FOOD SPECIMENS SUBJECTED TO SPECIAL BACTERIOLOGICAL EXAMINATION.

<u>Food Specimen.</u>						<u>Result of Examination.</u>
Canned Peaches	...	...	...	...	...	No growth.
" Cream Rice Pudding	...	...	...	...	...	ditto
" Peeled Tomatoes (1)	...	...	...	...	...	ditto
" Prunes with Cereal	...	...	...	...	...	ditto
" Peeled Tomatoes (2)	...	...	...	...	...	ditto
" Processed Peas	...	...	...	...	...	ditto
" Buttered Beans	...	...	...	...	...	ditto
" Corned Beef	...	...	...	...	...	ditto
" Peaches	...	...	...	...	...	(Aerobic spore-bearing organisms isolated.
" Chicken and Rice	...	...	...	...	...	
" Peeled Tomatoes (3)	...	...	...	...	...	No growth.
" Peaches	...	...	...	...	...	ditto
" Vegetable and Beef Broth	...	...	...	...	...	Aerobic spore-bearing organisms isolated.
" Cheese Flaps	...	...	...	...	...	No growth.
" Orange Juice	...	...	...	...	...	Aerobic spore-bearing organisms isolated.
" Peeled Tomatoes (4)	...	...	...	...	...	No growth.
" Peeled Tomatoes (5)	...	...	...	...	...	Micrococci isolated.
" Peeled Tomatoes (6)	...	...	...	...	...	No growth.
" Peeled Tomatoes (7)	...	...	...	...	...	ditto

### HOTELS AND INNS.

There are two good hotels in the district each being equipped with a modern kitchen in which meals are prepared on a considerable scale.

The number of Inns is 33 and each is provided with hot and cold water and a sink behind the bars to facilitate the proper washing of glasses. A number serve meals or snacks. The toilet accommodation at these premises varies from inside toilets which are first class to others situated outside which are not so good but nevertheless are classified as being satisfactory. It is the aim of the Department to obtain inside toilet accommodation whenever the opportunity arises. I should like to see all licensed premises provided with inside toilets.



Each is visited, at least, once during the year and the general standard of these premises is good.

The Great Western Arms at Aynho has been completely modernised and provided with a new modern kitchen for public catering and an attractive ladies toilet has been constructed inside the premises.

#### ICE CREAM.

Visits have been made to all premises selling this popular commodity. It has not been possible to take as many samples this year, but the results of those obtained were all satisfactory.

#### MILK SUPPLY.

The number of milk distributors now under licence is 10, one premises having closed down during the year. No formal action was necessary under the Milk Regulations, but some milk distributors were informally required to have their name and address suitably inscribed on the delivery vehicles as is required by the Regulations.

Some trouble was experienced with Pasteurised milk which, although efficiently heat treated, failed to satisfy the Methylene Blue Test over a period in respect to a number of samples. The trouble was first encountered when sampling milk at schools. The milk was supplied by one firm of distributors and processed outside the district. After persistent sampling and much discussion with the persons concerned - and with their co-operation - the condition of this particular supply has since been found to be satisfactory in regards both the Phosphatase and Methylene Blue Tests. The root of the trouble was finally tracked down to the pasteurisation plant where the milk was being processed which I have already said was outside this area.

Complaints of milk bottles showing dirt and mud splashes externally were taken up with the Wholesalers responsible. Some of the bottles were 'scuffed' during their passage along the conveyors when being filled and capped at the bottling plant and this caused impairment to the transparency of the bottles thus giving a false impression that the milk inside was dirty, whereas in point of fact it was the bottle which was discoloured. The mud splashed bottles which had been transported in open vehicles was dealt with by providing canvas screens around the body of the Wholesalers delivery vehicles when covered vehicles could not be used for delivery. Roads in this area were unusually muddy at the time due to a prolonged rainy period. The 'scuffing' problem is being dealt with by removing the damaged bottles from circulation.

A total of 72 Pasteurised milk samples were taken, all of which satisfied the Phosphatase Test indicating that the milk had been efficiently heat treated. There were, however, 27 samples of this milk which could not satisfy the Methylene Blue Test for the reason I have already mentioned. Most of these failures were in respect to milk supplied at schools.

#### MEAT INSPECTION.

As I have mentioned in previous Reports, apart from the Health Inspectors keeping a watchful eye on meat displayed for sale in the Butchers Shops any other inspection is unnecessary as post mortem inspection is performed at slaughterhouses outside the district as it will be remembered all slaughterhouses in this area are closed.

#### FOOD AND DRUGS ACT 1955, (Section 16)

Registerable premises include 10 Butchers where sausages or pickled or preserved meat are manufactured and 40 places where Ice Cream is stored for sale by retail.

CONDEMNED FOODS.

This food was surrendered to the Department and destroyed as unfit for human consumption for the reasons mentioned, viz:-

<u>FOOD ARTICLE.</u>					<u>REASON FOR CONDEMNATION.</u>
2	Loaves of Bread	...	...	...	Foreign bodies.
11	Packets of Chocolate Roasted Peanuts	..			Mouldy Condition.
6	Milk Chocolate Nut Bars	...	...	...	Mouldy Condition.
6lbs.	Pineapple Pulp	...	...	...	Blown and badly dented tins.
10lbs.	Peach Pulp	...	...	...	ditto
1	Tin of Plums	...	...	...	ditto
5 Doz.	Assorted Tins of Food	...	...	...	Badly damaged and blown tins.



DETAILS OF THE VARIOUS FOOD PREMISES IN THE DISTRICT.

<u>Nature of Business.</u>	<u>No. in District or on the Register.</u>	<u>No. of Visits during the year.</u>
General Provisions Stores ... ..	48	189
Butchers Shops ... ..	10	108
Dining and Tea Rooms ... ..	4	45
Public Houses or Inns ... ..	33	81
Bakehouses ... ..	2	18
Milk Distributors ... ..	10	35
Fish Fryers or Fish Shops ... ..	1	5
School Canteens ... ..	2	4
Factory Canteens ... ..	1	2
Greengrocers ... ..	2	6
Ice Cream Premises ... ..	40	145

DETAILS OF REPAIRS AND IMPROVEMENTS TO FOOD PREMISES.

BAKEHOUSES.

Cleansed and Limewashed ... ..	1
Dirty Clothing ... ..	1

FOOD SHOPS AND FOOD PREPARING PREMISES.

Repaired ... ..	2
Structural Alterations ... ..	3
Redecorated Internally ... ..	2
Name and Address on Vehicle ... ..	2
Precautions against contamination ... ..	4

CAFES AND PUBLIC HOUSES.

Toilets improved ... ..	7
Repaired ... ..	5
Apparatus and Utensils cleaned or improved ... ..	4
Structural Alterations made ... ..	4
Bar Sink provided ... ..	-
Redecorated Internally ... ..	4



## SECTION F.

### THE PREVALENCE OF AND CONTROL OVER INFECTIOUS AND OTHER DISEASES.

There was a decrease to 88 on last year's figure of 179 notifications. This was due to a decline in the incidence of measles. There was one case of food poisoning, and one of infective hepatitis. There were no cases of dysentery.

MEASLES:- This disease which usually follows a biennial incidence showed a considerable decline in 1965, there being only 79 cases compared with 161 the previous year, most of which occurred during the months May, June and July. The illness now usually follows a benign course, seldom showing any serious complications. Occasionally complications can occur, which are however, usually soon and successfully treated by the large number of effective antibiotics which are now available.

WHOOPING COUGH:- There were no notifications. The County Council and many general practitioners have now adopted the method of early immunisation to this illness, starting at 2-3 months. The low incidence of cases in the district would indicate a high percentage of effective immunisation, and it is to be hoped that this state will be maintained.

SCARLET FEVER:- Seven cases were notified, which were scattered in four separate parishes. This disease continues to exhibit its mild phase. The principle interest in notification is that it gives a rough indication of the degree of streptococcal infection in the community.

POLIOMYELITIS:- No cases occurred, and this freedom can be ascribed to immunisation as the decline in incidence has occurred concurrently with vaccination. The oral Sabin vaccine is now used which gives a longer lasting immunity than the Salk or injected variety. A drink of syrup or a lump of sugar is also much more acceptable to the young patients than the previous needle prick.

FOOD POISONING:- There was one case, which was an isolated one and the source of infection was not established. This was fortunately a low incidence in the district. The condition is usually caused by one of the Salmonella organisms, the commonest being one of the Typhimurium strain or paratyphoid A or B. The Staphylococcus gaining entry to food from an infected spot or boil on the hands or face of a food handler may also cause a severe form of food poisoning. Some chemical contaminants can be an occasional cause. More rarely Typhoid fever and botulism may occur. However, the commonest germ causing food poisoning is the Salmonella gaining entry into food by the faulty hygiene of food handlers. The sources of infection can be numerous, uncooked, contaminated (often imported) meat being today probably one of the most frequent.

SMALLPOX:- There were no cases. The vaccination of children is still necessary and should be carried out sometime during the first two years of life, preferably between the first and second year.

DIPHTHERIA:- There have been no cases of diphtheria in Northamptonshire since 1956. There is therefore with each successive year of freedom from infection, a diminishing recollection of the dangers of this illness. Mothers without knowledge of the disease feel a false security and may not have their children immunised. That this is a dangerous situation cannot be too strongly stressed, as it is only by keeping up the numbers of children immunised that the disease be kept in check. It is the duty of all parents to have their children immunised, and if they fail to do so they neglect their welfare.

SONNE DYSENTERY:- There were no cases.



# PERIOD DISTRIBUTION OF NOTIFIED CASES OF INFECTIOUS DISEASES 1965.

A statement showing the period distribution of the cases notified is given hereunder:

			January	February	March	April	May	June	July	August	September	October	November	December	Totals
Scarlet Fever	...	...	-	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	3	2	-	-	7
Diphtheria	...	...	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Pneumonia	...	...	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Measles	...	...	8	2	-	2	13	14	15	4	3	17	-	1	79
Whooping Cough	...	...	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Food Poisoning	...	...	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	1
Dysentery	...	...	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Erysipelas	...	...	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Infective Hepatitis	...	...	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
TOTALS:	...	...	8	3	1	2	14	14	15	4	6	20	-	1	88

## INCIDENCE OF INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

Over the past 10 years (other than Tuberculosis).

		1956	1957	1958	1959	1960	1961	1962	1963	1964	1965
Scarlet Fever	....	-	5	-	8	3	4	7	2	4	7
Diphtheria	....	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Pneumonia	....	1	3	1	4	1	3	4	1	-	-
Erysipelas	....	-	1	-	-	-	-	1	-	1	-
Measles	....	-	105	111	108	36	234	3	160	161	79
Whooping Cough	....	-	17	3	17	5	3	-	10	4	-
Infective Hepatitis	....	-	-	-	-	-	-	5	9	1	1
Poliomyelitis	....	-	8	4	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Dysentery	....	-	6	-	7	1	-	-	3	1	-
Food Poisoning	....	-	-	1	-	-	-	5	-	7	1

# INCIDENCE OF NOTIFIABLE DISEASES 1965.

(other than Tuberculosis)

In Individual Parishes.

Parish.	Scarlet Fever	Dysentery	Pneumonia	Measles	Whooping Cough	Polio-myelitis	Food Poisoning	Erysipelas	Infective Hepatitis	TOTALS
Aston-le-Walls ...	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Ayrho ...	2	-	-	24	-	-	-	-	-	26
Boddington ...	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	1
Chacombe ...	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	1
Chipping Warden ...	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Croughton ...	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Culworth ...	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Edgcote ...	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Evenley ...	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Eydon ...	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	1
Farthinghoe ...	-	-	-	4	-	-	-	-	-	4
Greatworth ...	1	-	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	3
Helmdon ...	3	-	-	9	-	-	-	-	-	12
Hinton-in-the-Hedges ...	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Kings Sutton ...	-	-	-	20	-	-	-	-	-	20
Marston St. Lawrence ...	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Middleton Cheney ...	1	-	-	6	-	-	-	-	-	7
Moreton Pinkney ...	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Newbottle & Charlton ...	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	1
Radstone ...	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Sulgrave ...	-	-	-	5	-	-	-	-	1	6
Syresham ...	-	-	-	3	-	-	-	-	-	3
Thenford ...	-	-	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	2
Thorpe Mandeville ...	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	1
Warkworth ...	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Whitfield ...	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
<b>TOTAL:</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>79</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>88</b>



# TUBERCULOSIS.

Age Incidence of New Cases during 1965.

<u>Age Periods</u>	<u>Respiratory.</u>		<u>Non-Respiratory.</u>	
	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>
0 - 1	-	-	-	-
1 - 5	-	-	-	-
5 - 15	-	-	-	-
15 - 25	-	-	-	-
25 - 35	2	-	-	-
35 - 45	-	-	-	-
45 - 65	2	-	-	3
65 & Over	-	-	-	-
TOTAL:	4	-	-	3

Total cases on the Register at the end of the year is 74 an increase of 3 male and 2 female and are classified as follows:-

<u>Respiratory</u>		<u>Non-Respiratory</u>		<u>Total</u>	
<u>Males</u>	<u>Females</u>	<u>Males</u>	<u>Females</u>	<u>Males</u>	<u>Females</u>
27	25	14	8	52	22

## VACCINATION AND IMMUNISATION.

Details of these figures are now only given in the Annual Report of the County Medical Officer of Health.

## SECTION G.

### RODENT CONTROL.

It was mentioned in my Report for 1964 that Mr. W. G. Bartlett, who had been employed as Rodent Operative to the Council for the past 14 years, had unfortunately to resign due to illness. I much regret to record that Mr. Bartlett died suddenly on the 10th. March 1965.

The good work which Mr. Bartlett had carried out during the many years he was with this Council is being continued by Mr. W. G. Readman who took up the work in a part time capacity on the 24th. August, 1964, and which has since been discharged in a keen and efficient manner.

During the time Mr. Readman has been with us a Contract Scheme for Rodent Control at farms in the area has been introduced. At the present time approximately 34 farms are under a yearly contract with the Council, i.e., from the 1st. October to the 30th. September, which includes three visits and treatments where necessary, at an annual charge of £5-5-0. This provides an annual revenue of some £178-10-0, but it must be remembered that rodent control should be considered as a service obligatory upon the Council and not a money making exercise. Other business premises such as shops are dealt with on a time and material basis, which is 10/-d per hour, plus 1/-d per 1lb bait and plus 5% administrative charges, whilst private premises are charged a maximum of 5/- for servicing.

The number of complaints of Rats or Mice received was 60 as against 46 in the previous year.

Warfarin continues to be used as the most suitable bait consistent with safety and efficiency. In one particular major rat infestation, however, where an unusually large quantity of Warfarin was being consumed without a corresponding encouraging diminution of the rats it was thought that they might have become resistant to Warfarin. An opinion was therefore sought from the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food whose Officer, after visiting the site of this particular infestation with your own Officers, expressed his view that the rats had not in fact become resistant to the poison used, but were in unusually high numbers and that the infestation was of some long standing. This opinion was proved to be correct as the infestation was eventually brought under control.

It was unnecessary to take any formal action under the Prevention of Damage by Pests Act 1949 which reflects on the tact used in the discharge of his duties by the Rodent Operative.

More details of the work carried out during the year are as mentioned below, viz:-

#### SURFACE INFESTATIONS.

No. of complaints received	...	...	...	...	...	...	60
No. of business premises & private dwellings treated	...	...	...	...	...	...	120
No. of treatments carried out for this purpose	...	...	...	...	...	...	1223

#### LOCAL AUTHORITY UNDERTAKINGS.

No. of treatments at Refuse Tips	...	...	...	...	...	...	91
No. of visits and surveys made re. refuse tips	...	...	...	...	...	...	153
No. of sewers and sewage disposal works treated	...	...	...	...	...	...	134
No. of visits made re. sewers and sewage disposal works	...	...	...	...	...	...	235

#### QUANTITY OF MATERIAL USED.

Oatmeal with Warfarin	...	...	...	...	...	...	2257 lbs.
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ROBERT CONTROL

It was mentioned in my Report for 1954 that Mr. W. G. Bartlett, who had been employed as Robert Controller to the Council for the past 10 years, had unfortunately to resign due to illness. I much regret to record that Mr. Bartlett died suddenly on the 10th March 1955.

The good work which Mr. Bartlett had carried out during the many years he was with this Council is being continued by Mr. W. G. Newman who took up the post in a part time capacity on the 1st April, 1955, and which has since been discharged in a keen and efficient manner.

During the time Mr. Newman has been with us a Contract Scheme for Robert Control at farms in the area has been introduced. At the present time approximately 15 farms are under a yearly contract with the Council, £100 from the 1st October to the 30th September, which includes three visits and treatment where necessary, at an annual charge of £5-5-0. This provides an annual revenue of some £750-0-0, but it must be remembered that Robert Control should be considered as a service obligation upon the Council and not a money making exercise. Other business premises such as shops and hotels with on a time and material basis, which is 10/- per hour, plus 1/- per tip and plus 25/- administrative charges, whilst private premises are charged a minimum of 25/- for services.

The number of complaints of rats or mice received was 60 as against 56 in the previous year.

Warburton continues to be used as the most suitable bait containing with safety and efficiency. In one particular major rat infestation, however, where an unusually large quantity of Warburton was being consumed without corresponding encroaching diminution of the rats it was thought that they might have become resistant to Warburton. An opinion was therefore sought from the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food where Officers, after visiting the site of this particular infestation with your own Officers, expressed the view that the rats had not in fact become resistant to the poison used, but were in unusually high numbers and that the infestation was of some long standing. This opinion was proved to be correct as the infestation was eventually brought under control.

It was unnecessary to take any formal action under the Prevention of Damage by Pests Act 1950 which relates to the fact used in the discharge of the duties by the Robert Controller.

More details of the work carried out during the year are set out below.

Below, viz:-

SURFACE INFESTATIONS

No. of complaints received	60
No. of business premises & private dwellings visited	120
No. of treatments applied out for this purpose	1552

LOCAL INFESTATION INFESTATIONS

No. of premises of Robert type	91
No. of visits and surveys made re Robert type	123
No. of houses and houses of general visits	124
No. of visits made re houses and houses of general visits	232

QUANTITY OF MATERIAL USED

Quantity of Warburton used	1557 lbs.
Quantity of other material used	...





