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Contributors

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RURAL DISTRICT

OF

CALNE & CHIPPENHAM

1957

RURAL DISTRICT

of

CALNE AND CHIPPENHAM

THE

ANNUAL REPORT

of the

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

and

SENIOR PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR

for the

YEAR ENDING 31st December, 1957.

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PUBLIC HEALTH OFFICERS OF THE AUTHORITY.

(a) MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

C.L. Broomhead, M.D., B.Ch., D.P.H.

also Medical Officer of Health for the Boroughs of Calne, Chippenham and Malmesbury, and the Rural District of Malmesbury.

(b) SENIOR PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR.

+ H.J. Taylor, Cert. S.I.B., M.R.S.H., M.A.P.H.1

also Surveyor to the Council.

ADDITIONAL PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTORS.

+ S.H. Murray, Cert. S.I.B., M.A.P.H.1.
+ E.J. Silvester Cert. S.I.B., M.A.P.H.1
+ A.F.M. Howard, Cert. S.I.B., A.R.S.H.,M.A.P.H.1.

+ Qualifications held by these Officers:-

Sanitary Inspectors' Certificate of the Royal Sanitary Institute,Meat and Other Foods Certificate of the Royal Sanitary Institute.
Certificate in Sanitary Science as applied to Buildings and Public Works of the Royal Sanitary Institute.
(Note The Royal Sanitary Institute is now The Royal Society of Health).

Committees of the Council which are concerned with matters of Public Health.

Finance, Staff and General Purposes Committee.
Public Health Committee
Housing Committee.

These Committees are held every four weeks throughout the year and deal with all matters appertaining to public health and housing.

- - - - - - - - - - - -

PUBLIC HEALTH OFFICERS OF THE AUTHORITY.

(a) MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

G.G. Brookbank, M.D., D.Sc., D.P.H.

Also Medical Officer of Health for the Boroughs of Calne, Chippenham and Malmesbury, and the Rural District of Malmesbury.

(b) SANITARY INSPECTOR.

H.G. Taylor, Cert. S.I.P., M.R.S.I., M.A.P.H.I.

Also Surveyor to the Council.

ASSISTANT SANITARY INSPECTORS.

S.E. Murray, Cert. S.I.P., M.R.S.I.
E.J. Blatchford, Cert. S.I.P., M.R.S.I.
A.W.H. Howard, Cert. S.I.P., M.R.S.I., M.A.P.H.I.

Qualifications held by these Officers.

Sanitary Inspectors' Certificate of the Royal Sanitary Institute, and Full Other Trades Certificate of the Royal Sanitary Institute.

Certificate in Sanitary Science as applied to Buildings and Public Works of the Royal Sanitary Institute (now The Royal Institute of Public Health and The Royal Society of Health).

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These Committees are held every four weeks throughout the year and deal with all matters appertaining to public health and housing.

The Chairman & members,
Calne & Chippenham Rural District Council.

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to present my Annual Report for the year ended 31st December, 1957.

The health of the community was satisfactory during the year, apart from outbreaks of Measles and Dysentery in the Corsham area.

The birth rate shows some increase, whilst the death rate, as last year, is considerably lower than that of the country as a whole.

Cancer, Heart Disease and Coronary Disease, collectively accounted for over half the deaths, but there was only one fatal case of lung cancer as compared with nine the previous year. Coronary disease accounted for 41 deaths as compared with 31 deaths in 1956.

Detail concerning the above, with appropriate comment and other statistics relating to health, will be found in the substance of this report.

Although the Council is principally concerned with environmental hygiene such as housing, the provision of pure water supplies, sewage disposal and clean food production, nevertheless, the personal health services and other factors influencing health are of interest, and comment thereon should not be excluded from a report on public health. The personal health services administered by the County Council include Maternity and Child Welfare, The School Health Service, The Mental Health Service and Home Help Service.

Improvements in housing and accommodation of all kinds are still necessary but increasing attention is now given to the occupants. Domiciliary care is extended to the aged, the physically and mentally handicapped and to the problem family. The activities of local communities interested in the welfare of the aged and the health visitor, all make contributions to personal welfare and reduce the demands on hospital and welfare accommodation.

The Clean Air Act of 1956 is designed to increase the powers of Local Authorities over the emission of industrial smoke and to facilitate the establishment of smoke control areas. Much research is now undertaken on the physical, chemical and medical aspects of air pollution and it is likely that clean air legislation will be strengthened as further knowledge becomes available.

The control of tuberculosis has been assisted since the war by improved housing standards, improvements in case finding with isolation and treatment of the infectious person, the examination of all contacts and their subsequent supervision, new drugs and B.C.G. vaccination. The visits of Mass X-Ray Units are of value in the detection of unknown cases, but as might be expected, the yield of cases of Pulmonary Tuberculosis by this means varies throughout the country from barely one case per thousand examined to a figure of 3.5 per thousand.

Appropriate statistics, and details of a visit of the Mobile X-Ray Unit to the Rural District during 1957, will be found in the substance of this report.

During 1956, in England & Wales, there were 794 more male deaths from Cancer of the Lung than in 1955, an increase of 5.4 per cent. Tobacco smoking and air pollution are the two main factors, particularly cigarette smoking. A survey on the deaths of British doctors whose smoking habits had been previously ascertained, showed that the death rate from Lung Cancer rose in proportion to the amount smoked. The figures also showed that the mortality rate was lower amongst those giving up smoking and diminished progressively with the increase in time during which smoking had been given up.

In the report for the year ended 31st December, 1956, of the Chief Medical Officer of the Ministry of Health, makes some interesting comments on mental health. The number of patients in residence under the Lunancy and Mental Treatment Acts in 1956 was 149,219 and the number of mental defectives in residence was 213,230. It appears that the Regional Hospital Boards allocated 34% of their total capital expenditure on mental and mental deficiency hospitals, although many types of mental illness can be treated as out-patients. During 1956, figures for out-patients attendances at the various hospitals in England and Wales is given as 762,072. It is apparent that mental health is a large and complicated subject, influenced by many circumstances, and of interest to all types of Local Authority. Mental hygiene, or preventive psychiatry, is generally accepted as worthy of further development. A proper appreciation by parents and teachers, of the healthy emotional progress of children from infancy onwards, is a basic necessity.

Nowadays the public shows a lively interest in all aspects of health education and receives advice and instruction from many sources. Few regular weekly publications fail to produce an article on health or physical fitness, and the British Medical Association has produced its own periodical for the instruction of the public. This general concern over health is not likely to diminish and it is important that the public should not be misinformed. The recent B.B.C. television series "Your life in their hands" dramatised the rare operative procedures sometimes undertaken in large hospitals, but failed to seize the opportunity to advise the public on the simple hygienic practices necessary to prevent the spread of dysentery, food poisoning and similar intestinal infections.

The procedure for the notification of infectious diseases requires review and consolidation. Infectious diseases such as Dysentery, Food Poisoning and Poliomyelitis may only be diagnosed with certainty after laboratory investigation and the isolation of the causitive organism. Notification is occasionally received after admission to hospital and laboratory investigation, with consequent delay in the institution of means to prevent the spread of infection. There is a tendency to consider Scarlet Fever as a disease of little importance nowadays. Positive action is still necessary to prevent the spread of this and allied streptococcal infections, particularly in view of the large amount of milk produced in the district. Certain strains of streptococci isolated during Scarlet Fever outbreaks have been responsible for severe Nephritis as a complication.

During the year six cases of Poliomyelitis were notified, half the cases developed paralysis. The campaign to immunise school children and expectant mothers and those exposed to special risk no doubt will in time be extended to the population as a whole and will be a valuable preventive measure of this serious infection. Clean food production and the practice of good hygiene in the home must not be neglected however.

Sporadic infections by the organisms of food poisoning occur from time to time, also small outbreaks of dysentery due to the Sonne Bacillus. Routine measures of control include segregation and treatment of the patient, house and garden quarantine and bacteriological investigation of contacts, with their subsequent exclusion from school or employment if found necessary. No contact is permitted to resume school or employment until bacteriologically proved free from infection. These procedures occasion many visits to the home of patients by Health Inspectors when the opportunity is also taken to give the necessary advice on personal hygiene.

The Public Health Laboratory, Bath has provided invaluable service during the year and has examined and reported on a large amount of material. A confident and firm diagnosis of many infections would be quite impossible without this service. Dr. Paul Mann, the Director of the Bath Laboratory is always most co-operative and of great assistance in dealing with outbreaks of all forms of infection.

The cost of the National Health Service is of interest; only figures for 1956 however are available at present. The Report of the Ministry of Health for the year ended, 1956 states that the cost of the National Health Service was £535,000,000; Hospital, Specialist and General Medical Services cost £360,000,000 or 67% Local Health Authorities engaged in the prevention of disease and personal health accounted for £46,000,000 or only 8½%. The report shows, amongst others, as sources of finance, Exchequer £423,000,000 (79%) transfer from National Insurance Fund £36,000,000 (6¾%), Superannuation Contributions £27,000,000 (5%), Rates £22,000,000 (4¾%).

I wish to thank Mr. H.J. Taylor, Mr. R.A. Witham and the staff of the Rural District Council for their ready co-operation and assistance during the year and also Mr. S.G.V. Williamson, my Clerk, for his aid in the construction of this report.

I am,

Your obedient Servant,

C.L. BROOMHEAD.

GENERAL STATISTICS.

Area (in acres) 85, 388

Population 35,160

No. of inhabited houses (end of 1957 according to the Rate Book) 7,754

Rateable Value . . . . . £312,735.

Sum represented by Penny Rate . . . . . £1,151.

VITAL STATISTICS.

LIVE BIRTHS

BIRTHS	MALE	FEMALE	TOTAL
Legitimate	271	263	534
Illegitimate	7	8	15
Total:-	278	271	549

Crude Birth Rate for the District . . . . . 15.6 per 1000 of the population.

Adjusted Birth Rate for the District . . . . . 19.9 per 1000 of the population.

Birth Rate for England & Wales . . . . . 16.1 per 1000 of the population.

The adjusted birth rate for the District this year is higher than the rate for 1956 which was 16.1 per 1000 of the population.

The population figure includes members of the Armed Forces stationed in the area and the Birth Rate is based on this population. To make an approximate allowance for the way in which the sex and age distribution of the Local population differs from that for England & Wales as a whole, the Crude Birth Rate for the area is multiplied by the Area Comparability Factor (i.e. 1.28).

STILL BIRTHS

BIRTHS	MALE	FEMALE	TOTAL
Legitimate	10	3	13
Illegitimate	1	1	2
Total:	11	4	15

INFANT MORTALITY

Deaths of infants under 1 year of age:-

BIRTHS	MALE	FEMALE	TOTAL
Legitimate	3	7	10
Illegitimate	-	1	1
Total	3	8	11

Number of deaths of infants under 1 year of age per 1000 live births 20.0

Comparative Rate for England & Wales 23.0

DEATHS.

Deaths recorded in the Rural District during 1957 were as follows:-

Males	Fema-les	Total
120	99	219

Crude Death Rate for the Rural District . . . . . 6.2 per 1000 of the population.

Adjusted Death Rate for the Rural District . . . . 8.4 per 1000 of the population

Death Rate for England & Wales . . . . . 11.5 per 1000 of the population.

ANALYSIS OF CAUSES OF DEATH.

	Males	Females	Total
Tuberculosis, respiratory.	1	-	1
Tuberculosis, other.	-	-	-
Syphilitic disease	-	-	-
Diphtheria	-	-	-
Whooping Cough	-	-	-
Meningococcal infection	-	-	-
Ac. Poliomyelitis	-	1	1
Measles	-	-	-
Other infective and parasitic diseases	-	-	-
Malignant neoplasm, stomach	4	3	7
Malignant neoplasm, Lung, Bronchus	1	-	1
Malignant neoplasm, breast	-	3	3
Malignant neoplasm, uterus	-	1	1
Other malignant and lymphatic neoplasms.	16	7	23
Leukaemia, aleukaemia	1	-	1
Diabetes	-	-	-
Vascular lesions of nervous system	12	18	30
Coronary disease, angina	24	17	41
Hypertension with heart disease	3	1	4
Other heart disease	15	17	32
Other circulatory disease	9	8	17
Influenza	2	2	4
Pneumonia	4	2	6
Bronchitis	4	2	6
Other diseases of respiratory system	-	1	1
Ulcer of stomach and duodenum	2	-	2
Gastritis, enteritis, diarrhoea	-	-	-
Nephritis and nephrosis	-	1	1
Hyperplasia of prostate	1	-	1
Pregnancy, childbirth, abortion	-	-	-
Congenital malformations	-	-	-
Other defined and ill defined diseases	10	9	19
Motor vehicle accidents	9	2	11
All other accidents	1	2	3
Suicide	1	1	2
Homicide and operations of war	-	1	1
Total:	120	99	219

The adjusted death rate for 1957 is .3 per 1000 of the population lower than the rate for 1956.

The population figure includes members of the Armed Forces stationed in the area and the Death Rate is based on this population. To make an approximate allowance for the way in which the sex and age distribution of the local population differs from that for England & Wales as a whole, the Crude Death Rate for the area is multiplied by the Area Comparability Factor (1.43).

It will be seen from the above table that Cancer, Heart Disease and Coronary Disease collectively account for more than fifty per cent of the deaths in the area during 1957.

PREVALENCE AND CONTROL OF INFECTIOUS DISEASE.

The following table shows the infectious diseases notified during 1957 with comparative figures since 1953:-

DISEASE	1953		1954		1955		1956		1957	
	a	b	a	b	a	b	a	b	a	b
Scarlet Fever	21	21	11	11	15	12	28	28	18	18
Whooping Cough	71	71	36	36	103	103	131	131	50	50
Diphtheria	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Measles	659	659	20	20	293	293	60	60	650	650
Ac. Poliomyelitis (Paralytic)	4	4	2	2	3	2	1	1	3	3
Ac. Poliomyelitis (Non-Paralytic)	25	15	8	3	6	3	7	1	4	3
Dysentery	3	3	6	2	-	-	71	69	95	104
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Puerperal Pyrexia	1	1	2	2	-	-	-	-	3	3
Smallpox	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Para Typhoid Fever	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Typhoid Fever	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Food Poisoning	1	1	2	2	4	3	5	2	9	8
Erysipelas	1	1	-	-	1	1	3	3	1	1
Pneumonia	2	2	8	8	23	23	3	3	19	19
Cerebro Spinal Fever.	-	-	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-
Encephalitis (Virus)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1
TOTALS:-	788	788	96	87	448	442	309	298	853	860

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

SCARLET FEVER.

Most of the cases occurred in the Lacock and Colerne areas of the District and were of a mild type of infection.

MEASLES AND WHOOPING COUGH.

The largest numbers were notified from the Corsham area. Preventive measures cannot control an outbreak of Measles and the continued and expensive notification serves no useful purpose.

POLIOMYELITIS

Of the six cases notified, five originated in either Army or R.A.F. married quarters and preventive measures required close co-operation with the Service Medical Officers concerned. Half the cases were adult and one of them, a paralytic case, died.

FOOD POISONING.

Of the eight confirmed cases, seven were traced to the consumption of a sweet made of eggs, gelatin, sugar and tinned oranges. A thorough bacteriological investigation ultimately traced the source of the infection to the eggs, the organism being identified as Salmonella Thompson. This outbreak was of considerable interest as it is rare to find such an organism in hens eggs.

DYSENTERY.

Dysentery, due to the Sonne Bacillus, occurs from time to time throughout the country. This type of Dysentery occasions mild signs and symptoms; since a proportion of those infected do not seek medical treatment, control is difficult.

A teacher at Corsham Regis School ceased duty on the 25th January, 1957 and was found to be suffering from Dysentery after bacteriological examination. She was resident in Bath where dysentery was present.

Enquiries at the school ascertained the fact that the School Meals Supervisor and her three children and sixty other children were absent from school on account of diarrhoea and vomiting.

All the families concerned were visited by the Health Inspectors and arrangements made for a full bacteriological examination of the family groups. All school children found to be presenting signs or symptoms were excluded from school pending receipt of a bacteriological report. Food handlers with symptoms were excluded from employment until a satisfactory laboratory report was received.

All cases were directed to their own medical attendant for treatment and arrangements made in co-operation with the practitioners concerned, for clearance specimens to be forwarded to the laboratory on the conclusion of treatment. No case was permitted to return either to school, or to resume employment until three negative specimens had been received at the laboratory.

A rigorous routine of hand washing was instituted in the Regis School, with paper towels and the use of a suitable hand disinfectant. Improvements in the cleansing and disinfection of lavatory seats, cistern pulls, door knobs etc. were effected.

A daily nominal roll of absentees was forwarded each day by the Headmaster and all new absentees were visited and the routine action instituted as described..

Enquiries and improvements in hygiene became necessary in other schools in the neighbourhood since children in the infected household frequently attended different schools.

A total of 104 individuals were bacteriologically confirmed as suffering from dysentery; of these, 76 were school children, seventeen were of pre school age, and eleven adults.

A substantial number of cases came to light as a result of the enquiries made by the Health Inspectors, in fact actual notifications from General Practitioners only accounted for 70 confirmed cases.

The bulk of the children returned to school during March, but it was necessary to maintain the exclusion of certain children who continued to excrete the organism during April, May and June.

PNEUMONIA.

The number of cases notified showed some increase and were probably associated with the introduction of the influenza virus towards the end of the year. Eighteen of the nineteen cases notified, were in respect of Service personnel.

TUBERCULOSIS.

New cases of tuberculosis notified and confirmed by the County Chest Physician during the year, with comparative figures for previous years since 1948, are given below:-

TABLE 1 NEW CASES NOTIFIED DURING

YEAR	PULMONARY	NON-PULMONARY	TOTAL
1948	14	7	21
1949	11	10	21
1950	30	2	32
1951	26	7	33
1952	23	5	28
1953	24	8	32
1954	8	3	11
1955	18	1	19
1956	11	2	13
1957	10	3	13

TABLE 2 NEW CASES AND MORTALITY DURING 1957 ACCORDING TO AGE AND SEX.

AGE GROUPS	NEW CASES				DEATHS			
	RESP.		NON-RESP.		RESP.		NON-RESP	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
0								
1								
5				2				
15	2		1					
25	2	1						
35	1							
45								
55					2			
65 upwards.	4				1			
Totals:-	9	1	1	2	3	-	-	-

It should be noted that the above figures do not represent the total number of individuals suffering from tuberculosis in the Rural District. In addition to the new cases notified each year, a certain proportion of tuberculous persons either move into the district, or move out. According to the Register of Tuberculous Persons, the following notified cases of tuberculosis were living in the Rural District at the end of 1957.

TABLE 3

	Males	Females	Total
Pulmonary	82	50	132
Non-Pulmonary	25	26	51
Total	107	76	183

MASS X-RAY

A Mobile X-Ray Unit operated in the Rural District from the 29th January to the 1st February, and again from the 12th to 22nd March. A total of 2,026 persons attended for examination with the following results.

Found to be suffering from Active T.B. 1
Found to be suffering from Inactive T.B. 4

The above survey included examination of 412 Hungarian Refugees living at Thorney Pits Hostel.

NOTE:- Two of the deaths shown in Table 2 above have not been classified as deaths due to Tuberculosis on page six of this report, as the primary cause of death in both cases was due to other causes.

WATER SUPPLIES.

I am indebted to Mr. Witham, the Council's Engineer, for the following detail on the Council's water undertakings and extensions during the year.

In 1948 the Council's undertaking consisted of about 90 miles of mains. Apart from bulk supplies of water obtained from other authorities there were nine sources of supply. The mileage of mains has now increased to 168 and the number of sources other than bulk supplies reduced to five.

In 1948 five parishes out of twenty four or 21% of the area of the district were without a piped water supply. Today all the parishes have a generally satisfactory supply, and no major further extensions are required to supply new consumers.

During these ten years the Council have spent £206,000 on capital development. This, together with the general rise in prices, has inevitably resulted in a substantial increase in annual expenditure. In 1948 this expenditure was £25,470. This year it is estimated at £67,950.

If, however, a comparison is made between the cost per 1,000 gallons in 1948 and 1958 it will be seen that this has increased from 21.9d to 30.1d., i.e. by about 38%, the present year being a reduction of 3.1d over the previous year. As a rough comparison with general increases in prices, wage rates have increased 90% in the same period.

Today, the average cost of water for domestic purposes is about 1d per person per day or, to use a popular comparison, the cost of supplying an average household with water for one week is about equal to that of 10 cigarettes.

Until 1948 the populous areas of the district had been supplied with water. Since then the more scattered areas have been served. This has inevitably increased the cost to all consumers.

Since 1948 about 70 miles of mains have been laid to take water to areas not previously supplied. Approximately 16 houses and 4 farms per mile have been connected. It is interesting to compare this with a small town where the average number of properties supplied is likely to be about 140 to 180 per mile.

SOURCES.

Widdenham.

The minimum yield of the springs recorded during the year was 94,000 gallons a day. This compares with the lowest recorded yield of 65,000 gallons. During the year the total yield from the source was 102,233,000 gallons, an increase of 25% on last year.

The source, has, during the summer, to be supplemented with water purchased in bulk from Chippenham Borough. This year for 22 weeks the source was self supporting.

The source os chlorinated. During the year a new chlorination plant has been installed in No.2 Pump House and a standby plant purchased.

SOURCES (Contd)

Nettleton.

Last year this borehole showed slight gain over previous records but the gain has been lost this year. The present yield is about half of that in 1938. The supply is chlorinated.

Goodshill.

The lowest recorded level in the two boreholes of 96 feet was five feet higher than last year. The yield was maintained satisfactorily. The supply is chlorinated. It is one of the cheapest sources of water in the district.

Washwells.

This is a small spring which supplies the lower part of Box village. It has, as on previous occasions, to be supplemented during the summer from the Widdenham source. The supply is chlorinated.

Slaughterford.

This is a very small local supply for the village of Slaughterford. The supply is gravitational and supplies part of the village only.

Bulk Supplies.

In addition to the usual bulk supplies from Chippenham Borough and the Air Ministry a new supply up to 15,000 gallons a day has been arranged with Malmesbury Rural District Council. This supplies upper Seagry and has enabled the Seagry Booster Station to be closed.

Chlorination.

All the Council's sources of supply, with the exception of Slaughterford, are chlorinated and regular tests are taken to ascertain the amount of free chlorine in the water.

Adequacy of Sources.

As last year, attention is drawn to the closing gap between consumption and available water. The position over the last three years is given below:-

	Consumption	Available.
1955 - 6	1,164,000	1,677,000 gallons/day.
1956 - 7	1,191,000	
1957 - 8	1,324,000	

The substantial increase in consumption this year - a comparatively wet year - points to the need to new sources for water in the near future. No doubt this is a matter to which the proposed Joint Water Board will have to give early attention.

STATISTICS FOR YEAR 1957-8 AND CORRESPONDING FIGURES FOR 1956-7

General Statistics.

	1956-7	1957-8
Population	36,660	35,160
Private houses	7,659	7,804

General Statistics (Continued)

	1956-7	1957-8
Private houses owned by Service Departments	530	549
Total houses	8,189	8,353
Houses supplied with water by R.D.C.	5,514	5,721
Houses supplied with water by other Authorities	1,240	1,268
Total houses supplied with water	6,754	6,898
Estimated percentage of population supplied	86%	86%
New connections made	179	171
Water meters in use at end of year	956	1,028.

Production of Water.

Source			
Chippenham Borough.	Yewstock	90,103,000	71,531,000
	Corsham	79,536,000	111,865,000
	Eastern Area	83,937,000	96,249,000
	Other places	6,134,000	6,357,000
		259,710,000	286,002,000
Widdenham		81,941,000	102,233,000
Nettleton		23,344,000	19,295,000
Goodshill		58,147,000	59,712,000
Washwells		9,475,000	9,837,000
Slaughterford		70,000+	70,000+
Malmesbury R.D.C.		-	3,036,000
Compton Bassett (R.A.F.)		59,000	153,000
Yatesbury (R.A.F.)		1,385,000	1,676,000
Cricklade & Wootton Bassett R.D.C.		-	5,000
		434,131,000 gallons	482,019,000 gallons

+ estimated.

RESERVOIRS.

Position	Capacity	Remarks.
Rudloe	163,000 gallons	High level. 4 elevated tanks.
	99,000	Low level. 3 reservoirs.
Washwells	18,000	
Kingsdown	19,000	
Ditteridge	8,000	Elevated tank.
Yatton Keynell	150,000	Water tower.
Kington Langley	50,000	
Foxham	20,000	
Colerne	20,000	Water tower.
Hilmarton	16,000	
Velley Hill	500,000	
Widdenham	56,000	3 Reservoirs.
Total storage capacity	1,137,000	

This is equivalent to 21 hours supply at the present average rate of consumption.

Regular sampling for bacteriological examination of all the Council's water undertakings is a routine measure. Estimations of the chlorine content have also been arranged at the time of sampling and the Engineer is immediately informed of the results. Samples from the Reservoirs at Yewstock, Five Ways and Bowden Hill are also regularly sampled each week and an estimation of the chlorine content of the water going into supply is made at the same time. Since these reservoirs are filled from the Chippenham Bore Source, the Chippenham Borough Engineer is also informed of the results.

SEWERAGE AND SEWAGE DISPOSAL.

During the year work has commenced on the sewerage of Yatton Keynell. This village will be drained to the existing disposal works at Long Dean which will be enlarged.

This is the only material progress which has been made during the year. Ministerial approval to the scheme for the sewerage of Box and its neighbourhood is still awaited.

Preparation of a comprehensive scheme for the sewerage of Kington St. Michael, Kington Langley, Sutton Benger and Christian Malford is nearing completion.

THE NATIONAL ASSISTANCE ACT, 1948
Sec. 47, Removal to suitable premises of persons in need of care and attention.

It was not found necessary during the year to effect the compulsory removal of any person to hospital under the provisions of this Act.

DIPHTHERIA IMMUNISATION AND WHOOPING COUGH IMMUNISATION.

The following children received primary immunisation during 1957.

Under 1 year	Ages 1-4	Ages 5-14	Total
565	124	68	757

Total immunised child population at 31.12.57

Ages 0-4 years	Ages 5-14 years	Total.
1425	4630	6055

VACCINATION.

The following children were vaccinated during 1957.

Under 1 year	Ages 1-4 years	Ages 5-15 years
62	37	53

Total:- 152

REPORT OF THE SENIOR PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR

TO:- The Chairman and Members of the Calne & Chippenham Rural District Council.

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to report on the detailed work carried out in the Public Health Department during 1957.

The work has continued in much the same pattern as in former years, but during 1957 particular attention was given to the inspection of Food Premises, with special reference to the Food Hygiene Regulations, 1955.

The Council's housing policy was directed more to the improvement of existing properties rather than to their demolition, although a number of Closing or Demolition Orders were made in respect of dilapidated and unfit cottages in Biddestone.

The Government's credit squeeze and the raising of the Bank Rate to 7% caused the Council to pass a Resolution suspending the acceptance of applications for Improvement Grants for six months or until such time as the Bank Rate was lowered. No applications were dealt with after the end of October, although the work of supervising the improvements to properties for which Grants had been made, continued.

At the request of the Wiltshire County Council, the Council accepted the delegated responsibility for executing and enforcing the provisions of the Diseases of Animals (Waste Food) Order, 1957, and as a consequence a detailed inspection was made of all pig farms in the area licensed to boil swill for animal feeding.

A persistent outbreak of dysentery in Corsham and sporadic outbreaks in other parts of the Rural District took up a great deal of the Public Health Inspectors' time, and nearly 1,000 visits and enquiries were made to schools and homes as part of the routine measures taken to control the disease.

More detailed information on the work of the Department is contained in the body of this Report.

I should like to thank all the Public Health Department for their continued support and Doctor Broomhead for his co-operation and advice.

I have the honour to be, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,

H.J. TAYLOR.

Senior Public Health Inspector.

SUMMARY OF PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTORS' VISITS IN 1957.

		1957		1956
General Sanitation.				
Water supply		225		364
Drainage		256		415
Stables and piggeries		71		10
Fried fish shops		1		5
Licensed premises		76		62
Tents, vans and sheds		250		278
Factories - power		6		15
non-power		5		1
Bakehouses		21		28
Public Conveniences		57		78
Theatres and places of entertainment		1		2
Refuse collection		19		25
Refuse disposal		148		129
Rats and mice		22		11
Atmospheric pollution		10		13
Schools		61		13
Shops - food		16		19
Nuisances		175		293
Water samples		283		267
Miscellaneous sanitary visits		187		165
Housing.				
Under Public Health Acts:-				
No. of houses inspected.	18		6	
No. of visits paid to above houses		27		94
Under Housing Acts:-				
No. of houses inspected	38		33	
No. of visits paid to above houses		79		157
Overcrowding:-				
No. of houses inspected	1		4	
No. of visits paid to above houses		1		9
Filthy or verminous premises:-				
No. of premises inspected	5		4	
No. of visits paid to above premises		28		20
Miscellaneous housing visits		84		44
No. of visits paid in connection with Improvement Grants		248		427
Infectious diseases.				
Inquiries into cases of infectious diseases		142		130
Visits re disinfection		4		15
Miscellaneous infectious disease visits		999		502
Food poisoning enquiries		10		15
Meat and food inspections.				
Inspections of meat:				
Visits to Slaughterhouses and Knackers Yard		9		9
Visits to shops and stalls		1		2
Visits to:-				
Butchers		22		24
Dairies and Milk Distributors		64		41
Fishmongers and poulterers		7		2
Food preparing premises		14		11
Grocers		85		50
Greengrocers and fruiterers		14		14
Ice cream premises		31		28
Market stalls		1		2
Restaurants and cafes		60		24
Street hawkers and vendors		14		18

Visits in connection with sampling.	1957	1956
Milk - bacteriological	139	196
biological	3	22
Ice cream	172	201
Miscellaneous food visits	2	12
	4150	4262
	62	47

DRAINAGE.

Nuisances.

The number of complaints of nuisances reported to the Department was less than for last year although it was necessary to make 175 inspections to deal with complaints. Most of the nuisances were abated as a result of informal action, but in three cases it was necessary to serve Notices under Section 50, Public Health Act, 1936, to secure the abatement of nuisances through overflowing cesspools. Two of the Notices were complied with before the end of the year, but in the outstanding case the Council may have to carry out the work in default.

Connections to Sewer.

Castle Combe.

A final survey of the drainage facilities to properties within 100 feet of the public sewer revealed that three cottages remained to be connected. The owners of two properties gave undertakings to make the necessary connections, but in the third case the Council executed the work of connection following the failure to comply with a Statutory Notice made under Section 39, Public Health Act, 1936.

Biddestone.

Much time has been spent interviewing, advising and cajoling owners of property without satisfactory drainage facilities to connect to the new public sewer which was completed in November, 1955.

Now that this essential amenity has been made available by the Council, after many delays and great frustration, it is very disappointing to find that there is little enthusiasm to take advantage of the facilities provided.

Some 23 properties have been connected and the position at the end of the year was as follows:-

No. of properties connected to the sewer	73	(50)
No. of properties with work started	5	(8)
No. of properties with satisfactory drainage	14	
No. of properties not connected	35	

One Statutory Notice to connect to the sewer has been issued, and I have no doubt that further statutory action will have to be taken before every property in the village is connected to the sewer.

It is hoped that greater progress will be made in 1958, and that by the end of the year I will be able to report a 100% connection.

Yatton Keynell.

The Ministry has given sanction for work to proceed on providing a sewerage system for this Parish and work has commenced.

The improvement of so many cottage properties depends so much on the availability of a public sewer, and until one is available the unfortunate owners and occupiers will have to rely on the insanitary soakaway for sullage drainage and the unpopular pail closet for sanitation.

SAMPLING OF SEWAGE EFFLUENT.

	Satisfactory	Unsatisfactory
Lacock	2	1
Corsham	1	1
Castle Combe (Long Dean)	1	1
Cherhill	2	
Bremhill (Fishersbrook)	1	
Bremhill (Wick Bridge)	1	
Hilmarton	1	
Christian Malford		2
Sutton Benger (Upper Seagry)	1	
Sutton Benger (Seagry Hill)		1
North Wraxall (Ford)		2
Colerne	3	1
Yatton Keynell	2	
Heddington	1	
Kington Langley	1	
Langley Burrell	—	1
	17	10

The various effluents from main sewerage disposal works and Council House sewerage disposal works have been sampled from time to time and the information obtained is passed to the Council's Engineer for any necessary action.

PUBLIC CONVENIENCES.

The public conveniences provided by the Council at Box, Castle Combe, Colerne and Corsham have been maintained in a satisfactory condition, but I am sorry to have to again refer to much wanton damage, particularly to the conveniences at Box and Corsham. It is unfortunate that the culprits cannot be apprehended and heavily fined or sent to prison as an example.

It has not been possible to proceed with the improvements to the existing conveniences in the yard of the Red Lion, Lacock, but it is hoped that the work will be put in hand during 1958.

REFUSE COLLECTION AND DISPOSAL.

The Council has managed to cope with the work of refuse collection and disposal with a staff consisting of one working foreman, one tip attendant, four drivers and five loaders - including one relief loader-driver, but with the ever increasing amount of refuse to be collected, it may be necessary to engage an additional labourer. As it is, the service can only be maintained during holiday periods by the employment of temporary labour as and when required.

I advised the Council to replace the "Muledozer" which has been used for the past four years at the various refuse tips, by a new and more powerful machine, and in July a "Howard Bulloader"

was delivered. This machine runs on tracks and has a 1½ cubic yd. bucket which can be used as a dozer for levelling and also as a digger and loader. Although rather an expensive machine, it has proved very efficient and capable of doing work which would otherwise have had to be done with hired equipment, which is not always available at the right time.

No new vehicles have been purchased this year and the Council's fleet of refuse vehicles consists of,

1.	18 cubic yard Shelvoke & Drewry Refuse vehicle	purchased in	1954
1.	7 " " Bedford Refuse vehicle	" "	1950
1.	10 " " " " "	" "	1950
1.	10 " " " " "	" "	1951
1.	12 " " " " "	" "	1956
1.	A40 pick up truck	" "	1950

The 7 cubic yard Bedford vehicle is nearly worn out and it will be necessary to replace it in 1958.

The mileage figures and comparative running costs are set out below:

Refuse costs (for "calendar year").

Total costs	£8,851 (£8,940)	Collection	£6,921	(£6,749)
		Disposal	£1,930	(£2,191)
Per thousand population		Collection	£188	(£179)
		Disposal	£52	(£58)
Per head of population		Collection	3/9d	(3/7d)
		Disposal	1/0d	(1/2d)
Refuse collected, 2437 loads, appoximately			Tons 6,459	(7,592)
Total mileage, 5 vehicles			35,661	(35,415)
Petrol gallons			1,753	(2,458)
Diesel oil, gallons			923	(1,228)

The Council's cost for this service compares very favourably with that given in the Ministry's Annual Costing Return for Refuse Collection:

	Weight per 1,000 popl.	Net cost per Ton. Coll.	Disp.	Total.	Net cost per 1000 pop. Coll.	Disp.	Total.
Average for R.D.C.s	17.7cw	26/4d	3/6d	30/od	£440	£59	£485
Calne & Chippenham	11.3cw	20/2d	1/4d	21/6d	£209	£14	£223.

The "Suez" crisis early in the year lead to the introduction of petrol rationing, but a sufficient quantity of fuel was made available for this essential service and no difficulty was experienced in maintaining the service on rationed fuel supply.

The Council's existing disposal tips have been used and it has been possible to acquire, at a reasonable rent, the use of an old quarry at Yatesbury and this has considerably eased the disposal position in the Eastern parishes. A new lease was also acquired in respect of the old Quarry at Burton and this will enable tipping to be continued for another year or so. The negotiations for a tip in the Colerne area have not been completed, but it is hoped that some suitable land may be leased for the purpose as one is urgently required to obviate the cartage of refuse, at present disposed of at Inwood, an exceedingly long and expensive haul.

SUPPLY OF DUSTBINS.

When the purchase tax on dustbins was increased in 1956, the Council decided not to purchase further supplies for direct

re-sale to ratepayers until the tax was reduced. Twenty dust-bins already in stock were sold however. In September, the Council decided to again purchase dustbins for re-sale and 100 were purchased.

LITTER BASKETS.

All the litter baskets provided in the various parishes have been maintained and emptied as and when required. They are often misused and damaged by thoughtless individuals, but I do think they serve a useful purpose and have helped in a small way to keep the streets and countryside tidier than would be the case if they were not provided.

The Council commenced fixing large second-hand 40 gallon oil drums at the principal lay-bys on the A.420, A.429 and A.350 roads in the District.

WASTE PAPER.

A record quantity of waste paper totalling 235 Tons was collected during 1957, bringing in a revenue of £1,690.

The marketing of waste paper gets more difficult each year, and it is fortunate that the Council has a 3 year contract with a firm of Waste Paper Merchants to purchase its waste paper.

The selling price for waste paper was £7. per ton and carton waste £8. There is a distinct possibility that these prices will not be maintained in 1958.

SCRAP METAL.

The tip attendant has instructions to salvage scrap metal found amongst the household refuse brought to the various refuse tips, but the quantity of saleable material seems to get less each year and only 9¾ Tons of metal, valued at £39. 10. 0d. was sold. It is suspected that some of this material is removed from the tips by unauthorised persons, and it is almost impossible to prevent this happening, particularly with so many mobile scrap dealers operating in the area.

OFFENSIVE TRADES.

Public Health Act, 1936, Section 107.

There are no offensive trade establishments as defined by Section 107 of the Public Health Act, 1936, within the area of the Council.

FRIED FISH SHOPS.

There are only two fish shops in the district, one at Boxfields and the other at Colerne. Both have been operated in a satisfactory manner.

MOVEABLE DWELLINGS.

PUBLIC HEALTH ACT, 1936, SECTION 269.
Licences authorising persons to erect or station and use Moveable Dwellings.

Parishes with Licensed Moveable Dwellings.

Box	10	Bremhill	5	Cherhill	5	Chippenham Wt.	10
Christian Malford	6	Calne Wt.	6	Colerne	10	Corsham	11
Heddington	1	Hilmarton	10	Kington St. Michael			3
Lacock	7	Nettleton	2	N. Wraxall	1	Pewsham	1
Sutton Benger	2	Yatton Keynell	1 - Total 91.				

As can be seen from the table overleaf, 91 Licences were issued authorising caravans to be stationed in the Rural District. Twenty nine and fifteen caravans, respectively, are also stationed on authorised caravan sites at Box and Colerne.

The continued increasing demand for sites for caravans prompted me to report to the Council on the need for "Municipal" Caravan Sites administered by the Council, and as a result I was instructed to survey the area with a view to selecting suitable sites. I duly presented a report suggesting that land at Derriads, Chippenham Wt. and Park Lane, Corsham, might be suitable and it was decided to apply for planning consent to establish a caravan site at Park Lane, Corsham.

A layout plan for some 34 permanent and 8 to 10 temporary caravans has been prepared and submitted to the Wiltshire County Council for planning consent.

PUBLIC HEALTH ACT, 1936, SECTIONS 83-85.

Filthy and verminous premises or articles and verminous persons.

It was necessary to deal with five verminous premises, and effective treatments with insecticides were carried out. The occupants of the infected houses are usually found to be aged people almost too infirm to maintain the household in a fit state for occupation, and the help of the County Welfare Officer has been sought in some instances with beneficial results.

INFECTIOUS DISEASE.

Under the direction of the Medical Officer of Health every case of notified dysentery is fully investigated, arrangements made for faecal samples to be forwarded to the Public Health Laboratory, and advice given on personal hygiene; special precautions are taken at Schools.

Fifteen cases of Scarlet Fever have been investigated, and arrangements made for infected clothing and bedding to be treated at the Isolation Hospital and terminal disinfection carried out.

FOOD & DRUGS ACT, 1955.

THE FOOD HYGIENE REGULATIONS, 1955.

The survey of food premises under the above Regulations was continued and some 254 visits and inspection of these premises were made during the year. Of the 79 premises inspected, 35 were considered to comply with the Regulations, and a further 28 were subsequently made to comply as a result of informal action. The survey will continue until all food premises have been brought up to the standard required by the Regulations.

Two premises were closed as the owners considered that they could not meet the cost of bringing their premises up to the required standard.

Twenty eight delivery vans and mobile shops have also been inspected and attention has been drawn to such matters as lack of cleanliness, washing facilities, names and addresses, etc.

Food premises in the area:

Grocers	5
General stores	47
Butchers	11
Sweet shops	12
Fish and fruit	4
Cafes	9
Fish and chip shops	2
Bakers	11
Poulterers	1
	102

Poultry Packing and Processing Factory at Sutton Benger.

The existing Poultry Packing Station at Sutton Benger has been regularly visited and the co-operation of the owner secured in providing improved facilities at the factory.

Towards the end of the year, it was learnt that a complete new factory, equipped with the most modern machinery and plant, was to be constructed on land adjoining the existing factory. Preliminary discussions ensued concerning the provision of the essential services, water supply and sewage disposal works, and when it was found that the Council could not provide these facilities to the requirements of the Company, they decided to bore for water and to construct their own sewage disposal plant.

Planning consent has been granted for the development, and the factory is in course of construction and it is anticipated that it will be in full production by the middle of June next year. The factory will be capable of dealing with many thousands of birds, "broilers", per day, and will be provided with plant for converting feathers and entrails into animal feeding stuffs.

A problem to be faced next year will be the amount of supervision required at such premises, but this cannot be foreseen until the factory has been in production for a while and the organisation and method of running the factory examined more closely.

FOOD & DRUGS ACT, 1955. SECTION 16.

Registration of Premises used in connection with the manufacture or sale of preserved foods, etc.

There are seven premises registered under the above Act, and all have been maintained in a satisfactory manner. The product manufactured is generally sausages or cooked hams and the premises registered form part of establishments used as butchers shops.

The premises are situated at:-

Box	2	Corsham	3
Christian Malford	1	Lacock	1

Schedule of Condemned Foods, 1957.

The under-mentioned foodstuffs were condemned as being unfit for human consumption:-

1 lb. tin luncheon meat	punctured.
3 x 6 lbs. corned beef	blown.
78 lb. stewing beef	decomposition
68 lb. cherries	unsound.
1½ stone plaice.	unsound.

All condemned foodstuffs are voluntarily surrendered and disposed of by burying or incineration under the supervision of a member of the Public Health staff.

Registration of Premises used in connection with the sale, or the manufacture for the purpose of sale of ice cream, or the storage of ice cream intended for sale.

71 premises remain Registered for the storage of ice-cream intended for sale, and these are distributed in the following Parishes:-

Box	11	Hilmarton	1
Bremhill	1	Kington Langley	2
Calne Wt.	2	Kington St. Michael	2
Castle Combe	3	Lacock	4
Cherhill	5	Langley Burrell Wt.	1
Chippenham Wt.	1	Nettleton	1
Christian Malford	1	North Wraxall	2
Colerne	5	Pewsham	2
Compton Bassett	2	Sutton Benger	3
Corsham	18	Stanton St. Quintin	1
Grittleton	1	Yatton Keynell	1
Heddington	1		
		Total	71

Registrations were cancelled in respect of premises situated at Bremhill 1, Corsham 2, Yatton Keynell 1, and new Registrations accepted at Cherhill 1, Calne Wt. 1, Kington Langley 1.

Regular sampling of ice cream continued all through the year and some 127 samples were taken for examination. The reports were as follows:-

Grade 1	109	(102)
2	14	(44)
3	4	(16)
4	-	(48)
	127	(210)

It is gratifying to report that no samples were placed in Grade 4, which is the lowest grade and only 4 in Grade 3; this compares most favourably with the results of samples taken the previous year when the respective figures were Grade 4 48, Grade 3 16.

I think the greatly improved reports can be attributed to the strict control exercised over the sale of this product and to strong representations made by this Council and adjoining Authorities to a particular manufacturing firm whose product persistently failed to pass the necessary examination and test.

The Ice-Cream (Heat Treatment etc.) Regulations, 1947.
The Ice-Cream (Heat Treatment etc.) Amendment Regulations, 1952.

No ice cream is now manufactured in the Council's district.

Periodic checks are taken at Registered Premises for the sale of ice cream to ensure that ice cream is being kept at a temperature not exceeding 28° Fahrenheit since it was frozen.

LICENSED PREMISES.

The tragedy of the Box gas explosion caused the destruction of The Rising Sun public house at Box Hill and it is at present unknown

whether new licensed premises will be erected on the shattered site.

76 inspections have been made at the remaining 61 licensed premises, and in several instances improvements have been carried out with the co-operation of the Brewery Companies.

Improvements carried out.

Lacock.	Reconditioning of one house and additional sanitary accommodation at another.
Cherhill.	Improvement of facilities.
Corsham.	Reconditioning of one house and improvements to another.
Box.	Extensions and improvements.

When making these inspections, particular regard was had to the application of the Food Hygiene Regulations to these premises.

BAKEHOUSES.

The 12 Bakehouses have been inspected and kept under review. These are situated at:-

Bremhill	2	Castle Combe	2
Colerne	1	Cherhill	1
Corsham	3	Kington St. Michael	1
Hilmarton	1	Sutton Benger	1

Improvements and alterations were carried out at the Bakehouse at Cherhill.

FOOD & DRUGS ACT, 1955. SECTION 63.
Renewal of Licence.

The Knacker's Yard at Heddington has been well maintained, and the existing licence was renewed for one year.

The return of horses killed at the knacker's yard required by The Slaughter of Animals (Prevention of Cruelty) (No. 2) Regulations, 1954, has been forwarded to the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food.

FOOD & DRUGS ACT, 1955. SECTION 62.
SLAUGHTERHOUSES ACT, 1954.
THE SLAUGHTER OF ANIMALS (AMENDMENT) ACT, 1954.

No private or public slaughter-houses are in operation in the Council's district. All home-killed meat is obtained from Chippenham, Bath or Bristol.

THE SLAUGHTER OF ANIMALS ACT, 1933.
THE SLAUGHTER OF ANIMALS (AMENDMENT) ACT, 1954.

3 Slaughtermen's licences were issued during the year to men engaged on slaughtering animals at the knacker's yard, Heddington.

FOOD & DRUGS ACT, 1955.
Registration of Dairies, other than Dairy Farms, and of Distributors.

No. of registered dairies 14 (17)
No. of registered distributors 24 (28)

Registration of Dairies, other than Dairy Farms, and of Distributors (Continued).

Distribution of Dairies.

Box	2	Calne Without	1
Corsham	4	Lacock	1
Compton Bassett	2	Nettleton	1
Colerne	1	Yatton Keynell	1
Castle Combe	1		
			14

One dairy at Sutton Benger is not functioning as the business previously carried on there has been taken over by a larger Dairy Company.

64 visits and inspections have been made at the 14 dairies. These have been generally well maintained, but at one dairy it was necessary to require improved cleanliness of the dairy building.

The Milk (Special Designation) (Pasteurised & Sterilised Milk) Regulations, 1949 - 53.

No. of dealer's licences to use special designation "Pasteurised". 18 (18)
" " " supplementary " 10 (7)

Box	3	Corsham	6
Calne Without	1	Lacock	2
Christian Malford	1	Nettleton	1
Colerne	1	Yatton Keynell	1
Compton Bassett	2		
			18

The Milk (Special Designation)(Raw Milk) Regulations, 1949-53.

No. of dealer's licences to use special designation "T.T." 18 (19)
" " " supplementary " " " " 11 (10)

Box	3	Christian Malford	1
Calne Without	1	Lacock	2
Castle Combe	1	Nettleton	1
Colerne	1	Yatton Keynell	1
Compton Bassett	2		
Corsham	5		18

Methylene Blue Test.

Passed	Failed	Total
131 (173)	15 (19)	146 (192)

Arbotus Ring Test 1 (negative).

Bottle Rinses.

10 series satisfactory. 6 series unsatisfactory.

Milk Sampling.

Regular sampling of designated T.T. Milk has been carried out, and 146 samples have been forwarded to the Public Health Laboratory, Bath, for testing. From time to time samples of milk bottles are forwarded for examination for efficient sterilization, and the reports are tabulated above.

All pasteurised milk samples have been taken on behalf of the Wilts County Council by the County Sanitary Inspector, who forwards to this department copies of the reports for information purposes.

SHOPS ACT, 1950. SECTION 38.

Pressure of other work has curtailed the number of inspections of Shop premises with regard to lighting, ventilation and temperature in these places of employment, and the provision of sufficient sanitary conveniences. Most Shops now comply with the requirements of Section 38, and inspections are now made to ensure that the standards of lighting, ventilation, etc., are still maintained.

16 Inspections were made during the year.

HOUSING STATISTICS.

1. Inspection of dwellings during the year.
   - i. Inspected for housing defects under P.H. Acts. 11 (6)
   - ii. " " " " " Hsg. " 38 (33)
   - iii. Number of dwellings found to be so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for habitation..... 1 (22)
   - iv. Number of dwellings found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for habitation..... 10 (12)

2. Remedy of Defects by Informal Action.
   Number of dwellings rendered fit in consequence of informal action (not "fit in all respects") 4 (7)

3. Action under Statutory Powers (Public Health Act and Housing Acts).
   - A. Proceedings under Section 11 Housing Act, 1936 and Section 16 Housing Act, 1957.
     - i. Number of demolition orders made ..... 1 (Nil)
     - ii. Number of houses demolished as result of demolition orders ..... 1 (Nil)
     - iii. Number of undertakings accepted ..... 3 (Nil)
     - iv. Number of undertakings completed ..... - (2)
   - B. Proceedings under Section 12 Housing Act, 1936, Section 3 Housing Act, 1949, Section 10 Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act, 1953, Sections 17, 18, 27 Housing Act, 1957
     - i. Number of dwellings where Closing Orders were made ..... 4 (Nil)
     - ii. Number of dwellings closed as a result of Closing Orders or undertakings by Owner ..... - (Nil)
     - iii. Number of dwellings where Closing Orders were cancelled in consequence of premises being made fit ..... - (Nil)
   - C. Proceedings under Section 57 Housing Act, 1936, Section 76 Housing Act, 1957.
     - i. Number of cases of overcrowding at end of year Not known.
     - ii. Number of cases discovered during the year .... 2 (Nil)
     - iii. Number of cases abated during the year 1 (2)

HOUSING ACTS, 1936 and 1957. SECTIONS 11 & 16 respectively.

During the year the Housing Sub-Committee has inspected a number of cottages in Biddestone and Corsham considered to be unfit for human habitation and not repairable at a reasonable cost.

As a result of these inspections, the Housing Committee has recommended that:-

(1) Demolition Orders be made in respect of 4 cottages at Biddestone and 1 at Gastard.
(2) Closing Orders be made in respect of 4 cottages at Biddestone
(3) Formal undertakings to render fit for human habitation cottages at Patterdown and Gastard.

HOUSING ACT, 1949. IMPROVEMENT GRANTS.

The Council's main housing effort has again been directed towards the reconditioning and improvement of existing properties, and much advisory work has been given to property owners.

The information on improvement grants reproduced below does not accurately reflect the extent of the work put in by your officers in connection with improvement grants. Many hours per week are spent inspecting properties with owners, architects and builders prior to the submission of formal applications for improvement grants. These schemes have then to be checked in detail and schedules of repairs agreed before the applications are submitted to the Housing Committee for approval.

This work was curtailed during November and December, as the Council passed a resolution suspending the issue of improvement grants as a consequence of the raising of the Bank Rate to 7%.

No. of applications:	Received	55	(50)
	Approved	42	(54)
	Refused	2	(3)
	Under Consideration	15	(9)
	Withdrawn	7	(2)
No. of houses improved as result of Grant		59	(67)
Value of Improvement Grants made		£15,761	(£19,112)

BUILDING BYELAWS. PUBLIC HEALTH ACT, 1936. SECTION 61.

The information given on Building Byelaws has not been included in previous Annual Reports, but as one of the main purposes of the Building Byelaws is to ensure the protection of public health, as well as to secure good building practice, I am presenting just the bare details to indicate to the Council the nature of the work involved in administering these Byelaws.

PLANS

	Received	Work completed
Additions to houses	34	16
Septic tanks	39	18
Garages	72	45
Internal alterations	21	11
Industrial buildings	10	15
Agricultural buildings	4	10
Bathrooms	82	67
Sewer connections	4	25
Licensed premises	2	2
Business premises	15	8
New dwellings	50	54

A total of 371 plans were considered by the Committee.

WATER SUPPLIES.

Water Samples.

A close watch has been kept on the purity of the water passing daily through the Council's water mains from the various sources, and the reports on the various routine samples taken are summarized below.

All samples are submitted to the Salisbury Public Health Laboratory for bacteriological examination. The Council's Engineer is kept fully informed of these results, so that immediate action may be taken when unsatisfactory reports are received.

Water Supplies - Analysis of Results.

Source of Water.	Fit.	Suspect.	Unfit.
Widdenham, Box.	32	6	7
Goodshill	16	2	2
Washwells, Box.	6	6	1
Nettleton	12	3	
Biddestone (Regional)	3		
Grittleton "	3		
Kington St. Michael "	4		
West Kington "	2	2	
Sutton Benger "	4		
East Tytherton "	2		
Burton (West Glos. Water Co.)	4	1	
Yatesbury (R.A.F.)	11		
Cherhill (Blackfords)	4		
Cherhill (Compton Bassett Water Co.)	9	1	1
Theobalds Green (Calne Boro.)	4		
Eastern Area Water Scheme:-			
Cherhill	11	1	
Sandy Lane	9		
Heddington	6		
Bremhill	9		
Hilmarton	13	3	
Compton Bassett	6		
Foxham	5	2	2
Langley Burrell (Harris)	4		
	179	27	13

17 chemical samples were satisfactory.

Eastern Area Water Scheme, etc.

Since this scheme was completed in 1955, owners and occupiers of property not provided with a mains supply of water have been urged or pressed to avail themselves of this new source of water supply.

The water from many of the existing sources of water supply has been subjected to bacteriological examination, and when reported by the pathologist as being unfit for human consumption through bacterial contamination, appropriate steps have been taken to secure connections to the new water mains.

Action taken by this department since 1955 has secured the connection of some 142 properties to these new mains.

The work of sampling and inspection of well supplies still continues, and will do so until 100% connection is achieved.

WATER SUPPLIES.

Water Samples.

A close watch has been kept on the quality of the water produced daily through the Council's water works and the various sources, and the reports on the various routine samples taken are summarized below.

All samples are submitted to the Sanitary Public Health Laboratory for bacteriological examination. The Council's Engineer is kept fully informed of these results, so that immediate action may be taken when unsatisfactory reports are received.

Water Supplies - Analysis of Results.

Source of Water.	No.	Unsatisfactory.	Unfit.
Middleton, Box.	4	2	1
Cheadle	10	2	2
Tarnwells, Box.	2	2	1
Middleton	12		
Middleton (Proposal)	2		
Middleton "	2		
Middleton "	2		
Kingston Bd. Middel "	2		
Near Kingston "	2	2	
Burton Seager "	4		
East Tyldesley "	2		
Burton (West Side) Water Co.)	6	1	
Tatenhill (N.A.T.)	12		
Chorlli (Blackford)	4		
Cheadle (Compton Bassett Water Co.)	2	1	1
Theobalds Green (Colne Bore.)	4		
Eastern Area Water Scheme:-			
Cheadle	12	1	
Sandy Lane	2		
Bradkington	2		
Brewill	2		
Hilmorton	12	3	
Compton Bassett	2		
Forlane	2	2	2
Langley Burrell (Harris)	4		
	107	27	13

17 special samples were satisfactory.

Eastern Area Water Scheme, etc.

Since this scheme was completed in 1937, owners and occupiers of property not providing with a main supply of water have been urged or pressed to avail themselves of this new source of water supply.

The water from many of the existing sources of water supply has been subjected to bacteriological examination, and has reported by the Sanitary Inspector as being unfit for human consumption although bacteriol analysis, appropriate steps have been taken to secure alterations to the non safe water.

Action taken by this Sanitary Inspector has assured the connection of some 40 properties to Main Eastern water.

The work of sampling and inspection of Rural supplies still continues, and will be so until 100% connection is achieved.

No. of properties connected.

	1955	1956	1957	Total
Bremhill	2			2
Calne Without	15	33	29	77
Christian Malford			1	1
Heddington	5		1	6
Hilmarton	1	13		14
Kington Langley			2	2
Langley Burrell	1			1
Lacock		1		1
Pewsham	6	14	13	33
Sutton Benger	3	2		5
	33	63	46	142

DISEASES OF ANIMALS (WASTE FOOD) ORDER, 1957.

The Council accepted the responsibility of the functions of the County Council under this Order in November, and as it was necessary for new licences to be issued on the 1st January, 1958, an immediate survey was made of all premises already temporarily licensed by the County Council until the 31st December, 1958.

This entailed the inspection of 56 pig and poultry farms and equipment installed for the processing of unboiled swill or waste food.

The survey revealed that a number of these farms did not require licensing as boiling operations were not being carried out.

It was finally decided to licence 21 premises, and to defer the issue of licences in two instances until the premises had been brought up to the required standard.

The purpose of the Order is to try and prevent the spread of foot and mouth disease, by ensuring that all waste food fed to pigs and poultry has been effectively sterilized and properly stored, so as not to be re-contaminated.

The Order does not apply to persons having not more than 4 weaned pigs and 50 head of poultry who boil waste foods for feeding on their premises to their own stock.

PREVENTION OF DAMAGE BY PESTS ACT, 1949.

Your Rodent Officer has again been kept busy surveying and treating premises for the eradication of rodents.

The character of his work has slightly changed, and more emphasis is given to the treatment of infested premises. More annual contracts have been entered into with owners and occupiers of business premises and small-holdings for the extermination of rats and mice, and the results have proved so satisfactory that it is intended to extend the scope of this work.

The representative of the Divisional Rodent Officer of the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries & Food has been kept fully informed of this work, and he has frequently visited the Council's refuse tips, sewage disposal works, etc., to satisfy himself that adequate control work is being exercised.

The Council's sewers have been test baited, and only on a section of the sewers at Station Road and Prospect, Corsham,

No. of properties connected.

	1970	1969	1971	1969
Bramhill	5		5	
Calne without	45	33	47	27
Chippenham Malford			1	4
Heddington	5		3	5
Hilmarton	4	13		14
Kingsdon Langley			5	5
Langley Burrell	1			1
Lacock		1		1
Pewsham	5	14	13	37
Sutton Benger	3	5		1
	23	63	16	144

DISPOSAL OF ANIMALS (WASTE FOOD) ORDER, 1971.

The Council accepted the responsibility of the Imposition of the County Council under this Order in November, and as it was necessary for new licences to be issued on the 1st January, 1970, an immediate survey was made of all premises already temporarily licensed by the County Council until the 31st December, 1970.

This entailed the inspection of 78 pig and poultry farms and equipment installed for the processing of unboiled swill or waste food.

The survey revealed that a number of these farms did not require licencing as boiling operations were not being carried out.

It was finally decided to licence 21 premises, and to defer the issue of licences in two instances until the premises had been brought up to the required standard.

The purpose of the Order is to try and prevent the spread of foot and mouth disease, by ensuring that all waste food fed to pigs and poultry has been effectively sterilized and properly stored, so as not to be re-contaminated.

The Order does not apply to persons having not more than 4 breeding pigs and 50 head of poultry who boil waste foods for feeding on their premises to their own stock.

INSPECTION FOR DAMAGE BY PESTS ACT, 1949.

Your Rodent Officer has again been kept busy surveying and treating premises for the eradication of rodents.

The character of his work has slightly changed, and more emphasis is given to the treatment of infested premises. More manual complaints have been entered into with owners and occupiers of business premises and small-holdings for the extermination of rats and mice, and the results have proved so satisfactory that it is intended to extend the scope of this work.

The representative of the Ministry Rodent Officer of the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries & Food has been kept fully informed of this work, and he has frequently visited the Council's refuse tips, sewage disposal works, etc., to satisfy himself that adequate control work is being exercised.

The Council's sewers have been test baited, and only on a section of the sewers at Station Road and Prospect, Corsham,

has it been necessary to carry out a full treatment.

A very close watch has been kept on the refuse tips, as it has been found from past experience that these can become quite heavily infested with rats in a short time unless a constant war is waged against them.

Parish	Private Prems. Inspected.	Treatments carr. out.	Business Prems. inspected.	Treatments carr. out.	Council House Inspns.	Treatments carr. out.
Biddestone.	50	2	4	2	5	1
Box.	96	16	35	18	28	6
Bremhill.	37		5			
Calne Wt.	37	2	3	5	2	
Cherhill.	46		7	1	26	9
Castle Combe.	58	5	23	11	3	
Chippenham Wt.	37	2	7			
Christian Malford.	37	6	12	6		
Colerne.	49	4	13	3	5	
Compton Bassett.	37	1	4		2	2
Corsham.	208	31	112	55	64	51
Grittleton.	36	4	6			
Heddington.	40	2	3		6	4
Hilmarton.	52	9	10	3	15	2
Kington Langley.	33		5			
Kington St. Michael.	35	2	12	4		
Lacock.	65	6	12	4	25	6
Langley Burrell Wt.	23		2			
Nettleton.	34	4				
North Wraxall.	35	4	2			
Pewsham.	31	3	4	3		
Stanton St. Quintin.	32	4	7			
Sutton Benger.	47	4	9	2	6	
Yatton Keynell.	50	2	6		6	
	1205	113	303	117	193	81

Refuse Tips, etc.	Inspections.	Treatments.
Sutton Benger.	24	19
Burton.	27	23
Spirthill.	17	12
Nethermore	14	8
Inwood.	33	27
Box Sewer Beds.	22	13
Colerne Sewage Works.	1	
Corsham Sewage Works.	7	6
Castle Combe Sewage Works.	-	-
Woodlands Paper Depot	19	15
	164	123
Banks, hedgerows and ditches.	67	49
Agricultural Properties.	67	39

FACTORIES ACTS, 1937 & 1948 (Part I of the Act).

1. Inspections for purposes of provisions as to health (including inspections made by Public Health Inspectors).

	No. on Register.	No. of Inspections.	Written Notices.
1. Factories in which Secs. 1, 2, 3, 4 & 6 are to be enforced by L.A.	5	6	-
2. Factories not included in (1) in which Sec. 7 is enforced by L.A.	76	5	-
Total:-	81	11	-

2. No. of cases in which defects were found.

	Found.	Remedied.	Referred to H.M. Inspector.	By H.M. Inspector.
Sanitary Conveniences. (Sec. 7).				
(a) insufficient	-	-	-	1
(b) unsuitable	-	-	-	-
(c) not separate	-	-	-	-
Other offences	1	4	-	-
Total:-	1	4	-	1

Only a limited amount of factory inspection work has been possible this year, but improved sanitation has been provided in two factories following representations made by this department.

Certificates of Means of Escape from Fire were also given in respect of two factories at Neston, and one at Quemerford.

FACTORIES ACT, 1937. Section 110.
OUTWORKERS.

The distribution of Outworkers in the Council's district is as follows:-

Box	5
Corsham	25
Kington St. Michael	1
Lacock	1
Calne Wt.	1
Chippenham Wt.	1
	34 (42)

RENT ACT 1957.

This Act has the general objectives of enabling rented houses and flats to be put and kept in repair, of increasing the total stock of rented accommodation, of securing a better use of existing housing accommodation, and of making a beginning on the restoration of a free market in rented housing.

Two applications for Certificates of Disrepair have been received and Certificates have been issued.