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Bradford and Melksham Rural District Council

THE

# ANNUAL REPORT

of the

Medical Officer of Health

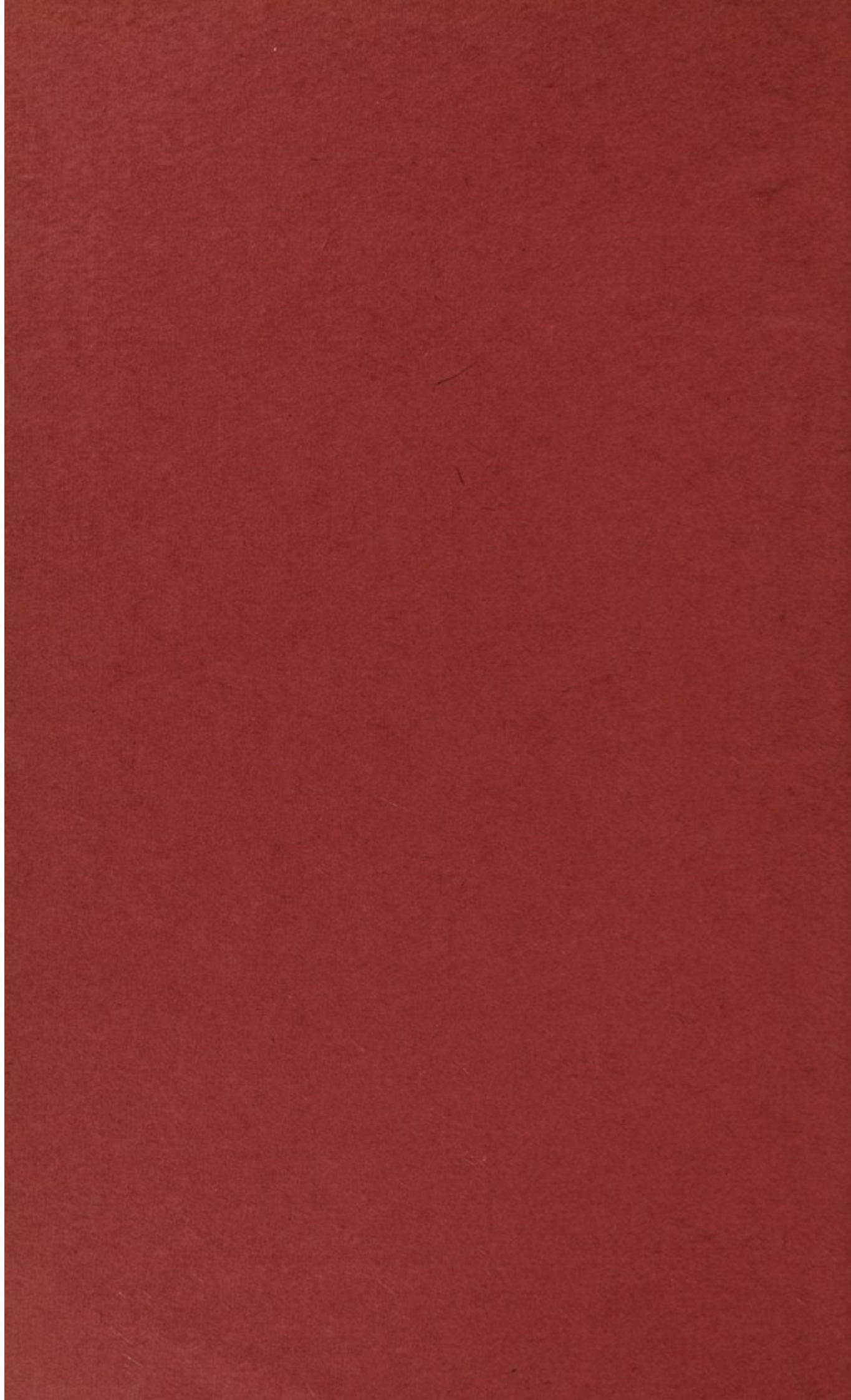
and the

Senior

Public Health Inspector

for the Year 1965

Venton, Melksham.





Bradford and Melksham Rural District Council

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Medical Officer of Health  
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Public Health Inspector

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*To the Chairman and Members of*

**BRADFORD AND MELKSHAM RURAL  
DISTRICT COUNCIL**

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have pleasure in presenting the Annual Report for 1965 on the Health of Bradford and Melksham Rural District.

It is satisfactory to note, in connection with the Offices, Shops and Railway Premises Act, that, now the initial inspections are completed, no important defects have been found. These inspections have caused considerable extra work for Mr. Noble and Mr. Evans.

Our water supplies from the three water undertakers supplying our district have been, from bacteriological point of view, always satisfactory during the year. It is sad to note that there still appears no immediate prospect of our having supplementary fluoride added.

Milk supplies, including the raw milk, have given no reason for concern during the year.

There have been no notified cases of food poisoning during the year and the routine sampling of food stuffs has not produced any greatly worrying results.

Infectious diseases, apart from measles, have been few and one is pleased to note an increase in the rate of immunisation of young children, though this is still far from complete.

In conclusion I would like to thank the Chairman of the Council, the Chairman of the Public Health Committee and all the Councillors and also Mr. Noble and the Members of the Public Health Department for their ready help and co-operation throughout the year.

G. WOLFENDEN

*Medical Officer of Health.*

## **PUBLIC HEALTH OFFICERS OF THE COUNCIL**

### **MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH:**

G. Wolfenden, M.B., B.Ch., D.P.H.

who is also Medical Officer of Health to Melksham Urban District Council and Assistant County Medical Officer.

### **SENIOR PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR:**

W. A. Noble, M.R.S.H., M.A.P.H.I.

### **ADDITIONAL PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR:**

D. L. Evans, M.A.P.H.I.

### **OFFICES:**

The office of the Medical Officer of Health is 1, King Street, Melksham. Tel : Melksham 2307.

The office of the Senior Public Health Inspector is in Abbey House, Bradford-on-Avon. Tel: Bradford-on-Avon 2174.



## VITAL STATISTICS

The statistics given in this section have mainly been derived from figures kindly supplied by the Registrar General.

## GENERAL STATISTICS

The Bradford and Melksham Rural District Council area is made up of 13 parishes and occupies an area of 26,868 acres.

A penny rate produced an income of £1,349.

The estimated mid-year population for 1965 was 12,630, a decrease of 230. This decrease could well be due to a decrease in Service personnel.

## BIRTHS AND DEATHS

### (a) Births

<i>Live Births</i>				<i>Male</i>	<i>Female</i>	<i>Total</i>
Legitimate	...	...	...	127	93	220
Illegitimate	...	...	...	5	9	14
Total	...	...	...	132	102	234

The birth rate, from the above figures, is 18.5 per 1000. This is an increase from 1964, as is the actual number of births (there were 229 in 1964).

The birth rate for England and Wales in 1965 was 18 and can be compared with our figure (corrected for comparability) of 20.4

### (b) Infant Mortality

<i>Births</i>				<i>Male</i>	<i>Female</i>	<i>Total</i>
Legitimate	...	...	...	2	—	2
Illegitimate	...	...	...	—	—	—
Total	...	...	...	2	—	2

Of these two infant deaths one, from congenital malformation was under 1 week of age. The other death was a road accident death.



## Still Births

<i>Births</i>				<i>Male</i>	<i>Female</i>	<i>Total</i>
Legitimate	...	...	...	5	2	7
Illegitimate	...	...	...	1	—	1
Total	...	...	...	6	2	8

This is an increase on last year, which only had one still birth.

The following rates, due to the small numbers involved, are not completely reliable but do indicate our satisfactory level of infant mortality.

Infant mortality rate per 1000 live births ...	8.5	(19.0)
Neo-natal mortality rate per 1000 live births (Deaths in first four weeks of life).	4.2	( * )
Still birth rate per 1000 live and still births	33	(15.7)
Perinatal mortality rate per 1000 live and still births ... ..	37	(26.9)
(* unavailable)		

The figures in brackets are the equivalent figures for England and Wales.

## (c) Deaths

There were 167 deaths in 1965, 65 male and 102 female, giving a crude death rate of 13.2 per 1000. This is an increase of 31%, due mainly to female deaths. 77% of deaths were over 65 years of age and 57% were 75 years of age or over.

The death rate, corrected for comparability is 10.2 and this can be compared with the death rate for England and Wales of 11.5 per 1000.

Deaths from various forms of cancer remain exactly the same as last year, with a similar distribution of various types.

Heart and circulatory diseases show an increase of 31, due mainly to an increase of female deaths of 26. This accounts for the greater part of our total death increase.

(d) Causes of Death

Classified according to the Registrar General's system.

	<i>Male</i>	<i>Female</i>	<i>Total</i>
Malignant Neoplasm, stomach ...	1	—	1
Lung, Bronchus	4	—	4
Breast	—	3	3
Uterus	—	2	2
Other Malignant and Lymphatic Neoplasms	2	9	11
Leukaemia, Aleukaemia ... ..	1	2	3
Vascular Lesions of Nervous System	5	16	21
Coronary Disease, Angina ... ..	11	15	26
Hypertension with Heart Disease ...	—	1	1
Other Heart Disease ... ..	15	36	51
Other Circulatory Disease ...	2	1	3
Pneumonia ... ..	4	3	7
Bronchitis ... ..	3	1	4
Other Diseases of Respiratory System	1	1	2
Ulcer of Stomach and Duodenum	1	—	1
Gastritis, Enteritis and Diarrhoea ...	1	1	2
Hyperplasia of Prostate ... ..	1	—	1
Congenital Malformations ...	2	1	3
Other Defined and Ill-Defined Diseases	5	6	11
Motor Vehicle Accidents ... ..	3	4	7
All Other Accidents ... ..	1	—	1
Suicide ... ..	1	—	1
Homicide and Operations of War	1	—	1
Total ... ..	65	102	167



## INFECTIOUS DISEASE

### (a) Notifiable Infectious Disease

Comparison with previous years

	1960	1961	1962	1963	1964	1965
Scarlet Fever	5	9	10	—	1	1
Whooping Cough	7	—	—	2	—	—
Poliomyelitis—Paralytic	—	—	—	—	—	—
Non-Paralytic	—	—	—	—	—	—
Measles	9	332	14	72	5	108
Diphtheria	—	—	—	—	—	—
Pneumonia	2	—	2	1	—	—
Dysentery	30	1	2	—	—	—
Erysipelas	—	1	—	1	—	—
Meningococcal Infection	—	—	—	—	—	—
Salmonellosis	—	—	1	—	—	—
Puerperal Pyrexia	1	—	—	—	—	—
Tuberculosis	5	5	1	1	1	2

It will be seen from the above figures that, except for measles, the incidence of infectious disease was, as usual, low.

The measles outbreak ran from the beginning of the year and virtually died out after August. This outbreak was expected, as it fits in with the pattern of epidemics every alternate year. It will be seen from the table below that the main groups affected were the 1—9 year olds and were in fact mainly among the school beginners.

### Age and Sex Distribution

Age Sex	Under 1		1—		5—		10—15		Adults		Total	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
Tuberculosis	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	2
Scarlet Fever	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	1	—
Measles	3	2	29	22	22	25	1	2	—	2	55	53
Totals	3	2	29	22	23	25	1	2	—	4	56	55



## Distribution by Parishes

	Scarlet Fever	Tuber- culosis	Measles
Atworth	—	—	3
Broughton Gifford	—	—	—
Hilperton	—	1	24
Holt	1	—	24
Limpley Stoke	—	—	5
Melksham Without	—	1	23
Monkton Farleigh	—	—	3
Semington	—	—	1
South Wraxall	—	—	1
Staverton	—	—	2
Westwood	—	—	5
Wingfield	—	—	—
Winsley	—	—	17

### (b) Non-Notifiable Infectious Disease

Chickenpox outbreaks among young children occurred at Shaw and Whitley and also in Winsley, Holt and Staverton Parishes.

There was an outbreak of epidemic vomiting in Winsley School in June.

### (c) Rehousing of Tuberculosis Cases

One Tuberculosis case was rehoused during the year.

## HEALTH SERVICES IN THE AREA

### Laboratory Facilities

All our laboratory examinations, mainly of milk, food and faecal specimens are carried out at the Public Health Laboratory, Manor Hospital, Bath. As usual we have had perfect co-operation and ready advice when needed, which we greatly appreciate.

### Hospital Facilities

The South Western Regional Hospital Board is responsible for the provision of hospital facilities in this district.

There are general hospitals at Melksham and Bradford-on-Avon, a Maternity Hospital at Bradford-on-Avon, a hospital for the chronic sick and elderly at Semington (St. George's) and a Chest Hospital at Winsley.

## County Council Services

Health services provided by the County Council Health Committee:—

Domiciliary midwifery and care of expectant mothers.

Health visiting including the care of the elderly,  
nursing mothers and young children.

Home nursing.

Home helps.

Ambulance service.

Health education.

Mental health service.

and under the County Council Education Committee—

The School Health service.

Infant Welfare clinics which serve the rural area are held at Bradford (Youth Centre, Newtown every 2nd and 4th Tuesday afternoon) and at Melksham Health Clinic every Thursday afternoon.

## SEWERAGE

The two "black spots" in the district, from a sewage point of view are Shaw and Whitley and Limpley Stoke. Complaints both formal and informal of sewage smells and effluvial discharges have come from both areas. The condition has been accentuated by recent housing developments overloading poor natural drainage. However work on the Shaw and Whitley sewerage scheme started during the year and planning of the Limpley Stoke scheme (scheduled 1967/8) is well advanced.

## HOUSING

Fewer private houses were constructed in 1965 than in 1964 — the total constructed being 143. 40 houses were also built by the Council. This gives a total of 4,020 dwellings in the rural district.

Development is, of course, mainly in villages with room for permitted development and is often dormitory housing for neighbouring towns. Even though this must change the character of these villages, it at least has the advantage of giving them new life and impetus.

One feels worried however about the villages with little development taking place due to green belt restrictions and other factors. It would be a pathetic reflection on planning to see some villages die through over-development and others die through standing still.



## OLD PEOPLES WELFARE

Shell Court, a block of old people's flatlets was opened in Atworth during the year. This is the second unit of this type in the district.

No action was necessary during the year under Section 47 of the National Assistance Act 1948.

## IMMUNISATION

The tables of immunisation statistics, given below, were kindly supplied by the County Medical Officer of Health.

The immunisation figures have improved, but there is still room for more improvement and many babies born in this district are not being given protection against Diphtheria, Tetanus, Whooping Cough, Poliomyelitis and Smallpox. Whooping Cough is always with us and can not only kill but can leave permanent lung damage and the others are always a background threat, particularly with the increasing population movements of our modern world.

### Triple Vaccine

This immunises against Whooping Cough, Tetanus and Diphtheria, and is given in three monthly injections commencing at three months of age. The figures of completed immunisations have increased slightly this year from 47 to 56 for those born in this year—but our total number of births increased by 5. Of the children born in 1964, all of whom should have finished their primary courses by mid 1965, 171 have been immunised fully — namely 74.7%. This can be compared with the County average of 81.8% and the equivalent 1964 figure for our district of 54.5%.

### Poliomyelitis Vaccine

This is now given orally and at the same time as the "Triple" injections, previously it was given following the Triple injections i.e. between 6 and 9 months of age. This change is reflected in the increase of oral immunisations completed in those born during the year in the following table. Of all the children born in 1964 134 have been immunised (compared with 165 of the same age group who have received "Triple Vaccine").

### Vaccination

I am glad to say that the number of primary vaccinations rose during the year. Vaccination against Smallpox is now advised at  $1\frac{1}{2}$  years of age, unless required earlier because of risk of infection, travel etc. Vaccinations of the 0—2 year old age groups



increased from a total of 53 in 1964 to 81 in 1965. This is still a very low proportion of babies born and one cannot help but imagine the panic rush for vaccination of the unvaccinated if (and one is tempted to say when) Smallpox breaks out in this part of the country.

### Immunisation and Smallpox Vaccination Statistics 1965

#### (a) Triple Vaccine and Diphtheria, Tetanus and Whooping Cough Vaccination

<i>Year of Birth</i>		1965	1964	1963	1962	1961	1956-60	1950-55	Others Under 16
Primary imms. completed during 1965	Diph.	56	118	18	13	2	6	—	—
	Wh/c.	56	118	18	13	2	1	—	—
	Tet	56	118	18	13	2	10	1	1
Reinf. Injuncts administered during 1965	Diph.	—	9	51	11	8	117	1	—
	Wh/c.	—	7	40	7	3	28	—	—
	Tet.	—	9	51	11	8	122	7	—

#### (b) Smallpox Vaccination

<i>Age group</i>	<i>Months</i>				<i>Years</i>		
	0-3	3-6	6-9	9-12	1	2-4	5-15
Vaccinations	—	7	4	11	59	8	1
Re-vaccinations	—	—	—	—	—	2	1

#### (c) Poliomyelitis Vaccination

<i>Age Group</i>	<i>Completed Oral Courses</i>		<i>4th Oral Booster</i>
1965	24	(—)	—
1964	134	( 3)	—
1963	21	(81)	1
1962	23	(27)	2
1961	25	(10)	7
1956-60	29)	} ( 8)	147) } 99)
Others under 16	3)		6)
Others under 16	21)		33

Figures in brackets are 1964 equivalent figures. The table is a modified version of that supplied by the County Medical Officer of Health.

**REPORT**  
**of the**  
**SENIOR**  
**PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR**

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have pleasure in presenting my eighteenth Annual Report to this Council.

During 1965, routine work has been well maintained. The one point to which attention might be drawn is that the requirements of the Offices, Shops and Railway Premises Act are now well in hand. A report, to the December meeting of the Public Health Committee, indicated that there are now very few outstanding items.

I would ask the Chairman and Members of the Council and Committees to accept my sincere gratitude for their guidance and consideration. My thanks are also due to Dr. Wolfenden for his co-operation and to Mr. Evans and Miss Penny for assistance so willingly given. The Rodent Operator and the Refuse Collection and Disposal Staff have continued their duties to the obvious satisfaction of house-holders in the District.

I have the honour to be Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your Obedient Servant,

**W. A. NOBLE,**

*Senior Public Health Inspector*

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**STAFF**

Additional Public Health Inspector	Mr. D. L. Evans.
Clerk/Typist	Miss J. Penny.
Rodent Operator	Mr. A. H. Hart.
Refuse Collection	Mr. J. H. Goodenough (Foreman/Driver).
	Mr. S. H. Morris (Driver)
	Mr. E. J. Phillips.
	Mr. F. G. Hall
	Mr. R. G. Lewis.
	Mr. W. F. Phelps (commenced duties on 19th July, 1965)



Tip Operators	Mr. F. G. Humphries (commenced duties on the 31st May, 1965) Mr. P. Sutherland.
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## MEAT AND FOODS

				<i>Notices</i>	
				<i>Served</i>	<i>complied with</i>
	<i>Number</i>	<i>Inspections</i>			
Slaughterhouses ...	2	417	—	—	
Butcher's Shops ...	2	4	—	—	
Catering Establishments ...	13	18	1	1	
Food Shops ...	46	160	4	3	
Schools ...	14	16	1	1	
Licensed Premises ...	34	39	1	2	
Licensed Slaughtermen ...	3	—	—	—	
Licensed Game Premises ...	1	2	—	—	

Note — It will be noticed throughout this report that, on occasion, more notices are shown as "complied with" than "served". This is explained by work requested in 1964 being completed in 1965.

The two private slaughterhouses have continued in operation during the year (animals slaughtered and condemnation figures are shown in Appendix "A"). Each slaughterhouse has a stunning pen and complies with the Hygiene and Prevention of Cruelty Regulations.

The carcase and offal of every animal is inspected by the working of overtime including every Sunday and Bank Holiday. Whilst this may suit the meat trade, it does seem unfair to the Council's Officers.



One slaughterhouse proprietor built on a new store so that the inedible offal could be inspected in accordance with The Meat Inspection Regulations, 1963. However, with the advent of the Amendment Regulations of 1965, we are continuing to inspect every carcase, head, lungs, heart, skirt, liver and spleen but the bodies are not being stamped.

During the year investigations were made into complaints of a fly in a loaf of bread, a metal rod in a loaf of bread and a mouldy loaf. Very ready co-operation was obtained from manufacturers, retailers and the Public Health Inspectors of other districts. Legal proceedings were instituted regarding the mouldy loaf. The case was dismissed but the Magistrates thought "the case was quite properly brought".

As mentioned in previous Annual Reports, we have a modest routine of sampling pies, ham, fish cakes, etc. for Bacteriological examination.

The results for the year are as follows:—

<i>Nature of Sample</i>	<i>No. of Samples</i>	<i>No. of Satisfactory Samples</i>	<i>No. Showing High Colony Count</i>
Cooked Ham ... ..	2	—	2
Pork Pie ... ..	1	1	—
Steak & Kidney Pie ... ..	1	1	—
Mini Pork Pie ... ..	1	1	—
Fish Cake ... ..	3	1	2
Buttered Kipper Fillets ... ..	1	1	—
Beefburgers ... ..	7	3	4
Steakburgers ... ..	1	1	—
Hamburgers ... ..	2	—	2
Fish Fingers ... ..	1	1	—
Sausage Rolls ... ..	1	1	—
Tin of Rice Pudding ... ..	1	1	—
Dessicated Coconut ... ..	1	1	—

Contact has been made with the Public Health Inspectors of the districts in which the samples with high colony counts were manufactured. In each case, special enquiries were made and I am very grateful for the ready co-operation.

## ICE - CREAM

	<i>Number</i>	<i>Inspections</i>	<i>Notices Served</i>	<i>Notices complied with</i>
Retailers ... ..	36	184	—	—
Manufacturers ... ..	—	—	—	—
Total Number of Samples — Ice Cream	—	—	...	...
Total Number of Samples — Iced Lollies	—	—	...	...
<b>Percentage of Samples</b>				
<i>Grade I</i>	<i>Grade I or II</i>	<i>Grade III</i>	<i>Grade IV</i>	
97.1%	100%	—	—	

The Public Health Laboratory Service suggests that 50% of a vendor's samples should fall into Grade 1, 80% into Grade 1 or II, no more than 20% into Grade III and none into Grade IV.

## MILK AND DAIRIES

	<i>Number</i>	<i>Inspections</i>	<i>Notices Served</i>	<i>Notices complied with</i>
Dairies ... ..	1	195	—	—
Distributors ... ..	5			
Dairymen operating from outside district ... ..	16			
Producer/Retailers	3			

### Milk (Special Designation) Regulations.

"Untreated" Dealers Licences	...	...	...	...	1
Dealers (Pre-packed milk) Licences for "Untreated" Milk	...	...	...	...	0
Dealers (Pre-packed milk) Licences for "Pasteurised" Milk	...	...	...	...	6
Dealers (Pre-packed milk) Licences for "Sterilised" Milk	...	...	...	...	3
Set out below are the sample results of "designated" milk.					
Number of "Untreated" Milk Samples	...	...	...	...	37
Number of Satisfactory "Untreated" Milk Samples	...	...	...	...	36
Number of "Pasteurised" Milk Samples	...	...	...	...	107
Number of Satisfactory "Pasteurised" Milk Samples	...	...	...	...	106
Number of "Pasteurised (Channel Islands)" Milk Samples	...	...	...	...	66
Number of Satisfactory "Pasteurised (Channel Islands)" Milk Samples	...	...	...	...	64
Number of "Sterilised" Milk Samples	...	...	...	...	10
Number of Satisfactory "Sterilised" Milk Samples	...	...	...	...	10
Number of Biological Samples for Tubercle Bacillus and Brucella Abortus	...	...	...	...	15
Number of Satisfactory Biological Samples for Tubercle Bacillus	...	...	...	...	15
Number of Satisfactory Biological Samples for Brucella Abortus	...	...	...	...	15



At the County Council suggestion our milk sampling routine is to be curtailed in the future. This seems a little unfortunate as we have, in the past, discovered unsatisfactory results from retailers, selling in this district, from premises in neighbouring districts.

The Council passed a resolution asking the Ministry to require compulsory vaccination of calves with S.19.

During the early part of the year, considerable time was spent on investigating a farmer's complaint of "milk stone" in churns. The dairy concerned offered every co-operation.

## WATER

Number of Public Water Supplies in the District	...	7
Number of Bacteriological Samples obtained during 1965		39
Number of Samples taken for Chemical analysis during 1965		—

Appendix "B" of this report sets out the sample results for the year.

I am not in a position to give, with any degree of accuracy, the number of houses and the population in each parish supplied from public water mains direct to houses or by means of standpipes. None of the water supplies appear to be liable to plumbo-solvent action.

## FACTORIES

				<i>Notices</i>	
	<i>Number</i>	<i>Inspections</i>		<i>Notices complied</i>	
				<i>Served</i>	<i>with</i>
Factories with power	... 23	23		4	2
Factories without power	... 2	3		—	—
Outworkers	... 6	9		—	—

The requirements of the Factories Act, 1961 appear to be complied with and full details, as required by the Ministry, are mentioned in Appendix "C".

## MOVEABLE DWELLINGS

			<i>Number</i>	<i>Inspections</i>	<i>Notices Served</i>	<i>Notices complied with</i>
Site Licences	...	...	13	64	1	2
Licences Refused	...	...	—	—	—	—

It is pleasing to report that no complaints have been received during the year regarding gypsies at Norrington Common.

All sites, licensed by the Council, have been inspected to ensure compliance with the licence conditions relating to number of caravans, water supply, sanitary accommodation, disposal of waste water, paths, fire extinguisher and refuse bin.

All the sites are small (the largest having nine caravans).

## RODENT CONTROL

Details, in the form required by the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food, are given in Appendix "D".

The Rodent Operator has continued with routine inspections, including farm inspections. We now have 8 farm contracts for which a fixed charge is made, each farm is visited every four months and the necessary treatments carried out. Two business premises have similar contracts with us for regular inspection and treatment.

Sewers were test baited at Atworth, Broughton Gifford, Holt, Westwood and Winsley. It is pleasing to say there were "no takes".

## REFUSE COLLECTION AND DISPOSAL SERVICE

A weekly collection throughout the District is maintained with a limited service for some trade refuse.

Not surprisingly, the Ford refuse lorry (purchased in 1956) has been giving quite a lot of trouble. The Council have placed an order for a new Shelvoke and Drewry 25 cube yard lorry.

We obtained two replacements for members of the Refuse Collection and Disposal Staff who left and also transferred one man who required lighter work.

We hope that the new lorry will enable us to deal with the 40 hour week, to be introduced early in 1966, without the employment of additional labour.



By the end of the year, preliminary enquiries and investigations were in hand for the introduction of fully "controlled tipping" at the Beanacre Refuse Tip. Expensive mechanical equipment will be essential for consolidation.

### SALVAGE

During the year, the following items of salvage have been sold:—

				<i>Weight</i>				<i>Approx. Value</i>		
				<i>tons</i>	<i>cwts</i>	<i>qrs.</i>	<i>lbs.</i>	<i>£.</i>	<i>s.</i>	<i>d.</i>
Wools	...	...	...	—	7	2	12	38	15	4
Rags	...	...	...	3	10	1	0	33	2	3
Waste Paper	...	...	...	7	1	3	0	54	18	5
Scrap Metal	...	...	...	8	17	1	16	226	13	9
TOTAL								£353	9	9

The price for baled waste paper has increased from £6 to £7-15-0 per ton during the year but a further increase is necessary to make such salvage really worth while.

### CESSPOOL EMPTYING SERVICE

This service, brought into operation in 1948, has been utilised to clear 459 cesspools and septic tanks during 1965.

The Contractors, employed by the Council, visit the District every three months and it has been useful to many householders to have a standing order for such clearances with the Council.

The service has grown from 75 clearances in 1948 to 459 clearances in 1965.

### HOUSING

Number of houses inspected and recorded	...	...	11
Number of houses suitable for action under Section 16 of the Housing Act, 1957	...	...	11
Number of houses suitable for action under Section 9 of the Housing Act, 1957,	...	...	—
Number of Demolition Orders issued	...	...	14
Number of Closing Orders issued	...	...	11
Number of Undertakings accepted under Section 16 of the Housing Act, 1957	...	...	4
Number of notices under Section 9 of the Housing Act, 1957	...	...	—

The Council's policy is to formally deal with dwellings which were placed in Category IV in the Housing Survey and similarly to deal with properties becoming vacant where re-letting might provide a 'stepping stone' to Council re-housing. The policy has been pursued through the year and 11 cottages have been so formally reported to the Housing Committee as suitable for action under Section 16 of the Housing Act, 1957. Every endeavour is made to persuade owners to undertake reconditioning schemes and to take advantage of Improvement Grants.

During the year, 5 cottages were demolished and 7 reconditioned.

8 Discretionary Grants (total £3,117) and 33 Standard Grants under the House Purchase and Housing Act, 1958 have been approved during 1965. Some considerable discussion and inspections are a preliminary to such applications but the work is well justified by the results.

Following a letter addressed to all local authorities by the Chancellor of the Exchequer, the Council decided, in August, to cease accepting any Discretionary Grant applications and to limit Standard Grants to £155. This decision is to be reviewed early in 1966.

No applications have been made during the year for Certificate of Disrepair under the Rent Act, 1957.

#### **PUBLIC HEALTH ACT, 1936**

Number of Inspections	...	...	...	...	...	183
Number of informal notices served	..	...	...	...	...	4
Number of statutory notices served	...	...	...	...	...	—
Number of informal notices complied with	...	...	...	...	...	2
Number of statutory notices complied with	...	...	...	...	...	—

Various meetings, called by the County Council, on the question of nuisances at lay-bys have been attended. This Council is of the opinion that the solution rests with the petrol stations providing adequate sanitary accommodation or that the matter should be dealt with on a national basis.



## RIVERS, STREAMS AND SEWERAGE

7 of the thirteen parishes (Atworth, Broughton Gifford, Hilperton, Holt, Melksham Without — Spa Road and Semington Road areas, Westwood and Winsley) now have sewerage systems and further schemes are envisaged by the Council. Throughout the district informal action has been taken to prevent pollution of streams and water courses, but sewer ditches continue to be a problem.

## SWIMMING BATHS

There are no swimming baths or pools open to the public in this area. Various samples and some advisory work was undertaken for private pools at schools in the district.

## CLEAN AIR ACT, 1956

The following condensed results of smoke observations illustrate the high standard reached by means of excellent co-operation with the Management of various firms.

Smoke Observations													Percentage of Compliance with Regulations
1965													
Premises 1963	1964		Jan.-Mar.		Apr.-Jun.		Jul.-Sept.		Oct.-Dec.				
	C	N	C	N	C	N	C	N	C	N	C	N	
A	12	6	11	3	3	0	2	1	3	0	3	0	92%
B	12	6	14	0	3	0	3	0	3	0	3	0	100%
C	11	6	14	0	3	0	3	0	3	0	3	0	100%
D	12	6	14	0	3	0	3	0	3	0	3	0	100%
E	11	1	14	0	3	0	3	0	3	0	3	0	100%
F	12	0	14	0	3	0	3	0	3	0	2	1	92%
G	12	0	14	0	3	0	3	0	3	0	3	0	100%
	82	1	95	3	21	0	20	1	21	0	20	1	

"C" indicates compliance with the Clean Air Act and the Dark Smoke (Permitted Periods) Regulations, 1958. "N" indicates non-compliance.

During the year, one premises has changed to oil fired boilers. The Council also approved a notice regarding chimney height under Section 3(3) of the Clean Air, Act, 1956.

## **RAG FLOCK & OTHER FILLING MATERIALS ACT, 1951**

Number of Premises Registered	...	...	...	...	2
Number of Visits	...	...	...	...	6
Number of Samples obtained	...	...	...	...	7

Two samples of rag flock, two of woollen mixture felt, one of feathers, one of hair and one of cellulose border wadding were obtained during the year.

The sample of feathers did not strictly comply with the requirements of the Regulations but the Prescribed Analyst pointed out this was due to the protein content of immature broiler feathers.

## **ANIMAL BOARDING ESTABLISHMENTS ACT, 1963**

Number of Premises Licensed	...	...	...	...	5
Number of Visits	...	...	...	...	8

Our thanks are due to the local R.S.P.C.A. Inspector who has given advice regarding the conditions required for boarding animals.

## **AGRICULTURE (SAFETY, HEALTH AND WELFARE PROVISIONS) ACT, 1956**

So far, we have not found it necessary to serve any notices under the Act and it seems to me that, as far as the provisions enforceable by local authorities are concerned, the type of farm in the area does not provide difficulties.

## **DISEASES OF ANIMALS (WASTE FOODS) ORDER, 1957**

Only one premises remains licensed and conditions are quite reasonable.



## **OFFICES, SHOPS AND RAILWAY PREMISES ACT, 1963**

The Council agreed to the requirements of the Act being dealt with on an informal basis in the first instance. Great co-operation was obtained and it will be seen from Appendix "E" that this section of our work is now well in hand.

As required by Circular 9 (supplement No. 1) I give the following information:—

(1) We have formed a satisfactory impression of the standards of lighting, both natural and artificial for the offices and shops in this district.

(2) We have no examples of unsatisfactory lighting.

(3) In view of the type of property inspected, we have not recommended any specific standards of lighting, in terms of lumens.

(4) No instances of excessive glare have been noticed.

(5) During the month of November, 1965 no lightmeter readings were necessary.

## **NOISE ABATEMENT ACT, 1960**

No complaints have been received during the year and no action has been necessary under the terms of the Act.

## **LAND DRAINAGE ACT, 1961**

No action has been taken under this Act.

## **PUBLIC HEALTH LABORATORY SERVICE**

I would like to make special mention of the very good service given to this Council by Dr. Mackey and the Public Health Laboratory at Manor Hospital, Bath. All our milk, ice-cream and water samples are given prompt attention and it is of very great assistance to have Dr. Mackey's advice so readily available.

## GENERAL

The following visits have been made in connection with miscellaneous items requiring attention:—

Drainage	...	...	...	...	...	...	542
Water Supply	...	...	...	...	...	...	58
Salvage	...	...	...	...	...	...	6
Miscellaneous Housing Visits and Small Dwellings							
Acquisition Act enquiries	...	...	...	...	...	...	551
Refuse Collection and Disposal				...	...	...	366
Rodent Control	...	...	...	...	...	...	29
Abandoned Cars	...	...	...	...	...	...	45



**APPENDIX "A"**  
**CARCASE AND OFFAL INSPECTED AND CONDEMNED**  
**IN WHOLE OR IN PART**

	<i>Cattle excluding Cows</i>	<i>Cows</i>	<i>Calves</i>	<i>Sheep and Lambs</i>	<i>Pigs</i>	
Number killed ...	514	2,097	476	42	62	
Number inspected ...	514	2,097	476	42	62	
<i>All diseases except Tuberculosis &amp; Cysticerci</i>						
Whole carcasses condemned ... ..	1	17	21	4	—	
Carcasses of which some part or organ was con- demned ... ..	64	846	42	5	2	
Percentage of the num- ber inspected affected with disease other than Tuberculosis and Cysti- erci ... ..	12.6	42.0	13.2	21.4	3.2	
<i>Tuberculosis only</i>						
Whole carcasses condemned ... ..	—	—	—	—	—	
Carcasses of which some part or organ was con- demned ... ..	—	—	—	—	1	
Percentage of the num- ber inspected affected with Tuberculosis ...	—	—	—	—	1.6	
<i>Cysticercosis</i>						
Carcass of which some part or organ was con- demned ... ..	—	—	—	—	—	
Carcasses submitted to treatment by refrigera- tion ... ..	—	—	—	—	—	
Generalised and totally condemned ... ..	—	1	—	—	—	

# APPENDIX "B" BACTERIOLOGICAL WATER SAMPLE RESULTS, 1965

<i>Name of Supply</i>	<i>Jan.</i>	<i>Feb.</i>	<i>Mar.</i>	<i>Apr.</i>	<i>May.</i>	<i>Jun.</i>	<i>Jul.</i>	<i>Aug.</i>	<i>Sep.</i>	<i>Oct.</i>	<i>Nov.</i>	<i>Dec.</i>	<i>Remarks</i>
Bath City (Combe S (2) Down) Supply	S (2)	—	S (2)	—	—	—	S (2)	—	—	S (3)	—	—	Chlorinated Supply
North Wilts Water Board (Holt Supply) S (1)	S (1)	—	S (1)	—	—	—	S (1)	—	—	S (1)	—	—	Chlorinated Supply
North Wilts Water Board (Chippenham Supply) S(3)	—	—	S (3)	—	—	—	S (3)	—	—	S (3)	—	—	Chlorinated Supply
Turleigh Troughs Supply	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	Warning Notice fixed in August, 1949
West Wilts Water Board S (1)	—	—	S (1)	—	—	—	S (1)	—	—	S (1)	—	—	Chlorinated Supply
Estate Supply S (1)	—	—	S (1)	—	—	—	S (1)	—	—	S (2)	—	—	Chlorinated Supply
Estate Supply S (1)	—	—	S (1)	—	—	—	S (1)	—	—	S (1) U (1)	—	—	Main water fed to Estate Reservoir.

**Note**—S denotes satisfactory result. U denotes unsatisfactory result due to the presence of faecal coli.  
(Number) denotes number of samples obtained during the month.



# APPENDIX "C"

## FACTORIES

Inspections	Number on Register	Inspections	Written Notices	Occupiers Prosecuted
(1) Factories in which Section 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6 are enforced by Local Authority (non-power) ...	2	2	—	—
(2) Factories not included in (1) in which Section 7 is enforced by Local Authority (power) ...	23	26	—	—
(3) Other premises in which Section 7 is enforced by Local Authority (excluding outworker's premises) ...	—	—	—	—

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Defects	Found	Remedied	Referred To H.M. Inspector	By H.M. Inspector	Number of cases in which prosecutions were instituted
Want of cleanliness (S.1) ...	—	1	—	—	—
Overcrowding (S.2) ...	—	—	—	—	—
Unreasonable Temperatures (S.3) ...	—	—	—	—	—
Inadequate Ventilation (S.4) ...	—	—	—	—	—
Drainage of Floors (S.6) ...	—	—	—	—	—
Sanitary Conveniences (S.7) ...	—	—	—	—	—
(a) Insufficient ...	—	—	—	—	—
(b) Unsuitable or Defective ...	4	3	—	—	—
(c) Not separate for Sexes ...	—	—	—	—	—

# APPENDIX "D"

## PREVENTION OF DAMAGE BY PESTS ACT, 1949 Report for twelve months ended 31st December, 1965

	Type of Property				
	Non-Agricultural				
	Local Authority (1)	Dwelling Houses (inc. Council Houses) (2)	All other (including Business Premises) (3)	Total of Cols. (1) (2) & (3) (4)	Agri-cultural
I. Number of properties in Local Authority's District ... ..	11	3,950	500	4,461	220
II. Total number of properties inspected as a result of notification ... ..	—	113	10	123	2
Number of such properties found to be infested by:—					
Common Rat	—	—	1	1	2
Ship rat	—	165	5	110	—
House mouse	—	—	—	—	—
Minor	—	—	—	—	—
Ship rat	—	—	—	—	—
House mouse	—	—	—	—	—
Minor	—	7	3	10	—
III. Total number of properties inspected in the course of survey under the Act ...	5	92	6	103	15
Number of such properties found to be infested by:—					
Common Rat	—	—	—	—	—
Ship rat	5	73	1	79	11
House mouse	—	—	—	—	—
Minor	—	—	—	—	—
Ship rat	—	—	—	—	—
House mouse	—	—	—	—	—
Minor	—	—	—	—	—



**APPENDIX "D" (Continued)**  
**PREVENTION OF DAMAGE BY PESTS ACT, 1949**  
**Report for twelve months ended 31st December, 1965**

	<i>Type of Property</i>				
	<i>Non-Agricultural</i>				<i>Agri-cultural</i>
	<i>Local Authority (1)</i>	<i>Dwelling Houses (inc. Council Houses) (2)</i>	<i>All other (including Business Premises) (3)</i>	<i>Total of Cols. (1) (2) &amp; (3) (4)</i>	
IV Total number of properties otherwise inspected (e.g. when visited primarily for some other purpose) ... ..	—	11	192	203	—
Number of such properties found to be infested by:—					
Common Rat	Major	—	—	—	—
Minor	—	—	—	—	—
Ship rat	Major	—	—	—	—
Minor	—	—	—	—	—
House mouse	Major	—	—	—	—
Minor	—	—	—	—	—
V. Total inspections carried out:— including re-inspections ... ..	Not readily available				
VI Number of infested properties (in Sections II, III & IV treated by the L.A.) ...	5	184	10	199	13
VII. Total treatments carried out:— including re-treatments ... ..	Not readily available				
VIII. Number of notices served under Section 4 of the Act:—					
(a) Treatment ... ..	—	—	—	—	—
(b) Structural Work (i.e. Proofing)	—	—	—	—	—
IX. Number of cases in which default action was taken following the issue of a notice under Sect. 4 of the Act ... ..	—	—	—	—	—
X. Legal Proceedings ... ..	—	—	—	—	—
XI Number of "Block" Control schemes					

**APPENDIX "E"**  
**OFFICES, SHOPS AND RAILWAY PREMISES ACT, 1963**

TABLE A Registrations General and Inspections	TOTALS			
	Class of Premises	(2) Number of pre- mises registered during the year	(3) Total number of registered pre- mises at the end of year	(4) Number of reg- istered premises receiving a gen- eral inspection during the year
	Offices	—	2	1
	Retail Shops	1	8	1
	Wholesale shops, warehouses	—	—	—
	Catering Establishments open to the public, canteens	—	6	3
	Fuel Storage Depots	—	—	—

**TABLE B—Number of visits of all kinds by Inspectors to Registered Premises 64**

TABLE C  Analysis of Persons employed in Registered premises by workplace	Class of workplace	Number of persons employed
	(1)	(2)
	Offices	7
	Retail Shops	22
	Wholesale departments, warehouses	—
	Catering establishments open to the public	41
	Canteens	—
	Fuel storage depots	—
	TOTAL	70
	Total Males	29
	Total Females	41



TABLE D — EXEMPTIONS

Class of premises (1)	No. of exemptions current at 31st Dec- ember (2)	No. of exemptions granted or extended during year (3)	No. of applications refused or exemptions withdrawn during year (4)	No. of cases in Cols. (3) & (4) where employees opposed application (5)	Appeals to Courts against refusal to grant or extend an exemption or against the with- drawal of an exemption	
					No. made (6)	No. allowed (7)
Part I — space (sec. 5 (2))						
Offices						
Retail Shops						
Wholesale shops, warehouses		N I L				
Catering establishments open to public, canteens						
Fuel storage depots						
Part II — temperature (sec. 6)						
Offices						
Retail Shops						
Wholesale shops, warehouses						
Catering establishments open to public, canteens		N I L				
Fuel storage depots						
Part III — sanitary conveniences (sec. 9)						
Offices						
Retail Shops						
Wholesale shops, warehouses						
Catering establishments open to public, canteens		N I L				
Fuel storage depots						

TABLE D — EXEMPTIONS (Continued)

Part IV — washing facilities (sec. 10)					
Offices					
Retail Shops					
Wholesale shops, warehouses					
Catering establishments open to public, canteens			N I L		
Fuel storage depots					

TABLE E — PROSECUTIONS

Prosecutions instituted of which the hearing was completed in the year

Section of Act or title of order or regulations (1)	Number of persons or companies prosecuted (2)	Numbered of informations laid (3)	Number of informations leading to a conviction (4)
	N I L		

Number of complaints (or summary applications) made under section 22 — Nil

Numbered of interim orders granted — Nil

TABLE F — INSPECTORS

Number of inspectors appointed under section (52) (1) or (5) of the Act 2

Number of other staff employed for most of their time on work in connection with the Act Nil.





