

[Report 1966] / Medical Officer of Health, Bridge-Blean R.D.C.

Contributors

Bridge-Blean (England). Rural District Council.

Publication/Creation

1966

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BRIDGE-BLEAN RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL

ANNUAL REPORT

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

for 1966

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Chairman of the Council

COUNCILLOR R.A.C. McINTOSH M.B., Ch.B., J.P.

Public Health Committee, 1966

Chairman

Councillor J.F. Montgomery

Vice Chairman

Councillor A.R. Palmer.

Councillor Mrs. S.I. Fuller

Councillor W. Gilliam

Councillor W.J. King

Councillor F.V. Lee

Councillor D.S. Mount

Councillor E. Mummery

Councillor R.D. Neame

Councillor H.T. Price

Ex Officio Members

Councillor R.A.C. McIntosh, M.B., Ch.B., J.P.

(Chairman of the Council)

Councillor B. Raffety (Vice-Chairman of the Council)

Clerk of the Council

I. F. SOILLEUX, ESQ.

--ooOoo--




PUBLIC HEALTH STAFF 1966

Senior Public Health Inspector J.W.A. Brewster
Additional Public Health Inspector. G.L. Almond
General Foreman)
Rodent Operator) W.H. Chantler
Clerk/Typist Miss M. Cox.
General Assistant/Clerical Assistant W.T. Smith

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ANNUAL REPORT 1966

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

The Rural District has shown steady development of village communities over the years and an attempt to elaborate this was made in the 1965 report with cartographs based on population distribution and on rateable dwellings. No attempt is made in this report to repeat or develop the study for it is more likely to present interest if it is carried out at five year intervals.

Statistics Nevertheless the general increase in population continued. The rise of 910 to 24,180 represented a 3.9% increase indicating that 1965 was a peak in growth rate at 6%. The birth rate however at 17 per 1,000 population, adjusted for national comparison to 19.7 remained at a high level.

The Death rate of 15.9 per 1,000 population (11.7 for England and Wales) was high, reflecting the local concentrations of elderly in long stay hospitals. Adjusted for this preponderance the rate was 9.7 per thousand.

The statistical statement also shows an Infant Mortality rate at a satisfactory level below the national figure, of 17 per 1,000 live births and an age distribution of deaths that implies above average longevity.

Infectious Disease The incidence of notifiable infectious diseases showed an absence of dysentery which while it is perhaps too good to be true, is in the light of falling figures over the previous two years, an indication of the absence of outbreaks of some dysentery.

Scarlet fever continues to occur as an indicator of streptococcal infection present in the community, never in large numbers and never a very severe illness.

Measles reached epidemic proportions towards the close of the year with the usual predominance in the pre-school and primary school children.

There was only one case of food poisoning notified, a household infection. But we were involved along with most other district health departments in East Kent in the investigation of a food poisoning outbreak originating in a series of festive gatherings in Margate. The investigation disclosed no recognised pathogenic organisms as the cause, although evidence built up around a cooked meat source. It may well be that laboratory methods of culture suitable for seeking sources of infection of human origin are less successful in isolating infections transmitted between animals which are nevertheless capable of causing short lived food poisoning in man.

Milk The relationship between man and other animals in transmission of infection is a matter which cannot well be ignored in a rural district. Milk is no longer a source of tuberculosis, because of the eradication of tuberculosis from the cattle themselves, and by the the general pasteurization of milk supplies. Raw milk from tubercular tested cattle is however still obtainable from producer retailer sources or farm bottled sources handled by retailers. There is also the source to dairy farm workers themselves as a benefit of this employment which does not pass through the pasteurization plant. The occurrence of brucella abortus infection in cows is transmissible to man through unpasteurized milk and such raw milk sources are sampled where they are sold. Test samples taken elsewhere produced positive results for two farms in the district and the Animal Health division of the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food

Milk (Continued)

at once investigated the herds to identify and exclude infected cows. The farmer in each case co-operated in directing milk through a pasteurization plant to prevent any risk of infection to users and included in this arrangement any milk issued to dairy farm workers.

Our arrangements with surrounding health departments are such that sampling of milk is carried out at receiving and pasteurization depots or points of sale outside the district and our own inspectors only sample on indication.

Water Supply Out of the 7,668 dwellings in the district, 14 were considered not to have an adequate water supply. These were amongst 59 dwellings dependent on rain water tanks or wells. The 7,609 other dwellings had a mains water source. The three Water Companies supplying parts of the district draw their supplies from deep chalk wells which give water of excellent quality and purity which is chlorinated to prevent risks in mains distribution and not to correct any risk at source. The water is moderately hard around 230-250 p.p.m. carbonate hardness and has a low fluoride content of 0.01 to 0.02 p.p.m. The water is not softened before distribution. Twelve samples of mains supply and one from private piped source were all satisfactory.

Sewerage and Sewage Disposal No new sewage disposal scheme was started or carried out during the year but a start was made to sewer the area of New House Lane and Iffen Lane in Thanington Without to the Canterbury system, thus removing an area of hazard to one of the Canterbury Water Company's sources.

The Engineer and Surveyor's department carried out much preliminary work for the scheme for general sewerage of Chartham and Shalmsford Street to a new sewerage works, and for the comprehensive sewerage of the Nailbourne Valley to a new sewage treatment works to replace Littlebourne works which will serve villages from Barham to Wickhambreaux, an imaginative and ambitious scheme which will enhance the amenities of a group of villages of residential and agricultural importance.

Housing During the year action by the Council under the Housing Acts resulted in demolition of 6 houses, while 2 other dwellings were demolished by private action. The total increase in dwellings in the year was 343, made up as follows:-
New Council houses - 70, new private houses 284, total 354. Houses demolished under Housing Acts procedure 6, houses otherwise demolished - 2. Houses closed for human habitation as unfit - 3, total 11. Balance of increase = 343

Improvement of housing standards was encouraged by 46 discretionary grants and 17 standard grants. No applications were refused and discretionary grants were 50% of cost in all cases.

The Senior Public Health Inspector reports on his work of inspection and statutory action during the year. Overcrowding existed in 4 dwellings at the end of the year, an increase of 1 in the year.

Advice was given to the Housing department on special applicants especially on the medical aspects of applicants for warden assisted units, of which the Council provides two excellent establishments in Sturry and Bridge

Caravans The licensed sites numbered 34 of which 7 are large sites and 27 small or individual sites.

One hundred and ninety five residential caravans are sited in four established sites, while 60 seasonal holiday caravans are spread over four other sites.

Caravans (Continued)

It was estimated that the permanent residential caravan population numbered six hundred and twenty five.

Hop Pickers Camps The development of hop picking machines has reduced the number of camps to only two with accommodation estimated at 60 pickers.

Clean Air The production of black smoke from burning a type of man made fibre waste caused a very dramatic pollution of the air visible for a great distance. The contractor using this form of disposal was asked to make other arrangements.

Noise Rural noise complaints included the use of mechanical saws.

Food Hygiene Routine inspections of the 205 registered premises were carried out by the public health inspectors. All but three complied with requirements for hand washing. Two out of 35 grocery and general stores and 6 out of 66 licensed premises were not up to standard in equipment or food storage. Space and drainage problems were contributing factors.

No food poisoning was traced to premises in the district, the one notified case being in an 8 year old child infected in domestic circumstances and remaining a carrier of salmonella typhi murium for some weeks.

Assistance was given to one of the hospitals in the district in a bacteriological survey of kitchen hygiene. This helped the catering staff to correct some faulty techniques and risk factors in procedure.

Section 47 National Assistance Act It was not necessary to take action for the removal of any person to a place of care under this legislation. The case of an elderly person capable of looking after herself but eccentric in her habits to the extent that she created isolated insanitary living conditions for herself, exercised our attention. Attempts to help her were frustrated by her own last minute non co-operation.

The Keeping of Animals Nuisance arose from a householder keeping dogs and pigs in an insanitary manner in his dwelling and enforcement action under the Public Health Act was required to deal with the nuisance. The Senior Public Health Inspector refers to another unusual case of smell in his report.

The Vital and Morbid statistics for the district for 1966 are shown on the next page as well as summaries of infectious diseases notified.

MALCOLM S. HARVEY
M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.
Medical Officer of Health

(Continued)

Statistics and Tables - Bridge-Blean Rural District for 1966

Population : Mid 1966 : 24,180

Area : No change

Births : Total : 411 Male 208 (Illegitimate 8)
 Female 203 (Illegitimate 11)
 % Illegitimate : 4.6%

Birth Rate : unadjusted : 17 per 1,000 population

Adjusted (Registrar General's Factor 1.16) for comparison : 19.7 England & Wales 17.7

Deaths : Total 385 Male 202
 Female 183

Death Rate : unadjusted : 15.9 per 1,000 population

Adjusted (Registrar General's Factor 0.61) for comparison : 9.7 England & Wales 11.7

Infant Deaths : Total 7 (Illegitimate : 1)

Under 1 week : Total 6 1 week-1 month = 1

Infant Mortality Rate : 17 per 1,000 live births (England and Wales : 19)

Stillbirths : Total 7 (Illegitimate : 1)

Perinatal Mortality Rate i.e. Deaths under 1 week and stillbirths
per 1,000 live and stillbirths : 31 (England and Wales 26.3)

Age distribution of deaths

Age 15-64 years	Male : 53 = 26%
	Female : 34 = 18.6%
Over 75 years	Male : 97 = 48%
	Female : 102 = 56%

Causes of Death - 1966

Causes of Death	1 9 6 6					1965
	Male		Female		Total	
	15-64 yrs	Total	15-64 yrs	Total	All Ages	
Respiratory Tuberculosis	-	1	-	1	2	1
Tuberculosis other forms	-	-	-	-	-	-
Other infectious or parasitic diseases	-	-	-	-	-	3
Malignant Neoplasm of Stomach	-	3	-	2	5	9
Malignant Neoplasm of Lung of Bronchus	2	10	2	2	12	9
Malignant Neoplasm of Breast	-	-	1	3	3	4
Malignant Neoplasm of Uterus	-	-	1	3	3	-
Other Malignant and Lymphatic Neoplasm	6	15	3	19	34	29
Leukaemia and Aleukaemia	-	-	1	2	2	1
Diabetes	-	-	-	3	3	3
Vascular Lesions of Nervous System	6	31	3	26	57	41
Coronary Disease, Angina	20	35	4	26	61	64
Hypertension with Heart Disease	-	4	-	5	9	4
Other Heart Disease	3	23	6	31	54	53
Other Circulatory Diseases	-	6	1	16	22	15
Influenza	-	14	-	1	15	1
Pneumonia	4	20	2	15	35	17
Bronchitis	2	14	1	3	17	17
Other Respiratory Diseases	1	2	-	-	2	3
Ulcer of Stomach or Duodenum	-	1	-	-	1	1
Gastritis, Enteritis, Diarrhoea	-	-	1	1	1	-
Nephritis, Nephrosis	1	2	1	1	3	3
Enlargement of Prostate	-	-	-	-	-	2
Congenital Malformations	-	2	-	2	4	2
Other defined or illdefined diseases	5	13	5	16	29	23
Motor Vehicle Accidents	1	2	-	-	2	2
All other accidents	2	3	1	4	7	8
Suicide	-	1	1	1	2	4
Total	53	202	34	183	385	319

Infectious Diseases Notified - 1966

Disease	Quarter				Age Group					Total
	1st	2nd	3rd	4th	Under 1	1-4	5-9	10-14	15+	
Scarlet Fever	2	2	1	1	-	2	3	1	-	6
Whooping Cough	5	-	-	3	-	2	6	-	-	8
Measles	2	15	10	13	3	81	65	3	6	158
Dysentery	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Food Poisoning	-	-	-	1	-	1	-	-	-	1
					Under 5	5-14	15-45	45-64	65+	
Acute Pneumonia	3	-	-	1	-	-	-	2	2	4
Respiratory Tuberculosis	-	3	3	-	-	-	3	1	2	6

Immunisations and Vaccinations (Figures provided by County M.O.H.)

Primary Smallpox Vaccination (under 2 years) - 293 Births 1965 - 461

Revaccinations under 8 years - 1

Diphtheria and other combined Immunisations

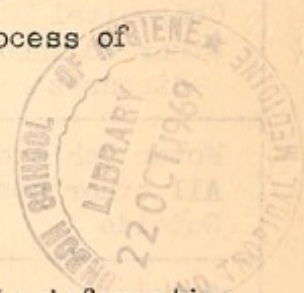
	<u>Under 5</u>	<u>5-15</u>	<u>Total</u>
Primary Diphtheria/Tetanus/Whooping Cough	363	3	366
Primary Diphtheria/Tetanus	3	12	15
Booster : Triple	226	65	291
Diphtheria/Tetanus	47	142	189
Poliomyelitis Protection	402	19	421
Booster	12	162	174

Tuberculosis There were 6 new cases of respiratory tuberculosis notified, 2 male, 4 female and no new cases of non-pulmonary tuberculosis. Half the cases in each sex were under 40 years and the others over 60 years old.

The state of the Register at the end of the year, after a process of cross check and correction with the Chest Clinic was:-

Respiratory Tuberculosis	<u>Male</u> 44	<u>Female</u> 36
Non-Pulmonary	<u>Male</u> 4	<u>Female</u> 7
	Total 91	

The register totalled 209 at the beginning of 1965 and clearly information on a large number of cases had been out of date.



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BRIDGE-BLEAN RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL

ANNUAL REPORT

of the

SENIOR PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR

for the year

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Chairman of the Council

COUNCILLOR R.A.C. McINTOSH M.B., Ch.B., J.P.

Public Health Committee, 1966

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Councillor B. Raffety (Vice-Chairman of the Council)

Clerk of the Council

I. F. SOILLEUX, ESQ.

--ooOoo--



PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT

Medical Officer of Health Dr. M. S. Harvey,
M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.

Deputy Medical Officer of Health Dr. J.L. Gordon O.B.E.
M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P.

Senior Public Health Inspector. J.W.A. Brewster

Additional Public Health Inspector G.L. Almond

General Foreman/Rodent Operator A.C. Vinten

Shorthand Typist (resigned August, 1966) Miss M.J. Gorton

Clerk Miss M. Cox.

General Assistant/Clerical Assistant Mr. W. Smith.

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<u>Clerk of the Council</u>	<u>Treasurer</u>	<u>Engineer & Surveyor</u>
I. F. Soilleux, Esq.	B. G. S. Haste, Esq.	P. J. Thackray, Esq.

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Telephone: Canterbury 66411

Offices of the 15a Dane John,
Medical Officer Canterbury.
of Health Telephone: Canterbury 64412

Depot Garage,
Mill Lane,
Bridge.

Telephone: Bridge 302

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March, 1967.

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

When writing my Annual Report for 1965, some months ago, I anticipated a busy year ahead in the scavenging and housing fields due mainly to the introduction of paper sack refuse collection and the compulsory improvement of houses. Looking back over this period I am left with a sense of some disappointment over what has not been achieved due to factors over which I have had no control. Due to the financial state of the country, pending Local Government re-organisation and the long illness of the General Foreman, plans for 1966 were seriously affected.

The absence of the General Foreman during the first half of the year pinpointed a weakness in the strength and deployment of the Public Health staff and so it was necessary to take a critical look at the department. In October, plans for re-organisation were able to come into effect following the resignation of the Shorthand Typist. For a long time many minor savings affecting the clerical side had been made and with the use of dictating machines I felt able to dispense with some clerical assistance and replace it with general assistance on the district and at our depot. This move provides a stand-by replacement for the Foreman and relieves the Public Health Inspectors' of less onerous duties. Mr. W. Smith who took over this new post in November has already settled down and is gradually taking over duties to the benefit of Mr. Almond and myself and at the same time improving the link with our Bridge depot.

As for the future, so much depends on the actions of the Government, but it does seem that consideration of improvements such as refuse pulverisation and a new combined depot will have to be shelved until this Council knows what its future is to be.

I would again like to take this opportunity of thanking the Members and Officers of the Council for their interest and support.

I am,

Your obedient servant

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "J. Brewster". The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned below the typed name "Your obedient servant".

H O U S I N G

The number of properties represented during the year amounted to five, a great reduction over previous years and a measure of our success in dealing with unfit houses following the Housing Surveys of 1955 and 1960 which were greatly helped by the rehousing programme. It is now possible in a number of cases for condemnation to follow the rehousing of the occupants.

Contrary to the larger urban authorities, where complaints from tenants provide a large amount of work in the housing field, the number of complaints in this area is very small. Perhaps the tenants wish to use their complaints to secure rehousing which is not so readily available in the large built-up areas.

I think I should comment in detail on improvement work as this is our bread and butter as far as housing is concerned.

Improvement Areas

As you know our first area was designated in late 1965 but due to the need for Mr. Almond to take over the control of the depot for most of the time Mr. Vinten was absent, some 15 weeks, the carrying through of the complicated procedure for enforcing the improvements had to be shelved until later in the year. As you know the first notices were served last month.

Despite the disappointment in not being able to proceed with more speed it was encouraging to read in Hansard that Bridge-Blean Rural District Council is the only rural Authority in the South Eastern Counties to have declared an improvement area. The picture of only 8 Authorities (3 in Kent) in the South East taking this step must be a dismal one for the Government. The problems that we have met with our very small area are bound to make the larger Authorities hesitate before embarking on areas of two or three hundred.

Improvement Grants

The year opened with the continuation of the steady trickle for grant assistance. From the summer onwards however, the pace quickened and it was necessary to obtain approval to providing additional capital to meet the demand.

There have been no changes in the standards for either grant. Applications for standard grants have risen probably because it is more widely known that local authorities have the power to increase the maximum grant from £155 to £350 where it is considered necessary to build on a bathroom, and also because it is not necessary to submit estimates. Wherever possible owners are being encouraged not to reduce the bedroom standard in smaller houses.

H O U S I N G (Contd)

There are two other cases where the local authority may increase the maximum grant. Firstly to provide a piped water supply for the first time and secondly to provide septic tank drainage. As will be observed from my comments on water supply it is most unlikely that there will be any application affecting piped water. With so much of our area above the gathering grounds of Water Authorities and the unsuitability of the sub-soil in the northern area, it is also most unlikely that we shall be faced with many applications including septic tanks. It is still a mystery to me why an increased grant cannot be paid on a cesspool, as in a rural area, without main drainage, it is the only alternative.

During the year applications for discretionary grants were approved for 46 properties of which 16 were for the maximum grant of £400. The average grant was £366. As regards standard grants, 17 properties are affected with an average of £288. Nearly half of these grants were approved for a figure in excess of the £155 and covered the cost of bathroom additions and septic tanks.

Statistics on housing are produced at the end of this report.

F O O D A N D D R U G S

This is a branch of public health work that goes on day after day in the form of supervision, sampling and education in order to ensure as far as possible that the community can consume clean food in the home and in clean premises when dining out. This work only hits the headlines when something goes wrong and the scarcity of such 'news' is a measure of the successful struggle for hygienic practices.

New Regulations which apply to stalls and delivery vehicles similar standards as to fixed premises were published late in 1966 to come into force on the 1st January, 1967. These Regulations have already raised many issues and were in fact amended before they became operative - a most unusual state of affairs.

The Food Hygiene Regulations which require certain standards regarding premises and equipment in the main have been complied with, the problem now is to ensure that they are kept clean and that the staff practice hygiene at all times. Packaging of food is on the increase and is very welcome, it protects the manufacturer, supplier, shopkeeper and customer. In my opinion the weak link in the chain is the shopkeeper and this is where the Public Health Inspector has a role to play in ensuring that the consumer receives an article of food in as near perfect condition as possible. Far too often the shopkeeper splits package goods (mainly frozen foods) divides items such as family sized pies or pierces the wrappings with spiked price tickets. All of these practices expose the food to unnecessary contamination and put the consumer at risk.

FOOD AND DRUGS (Contd)

The Ministry of Health have asked for details regarding the provision of facilities for washing hands (Section 16) and food and equipment (Section 19). These are set out below. It will be noted that very few premises do not comply in all respects. The exceptions are due mainly to lack of space or drainage problems. Some of the latter can only reasonably be resolved by the provision of main drainage.

	Number of Premises	Complying with Sec.16	No. which Sec.19 Applies	Complying with Sec. 19.
Food Shops				
Bakers	2	2	-	-
Butchers	11	11	11	11
Confectioners	3	3	-	-
Greengrocers	2	2	-	-
Grocers/General	59	56	37	35
Fried Fish	1	1	1	1
Bakehouses	2	2	2	2
Food Factories	2	2	2	2
Factory Canteens	2	2	2	2
Hotels and Cafes	30	30	30	30
Licensed Premises	66	66	66	60
School Kitchens	22	22	14	14
Hospital and Nursing Homes	3	3	3	3
	205	202	168	160

DRAINAGE AND SEWERAGE

Work on the Thanington (Newhouse Lane) Scheme started during the year but has unfortunately come to a temporary stop before any benefits have been felt by the majority of residents.

Towards the end of the year there was renewed hope in a reasonably early start on the Nailbourne and Chartham Schemes. The Broad Oak Scheme which would bring considerable relief to over a hundred caravan dwellers and others has still not materialized.

DRAINAGE AND SEWERAGE (Contd)

The need for main drainage schemes is appreciated by everyone working in Local Government and is brought home to residents of many areas during exceptionally wet weather periods. Chartham Hatch is one of many areas that has suffered this winter through a combination of defective drainage systems and high rainfall figures, and a similar though less serious state of affairs, affects Waltham most of the year.

PUBLIC CLEANSING

Cesspool Emptying

The cesspool fleet was increased for the second successive year and now stands at 7 with assistance (2 days per week) from a machine engaged on pail emptying.

11,660 loads of sewage were removed as compared with 10,500 last year, a rise of 11%. How much of this has been sub-soil water! Very rarely has the number of requests dropped to the level of the thirties, more often it is around the hundred and on one occasion rose to nearly 200. As it was not possible to get outside assistance and the drivers were already working six long days a week, it was necessary as an experiment to hold orders from new estates in the Barham and Bridge areas for 2 or 3 months. Spot checks were kept and no nuisance arose but one or two occupiers did insist on an emptying and had to be placated. In circumstances like this it was difficult to give preference to my Public Health hat as opposed to my Cleansing one.

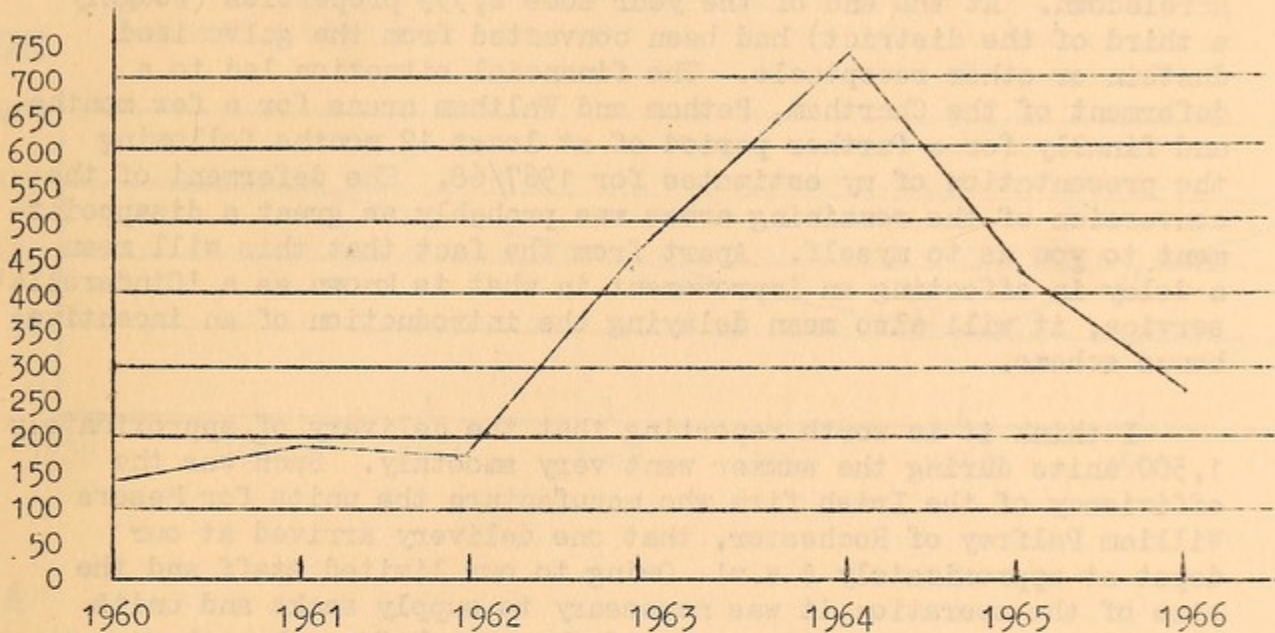
From the afore-mentioned remarks it will be obvious that many cesspools do not require emptying but the occupiers are making sure of their pound of flesh by marking up on their calendar when the quarterly emptyings are due. If this system was adopted by all the ratepayers throughout the area it would provide approximately 300 extra weeks work per year or the equivalent of 6 new vehicles and staff. This doubling of the tanker fleet would certainly pose depot problems as well as adding to the ratepayers bill.

Refuse Collection

Development in the district continues to rise as will be shown from the graph shown overleaf although the rate of increase has fallen.

NEW DEVELOPMENT

NO. OF
NEW HOUSES



Refuse Collection (Contd)

Naturally the amount of refuse to be collected will increase along with development but for several years there has been a widening differential between the two due to great strides by the packaging industry. As a public health official I welcome this move even though it brings a collection and disposal problem and increases the cost of the article to the consumer. The average collection and disposal problem amounts to just over 2 lbs of refuse per person per day. This is under half the amount in America.

It was necessary with the increased amount of refuse and the longer time taken on the paper sack rounds to retain the services of our oldest collection vehicle mainly as a stand-by in case of emergency. The fleet now comprises five vehicles details as under:-

Paxit III	Carrying capacity 40 cu.yds	purchased 1965
Paxit II	Carrying capacity 24 cu.yds	purchased 1963
Karrier	Carrying capacity 10 cu.yds	purchased 1960
Bedford	Carrying capacity 10 cu.yds	purchased 1959
Dennis	Carrying capacity 10 cu.yds	purchased 1954

It is hoped to replace the latter vehicle in 1968 by a 20 cu.yd compression vehicle. This smaller compression vehicle will be valuable in the very rural areas and will reduce the number of visits to the tip.

Refuse Collection (Contd.)

In April paper sacks were introduced to approximately 120 properties in the village of Upstreet and during the summer to nearly 1,350 properties in the parishes of Blean, Hackington and Harbledown. At the end of the year some 2,335 properties (roughly a third of the district) had been converted from the galvanized dustbin or other receptacle. The financial situation led to a deferment of the Chartham, Petham and Waltham areas for a few months and finally for a further period of at least 12 months following the presentation of my estimates for 1967/68. The deferment of the conversion of the remaining areas was probably as great a disappointment to you as to myself. Apart from the fact that this will mean a delay in effecting an improvement in what is known as a 'Cinderella' service, it will also mean delaying the introduction of an incentive bonus scheme.

I think it is worth reporting that the delivery of approximately 1,300 units during the summer went very smoothly. Such was the efficiency of the Irish firm who manufacture the units for Messrs William Palfrey of Rochester, that one delivery arrived at our depot at approximately 4 a.m! Owing to our limited staff and the size of the operation it was necessary to supply sacks and units well in advance to certain parts of the area before the scheme became operational. It was soon noted that despite clear instructions many householders were using their sacks a week too early with the result that collections were seriously affected that week.

It is interesting, although a little disconcerting to report that animal attack in the Blean, Harbledown and Hackington area has been far greater than Littlebourne etc. with the result that 143 guards have been fixed to date, this is still well below the experience of other Authorities. The issue of larger or an increased number of sacks to date amounts to approximately 150 properties a week, a percentage of approximately $6\frac{1}{2}$.

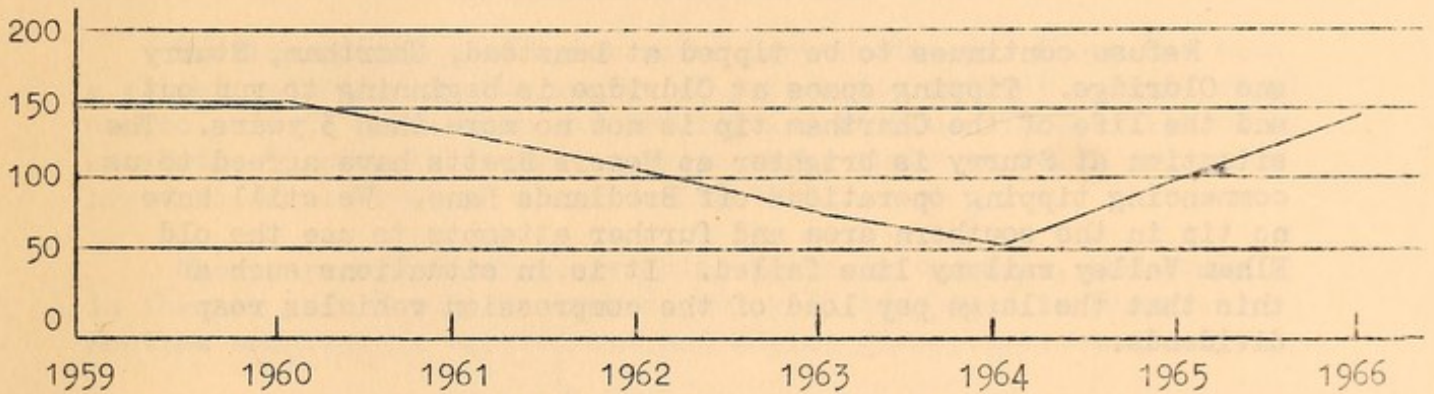
Once again the percentage is low and I wouldn't be surprised if there are not more properties where the introduction of a larger sack would be of advantage to the householder as well as the collector.

Salvage

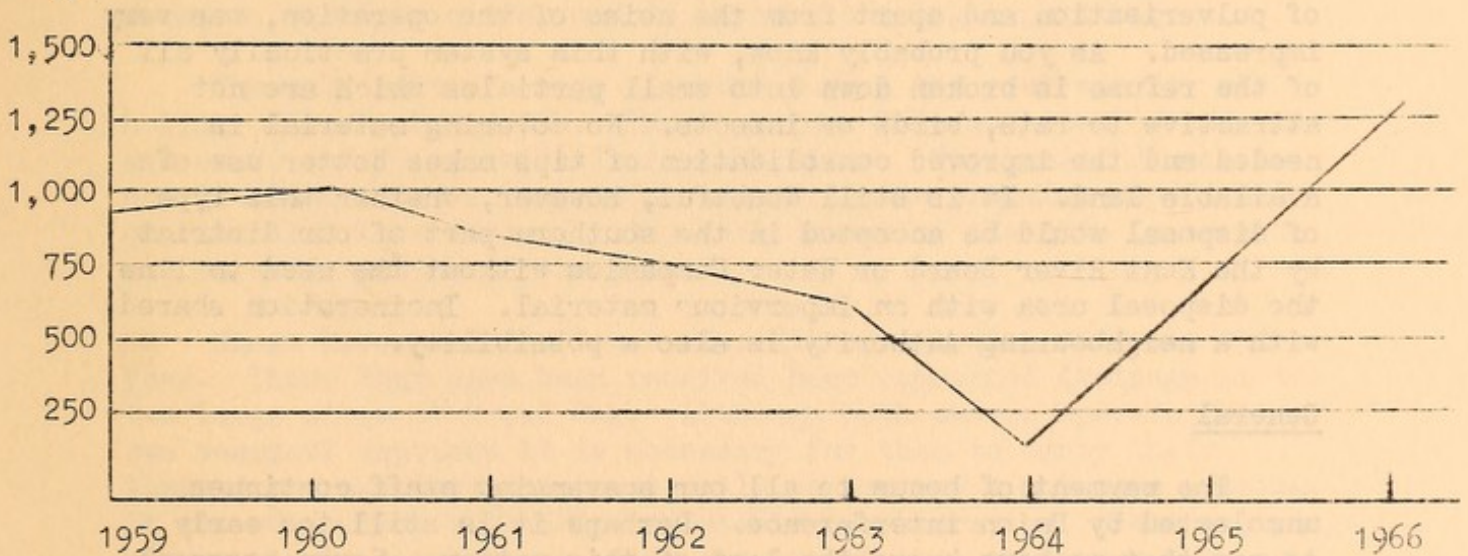
The income from salvage continues to rise and as you will note from the graphs overleaf has passed the high figures of the late 1950's. The weight of paper sold is approximately the same as in 1960 but of course paper prices have risen and we are separating the newsprint and magazines from ordinary wastes in order to obtain better prices.

PAPER SALES

TONS



£



Salvage (Contd)

There has been a falling off of paper consumption at the mills following the economic situation but it is expected that consumption will rise once freedom has been restored. This should maintain, if not increase paper prices.

Disposal

No progress in improving the disposal of refuse and cesspool and pail contents was made during the year. With the alterations to the Canterbury S.D. works all cesspool contents have to be transported to Westbere or Oldridge with the addition of limited amounts at Barham. The cost of emptying in the Waltham, Petham and Chartham areas therefore is very expensive.

Refuse continues to be tipped at Denstead, Chartham, Sturry and Oldridge. Tipping space at Oldridge is beginning to run out and the life of the Chartham tip is now no more than 3 years. The situation at Sturry is brighter as Messrs Bretts have agreed to us commencing tipping operations off Bredlends Lane. We still have no tip in the southern area and further attempts to use the old Elham Valley railway line failed. It is in situations such as this that the large pay load of the compression vehicles reap dividends.

If Bridge-Blean is to continue to function as a Local Authority in the future, serious consideration will have to be given to the disposal problem and shortage of readily available covering material. In company with the Engineer and Surveyor, I attended a demonstration of pulverisation and apart from the noise of the operation, was very impressed. As you probably know, with this system practically all of the refuse is broken down into small particles which are not attractive to rats, birds or insects. No covering material is needed and the improved consolidation of tips makes better use of available land. It is still doubtful, however, whether this type of disposal would be accepted in the southern part of our district by the Kent River Board or Water Companies without the need to line the disposal area with an impervious material. Incineration shared with a neighbouring Authority is also a possibility.

General

The payment of bonus to all our scavenging staff continues unmolested by Union interference. Perhaps it is still too early to say that we have heard the last of this matter. Seven cesspool emptiers are now operating full time without mates and the individual earnings of the drivers, with overtime, regularly tops £19 per week. The savings on mates, of course, is approximately £5,000 per annum a figure which should always be borne in mind when considering the cost of the salvage scheme which finances the bonus payments to the other members of the scavenging staff.

In the early part of the year the strength of the scavenging staff was below the approved figure of 27 mainly due to many resignations and difficulty in filling posts. During the year three familiar faces have gone. T. Furneaux retired in July after 33 years service and H. Francis retired in February after 30 years, mainly on pail emptying, and on whom I never had an adverse report.

General (Contd)

In June we also had the untimely death of W.Apps (27 years service) although we knew that he did not enjoy the best of health during the past few years.

W A T E R S U P P L Y

Routine sampling of mains water has continued. There has been a slight reduction in the number of properties without a mains supply due to private extensions and Housing Act action. To the best of my knowledge 59 properties rely on rain water tanks or wells and it is hoped to sample some of these during 1967.

There are now 6 school swimming pools in the area, and early in the new year a public covered pool will be opened in Sturry. Routine sampling is carried out and advice given where necessary.

M O V E A B L E D W E L L I N G S

During the year the standard conditions were amended to plug one or two loopholes, especially with regard to the carrying out of works on multiple sites, and to improve the legal phrasing

The only multiple site licensed during the year was for six holiday vans at Broad Oak. There are now 7 large sites (6 caravans and over) and 27 individual or small sites. Woodlands, Blean, is now licensed after a long delay regarding the planning aspect and queries that have arisen by the development of the site in advance and in anticipation of the licence.

There have been far fewer complaints regarding caravans this year. Those that have been received have concerned drainage at the two large sites at Broad Oak. Although both owners operate their own cesspool emptiers it is necessary for them to empty their limited storage tanks at least daily to prevent a nuisance arising. It is, of course, virtually impossible to ensure that these emptyings are regularly carried out, with the result that there has been contamination with sewage of ditches and footpaths. I am quite sure that if main drainage had been available when these sites were in their early stages of development many technical man hours would have been saved and much ill will avoided.

R O D E N T C O N T R O L

It will be seen later in the report that the number of inspections and treatments carried out during the year is markedly down on the previous year. This is due entirely to the absence of the Rodent Operator on sick leave during the first half of the year.

R O D E N T C O N T R O L

The pattern of infestations during the year has followed that of previous years with a higher infestation during the Autumn, due, no doubt, to the increased wet weather.

The services of the Ministry's Infestation Control laboratory was sought to identify droppings picked up in an empty house where a normal poison treatment had no effect and where damage to the building was inconsistent with rat infestation. The droppings were identified as probably from a grey squirrel which could have gained access to the house by a broken window pane.

New development in the district usually leads to complaints of rats when the houses are first occupied and more often than necessary it is found that holes are left in the walls at pipe exits and the rats have a ready made access to the cavity of the wall and the roof space, to the annoyance of the persons sleeping below.

OFFICES, SHOPS AND RAILWAY PREMISES ACT, 1963

With the initial inspection of Offices and Shops etc. completed the routine inspection of these premises has been carried on throughout the year to check conditions.

The guarding of dangerous machinery laid down by the Act requires explanation to occupiers who, although they are aware of the potential danger, cannot see that guards, often expensive, are needed. The Gravity food slicers have presented some difficulties as guards have not been readily available and when fitted make the machine awkward to use.

Once again the year has seen no reported accidents to registered premises within the district.

M I S C E L L A N E O U S

Litter

Although there have been no prosecutions, every effort is made to keep the countryside as clean as possible. In a further attempt to direct unwanted articles to the right quarter, the charge of 5/- for the removal of additional refuse was abolished in October. An encouraging number of requests are received for this service but it is necessary to ensure that we do not become haulage contractors. Requests to remove tree branches, old sheds and articles cleared from gardens etc. have to be carefully considered and in many cases resisted.

M I S C E L L A N E O U S (Contd.)

Noise

We have had the usual crop of complaints but in my opinion none were justified. In dealing with complaints one gets the impression that in a lot of cases the complainant has some axe to grind. Objections having failed under the Planning Acts, I suppose it is only natural for the complainant to look for other legislation, with which to continue his case.

General

Routine inspections of Factories, Shops (Hours of Closing etc.) Hop Pickers' Huts, Agricultural Workplaces, etc, etc, have taken place but call for no comments.

The unexpected situations which can confront a Public Health Inspector during the course of his duties was illustrated during the year in the course of investigating a complaint concerning a smell on the first floor landing of a block of Council Flats. Initially no cause of the smell was found but further questioning of the occupiers indicated that it emanated from inside one of the flats. When the door of the flat was finally opened in response to repeated knocking it was only too evident where the smell came from and shortly even more astonishing was the realisation that a person had been dead in the flat for a considerable time.

Subsequent enquiries by the Police revealed that the body had been in the house for two months as far as could be ascertained.

A P P E N D I X
S T A T I S T I C S
H O U S I N G

Inspections and Actions taken etc.

A. Housing Statistics

New houses erected by the Council	70
New houses under construction by the Council	39
New houses erected by Private Enterprise	284
Houses demolished under Housing Acts	6
Houses demolished by other persons	2
Houses otherwise closed for human habitation under Housing Acts	3
Houses otherwise closed for human habitation by other persons ..	Nil
Conversions of properties into dwellings under Housing Acts ..	Nil

B. Inspections of Dwelling Houses during the year

1. (a) Number inspected under Housing Acts	95
(b) Number of inspections made for that purpose	356
(c) Number of miscellaneous Housing visits	94
2. Number of dwelling houses found to be unfit for human habitation (Section 16)	5
3. Number of dwelling houses found to be unfit for human habitation (Section 9)	Nil
4. Number of representations made to Local Authority with a view to:-	
(a) Serving of notices requiring the execution of works (Sec.9)	Nil
(b) The making of Demolition or Closing Orders (Section 16)	5
5. (a) Number inspected under the Public Health Act	31
(b) Number of inspections made for that purpose	71
6. Number of informal notices served	7
7. Number of formal notices served	Nil
8. Number of cases of overcrowding known to the Local Authority at 31st December, 1965	3
9. Number of such cases identified during the year 1966	1
10. Number of cases of overcrowding at 31st December, 1966	4

FOOD AND DRUGS

Milk and Dairies

No. of statutory samples taken - 5
 (all from St. Augustine's Hospital, Chartham)
 No. of unsatisfactory samples - Nil

Food Inspection

Amounts of food condemned

Meat	16 lbs
Poultry	18 lbs
Bacon	3 lbs
Butter	5 lbs
Vegetables (Carrots) -	171 tons
Tinned Vegetable	2½ lb
Tinned Fruit	3¼ lb
Tinned Meat	8 lb

F A C T O R I E S A N D W O R K P L A C E S

Visits and Action

1. Inspection for purposes of provisions as to health

Premises	Number on Register	Numbers of		
		Inspect- tions	Written Notices	Occupiers Prosecuted
(i) Factories in which Secs. 1,2 3,4 and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities	1	-	-	-
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Sec 7 is enforced by Local Authority	63	35	-	-
(iii) Other premises in which Sec. 7 is enforced by Local Authority (excluding outworkers premises)	6	-	-	-
TOTALS	70	35	-	-

FACTORIES AND WORKPLACES (Contd)

2. Cases in which defects were found

Particulars	Number of cases in which defects were found				Number of cases in which prosecutions were instituted
	Found	Remedied	Referred		
			to H.M. Inspect.	from H.M. Inspect.	
Want of Cleanliness (S.1)	-	-	-	-	-
Overcrowding (S.2.)	-	-	-	-	-
Unreasonable temperature (S.3)	-	-	-	-	-
Inadequate ventilation (S.4)	-	-	-	-	-
Ineffective drainage of floor (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)	2	2	-	-	-
TOTAL	3	3	-	-	-

R O D E N T C O N T R O L

Pemises Inspected	204 (306 in 1965)
Premises Treated	147 (218 in 1965)

W A T E R S U P P L Y

Canterbury Water Co.

Blean
Chartham
Chislet
Fordwich
Hackington
Harbledown
Hoath
Lower Hardres
Sturry
Thanington Without
Westbere

Mid Kent Water Co.

Barham
Kingston
Petham
Upper Hardres
Waltham
Blean (small portion)
Womenswold

Thanet Water Board

Adisham
Bekesbourne
Bridge
Bishopsbourne
Ickham
Littlebourne
Patricxbourne
Wickhambreaux.

W A T E R S A M P L I N G

Number of main water samples taken	12
Satisfactory	<u>12</u>
Number of samples taken from other sources	2
Satisfactory	1

Swimming Pools

Number of samples taken	14
Satisfactory	12

V E H I C L E F L E E T

<u>Veh. No.</u>	<u>Index No.</u>	<u>Registered</u>	<u>Make</u>	<u>Duties</u>
1	GFN 779C	1965	Bedford	Cesspool Emptying
2	JKT 301	1947	Dennis	Cesspool Emptying
3	8227 FN	1963	Bedford	Cesspool Emptying
4	CFN 306B	1964	Bedford	Cesspool Emptying
5	XJG 762	1961	Bedford	Cesspool Emptying
6	LKE 684	1948	Dennis	Cesspool W/NS.
7	LKK 917	1949	Dennis	Cesspool Emptying
11	UFN 802	1960	Karrier	Refuse Collection
12	SFN 286	1959	Bedford	Refuse Collection
13	DKR 596C	1965	Dennis	Refuse Collection
14	SKN 127	1954	Dennis	Refuse Collection
15	49 WKP	1963	Dennis	Refuse Collection
19	UJG 538	1960	Morris Van	Engineer & Surveyor
20	YJG 396	1961	Austin Van	Engineer & Surveyor
22	UFN 922	1960	Austin Van	Engineer & Surveyor
23	OJG 424	1958	Austin Van	Rodent Control
25	2721 FN	1962	Morris Van	Garage
26	EKL 667C	1965	Austin Van	Engineer & Surveyor
27	GKO 526D	1966	Austin Van	Treasurer
28	GKO 527D	1966	Austin Van	Treasurer
30	WJG 746	1961	Fordson	Refuse Disposal
31	1476 FN	1962	Fordson	Sewage Works

TABLE 1

Number of main water supply lines
 Number of supply lines from other
 sources

Station No.

Number of supply lines
 in station

STATION LIST

Station No.	Name	Address	Water	Supply
1
2
3
4
5
6
7
8
9
10
11
12
13
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99
100

