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Contributors

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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 1966

Colin Venton, Printer, Melksham



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Public Health Officer for the County of
Bristol and Glos. Health Board
District Council

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,
I have pleasure in presenting to you the Report for 1972

of the Health of Bristol and Glos. District Council
for the year 1972. It is a pleasure to report that the
health of the district has remained good during the year.



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To the Chairman and Members of the

**BRADFORD AND MELKSHAM RURAL
DISTRICT COUNCIL**

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have pleasure in presenting the Annual Report for 1966 on the health of Bradford and Melksham Rural District.

There is little to comment upon in the enclosed reports, they merely reflect the constant vigilance of routine public health work and the successful dealing (in the main) with problems as they have arisen.

There are two matters on which I feel this Council can congratulate itself — the steady increase of main drainage and the new life given to so many of the pleasant old houses, making them at least the equal of the many new houses existing in the district.

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 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 2037.

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 been mainly 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,

The estimated product of a penny rate for 1967-68 is £1,410.

The estimated mid-year population for 1966 was 13,090, an increase over the 1965 estimate of 460.

BIRTHS AND DEATHS

(a) Births

<i>Live Births</i>	<i>Male</i>	<i>Female</i>	<i>Total</i>
Legitimate	104	108	212
Illegitimate	8	2	10
Total	112	110	222

The birth rate was 16.9 live births per 1,000 population.

The total number of births decreased by 12,

When corrected for comparability this gives a figure of 18.6 per 1,000 which can then be directly compared with the provisional figure for England and Wales of 17.7 per 1,000 and with the 1965 figure for this district of 20.4 per 1,000.

(b) Still Births

<i>Births</i>	<i>Male</i>	<i>Female</i>	<i>Total</i>
Legitimate	3	1	4
Illegitimate	—	—	—
Total	3	1	4

(c) Infant Mortality

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

Both infants deaths occurred under one week of age.

The following corrected rates, due to the small numbers involved are not completely reliable.

Infant mortality per 1,000 live births	9.9	(19.0)
Neo-natal mortality rate per 1,000 live births. (deaths under 4 weeks of age)	Nil	(12.9)
Early neo-natal mortality rate per 1,000 live births (Deaths under 1 week of age)	9.9	(11.1)
Perinatal mortality per 1000 live and still births (Still births and deaths under 1 week of age)	29.7	(26.3)
Still birth rate per 1,000 live and still births	19.8	(15.4)

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

(d) Deaths

There were 97 male deaths and 70 female deaths in the district during 1966, giving a crude death rate of 12.8 deaths per 1,000 population. This is about the same as for 1965 which had a rate of 13.2 and total deaths of 167: However more males died than in 1965 (65 in 1965) and fewer females (102 in 1965).

The death rate for England and Wales is 11.7 per 1,000 and our figure (corrected for comparability) is 9.2.

56% of the deaths were 75 years or older and 84% were 65 years or older — this is similar to 1965.

Deaths due to Cancer and Heart and Circulation failures remain very much as in 1965.

(e) Causes of Death

Classified according to the Registrar General's system.

	<i>Male</i>	<i>Female</i>	<i>Total</i>
Tuberculosis (respiratory)	1	1	2
Malignant Neoplasm (stomach) ...	6	—	6
(lung, bronchus)	4	2	6
(breast)	—	1	1
(uterus)	—	1	1
Other Malignant and lymphatic neoplasms	6	1	7
Diabetes	1	—	1
Vascular Lesions of nervous system	15	20	35
Coronary Disease, Angina ...	24	7	31
Hypertension with Heart Disease ...	—	1	1
Other Heart Disease	15	19	34
Other Circulatory Disease	2	4	6
Pneumonia	6	8	14
Bronchitis	5	1	6
Other Diseases of Respiratory System	2	—	2
Other defined and Ill-defined Diseases	8	2	10
Motor Vehicle Accidents	1	—	1
All other Accidents	1	—	1
Suicide	—	2	2
Total all Causes	97	70	167

INFECTIOUS DISEASE

(a) Notifiable Infectious Diseases

Comparison with previous years

<i>Disease</i>	1961	1962	1963	1964	1965	1966
Scarlet Fever	9	10	—	1	1	1
Whooping Cough	—	—	2	—	—	18
Poliomyelitis—Paralytic	—	—	—	—	—	—
Non-Paralytic	—	—	—	—	—	—
Measles	332	14	72	5	108	61
Diphtheria	—	—	—	—	—	—
Pneumonia	—	2	1	—	—	—
Dysentery	1	2	—	—	—	—
Erysipelas	1	—	1	—	—	—
Meningococcal infection	—	—	—	—	—	—
Salmonellosis	—	1	—	—	—	—
Puerperal Pyrexia	—	—	—	—	—	—
Tuberculosis	5	1	1	1	2	—

Unexpectedly — as we had a good outbreak in 1965, measles was the predominant infectious disease. The outbreak started in January and continued until August.

Whooping Cough came at the end of the year and only affected the Melksham Without area.

Distribution by Parishes

	Scarlet Fever	Whooping Cough	Measles
Atworth	—	—	13
Broughton Gifford	—	—	1
Hilperton	—	—	14
Holt	1	1	2
Limpley Stoke	—	—	4
Melksham Without	—	17	20
Monkton Farleigh	—	—	—
Semington	—	—	5
South Wraxall	—	—	1
Staverton	—	—	—
Westwood	—	—	1
Wingfield	—	—	—
Winsley	—	—	—

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
Measles	3	2	15	13	13	11	1	2	1	—	33	28
Whooping Cough	—	—	5	5	4	4	—	—	—	—	9	9
Scarlet Fever	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	1
Totals	3	2	20	18	17	15	1	3	1	—	42	38

(b) Non-Notifiable Infectious Disease

From information obtained from schools chicken pox was quite prevalent in the Western half of the district during the early months of the year. Winsley was particularly affected.

(c) T.B. Cases

No new cases were notified during the year. Help was given in a re-housing application for one old case.

HEALTH SERVICES IN THE AREA

Hospital

This district is in the South Western Regional Hospital Board area. Two hospitals St. George's at Semington for chronic and elderly sick and Winsley Chest Hospital lie within the District. Bradford, Melksham and Trowbridge General Hospitals and, of course, the Bath Hospitals supply the general hospital facilities for the area. Most maternity cases are dealt with by Bradford and Trowbridge Maternity Hospitals.

County Council Health Services

Domiciliary midwifery and Home Nursing, Health Visitor services (care of elderly, nursing mothers and young children) and the Home Help service, are controlled by the County Council, as are the Ambulance Service, Health Education and Mental Health.

Infant Welfare Clinics are held at Melksham Clinic (every Thursday afternoon) and Bradford (Youth Centre, Newtown every Tuesday afternoon) and immunisation sessions are also held at these centres.

Village Infants Clinics are held at Holt, Semington, Hilperton and Monkton Farleigh.

A new service started this year was Cervical Smear Clinics for early detection of cancer of the cervix. The Clinics serving this this district are held at Trowbridge and Melksham Health Clinics twice a month.

SEWERAGE

Shaw and Whitley sewerage scheme was completed during the year. Following the taking over from the Ministry of Defence of the sewage treatment plant at the now disused Melksham R.A.F. Station during the year plans have been made for an extensive sewerage scheme to cover the remainder of Melksham Without, starting next year. This will cover the fairly rapidly developing housing development on the periphery of Melksham.

Limpley Stoke has produced a great number of sewage nuisance complaints this year, but fortunately preliminary planning for this scheme was virtually completed during the year and the near future should see the removal of this parish's difficulties.

Nestles factory at Staverton will, in the near future be producing a greatly increased overflow of industrial waste - to be taken by Trowbridge's new Northern Interceptor sewer. This has made practicable a sewerage scheme for Staverton village.

The completion of the above schemes will mean that all the major population areas of this district (80% of the population) will be on main drainage.

HOUSING

183 houses were completed during the year, an increase over 1965 and 1964. This gives us a total of 4,070 dwellings in the district, 729 being owned by this Council.

As will be seen from the Chief Public Health Inspectors report improvements by standard and discretionary grants have been made to 28 houses - rather fewer than in 1965.

It is interesting to note that in the last 10 years about 10% of our houses have been brought up to a reasonable modern standard by these grants.

WATER SUPPLIES

The water supplies of the district come from these sources - North Wilts Water Board, West Wilts Water Board and Bath Corporation

As will be seen from the Chief Public Health Inspector's section of the report (Appendix B), the results of our bacteriological testing are reasonably good and the same applies to the results of tests taken by the suppliers themselves - copies of which I receive.

Supplies appear to have been adequate in quantity except at Holt where low pressure and frequent bursts have been a feature. However the North Wilts Water Board are laying a new main which should improve supplies.

IMMUNISATION

The outbreak of smallpox in the Midlands brought in a large number of vaccination certificates for "stamping" during the holiday season. It was instructive at this time to hear of several fairly severe reactions in adults having primary vaccinations - it must have taken much of the pleasure away from many Continental holidays. This is quite an argument in favour of primary vaccination in infancy - a re-vaccination in adult life is then such a trivial thing. It is pleasing therefore to note a rise in infant vaccination (possibly due to requirement of holiday travel!)

Immunisation against Whooping Cough, Diphtheria and Tetanus

71.6% of the babies born in 1965 were immunised (compared with the County average of 84%) and is a decrease of 3% on our previous years figures. This means that of the 132 babies born in 1965, 37 are still "at risk".

Poliomyelitis

The figures are rather worse for this immunisation, only 68% being immunised.

The actual figures for immunisation — compiled from figures kindly supplied by the County Medical Officer of Health are given below.

IMMUNISATION AND SMALLPOX VACCINATION STATISTICS 1966

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

Year of Birth		1966	1965	1964	1963	1962	57-61	51-56	Others Under 16
		Primary imms completed during 1966	Diph	48	101	13	1	2		1	—	—
	Wh/c	48	101	11	—	—	—	—	—
	Tet	48	101	13	1	2	2	2	—
Reinf injects administered during 1966	Diph	—	26	67	8	10	71	—	—
	Wh/c	—	18	35	5	5	18	—	—
	Tet	—	26	67	8	10	75	1	—

(b) Smallpox Vaccination

Age Group	Months				Years		
	0-3	3-6	6-9	9-12	1	2-4	5-15
Vaccinations	1	5	5	2	80	11	3
Re-vaccinations	—	—	—	—	—	1	6

(c) Poliomyelitis Vaccination

Age Group	Completed Oral Courses	4th Oral Booster
1966	65 (24)	—
1965	97	10
1964	12 (134)	9
1963	9 (21)	2
1962	5 (23)	8
1957-61	14)	134
Others under 16))
Others under 16	) (53)	) 2
))
))

Figures in brackets are 1965 equivalent figures.

REPORT
of the
SENIOR
PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

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

During 1966, routine work has been well maintained. The main development during the year has been the Council's purchase of a new refuse lorry (replacing a vehicle in use since 1956) and of a shovel tractor which will enable properly "controlled tipping" to be operated.

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 Mrs. Hanney for assistance so willingly given. The Rodent Operator and the Refuse Collection and Disposal Staff have continued their duties to the obvious satisfaction of householders in the District.

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

W. A. NOBLE

Senior Public Health Inspector

STAFF

Additional Public Health Inspector	Mr. D. L. Evans.
Clerk/Typist	Mrs. J. Hanney.
Rodent Operator	Mr. A. H. Hart.
Refuse Collection	Mr. J. H. Goodenough (Foreman/Driver). Mr. G. R. Davison (Driver from 31st May, 1966) Mr. R. J. Humphries (Loader/Relief Driver from 7th November, 1966). Mr. P. Sutherland. Mr. F. G. Hall. Mr. M. J. Hulbert (from 25th July, 1966)
Tip Operator	Mr. F. G. Humphries.

MEAT AND FOODS

	<i>Number Inspections</i>		<i>Notices</i>	
			<i>Served</i>	<i>complied with</i>
Slaughterhouses	2	408	—	—
Butcher's Shops	2	3	—	—
Catering Establishments	14	20	—	—
Food Shops	44	151	5	3
Schools	15	13	—	—
Licensed Premises	33	42	1	1
Licensed Slaughtermen	3	—	—	—
Licensed Game Premises	1	1	1	1

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 1965 being completed in 1966.

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. We are indebted to the Department of Veterinary Medicine at Bristol University for assistance in diagnosis of an unusual case of mesothelioma in the lungs of a cow.

Following The Meat Inspection (Amendment) Regulations, 1966 coming into force on the 30th September, 1966, an informal arrangement was reached with one slaughterhouse proprietor for the animals killed over week-ends to be inspected on Monday mornings. This is very welcome to the Councils' officers.

During the year, complaints were received about a bristle in a sausage, a whirl of brown loaf dough in a white loaf and a flour sack tally in a loaf of bread. The Council decided not to institute legal proceedings but each case was thoroughly investigated. Co-operation from manufacturers was readily forthcoming to prevent any recurrence.

At the end of the year we were in contact with various business proprietors in connection with the enforcement of the Food Hygiene (Markets, Stalls and Delivery Vehicles) Regulations, 1966.

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>
Pork Pie	3	3	—
Tin of Faggotts	1	1	—
Cod Steaks	1	1	—
Fish Cakes	3	3	—
Fish Fingers	1	1	—
Faggotts	2	2	—
Tin of Rice Pudding	1	1	—
Cornish Pasty	2	1	1
Cooked Ham	3	3	—
Beefburgers	2	2	—
Chicken & Ham Pasty	1	1	—
Polony Snack	2	2	—
Chicken Paste	1	1	—
Rissoles	1	1	—
Sliced Lamb in Mint Sauce	1	1	—
Steak & Kidney Pie	1	1	—

For some years we seem to have been almost in isolation in taking such samples for bacteriological examination. It is pleasing to say that the Western Centre of the Public Health Inspectors Association has got several districts interested. The results over a fairly wide area will now be collated. The Public Health Laboratory Service will be asked to consider the results with a view to the possibility of bacteriological standards being adopted.

ICE-CREAM

	<i>Number</i>	<i>Inspections</i>	<i>Notices Served</i>	<i>Notices complied with</i>
Retailers	37	126	—	—
Manufacturers	—	—	—	—
Total number of Samples — Ice-cream	—	—	...	...
Total number of Samples — Iced lollies	—	—	...	...

Percentage of Samples

<i>Grade I</i>	<i>Grade I or II</i>	<i>Grade III</i>	<i>Grade IV</i>
98%	99%	1%	—

The Public Health Laboratory Service suggests that 50% of a vendor's samples should fall into Grade 1, 80% into Grade 1 or 2, no more than 20% into Grade 3 and none into Grade 4.

MILK AND DAIRIES

			<i>Number Inspections</i>	<i>Notices Notices complied Served with</i>			
Dairies	1	}	110	—	—
Distributors	...	...	4		
Dairymen operating from outside district	...	...	16		
Producer/Retailers			2				

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	...	...	...	...	5
Dealers (pre-packed milk) Licences for "Sterilised" Milk	...	...	...	...	3
Set out below are the samples results of "designated" milk.					
Number of "Untreated" Milk Samples	...	...	...	...	27
Number of Satisfactory "Untreated" Milk Samples	...	...	...	...	24
Number of "Pasteurised" Milk Samples	...	...	...	...	47
Number of Satisfactory "Pasteurised" Milk Samples	...	...	...	...	47
Number of "Pasteurised (Channel Islands)" Milk Samples	...	...	...	...	27
Number of Satisfactory "Pasteurised (Channel Islands)" Milk Samples	...	...	...	...	27
Number of "Sterilised" Milk Samples	...	...	...	...	7
Number of Satisfactory "Sterilised" Milk Samples	...	...	...	...	7
Number of Biological Samples for Tubercle Bacillus and Brucella Abortus	...	...	...	...	9
Number of Satisfactory Biological Samples for Tubercle Bacillus	...	...	...	...	9
Number of Satisfactory Biological Samples for Brucella Abortus	...	...	...	...	9

This Council supports the Ministry's proposal to build up a register of brucella-free herds leading to a compulsory eradication scheme.

WATER

Number of Public Water Supplies in the District	...	7
Number of Bacteriological Samples obtained during 1966	...	39
Number of Samples taken for Chemical Analysis during 1966	...	Nil

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 stand-pipes. None of the water supplies appear to be liable to plumbosolvent action.

FACTORIES

	<i>Number</i>	<i>Inspections</i>	<i>Notices</i>	
			<i>Served</i>	<i>Notices complied with</i>
Factories with power	25	43	4	2
Factories without power	1	—	—	—
Outworkers	11	3	—	—

The requirements of the Factories Act, 1937 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</i>	
			<i>Served</i>	<i>Notices complied with</i>
Site Licences	12	42	1	1
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 9 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 bailed at Berryfields, Semington Road and Spa Road, Melksham Without and also at Atworth and Hilperton. "No takes" were revealed.

REFUSE COLLECTION AND DISPOSAL

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

At the end of January, 1966, the Council took delivery of a new Fore and Aft Tipping 25 cube yard Shelvoke and Drewry lorry which replaced a side loader Ford which had been in use since 1956. This new vehicle has enabled us to keep the service running and absorb the additional load from housing developments.

In October, a Michigan All Wheel Steer Shovel Tractor was delivered to give us the opportunity of operating "controlled tipping" at Beanacre. We have been able to reduce our staff by one man as a result. Unfortunately, vandals were causing damage at the Refuse Tip towards the end of the year and some of our efforts were thwarted.

We also had occasion to be alarmed at live ammunition being placed in dust bins. This culminated (we hope) in discovering a mortar bomb. Although the experts eventually found the bomb to be quite safe, we did obtain some publicity in the press, radio and television which may help to avoid similar occurrences in future.

It will be seen that we have had three changes of staff during the year. With the arduous and heavy work involved during all weathers it does seem that some national decision to improve wages is long overdue. The Council have endeavoured to meet the situation by a bonus scheme which commenced in February of this year.

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	0	12	33	3	4
Rags	3	6	0	0	29	14	0
Waste Paper	14	19	0	0	115	17	2
Scrap Metal	10	15	1	12	221	15	10
		TOTAL			£400	10	4

The price of baled waste paper was reduced from £7-15-0 to £7-0-0 per ton on the 21st November, 1966.

CESSPOOL EMPTYING SERVICE

This service, brought into operation in 1948, has been utilised to clear 420 cesspools and septic tanks during 1966.

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 420 clearances in 1966.

HOUSING

Number of houses inspected and recorded	...	...	12
Number of houses suitable for action under Section 16 of the Housing Act, 1957	...	...	12
Number of notices under Section 9 of the Housing Act, 1957	...	...	—
Number of Demolition Orders issued	...	...	2
Number of Closing Orders issued	...	...	4
Number of Undertakings accepted under Section 16 of the Housing Act, 1957	...	...	4
Number of houses suitable for action 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 12 cottages have been so formally reported to the Public Health 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, 12 cottages were demolished and 6 reconditioned.

14 Discretionary Grants (total £5,268 - 10 - 0) and 14 Standard Grants (total £2,788 - 8 - 6) under the House Purchase and

Housing Act, 1958 have been approved during 1966. Some considerable discussion and inspections are a preliminary to such applications but the work is well justified by the results.

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

PUBLIC HEALTH ACT, 1936

Number of inspections	...	...	...	...	194
Number of informal notices served	...	...	...	...	8
Number of statutory notices served	...	...	...	...	—
Number of informal notices complied with	...	...	...	...	9
Number of statutory notices complied with	...	...	...	...	—

Housing development, in some villages, prior to the provision of sewerage systems has led to some severe difficulties. Complaints are made about drainage nuisances and the Council are in a dilemma as any abatement notice is required to give an indication of how the trouble can be overcome. Often there just is no answer to the problem — at least not within the bounds of reasonable economy.

RIVERS, STREAMS AND SEWERAGE

Of the thirteen parishes (Atworth, Broughton Gifford, Hilper-ton, Holt, Melksham Without — Spa Road, Semington Road, Berryfield, Shaw and Whitley — 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.

With the co-operation from householders, a farmer, a neighbouring authority and the County Council, the Council employed a drainage contractor to dig out a long ditch at Spa Road, Melksham Without. This should eliminate flooding troubles in that area.

Our experience in various villages is that a sewerage system is very much required before housing development should be permitted.

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.

ABANDONED CARS

Fortunately our problems are few in this respect. This may be due to vigilance and the fact that we permit people to dump unwanted vehicles at the Refuse Tip.

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.

<i>Premises</i> 1964	Smoke Observations 1966												<i>Percentage of Compli- ance with Regulations</i>
	1965		<i>Jan.-Mar.</i>		<i>Apr.-June</i>		<i>Jul.-Sept.</i>		<i>Oct.-Dec.</i>				
	<i>C</i>	<i>N</i>	<i>C</i>	<i>N</i>	<i>C</i>	<i>N</i>	<i>C</i>	<i>N</i>	<i>C</i>	<i>N</i>	<i>C</i>	<i>N</i>	
A	11	3	11	1	3	0	3	0	3	1	2	0	92%
B	14	0	12	0	3	0	3	0	4	0	2	0	100%
C	14	0	12	0	3	0	3	0	4	0	2	0	100%
D	14	0	12	0	3	0	3	0	4	0	2	0	100%
E	14	0	12	0	3	0	3	0	4	0	2	0	100%
F	14	0	11	1	2	1	3	0	4	0	2	0	92%
G	14	0	12	0	3	0	3	0	4	0	2	0	100%
H	—	—	—	—	3	0	3	0	4	0	2	0	100%
Total	95	3	82	2	23	1	24	0	31	1	16	0	

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

During the year, the Council gave “prior approval”, under Section 3 of the Act, for the installation of an additional boiler at a factory.

RAG FLOCK & OTHER FILLING MATERIALS ACT, 1951

Number of Premises Registered	...	...	...	2
Number of Visits	...	...	...	6
Number of Samples obtained	...	...	...	5

Two samples of rag flock, two of woollen mixture felt and one of hair were obtained, informally, during the year. All the samples satisfied the requirements of the Regulations.

One of the registered premises went into liquidation during the year.

ANIMAL BOARDING ESTABLISHMENTS ACT, 1963

Number of Premises Licensed	...	...	...	5
Number of Visits	...	...	...	11

We lean heavily on the local R.S.P.C.A. Inspector for advice and guidance. We are very grateful for his unfailing help.

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 this area does not provide difficulties.

No inspections were made during the year. The Rodent Operator normally combines these inspections with his other duties. He was away ill for 7 weeks in May and June.

DISEASES OF ANIMALS (WASTE FOODS) ORDER, 1957

Only one premises remains licensed and conditions are quite reasonable.

OFFICES SHOP AND RAILWAY PREMISES ACT, 1963

It can safely be said that the voluminous requirements of this Act and the consequent Regulations are well under control. It is now just another matter of routine which has been absorbed.

Appendix "E" sets out the position as required by the Ministry.

We tried to deal with this new Act by a friendly and informal approach to those concerned. I think we succeeded. We are certainly grateful for much co-operation.

NOISE ABATEMENT ACT, 1960

One complaint was received during the year but no action has been necessary under the terms of the Act.

The matter was dealt with by another department under the planning legislation.

LAND DRAINAGE ACT, 1961

No formal action was taken but a ditch at Spa Road, Melksham Without was greatly improved (as mentioned earlier in this report).

PUBLIC HEALTH LABORATORY SERVICE

I would like to make mention of the very good service given to this Council by Dr. Riding 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. Riding's advice so readily available.

GENERAL

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

Drainage	... ..	539
Water Supply	... ..	60
Salvage	... ..	7
Miscellaneous Housing Visits and Small Dwellings		
Acquisition Act enquiries	... ..	396
Refuse Collection and Disposal	... ..	419
Rodent Control	... ..	31
Abandoned Cars	... ..	8

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>	<i>Horses</i>
Number killed	515	2,068	608	100	24	—
Number inspected ...	515	2,068	608	100	24	—
<i>All diseases except Tuberculosis & Cysticerci</i>						
Whole carcasses condemned ...	2	18	17	7	—	—
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned ...	89	1,022	66	19	4	—
Percentage of the number inspected affected with disease other than Tuberculosis and Cysticerci ...	17.7	50.3	13.7	26.0	16.7	—
<i>Tuberculosis only</i>						
Whole carcasses condemned ...	—	1	—	—	—	—
Carcase of which some part or organ was condemned ...	—	2	—	—	—	—
Percentage of the number inspected affected with Tuberculosis ...	—	0.15	—	—	—	—
<i>Cysticercosis</i>						
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned ...	—	1	—	—	—	—
Carcases submitted to treatment by refrigeration ...	—	1	—	—	—	—
Generalised and totally condemned ...	—	—	—	—	—	—

APPENDIX "B" BACTERIOLOGICAL WATER SAMPLE RESULTS, 1966

<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 Down) Supply	S (2)	—	—	S (2)	—	S (2)	—	—	—	S (2)	—	—	Chlorinated Supply
North Wilts Water Board (Holt Supply)	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 (2)	—	S (1)	—	—	—	S (1)	S (1)	—	Chlorinated Supply U (1)
Estate Supply	S (1)	—	—	S (1)	—	S (1)	—	—	—	S (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)	1	—	—	—
(2) Factories not included in (1) in which Section 7 is enforced by Local Authority (power)	25	43	2	—
(3) Other premises in which Section 7 is enforced by Local Authority (excluding outworker's premises)	—	—	—	—

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)	—	—	—	—	—
Overcrowding (S.2)	—	—	—	—	—
Unreasonable Temperatures (S.3)	—	—	—	—	—
Inadequate Ventilation (S.4)	—	—	—	—	—
Drainage of Floors (S.6)	—	—	—	—	—
Sanitary Conveniences (S.7)					
(a) Insufficient	1	—	—	1	—
(b) Unsuitable or Defective	2	1	—	1	—
(c) Not separate for Sexes	—	—	—	—	—

APPENDIX "D"

PREVENTION OF DAMAGE BY PESTS ACT, 1949

Report for twelve months ended 31st December, 1966

	Type of Property				Total of Cols. (1) (2) & (3) (4)	Agri- cultural
	Local Authority (1)	Dwelling Houses (inc. Council Houses) (2)	All other (including Business Premises) (3)	Non-Agricultural		
I. Number of properties in Local Authority's District	11	4 277	500	4,788	220	
II. Total number of properties inspected as a result of notification	—	131	7	138	3	
Number of such properties found to be infested by:—						
Common Rat	—	—	1	1	1	
Major	—	—	—	—	—	
Minor	—	114	4	118	2	
Ship rat	—	—	—	—	—	
Major	—	—	—	—	—	
Minor	—	—	—	—	—	
House mouse	—	—	—	—	—	
Major	—	—	—	—	—	
Minor	—	12	2	14	—	
III. Total number of properties inspected in the course of survey under the Act	7	76	3	86	10	
Number of such properties found to be infested by:—						
Common Rat	—	1	—	1	—	
Major	—	—	—	—	—	
Minor	7	60	2	69	9	
Ship rat	—	—	—	—	—	
Major	—	—	—	—	—	
Minor	—	—	—	—	—	
House mouse	—	—	—	—	—	
Major	—	—	—	—	—	
Minor	—	4	1	5	—	

APPENDIX "D" (Continued)
PREVENTION OF DAMAGE BY PESTS ACT, 1949
 Report for twelve months ended 31st December, 1966

	Type of Property				Agricultural
	Local Authority (1)	Dwelling Houses (inc. Council Houses) (2)	All other (including Business Premises) (3)	Total of Cols. (1) (2) & (3) (4)	
IV Total number of properties otherwise inspected (e.g. when visited primarily for some other purpose)	—	12	104	116	—
Number of such properties found to be infested by:—					
Common Rat	Major	—	—	—	—
	Minor	—	—	—	—
Ship rat	Major	—	—	—	—
	Minor	—	—	—	—
House mouse	Major	—	—	—	—
	Minor	—	1	1	1
V. Total inspections carried out:— including re-inspections	Not readily available	Not readily available	Not readily available	Not readily available	Not readily available
VI Number of infested properties (in Sections II, III & IV treated by the L.A.)	7	183	8	198	12
VII. Total treatments carried out:— including re-treatments	Not readily available	Not readily available	Not readily available	Not readily available	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	—	11	—	11	—

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

TOTALS					
TABLE A Registrations General and Inspections	Offices		2	4	4
	Retail Shops		—	7	7
	Wholesale shops, warehouses		—	—	—
	Catering Establishments open to the public, canteens		—	6	4
	Fuel Storage Depots		—	—	—
		(1) 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

TABLE B—Number of visits of all kinds by Inspectors to Registered Premises 24

TABLE C Analysis of Persons employed in Registered premises by workplace	Class of workplace		Number of persons employed	
	(1)		(2)	
	Offices		16	
	Retail Shops		20	
	Wholesale departments, warehouses		—	
	Catering establishments open to the public		41	
	Canteens		—	
	Fuel storage depots		—	
	TOTAL		77	
	Total Males		34	
	Total Females		43	

TABLE D — EXEMPTIONS

Class of premises (1)	No. of exemptions current at 31st December (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 withdrawal 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		N I L				
Catering establishments open to public, canteens						
Fuel storage depots						
Part III — sanitary conveniences (sec. 9)						
Offices						
Retail Shops						
Wholesale shops, warehouses		N I L				
Catering establishments open to public, canteens						
Fuel storage depots						



