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BOROUGH OF CALNE.

THE

ANNUAL REPORT

of the

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

and

SENIOR PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR

for the

YEAR ENDED

31st DECEMBER

- 1959 -

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OFFICERS AND STAFF OF THE PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT.

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH: 5, High Street, Chippenham, Wilts. Tel. Chippenham 2821.	C.L. Broomhead, T.D., M.D., B.Ch., D.P.H. (also Medical Officer of Health for the Boroughs of Chippenham and Malmesbury and the Rural Districts of Calne & Chippenham and Malmesbury).
SENIOR PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR. :	C.C. Dowding, Cert. S.I.E.B., Meat & Other Foods Cert. R.S.I. (who in addition holds the post of Borough Surveyor).
ADDITIONAL PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR. :	E. Day, Cert. S.I.E.B., Meat & Other Foods Cert. R.S.I.
SECRETARY TO THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH:	S.G.V. Williamson, Cert. R.I.P.H.H.

- - - - - - - - -

The two Committees of the Borough Council dealing directly with Public Health matters are:-

(i) Health, Housing and Town Planning Committee

and

(ii) Water and Sewerage Committee.

- - - - - - - - -

The Mayor, Aldermen & Councillors,
Calne Borough Council.

Mr. Mayor and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to present my Annual Report for the year ending 31st. December, 1959.

The Public Health Officers Regulations, 1959 require, inter alia, that as soon as practicable after the 31st. December in each year, a Medical Officer of Health shall make an annual report to the Local Authority, for the year ending on the sanitary circumstances, the sanitary administration and the vital statistics of the district, containing in addition to any other matters upon which he may consider it desirable to report, such information as may from time to time be required by the Minister.

The Minister regards these reports as an "essential and valuable appraisal of the state of the public health" and they have a wide distribution, i.e. to the Ministry of Health, Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries & Food, Ministry of Housing & Local Government and H.M. Inspector of Factories.

Much of the content of this report, must of necessity, be obtained from other departments of the Authority, i.e. Mr. Dowding, the Council's Senior Public Health Inspector and Surveyor, and Mr. C. Gunning, Water Manager.

It is only on receipt of reports from these officers and the Vital Statistics from the Registrar General that the required appraisal and report can be made.

It is most gratifying to record that the more serious infections were conspicuous by their absence. No cases of Diphtheria, Poliomyelitis or Food Poisoning were confirmed during the year.

The number of notifications of Scarlet Fever however showed some increase over the preceding year. This infection is difficult to control as the cases notified are merely an expression of a generalised streptococcal infection in the public at large.

No cases of Tuberculosis, either Pulmonary or Glandular were notified and no deaths from this infection occurred.

Details of the water supply to the Borough and the means of sewage disposal and housing statistics will be found in the substance of this report.

The intensive campaign carried out by Mr. Dowding, the Senior Public Health Inspector to improve the storage arrangements of domestic refuse in adequate dustbins, together with the intensive routine inspections of premises engaged in the production, sale or distribution of food, have undoubtedly contributed to the satisfactory state of public health and the freedom of the public from intestinal infections during the year under review.

I have the honour to be,

Mr. Mayor and Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,
C.L. BROOMHEAD.

GENERAL STATISTICS.

Area (in acres) 1276

Population 6490

Number of inhabited houses at end of 1959 according to the Rate Book 2077

Rateable Value at 1.4.59 . . . . . £74, 879

Sum represented by the Penny Rate 58/59. . . . . £269. 19. 1d.

VITAL STATISTICS.

LIVE BIRTHS

BIRTHS	MALE	FEMALE	TOTAL
Legitimate	54	54	108
Illegitimate	1	2	3
Total Live Births	55	56	111

Crude Birth Rate for the Borough . . . . . 17.1 per 1000 of the population

Adjusted Birth Rate for the Borough . . . . . 16.9 per 1000 of the population

Comparative Birth Rate for England & Wales . . . . . 16.5 per 1000 of the population.

Members of the Armed Forces stationed in the area are included in the population figure shown under the heading "General Statistics". To make an approximate allowance for the way in which the sex and age distribution of the local population differs from England & Wales as a whole, the crude birth and death rates for the Borough are to be multiplied by a "comparability Factor" given by the Registrar General. The above statistics have been so corrected.

The adjusted Birth Rate for 1959 shows only a minimal decrease compared with the rate for 1958 which was given as 17.7 per 1000 of the population.

STILL BIRTHS

Five still births were recorded during 1959. The rate per 1000 total live and still births equivalents 43.1. The comparative rate for England & Wales for 1959 is given as 20.7. The number of still births is too low to permit of any conclusions.

INFANT MORTALITY.

Deaths of Infants under 1 year of age.

	MALE	FEMALE	TOTAL
Legitimate	1	2	3
Illegitimate	1	1	2
TOTAL:	2	3	5

Two of the above infants died during their first week of life and the remaining three children died during the first four weeks of life.

Rate per 1000 live births. 45.0

Comparative rate for England & Wales 22.0

The Infant Mortality Rate for the Borough for 1958 was 26.0.

DEATHS.

Deaths recorded in the Borough during 1959 were as follows:-

Males	Females	Total
28	45	73

Crude Death Rate for the Borough . . . . . 11.2 per 1000 of the population

Adjusted Death Rate for the Borough . . . . . 11.3 per 1000 of the population

Comparative Death Rate for England & Wales . . . . . 11.6 per 1000 of the population

Adjusted Death Rate for the Borough (1958) . . . . . 8.68 per 1000 of the population.

ANALYSIS OF CAUSES OF DEATH

	Male	Female	Total
Tuberculosis (respiratory)	-	-	-
Tuberculosis (other)	-	-	-
Syphilitic disease	-	-	-
Diphtheria	-	-	-
Whooping Cough	-	-	-
Meningococcal Infections.	-	-	-
Acute Poliomyelitis	-	-	-
Measles	-	-	-
Other infective & parasitic diseases	-	-	-
Malignant neoplasm, stomach	1	1	2
Malignant neoplasm, lung, bronchus	-	1	1
Malignant neoplasm, breast	-	1	1
Malignant neoplasm, uterus	-	-	-
Other malignant & lymphatic neoplasms	1	4	5
Leukaemia, aleukaemia	-	-	-
Diabetes	1	-	1
Vascular lesions of nervous system	1	10	11
Coronary disease angina	7	3	10
Hypertension with heart disease	-	1	1
Other heart disease	4	12	16
other circulatory disease	1	-	1
Influenza	-	-	-
Pneumonia	-	-	-
Bronchitis	-	3	3
Other diseases of respiratory system	1	1	2
Ulcer of stomach and duodenum	-	-	-
Gastritis, enteritis and diarrhoea	1	-	1
Nephritis and nephrosis	1	-	1
Hyperplasia of prostate	-	-	-
Pregnancy, childbirth, abortion	-	-	-
Congenital malformations	-	1	1
Other defined and ill-defined diseases	6	6	12
Motor Vehicle Accidents	1	1	2
All other accidents	2	-	2
Suicide	-	-	-
Homicide and Operations of War	-	-	-
TOTALS:-	28	45	73

It will be seen from the above table that Heart Disease, Coronary Disease and Cancer collectively accounted for half the deaths registered during 1959.

PREVALANCE OF INFECTIOUS DISEASE.

The following tables show the infectious diseases notified during 1959 together with comparative statistics for preceding years since 1955.

DISEASE.	1955 a	1955 b	1956 a	1956 b	1957 a	1957 b	1958 a	1958 b	1959. a	1959. b
Scarlet Fever	1	1	5	5	23	21	5	5	23	23
Whooping Cough	4	4	38	38	8	8	-	-	11	11
Diphtheria	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Measles	13	13	2	2	230	230	33	33	24	24
Ac. Poliomyelitis (Paralytic)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Ac. Poliomyelitis (Non-Paralytic)	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-
Dysentery	-	-	14	14	19	17	-	-	2	-
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Puerperal Pyrexia	-	-	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-
Smallpox	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Paratyphoid Fever	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Typhoid Fever	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Food Poisoning	-	-	7	7	7	7	-	-	-	-
Erysipelas	-	-	-	-	1	1	1	1	-	-
Pneumonia.	1	1	-	-	-	-	1	1	3	3
TOTALS:-	20	20	67	67	288	284	40	40	64	61

a= Numbers originally notified.
b= Final numbers after correction.

Certain Streptococci (Type 12) may cause a serious inflamation of the kidneys (Nephritis) necessitating a long period of treatment and rest with the subsequent risk of re-infection. It has been suggested that close contacts of such infections should be given Penicillin prophylactically.

Type 12 Streptococci are not inevitably associated with Scarlet Fever and may appear as a cause of an outbreak of "sore throat" or other respiratory infections.

In conjunction with the Public Health Laboratory, Bath, a special watch is to be kept in future on the prevalance of Type 12 strains of streptococci and the possibility of an association between cases of Scarlet Fever and the occurrence of acute Nephritis.

TUBERCULOSIS.

It is very gratifying to record that no cases of Tuberculosis were notified during 1959. Moreover, no deaths due to this disease were registered during the year under review.

Although it is no longer a statutory requirement for Borough and District Councils to keep and maintain a Register of Tuberculous Persons, nevertheless an up-to-date record of all persons notified and confirmed as suffering from this disease is maintained. In addition, comprehensive reports on the environment of cases of tuberculosis, are available. These records continue to provide a valuable index to the incidence of and mortality from Tuberculosis, particularly in relation to housing accommodation. It is most important that Borough & District Councils should exercise their statutory obligations under the Public Health and Housing Acts in the eradication of sub-standard properties.

At the end of 1959, the following cases of notified and confirmed tuberculosis, remained on the Register.

	Males	Females	Total
Pulmonary	15	9	24
Non-Pulmonary	2	2	4
Total	17	11	28

It is understood that the rate per 1000 for notified cases of Tuberculosis (all forms) for the Borough, is given as 4.3. This rate compares very favourably with the rate per 1000 for the County, which has been given as 5.3.

Mass Radiography.

Whilst it was not possible to arrange for a Mobile Mass X-Ray Unit to visit Calne during 1959, provisional arrangements have been made with the Regional Hospital Board for an X-Ray Unit to visit the Town early in 1960.

The National Assistance Act, 1948
Sec. 47. Removal to suitable premises of persons in need of care and attention.

It is very gratifying to record that it was not found necessary during the year to effect the compulsory removal of any person under the provisions of this Act.

DIPHTHERIA IMMUNISATION AND WHOOPING COUGH IMMUNISATION.

The following children received primary immunisation during 1959.

Under 1 year	Ages 1-4 yrs	Ages 5-14 yrs.
116	23	12

TOTAL:- 151

Total immunised child population at 31.12.59

Ages 0-4 yrs	Ages 5-14 yrs	Total
440	[illegible]	1437

VACCINATION.

The following children were vaccinated during 1959.

Under 1 yr : 102 1-4 yrs : 1, 5-15+ yrs. 6: Total 109

TO:- The Mayor, Aldermen and Councillors,
Calne Borough Council.

Mr. Mayor and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to present my Annual Report for the year 1959.

During the year the work of the Department made steady progress. It is with some satisfaction that I am able to report that the Bollings Lane Slum Clearance Scheme was submitted to the Ministry.

In spite of the drought, the water supply proved adequate and no general serious shortages were felt.

It was necessary to establish a new Refuse Tip during the year and this is proving satisfactory.

In the field of food control, much work was done and routine visits were made on all food establishments.

In the sphere of health education, talks have been given to the senior scholars of the Calne Secondary Modern School and it is hoped this co-operation will continue.

Meat inspection takes a large proportion of the Officer's time and it is interesting to note that in spite of an attested area for the County, evidence of Bovine Tuberculosis has increased but this is thought to be due mainly to the slaughter of reactors during the control period. Some concern has been felt due to an increase in the incidence of Cysticercus Bovis, but this phase seems to have passed as no cases were found during the two months preceding the writing of this report.

In conclusion, I would like to thank members of the Council, Mr. Day, the Additional Public Health Inspector and other members of the staff for the support they have given during the year under review.

I am, Mr. Mayor and Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

CLIFFORD C. DOWDING,

Senior Public Health Inspector.

RAINFALL

The rainfall is recorded at the Sewage Disposal Works, the reading being taken at 9.0 a.m. every day. From this information, the following table has been compiled.

MONTH	TOTAL RAINFALL INCHES	GREATEST FALL IN 24 HOURS	NO. OF DAYS WITH .01 OR MORE RECORDED.
January	4.03	.51 (6th)	18
February	0.27	.24 (9th)	4
March	3.34	.63 (3rd)	20
April	2.32	.51 (16th)	14
May	2.26	1.88 (12th)	6
June	0.69	.15 (1st)	13
July	2.46	.64 (27th)	9
August	1.95	.29 (10th)	10
September	0.11	.11 (11th)	1
October	2.00	.72 (26th)	14
November	3.07	.62 (25th)	19
December	6.32	1.01 (14th)	28
	28.82		156

	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	Jun	Jul.	Aug.	Sep.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	TOTAL
Wet Days	14	4	16	13	5	8	8	7	1	11	12	21	117
Rain "	4	4	4	1	1	5	1	3	-	3	7	7	40
Dry "	13	24	11	16	25	17	22	21	29	17	11	3	209

The above figures compare with a total annual rainfall in 1958 of 35.32 and of 29.20 in 1957.

The average rainfall for the previous three years was 30.79 inches and for the previous ten years 31.06 inches.

There were two periods of absolute drought during the year from the 22nd. August until 20th. September and from the 22nd. September until 8th. October. The driest month of the year was September when it rained on one day only - the 22nd. It is of interest to compare the total rainfall of 2.05 inches during August and September with the 7.63 inches of rain during the same months of 1958.

The wettest month of the year was December when 6.32 inches of rain fell.

WATER SUPPLY.

The Water Undertaking has been owned by the Town Council since 1947. The area served by the Calne Water Orders 1882 to 1938 includes the Municipal Borough and the Parish of Calne Without in the Rural District of Calne & Chippenham.

The supply is obtained from the Lower Greensand Springs at Calstone Wellington, about three miles to the South East of the Town in the Rural District of Calne & Chippenham. The water is of good quality and non-plumbo solvent. It is chlorinated at source.

The water is brought to the Borough by 6" x 9" mains and thence it is distributed. The distribution mains vary in size from 2" to 6" and the total length is estimated to be twelve miles.

During the year, in spite of the dry period and increased demand, no serious shortages have occurred.

A new 4" main was laid from London Road to Silver Street to augment the supply to the booster station which delivers water

Water Supply (continued)

to Mile Elm in the Rural District. During September, mechanical failure of the pumping machinery resulted in some shortages in this area but a new type impeller has now been fitted to the pump and no further trouble has arisen.

During the latter part of the year the 9" trunk main was fractured due to corrosion and repairs affected. Negotiations at officer level have taken place during the year to draft the details for a new Water Board Area and these matters have nearly been completed. In consequence the Calne Water Undertaking, like many in neighbouring areas, will be absorbed into the new Water Board.

Samples.

During the year 54 samples of Chlorinated water from the Town's supply were taken and analysed. 52 were found to be satisfactory. The two unsatisfactory samples were obtained from a house using an underground storage chamber and a roof space storage tank and pollution was found to have arisen after the water had left the Council's mains. This underlined the fact that if storage tanks are fitted for any reason they should be properly maintained and cleansed at frequent intervals.

SEWERAGE AND SEWAGE DISPOSAL.

Practically the whole of the developed portion of the Borough is sewered, although owing to difficulty in falls and isolation, there will always be some houses which have to rely on septic tanks or other means.

It is estimated that the percentage of all inhabited houses not connected is less than 3%.

The drying and disposal of sludge still presents a costly item of maintenance and plans are well advanced to enlarge the sludge drying area by 700 square yards at a cost of £2,300.

Local farmers have taken the sludge during the year, and whilst it is true to say that this is not a very acceptable product of sewage treatment, no difficulty has been experienced.

Of all the services administered by the Town Council, the estimated rate requirements in 1959 were higher for sewage disposal than any other - being 3/6.292d.

Sample.

A composite sample of final effluent taken on the 16th. July, 1959 indicated the following:-

Appearance : Pale yellow brown suspended sediment. Earthy and slight sewage smell.

Reaction : pH 8.2

Ammonia (as N)

Free	0.9	parts per million.
Albuminoid	.7	
Chlorine (as chlorides) equivalent to Sodium Chloride.	480	
	793	
Oxygen absorbed 4 hrs	15	
Nitrite	0.6	
Nitrate	21.	
Dissolved Solids	1520	
Suspended Solids	44	
Total Solids	1564	

Sample (continued)

Dissolved Oxygen Absorbed after 5 days incubation (B.O.D.)

= 20

Impurity Figure 11

Stability test: No change when incubated at blood heat 48 hours.

REFUSE COLLECTION AND DISPOSAL.

All refuse is collected weekly by direct labour and although increasing demands are being made, the service has been satisfactorily maintained.

During the year, an extensive campaign was initiated to improve the storage arrangements for domestic refuse. Each house within the Borough was visited and over 2,000 inspections were carried out. An informal notice was sent to the occupier of each house where either an unsatisfactory or defective dustbin was found. It is satisfactory to report that nearly 450 new bins were provided. It is proposed to inspect bins at regular intervals to ensure that the high standard at present achieved is maintained.

The cost of refuse disposal and collection was shown to be 9.280 d per pound included in the rate demand for the year under review.

HOUSING.

The scheme for the proposed clearance area for Bollings Lane was finalised and an order for the Compulsory Purchase of land in and around the area was signed by the Town Council on the 8th. June, 1959. The number of occupied dwellings was 14 and on the specified day the number of inhabitants to be rehoused was 32.

At the time of writing this report, no decision of the Minister of Housing and Local Government has been received.

The following table is compiled from the returns made to the Minister of Housing & Local Government.

Houses Demolished.	Nil
Individual Houses demolished	Nil
Houses Closed.	Nil
Houses in which defects were remedied by informal action.	4

Certificates of Disrepair (Rent Act, 1957)

No applications were received for certificates of disrepair or for any other certificates prescribed by the Act.

Improvement Grants.

The number of discretionary and standard improvement grants made under the Housing Acts 1949 -59 during the year was six. Details are given below.

Improvement Grants (Discretionary)

No.1 amount of grant £ 210.

Standard Grants.

No.5 Total amount of grants £495.

HOUSING (Continued)

Of the five applications for standard grants, three relate to the provision of fixed baths, wash hand basins, hot water supplies and larders and two to the provision of hot water supplies only.

New Properties.

Twenty three bedroomed houses and nine two bedroomed flats were completed for the Council during the year. The rate of Council post war house building is reflected in the following table.

Year	1946-47	-	20
"	1947-48	-	42
"	1948-49	-	2
"	1949-50	-	28
"	1950-51	-	30
"	1951-52	-	44
"	1952-53	-	71
"	1953-54	-	40
"	1954-55	-	29
"	1955-56	-	21
"	1956-57	-	47
"	1957-58	-	47
"	1958-59	-	29
			450

These figures are to the 31st. December, 1959.

One private enterprise house was completed making a total of 146 since 1945.

Sale of Council Houses.

Eleven Council Houses were sold to tenants during the year making a total to 31st. December, 1959 of 29.

Overcrowding.

Cases of overcrowding are dealt with by voluntary interchanging of Council tenancies arranged through the Housing Officer with the consent and encouragement of the Local Authority.

Council's Housing Waiting List.

The number of people on the Council's Housing Waiting List is 143.

RODENT CONTROL - PREVENTION OF DAMAGE BY PESTS ACT, 1949.

For this purpose, the Council employ a part time rodent operator. As usual, the systematic treatment of sewers, refuse tip, the river banks and other municipally owned property was carried out. Warfarin, an anti blood coagulant was employed at all commercial and domestic premises.

The sewer network requires regular attention, prebaiting, followed by acute poisoning is carried out and the bait and poisons are changed as the occasion demands.

The following is a summary of the years work.

Measure of Control by Local Authority.

Type of Property.

	1. L.A.	2. Dwelling	3 Business & others.	4 Tot. 1,2,3.	5 Agricul-tural.
Total Number of Properties in L.A. area.	6	2090	274	2370	9
Number of Properties Inspected as a result of					
(a) Notification		41	9	50	1
(b) Survey	5	260	12	277	2
Total Inspections carried out including re-inspections	23	420	51	494	12
Number of Properties inspected (under 2) found to be infested					
Rats Minor	-	-	1	1	-
Rats Major	5	40	10	55	3
Mice Minor	-	-	-	-	-
Mice Major	-	4	2	6	-
Number of Infested properties treated.	5	44	13	62	3

INSPECTION OF MEAT AND OTHER FOODS.

Two slaughterhouses are now operating within the Borough. One serves the factory of Messrs. C.&.T. Harris (Calne) Ltd., at which the meat inspection is carried out by a part time Veterinary Inspector who reports regularly to the Medical Officer of Health. The other slaughterhouse serves the local butchers and the butchers of several adjoining areas as well as supplying meat for Smithfield Meat Market, London.

The meat inspection at this establishment is carried out by qualified Meat Inspectors who hold the Certificate for Inspection of Meat and Other Foods of the Royal Society of Health.

The number of animals returned under the Statistics of Trade Act, 1947 and the amounts condemned are tabulated as follows in the prescribed form.

INSPECTION OF MEAT AND OTHER FOODS (Continued)

CARCASES INSPECTION AND CONDEMNED 1959 (These figures refer to Messrs. Hawkins Slaughterhouse only).

	Cattle excluding Cows.	Cows	Calves	Sheep Lambs	pigs	goats.
Number killed (if known)	350	21	5115	4099	2421	7
Number inspected	350	21	5115	4099	2421	7
All diseases except Tuberculosis & Cysticerci						
Whole carcases condemned	-	-	12	8	2	-
Carcases of which some part of organ was condemned,	74	3	46	335	296	-
Percentage of the number inspected affected with disease other than tuberculosis and cysticerci.	21.14	14.29	1.13	8.37	12.31	-
Tuberculosis only:						
Whole carcases condemned.	-	-	-	-	1	-
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	26	4	-	-	86	-
Percentage of the number inspected affected with tuberculosis.	7.43	19.05	-	-	3.59	-

Ten cases of Cysticercus Bovis in cattle were found. The infestation was localised and after removal of the affected parts, the carcases were sent for treatment by refrigeration.

The percentage increase and decrease over killings for 1958 is as follows:-

Cattle excluding cows	fall	22%
Cows	fall	25%
Calves	fall	4%
sheep	rise	80%
Pigs	rise	9%

Inspection of Other Foods.

The following foodstuffs (other than home killed meat) were also condemned.

Fruit	161 tins	Fish	24 tins	Sago Pudding	12 tins
Soup	16 tins	Meat	62 tins	Milk & Cream	21 tins
Cream rice	5 tins	Preserves	3 jars & tins	Vegetables	59 tins
Fruit Jelly	2 jars.				

REGISTRATION OF FOOD PREMISES.

Eleven premises in the Borough are registered for the preparation or manufacture of sausages or potted, pressed pickled or preserved foods intended for sale.

Fish.

There are two retailers of fresh fish and two fried fish shops in the District. It has been unnecessary to condemn any fish during the year.

Many traders also retail frozen fish and many other commodities from refrigerated cabinets. This method of storage has much to commend it and appears to be on the increase.

Milk.

Licences issued to Distributors under the Milk Regulations for the year 1959 were as follows:-

1. Dealers licence to use the special designation Tuberculin Tested. 4
2. Supplementary licence to use the special designation Tuberculin Tested. 3
3. Dealer Licence to use the special designation Pasteurised. 2
4. Supplementary licence to use the special designation Pasteurised. 3

Four of the above retailers sell Channel Islands Milk. In all there are four dairymen retailing milk with premises within the Borough and three retailers distributing milk whose premises are in the adjoining Rural District.

Milk is supplied daily, during term, to all schools in the Borough.

The Wiltshire County Council is the Food & Drugs Authority for the area and are responsible for licensing the one Pasteurisation Plant in the town.

Samples.

Milk from all retailers is sampled and passed on to the Public Health Laboratory Service for testing. Each sample from designated milks is subjected to the statutory tests as prescribed in the Regulations. Samples of raw milk are not now submitted for biological examination. The number of samples taken during the year was:-

	Satisfactory	Test Void	Unsatisfactory.
Statutory Test	56	16	6

Ice Cream

At the end of 1959, there were 23 premises registered for the storage and sale of ice cream.

Samples.

68 samples of ice cream were submitted for analysis and placed in the following categories.

Grade 1 - 61 samples.
Grade 2 - 7 samples
Grades 3&4 - Nil.

Ice-Cream (Continued)

Judgement of Ice cream is based on a series of samples. Over a six monthly period, 50% of a vendor's samples should fall into Grade 1. 80% into Grades 1 &2, not more than 20% into Grades 3 and none in Grade 4.

At the end of 1959 there were four manufacturers of ice cream sending their products to premises in Calne whilst mobile vans operate throughout the District during the summer months, some from adjoining areas. Once again the sampling record shows that the ice cream is of a high hygienic quality and, as all samples were purchased as retail sales, it is evident that adequate steps are being taken to ensure that the product is suitably protected during distribution and during storage at the retail shops.

Food Hygiene Regulations, 1955.

All food premises are regularly inspected under the provisions of the above Regulations, and great importance is attached to this work.

56 informal notices have been served and complied with during the year.

There is a total of 89 premises in the Borough where food and drink is manufactured, prepared, supplied or sold, where the requirements of the Food Hygiene Regulations apply.

The premises may be broadly classified as follows. (where more than one trade is carried on, the most prominent trade is given).

Bakehouses	4	Cafes & Snack Bars	2
Confectioners Shops	9	Butchers Shops	6
Fried Fish Shops	2	Grocers Shops	18
Bakers' Shops	2	Meat Manufacturing premises	1
Greengrocers Shops	2	School Kitchens	8
Boarding Houses & Hotels	3	Halls, Canteens & Clubs	18
		Public Houses, Beer Bottling Premises & Off-Licences.	14

Shops

No statutory action has been necessary under the Shops Act, 1950. All shops are inspected from time to time and informal notices have been served with respect to such matters as the provision of seats for female staff, improvements and redecoration of Sanitary Conveniences, the provision of washing facilities and the display of prescribed notices.

Factories Acts, 1937-59.

Prescribed particulars on the administration of the Factories Acts 1937-59 which are required to be furnished by Section 128 (3) of the 1937 Act, with respect to the matters under Parts 1 and V111 which are administered by the District Councils.

Factories Acts 1937-59 (continued)

Premises	No. on Register.	Inspections	Written Notices.	Prosecutions
1. Factories in which Secs. 1,2,3,4, & 6 are to be enforced by L.A.	5	15	5	Nil
2. Factories not included in 1 in which Section 7 is enforced by L.A.	36	87	15	Nil
3. Other Premises in which Sec. 7 is enforced by L.A. (Excluding Out-Workers Premises).	1	1	Nil	Nil.
TOTAL:	42	103	20	Nil.

Cases in which defects were found

	Found	Remedied	Prosecutions
Want of Cleanliness	-	-	-
Overcrowding	-	-	-
Unreasonable Temperature	-	-	-
Inadequate Ventilation	-	-	-
Ineffective drainage of floors	-	-	-
Sanitary Conveniences :			
a Insufficient	2	1 +	-
b Unsuitable or defective	18	19 +	-
c Not separate for sexes	-	-	-

The items indicated with an asterisk includes work carried out in 1959 to remedy defects found in 1958.

Outworkers.

There are no outworkers within the Borough and no firms sending out work.

It will be seen from the aforegoing that particular attention has been paid to premises to which the Factories Acts apply.

Twenty informal notices were served and although a high proportion of these related to improvements to existing sanitary accommodation, in some cases the accommodation was found to be of a poor form of construction or without suitable ventilated lobbies and the owners were urged to construct new water closets or to carry out major alterations.

Inspection of the District.

The following is a summary of the year's work in accordance with the provisions of the Public Health Officers Regulations, 1959.

Inspection of the District (Continued)

Visits under the Food & Drugs Act, 1955		812
Building Byelaws Administration	Drains	51
	Others	616
Visits under the Housing Acts 1957		61
Visits under the Factories Acts 1937-59		103
Visits under the Shops Act, 1950		70
Prevention of Damage by Pests Act, 1949		506
Visits under Public Health Act, 1936		2320