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London NW1 2BE UK  
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BRIDGE-BLEAN RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL

ANNUAL REPORT

of the

SENIOR PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR

for the year

1968

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Chairman of the Council

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

Public Health Committee, 1968

Chairman

Councillor J.F. Montgomery

Vice Chairman

Councillor A.R. Palmer

Councillor SQ./LD. D.E. Breed

Councillor E.T. Bumpus

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Councillor E. Murrery

Councillor R.D. Neame

Councillor L.G.S. Shirley

Ex Officio Members


Councillor Dr. 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--





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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 .. .. . W.H. Chantler

Clerk/Typist .. .. . Miss M. Cox

General Assistant/Clerical Assistant .. .. . W.T. Smith

--ooOoo--

Clerk of the Council

Treasurer

Engineer & Surveyor

I.F. Soilleux, Esq.,

B.G.S. Haste, Esq.

P.J. Thackray, Esq.

--ooOoo--

Offices

Public Health Department  
Council Offices  
41 Old Dover Road  
(Entrance from Cossington Road)  
Canterbury.

Telephone: Canterbury 66411

Offices of the  
Medical Officer  
of Health

15a Dane John,  
Canterbury.  
Telephone: Canterbury 64412

Depot

Garage,  
Mill Lane,  
Bridge

Telephone: Bridge 302



February, 1969

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

The tone of my opening remarks for my Annual Report for 1967 was one of frustration both experienced and anticipated. I am pleased to report however, that the year of 1968 turned out to be anything but frustrating.

In the field of public cleansing great advances have been made in the programme for changing over to paper sacks and I hope that it will be possible to implement the final stage in the Spring of 1969. The calls on the special collection service have increased and many sites have been cleared of litter. It is not surprising therefore that improvements to existing arrangements whereby ratepayers can deposit unwanted articles has been deferred.

With an additional cesspool emptier in operation our service over the last two or three months has improved tremendously and my staff have probably welcomed the respite from complaints of aggrieved residents waiting for this service.

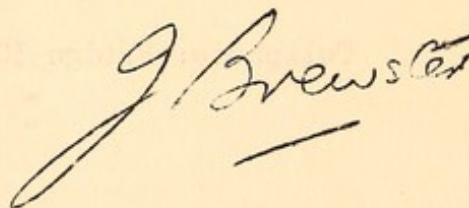
Public health work has continued at a steady pace. It is anticipated that a new Housing Act will arrive on the Statute Book during 1969 to deal mainly with the improvement of houses and provide a fairer rent structure.

There should, of course, be the publication of other long awaited reports in 1969 which might give us an idea as to the future of Local Government and also the Public Health Inspector. Whatever the future proposals might be it is our duty to continue to serve our present ratepayers and to improve services and living conditions as far as financial resources will allow. To this end many residents in Chartham at least, can look forward to having 'mod cons' readily at hand in the months ahead. Discussions will also take place on the provision of a central depot which is well overdue and cannot under any pretext be classed as a luxury item.

Throughout the year under review, there have been no internal staff changes and few external changes. I would like to place on record my thanks to the staff for their support and also to the members of the Council for their interest in Public Health and Cleansing.

I am,

Your obedient servant

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read 'J. Brewster'. The signature is written in a cursive style with a long, sweeping underline.



## H O U S I N G

### Sub-standard Houses

As you know following active work in the late 1950's and early 1960's this Council have no serious slum clearance problem as compared with many industrial towns. It is estimated, however, that approximately 200 properties do fall short of the standard for a fit house by reason of disrepair, dampness, unsatisfactory drainage and so on. To the best of my knowledge the tenants of these properties are reasonably happy with their accommodation probably for one or more of the following reasons.

- (a) Low controlled rent which enables them to spend more on other things.
- (b) Their accommodation is in an area of their choice and perhaps has a degree of seclusion.
- (c) Alternative accommodation in most cases can only be offered by the Local Authority on an estate, at a higher rent and probably in another village.

Experience has shown that over a period of time sub-standard properties gradually become upgraded, usually by reason of

- (a) Purchase by the tenant
- (b) Owner obtaining vacant possession
- (c) Provision of main drainage
- (d) Complaint to Local Authority should living conditions deteriorate further.

In view of the fact that the housing waiting list contains few applications from tenants of these technically unfit houses, it would seem reasonable to mark time until more houses are available for letting. It is appreciated of course that the situation must always be kept under review and appropriate action taken where necessary. 10 houses were represented during the year which is slightly up on figures for the previous two years.

### Improvement Areas

I had hoped to report more progress in the field of improvement work under the 1964 Housing Act but the time spent on introducing two paper sack schemes with subsequent supervision has meant that this work has suffered. No new areas were designated and little work has been done in the areas already designated.



H O U S I N G (Contd.)

Improvement Areas (contd.)

However, as a result of a survey in Harbledown, it was found that an owner of a number of sub-standard houses was considering carrying out improvements and I am pleased to report that three houses were improved this year and work is in progress on a fourth. As a result of press publicity to my report last year, five applications from tenants outside designated areas have been received. Appropriate notices have been served in respect of three properties and I am confident that a scheme will shortly be submitted for the remaining two plus two other cottages in the same terrace. I am also confident that two earlier applications from tenants could lead to the improvement of a terrace of six, although matters are complicated by the presence of two owner/occupiers.

Improvement Grants

Applications for both grants have risen this year, 39 Discretionary as opposed to 35 and 17 Standard against 12. There was however, a slowing down of completed work. (last years figures in brackets).

Discretionary

Completed - 31 (62)                      Average Grant £332 (£331)

Standard

Completed - 8 (22)                      Average Grant £194 (£259)

The bulk of applications still apply to property which is owner/occupied or let on a service tenancy. This has been the pattern nationally ever since grants were introduced as long ago as 1948 although it was the early 1950's before the scheme got under way. Since then there have been many changes by way of statute. Standards have been altered, new grants introduced and several relaxations of conditions and soon there is to be another new Act increasing the maximum discretionary grant of £400 to probably £1,000. It is strange that although building costs have risen, the £400 maximum has remained for 20 years despite many approaches to the Ministry by various Associations. The likely rise in my opinion is far too steep and will increase the rate burden. I think one is entitled to ask whether there is a possibility of public money being wasted in order to encourage the use of grants. As far as I am concerned one of the grants is still 'at the discretion of the Local Authority' and we are perfectly within our rights in only paying grant on a reasonable scheme at reasonable prices. This will undoubtedly lead to arguments between applicant, Local Authority and architect or builder regarding their application and in a few cases will require the submission of two schemes - one of which will eventually be carried out, and the other will be purely for calculating a fair and reasonable grant.



H O U S I N G (Contd.)

Improvement Grants (Contd.)

The revised maximum grant will also increase the time spent on checking estimates. With so many of the present day schemes well and truly exceeding £800 there has not been the need to carry out a detailed examination of estimates in each case.

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

The usual number of complaints of food, unfit or containing foreign bodies, were received. It was considered necessary to institute legal proceedings under Section 2 in respect of only one case when fines totalling £40 plus costs were involved. This case in connection with the sale of mouldy muffins, once again highlights the need for some form of coding known to the shopkeeper or applied by him, preferably the latter. It seems to be the practise of shopkeepers and managers of all types of premises to give the wholesalers complete freedom regarding stocks of bread and confectionery items even though it is the former who are held responsible for selling food not of the nature, or substance or quality demanded by the purchaser. Whilst agreeing that the system, whereby the wholesaler is supposed to remove all stock of a certain age, does ensure to a **great degree, that the purchaser is receiving fresh food, one wonders what happens to the stock removed.** If the van driver is working on a commission basis, isn't he likely to try and dump these products at a shop with a rapid turnover - say a supermarket! I can't see any firm flooding the market if they have a high return rate of stale items for destruction.

One other interesting complaint concerned a catty odour in a tin of skinless lambs tongues. The complaint was certainly justified and was further confirmed by the County Analyst who put forward reasons for this peculiarity. Following correspondence with the Canners, the complaint is now with the manufacturers of the can who are making further enquiries following consultation with the Analyst. At the time of writing this report the cause has not been traced. Other test purchases of this product were satisfactory.

D R A I N A G E A N D S E W E R A G E

During the year the Broad Oak Scheme was completed. Conditions especially with regard to drainage will be greatly improved in this area which is on a clay sub-soil and contains many underground springs. The greatest effect will be felt by the occupants of some 120 caravans.

The Hersden scheme is now nearing completion. Although the number of properties involved is very small everyone of them was experiencing drainage problems. As a result of this scheme it is confidently expected that four of the houses will be improved and upgraded.



## DRAINAGE AND SEWERAGE (Contd.)

Work is also well under way on the Chartham Scheme and in the latter part of 1969 savings on cesspool emptying should begin to take effect. Although the work load in one field will be reduced there will then be ample scope for upgrading many properties, especially in the Shalmsford Street area.

Although the preparatory work on the Nailbourne and South Western Parishes schemes continues it is unlikely that any saving will be felt for a number of years. One of the most difficult enquiries to answer, and it usually occurs at least once a week from people being forced to consider new or improved drainage systems, is, 'when can we expect main drainage'. Fortunately there is no serious Public Health problem in the southern part of the district due mainly to the chalk sub-soil. Only continual cesspool emptying in the Waltham and Bossingham areas keeps matters in hand together with the fact that a large percentage of the dwellings are fairly new and have large watertight cesspools. The cost of emptying however is high due to transportation costs as it takes one vehicle nearly a day to deal with one house.

## PUBLIC CLEANSING

### Cesspool Emptying

The additional machine, which brings our fleet up to 8 full and 1 part time, came into use during the summer with the result that towards the end of the year overtime working had been reduced and the delay in dealing with requests was no longer than a week. In addition we were also able to undertake work on a rechargeable basis.

The limited relief given by the completion of main drainage schemes was cancelled out by the new development with watertight cesspools of up to four times the capacity of the cesspools replaced in the sewered areas. I can see no reason why it should not be possible to make a start on reducing the fleet size in 1970 as by this date the Chartham Scheme should be well under way and perhaps completed. The opportunity to reduce the fleet arrives in 1971 when one of the machines is due for replacement. By a strange coincidence two drivers are also due to retire during this period.

The single manning continues to operate successfully enabling each driver to earn approximately 30/-d a week extra. This is one kind of bonus scheme which can be accurately measured and is where the employee shares in the saving made. I understand that the situation as far as the Trade Union side is concerned is far from closed.



PUBLIC CLEANSING (Contd.)

Pail Emptying

There has been no appreciable change in the service. The removal of a few pails in the Broad Oak area hasn't brought about a large saving as the vehicle still has to visit the outskirts of the area recently sewered. Completion of Chartham of course will considerably reduce the 305 pail closets.

Refuse Collection

Approximately 1,775 properties in the Chartham, Thanington and Waltham areas went over to paper sacks in May, followed by a further 1,750 properties in the Bridge, Barham sector in October. Some 6,000 properties are now on sacks and the balance of approximately 2,570 properties in the Sturry sector, we hope will complete our programme in the Spring of 1969. In the main, this improvement is welcomed by a large majority of ratepayers but it is not unusual to come across certain people who were satisfied with the old scheme and feel that the Council are wasting money. It will take many years for them to get used to putting refuse in a sack despite the widespread use of paper sacks in the world today.

A small experiment with plastic sacks was carried out in the Chartham area for several weeks during the late summer. Although householders appeared to have no preference for paper or plastic, members of the scavenging staff were all quite emphatic about their dislike for plastic. The main problem is one of wetness. Plastic does not absorb the rain or early morning dew, therefore on a large number of occasions the collection of sacks was an unpleasant task. In addition the plastic became slippery to handle. Apart from price and storage requirements there would seem to be no other advantages as even plastic is subject to animal attack.

At the present time a small experiment is under way in Hoath using plastic bins with a paper sack as a liner. This form of unit shows a great price reduction and of course is fully protected from animal attack. Although the bin has a large hole in the bottom to assist ventilation it could no doubt be utilised for storage purposes and I am wondering whether the replacement rate would create problems. The galvanised unit appears to have limited alternative use and to date we have only lost two. Should the plastic bin with sack liner be successful, then these could be installed in the last phase of our programme and with weather protection from the bin, perhaps a trial on plastic sack liners could also be carried out.

Pressure in the paper sack field at the moment is so great that prices have actually been reduced over the years to the customers advantage. The initial outlay still prevents a number of Authorities changing to sacks and so the Council are to be congratulated in taking such a big step when they did.



PUBLIC CLEANSING (Contd.)

Refuse Collection (Contd.)

Our service to remove bulky articles, I am pleased to report, continues to expand. Wherever possible, this work is 'slotted in' during the week but maintenance and loss of vehicles during the week due to accident repairs usually means that these jobs have to be done at overtime rates on Saturday. Although one is continually aiming at reduced overtime working, it is an incentive to a lot of our staff to remain on the payroll when they know that some overtime is forthcoming. As a matter of interest 435 hours nearly 11 weeks with one vehicle have been spent on the removal of additional items during the year. Elsewhere I have reported on the use of containers. I am still of the opinion that if containers were centrally situated a large number of people who only have a few articles to dispose of would rather take them to the container than have the bother of making collection arrangements, which in some cases gets quite complicated, especially, when people are moving house and don't want to pile the refuse outside awaiting our convenience. Another problem is the disposal of garden refuse. Although the Working Party Report on Refuse Collection was of the opinion that this form of refuse should be collected, I am still of the opinion that in a rural district this should be resisted as far as possible. With smaller gardens, atmospheric pollution and bonfire nuisances, one must admit that for some people this is a problem. Wouldn't they prefer to use a container with a clear conscience?

Salvage

Paper sales for the year amounted to 222 tons producing revenue of £2,009 which is up on last year (£1,905).

It would seem that this is about our peak. Every attempt was made to keep collecting and baling costs down to the barest minimum but circumstances do force us to resort to overtime Saturday baling from time to time. I do not think at this stage that we should attempt any large scale advertising campaign for salvage as any successful appeal could have serious repercussions. Your recent visit to the depot will have highlighted our limited storage space and difficulties of unloading waste and loading baled paper.

Disposal

Following consideration of our disposal problems a meeting with our neighbours was called early in the year. All of them appeared to have ample tipping space for a number of years and what with Local Government re-organisation in the wind and financial restrictions, did not feel that now was the time to consider joint disposal especially as this must increase transportation costs.



PUBLIC CLEANSING (Contd.)

Disposal (Contd.)

Another of our tips (Oldridge) was closed for refuse disposal towards the end of the year. Although there is ample room to tip above ground contours, this operation would be expensive and I would prefer to keep this up my sleeve in case of emergency. Oldridge will continue in use for the disposal of cesspool contents and as a reception area for cars and will take on a new role when we dispose of sludge from Chartham. One big change in the Oldridge scene during the year was the removal of over 150 derelict cars by a Ramsgate firm. Prior to this, many other attempts to dispose of these vehicles had failed and one was beginning to wonder whether we would ever see a cleared site again. Officers concerned with the disposal of old vehicles from East Kent have met to discuss this problem and will probably be meeting again in the near future. It would seem that the setting up of plant on a County basis in East Kent and West Kent is the only solution. Most Local Authorities are getting by at the moment but the number of abandoned vehicles is increasing and may soon swamp the resources of local scrap dealers. I also think it is high time that Planning Authorities designated areas which can be used for the storage of vehicles pending disposal.

Our Chartham tip is nearing completion and will probably be completed this year. Unless alternative sites are found the whole of the districts refuse will be going to Sturry which will probably not please the Sturry residents even though with the help of an atrocious summer we managed not to cause any offence during the year. At least we didn't get any complaints and from regular site visits matters seemed to be well in hand. The earth moving equipment and tipper lorry were invaluable in this respect.

General

I am sure that this year we have had the unenviable record number of accidents, 38. Fortunately no loss of life was involved and injury to our staff amounted to no more than shock and bruising. I am pleased to report however, that apart from minor manoeuvring accidents in confined spaces our staff appear to be free of blame. The loss of a compression type of refuse vehicle for several weeks, however, can prove to be a headache as although we have a spare vehicle to cover most days you can't get 30 or 40 yards of refuse into a 10 cu.yd side loader.

We have had no problems regarding recruitment and our annual turnover appears to have been lower this year. The year has also been free of retirements. Sickness amounted to 499 days which is an improvement on the 572 days last year.

During the year conditions at the depot further deteriorated and it came as no surprise when the Police made an informal approach in



PUBLIC CLEANSING (Contd.)

General (Contd.)

connection with the parking of vehicles and traffic congestion. Investigations are now under way in connection with a central depot. Having 'made do' with these very inefficient buildings for a number of years, I am sure that the present state of affairs cannot continue for a much longer period. I think that if it was possible to accurately measure the annual financial loss, due to circumstances over which we have no control, the cost of providing a new depot would appear small in comparison.

WATER SUPPLY

Swimming Pools

Routine bacteriological sampling of pool waters was stopped for 1968 and a more frequent check on the chemistry of the pool water carried out in its place. The reason for this was to ensure that chlorine was always available in the water to counteract contamination and was not reduced by chemical reaction. Surprising results were found necessitating treatment of the pool with large quantities of acid.

Very often the day to day running of swimming pools is left to a person or persons who have had no detailed instruction in elementary chemical pool control.

It is known that other County Councils run short courses on the control of swimming pools and I feel that the institution of such courses by Kent County Council would be of value in safeguarding what is becoming a very popular part of the school curriculum. In our district we have seven known private pools and ten school or semi-public pools.

MOVEABLE DWELLINGS

Individual caravans continue to be licensed following the granting of Town and Country Planning permission. Very few problems arise from the use of these single dwellings.

The development of the Blean site continues and with the installation of pumping equipment the whole site is now drained to the sewer. With the Broad Oak sites also on main drainage the major headache for any caravan site, that of inadequate drainage, has been removed.

One annual event which is causing concern to your Engineer and Surveyor and myself is the use of land at Womenswold and Harbledown for winter parking by gypsies or other travellers. At the present time the roadside verges and British Railway land alongside the



MOVEABLE DWELLINGS (Contd.)

Whitehall Road is accommodating nearly a dozen vans, one or two of which are in the Canterbury area. The Whitehall area is damp and low lying and is subject to flooding. When the vans move off to seasonal agricultural work, litter and scrap cars are usually left behind. To attempt to harras the occupants only transfers the problem to another part of the district or to a neighbouring Authority and a number of the occupants make no effort to comply with our requests regarding sanitation and clean sites.

Under part II of the Caravan Sites Act, 1968, County Councils are required to provide suitable sites and District Councils will be required to manage them. There are also powers for the removal of unlawful encampments. Unfortunately these powers have not yet come into force as it is understood that the Government are reluctant to place further financial burdens on Local Authorities' shoulders at a time of financial restraint. It would seem therefore that the gypsy problem is with us a bit longer, and Kent seems to be the County most affected. Although I am a believer in providing sites I think they ought to be financed at National and not County level.

CIVIC AMENITIES ACT, 1967

This small but very important Act, which could do a lot to improve the appearance of the countryside, came into force in August, 1967 although certain sections did not come into effect until 1968.

Part III is of most interest to me dealing with the provision of refuse dumps, increased penalties for dumping and the removal of abandoned vehicles.

(a) Provision of refuse dumps By July 1968, Local Authorities were required to provide places reasonably accessible to persons resident in that area. Unfortunately Ministry circulars have given little assistance on the definition of the phrase underlined above with the result that the interpretation of this section varies from district to district. Many Authorities take the view that their refuse tips meet the requirements. Whilst agreeing to the view that tips could be used, despite the problems involved, it did seem to me that our three existing tips situated at the Northern end of our district could not be classed as accessible to the residents of say Waltham, Barham or Womenswold. I therefore recommended the re-opening of part of our Barham tip and the establishment of an area in Waltham/Petham. These five areas would be within a three mile radius of any village.

I will not go into the 'pros and cons' of container vehicles, as the discussion on this topic is still fresh in the memory. There are however, many advantages and some disadvantages of this system and it will be interesting to observe its use in other rural districts. I think that as far as urban areas are concerned their uses have



C I V I C   A M E N I T I E S   A C T,   1 9 6 7

been well established and proved. At this stage one wonders whether Parliament would have achieved greater success with the litter problem by insisting on Local Authorities providing a bulky articles refuse collection service rather than insisting on the provision of refuse dumps.

In conclusion I can say that refuse tips must be open outside working hours to be effective. This of course means that there is no continual supervision and is a point with which our Insurance Company are wrestling ~~with~~. Unsupervised tips, of course, soon become well known, attracting trade refuse from a wide area as well as persons engaged on 'totting'.

(b) Dumping of litter Although the penalty has been increased considerably the problem still remains of catching the dumper in the act. As you know this year a resident did act on our behalf and a successful prosecution ensued. The defendant had no means and was bound over. I think I can be forgiven if I enquire "was it worth it" when I look back on two mornings in court, the transporting of the witness to the court and solicitors office from Broad Oak on market days during the summer, and the identification of the defendant before the case could be heard - all very time consuming!

Considerable time has been spent in following up names and addresses found in litter deposits necessitating journeys outside of our district, to no avail. The unwary who might have admitted the dumping would probably have faced legal action for their honesty with the resultant press publicity - too small for educational purposes but probably too large for the defendant. Following discussions with the Clerk, I have now decided to refer to the Police any evidence found in a deposit of litter. They are, after all, trained in matters of interrogation and have the organisation to obtain information from further afield.

(c) Removal and disposal of abandoned vehicles During the month of January the sections relating to the above came into effect. The procedure for dealing with this type of vehicle is lengthy and requires the serving of many notices. As far as I am personally concerned the difficulty is in deciding whether a vehicle should be classified as a 'runner' or a 'wreck'. Vehicles in the former classification require to be removed to store and enquiries as to ownership made of the Police and sometimes the taxation department and the H.P. Information office. The reasons for such exhaustive enquiries are necessary in case the vehicle has been stolen and in any case is a safeguard against vehicles being removed for disposal due to unsatisfactory parking or storage arrangements. It was our experience for vehicles abandoned on lay-bys to be converted from the 'runner' to 'wreck' classification overnight by the unlawful removal of parts.



CIVIC AMENITIES ACT, 1967 (Contd.)

During the year 33 abandoned vehicles were recorded but it was not necessary to remove any vehicles to store. 17 vehicles were removed mostly by a local contractor on our behalf. 3 cases were passed to the Engineer and Surveyor for action and there are 8 outstanding removal orders. The speed by which these vehicles can be removed will be improved when delivery is taken of the new container vehicle which will have provision for handling derelict cars.

NOISE ABATEMENT ACT, 1960

Complaints of noise have increased this year but in no case was it felt that a nuisance existed although one or two cases are still under review. The public are of course becoming more aware of noise and rightly don't want it to get out of hand. It is most regretting to see the number of people who appear to make few, if any, enquiries before buying a house. I well recall a comment of your Engineer and Surveyor at a public meeting two years ago that more attention and thought is given to the buying of a new suit or dress than to buying a house, which for most people is the biggest purchase they make in a lifetime. So many complaints are from house purchasers who have suddenly discovered a neighbouring factory or industrial process which has been in existence for years. Although it is possible that the industrial process was first on the scene this is no reason for them not to try and minimise noise, but on the other hand they can't very well be expected to resite their plant or spend thousands of pounds in an attempt to reduce noise which to most people is not exceptional.

The types of complaints received covered noisy parties, earth moving machines, grit drying plant, paint spraying and car repairs and boat building, whether as a hobby or a business. Most of these required visits at all hours. I did however, draw the line on the all night party complaint and decided that the Police had better powers for dealing with this matter.

OFFICES, SHOPS & RAILWAY PREMISES

The routine of inspecting premises to which this Act applies has continued during the year as required by legislation. New Regulations issued dealt with hoists, lifts and the Minister also issued guidance on the standard of lighting rather than make further regulations.

Although the issue of some standard is of use when checking premises and bearing in mind that situations vary, it is still felt that the minimum levels of illumination suggested could have been raised to a higher level. Some improvements have been effected in shops during the year many by the installation of flourescent tubes in replacement of filament lamps.

No accidents have been reported during the year, this being the fifth since the Act came into operation that this has happened.



R O D E N T   C O N T R O L

Complaints of infestations were markedly reduced over the year, being particularly noticeable during the late summer, which is usually the time that complaints of wasps take over, but in this instance only 15 wasp complaints were received compared with 76 in 1967. The Survey of adjoining properties was improved but we have not yet been able to introduce planned surveys of the district.

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

During the course of the departments activities it is most unusual for the year to pass without recording an event which stands out by reason of its peculiar nature. This year is no exception and arose from a comment that one of our ratepayers was living in a cave. As a result of a visit, more out of curiosity than anything else, it transpired that an owner of a modern bungalow had constructed a two level shelter most of which was underground, and by choice was living therein. The lower level was the bedroom and the upper a dining-cum-living-room. The structure measured some 10' long, 5' wide and the bedroom was no higher than 5'6". Washing and toilet facilities had also been provided and these too were "open air".

Consideration of the legal position revealed that little action could be taken by the Department thus emphasising to some extent that this man's home was his castle, albeit an underground one.

Also contained in the statistics at the end of my report you will notice that 1,100 gallons of slimming milk were surrendered for condemnation and disposed of at one of our refuse tips. Apparently the ladies in this part of Kent weren't so figure conscious as to be prepared to accept the slight change in the taste of this milk brought about by the extraction of the fat content and addition of certain vitamins.



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 .. .. .	Nil
New houses under construction by the Council .. .. .	40
New houses erected by Private Enterprise .. .. .	167
Houses demolished under Housing Acts .. .. .	5
Houses demolished by other persons .. .. .	2
Houses otherwise closed for human habitation under Housing Acts .. .. .	4
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 .. .. .	123
(b) Number of inspections made for that purpose .. .. .	345
(c) Number of miscellaneous Housing visits .. .. .	158
2. Number of dwelling houses found to be unfit for human habitation (Section 16) .. .. .	10
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)	10
5. (a) Number inspected under the Public Health Acts .. .. .	21
(b) Number of inspections made for that purpose .. .. .	224
6. Number of informal notices served .. .. .	17
7. Number of formal notices served .. .. .	Nil
8. Number of cases of overcrowding known to the Local Authority at 31st December, 1967. .. .. .	5
9. Number of such cases identified during the year 1968 .. .. .	Nil
10. Number of cases of overcrowding at 31st December, 1968 .. .. .	4







FACTORIES AND WORKPLACES

Visits and Action

1. Inspection for purposes of provisions as to health

Premises	Number on Register	Numbers of		
		Inspections	Written Notices	Occupiers Prosecuted
(i) Factories in which Secs. 1,2,3,4 and 6 are to be enforced by Local Auth.	1	2	-	-
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Sec.7 is enforced by Local Auth.	60	11	-	-
(iii) Other premises in which Sec.7 is enforced by Local Authority (exclud. outworkers premises).	8	-	-	-
TOTALS	69	13	-	-

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.	
Standard of Cleanliness (S.1)	-	-	-	-	-
Overcrowding (S.2)	-	-	-	-	-
Reasonable temperature (S.3)	-	-	-	-	-
Adequate ventilation (S.4)	-	-	-	-	-
Effective 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)	-	-	-	-	-
TOTAL	1	1	-	-	-



VEHICLE FLEET

<u>Vehicle No.</u>	<u>Index No.</u>	<u>Registered</u>	<u>Make</u>	<u>Duties</u>
1	GFN 779C	1965	Bedford	Cesspool Emptying
2	OJG 875F	1968	Karrier	Cesspool Emptying
3	8227 FN	1963	Bedford	Cesspool Emptying
4	CFN 306B	1964	Bedford	Cesspool Emptying
5	XJG 762	1961	Bedford	Cesspool Emptying
8	KFN 968D	1966	Bedford	Cesspool Emptying
9	MJG 264F	1967	Bedford	Cesspool Emptying
10	NFN 516F	1967	Bedford	Cesspool W/NS
11	UFN 802	1960	Karrier	Refuse Collection
12	SFN 286	1959	Bedford	Refuse Collection
13	DKR 596C	1965	Dennis	Refuse Collection
15	49 WKP	1963	Dennis	Refuse Collection
16	MJG 784F	1967	Karrier	Refuse Collection
17	OFN 897F	1968	Karrier	General duties
18	PJG 137G	1968	Ford Van	Engineer & Surveyor Direct Lab.
20	YJG 396	1961	Austin Van	Engineer & Surveyor and Public Health
21	MFN 273E	1967	Austin Van	Foreman - Public Health
23	PJG 373G	1968	Ford Van	Engineer & Surveyor Direct Lab.
24	MFN 212E	1967	Austin Van	Engineer & Surveyor Sewer Maint.
25	2721 FN	1962	Morris Van	Garage
26	EKL 667C	1965	Austin Van	Engineer & Surveyor Clerk of Works
27	GKO 526D	1966	Austin Van	Engineer & Surveyor Sewer Maint.
28	GKO 527D	1966	Austin Van	Treasurer
29	LFN 962E	1967	Commer Van	Engineer & Surveyor Sewer Maint.
30	PJG 484G	1968	Ford Van	Engineer & Surveyor Direct Lab.
31	1476 FN	1962	Fordson	Sewage Works
32	NKM 686F	1968	Weatherill	Refuse Disposal
33	OFN 562F	1968	Bedford	Cesspool Emptying