

Contributors

Calne and Chippenham (England). Rural District Council.

Publication/Creation

1972

Persistent URL

<https://wellcomecollection.org/works/anqs84nt>

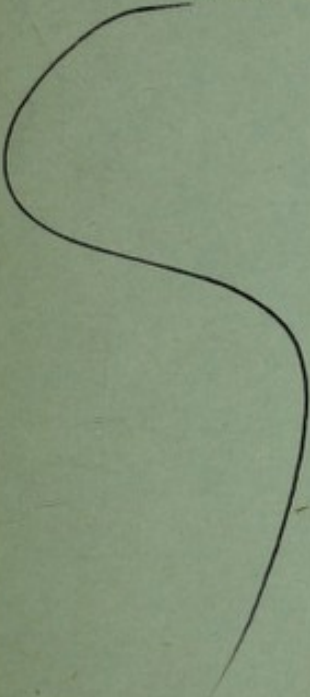
License and attribution

You have permission to make copies of this work under a Creative Commons, Attribution license.

This licence permits unrestricted use, distribution, and reproduction in any medium, provided the original author and source are credited. See the Legal Code for further information.

Image source should be attributed as specified in the full catalogue record. If no source is given the image should be attributed to Wellcome Collection.

Calne and Chippenham Rural District Council



ANNUAL REPORT

of the

Medical Officer of Health

and

Chief Public Health Inspector

for the year

1972



CALNE AND CHIPPENHAM

RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL

ANNUAL REPORT

of the

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

and of the

CHIEF PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR

for the year

1972

DALE AND CRIPPERMAN

RURAL DISTRICT COMMISSION

ANNUAL REPORT

of the

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

and of the

CHIEF PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR

for the year

1913

	Page:
Members of the Council	1.1
Public Health Officers of the Authority	1.2
<u>REPORT OF THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH:</u>	1.3
1. <u>General Statistics</u>	1.4
2. <u>Vital Statistics:</u>	
a. Birth and Death Rates	1.4
b. Live Births	1.4
c. Still Births and Peri-Natal Mortality	1.5
d. Infant Mortality	1.5
e. Deaths - Analysis of Causes of Death	1.5
f. Deaths - by Age Groups	1.6
3. <u>Infectious and Notifiable Disease</u>	1.8
4. <u>Water Supplies</u>	1.9
5. <u>Sewerage and Sewage Disposal</u>	1.11
<u>REPORT OF THE CHIEF PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR:</u>	2.1
Summary of Public Health Inspectors' Visits	2.3
A. <u>Public Health - General:</u>	
1. Drainage	2.4
2. Public Conveniences	2.4
3. Water Supplies	2.5
4. Refuse Collection and Disposal	2.6
5. Salvage of Waste Paper	2.8
6. Caravan Sites	2.9
7. Nuisances from Farming Activities	2.9
8. Infectious Diseases	2.10
9. Clean Air Acts, 1956 and 1968	2.10
10. Offensive Trades	2.10
11. Noise Abatement	2.10
B. <u>Food and Drugs:</u>	
1. Food Premises	2.11
2. Food Complaints	2.13
3. Condemned Foods	2.13
4. Milk and Dairies	2.13
5. Ice Cream	2.14
6. Slaughterhouses and Knackers' Yards	2.15
C. <u>Housing:</u>	
1. Survey	2.15
2. Housing Improvements	2.16
3. Fair Rents	2.16
4. Houses in Multiple Occupation	2.16
5. Common Lodging Houses	2.17
6. Housing Statistics	2.17
D. <u>Factories, Offices, Shops, etc.</u>	
1. Offices, Shops and Railway Premises Act 1963	2.18
2. Factories Act 1961	2.20
E. <u>Rodent Control:</u>	
1. Rodent Officers	2.20
2. Prevention of Damage by Pests Act 1949	2.21
3. Other Pests	2.21
F. <u>Miscellaneous:</u>	
1. Petroleum Licensing	2.22
2. Diseases of Animals (Waste Foods) Order 1957	2.22
3. Scrap Metal Dealers' Act 1964	2.22
4. Animal Boarding Establishments Act 1963	2.22
5. Deposit of Poisonous Wastes Act 1972	2.22
6. Poisonous Beads	2.22

... of the Council ...
 ... of the Authority ...
REPORT OF THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH:

General Statistics	...
Vital Statistics:	...
1. Birth and Death Rates	...
2. Live Births	...
3. Still Births and Part-Water Mortality	...
4. Infant Mortality	...
5. Deaths - Analysis of Causes of Death	...
6. Deaths - by Age Groups	...
Infectious and Notifiable Diseases	...
Water Supplies	...
Sanitation and Sewage Disposal	...

REPORT OF THE CHIEF PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR:

Summary of Public Health Inspectors' Visits	...
Public Health - General:	...
1. Drainage	...
2. Public Conveniences	...
3. Water Supplies	...
4. Refuse Collection and Disposal	...
5. Salvage of Waste Paper	...
6. Cans and Glass	...
7. Industries from Fanning Activities	...
8. Infectious Diseases	...
9. Clean Air Act, 1955 and 1968	...
10. Offensive Trades	...
11. Noise Abatement	...

Food and Drugs:	...
1. Food Premises	...
2. Food Complaints	...
3. Contaminated Foods	...
4. Milk and Babies	...
5. Ice Cream	...
6. Slaughtering and Butchers' Yards	...

Housing:	...
1. Survey	...
2. Housing Improvements	...
3. Fair Rents	...
4. Houses in Multiple Occupation	...
5. Common Lodging Houses	...
6. Housing Statistics	...

Factories, Offices, Shops, etc.	...
1. Offices, Shops and Railway Premises Act 1963	...
2. Factories Act 1961	...

Public Control:	...
1. Road Traffic	...
2. Prevention of Damage by Pests Act 1949	...
3. Other Acts	...

Miscellaneous:	...
1. Petroleum Licensing	...
2. Diseases of Animals (Notifiable Diseases) Order 1957	...
3. ...	...

MEMBERS OF THE CALNE AND CHIPPENHAM RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL

- Bailey, W.S.R.
- Beale, Mrs.J.S. (Vice-Chairman of Council)
- Bowers, Mrs.S.
- (2) Bright, J.
- Brown, Mrs.J.E.
- Cheetham, Lt.Cdr.A.E.B.
- Clarkson, Miss J.
- Cuzack, W.J.
- Dove, R.R.
- Edmonds, R.H.G.
- Fetherston-Godley, Mrs.P.
- Field, C.E.J.
- Fuller, Mrs.C.H.
- Gale, E.W.
- Gardener, A.E.H.
- Henly, R.T.
- Hibberd, R.G.
- Holman, W.T.
- Iles, Mrs.E.D.
- Jackson, A.S.R.
- King, K.G.
- Lavelle, J.P.
- Lee, L.J.
- Light, W.J.
- MacCarthy, Lt.Col.J.H.
- Merry, Mrs.K.J.
- Payne, J.A.
- Pinker, A.A.
- Prior, W.P.
- Shaw, H.E.
- (1) Shelburne, Earl of. (Chairman of Council)
- Smith, F.Halliburton
- Spackman, E.S.
- Steggall, H.J.
- Thomas, G.W.
- Townsend, G.A.
- Wray-Bliss, C.
- Wyrill, Mrs.B.M.
- Young, D.J.
- Young, E.

- (1) - Chairman of Public Health Committee.
- (2) - Vice-Chairman of Public Health Committee.
- - Members of Public Health Committee.

- - - o o o o o o o - - -

MEMBERS OF THE CHAIR AND CHIPPENHAM RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL

- * Bailey, W.E.R.
- * Baines, Mrs. J.E. (Vice-Chairman of Council)
- * Bowers, Mrs. E.
- (2) Bright, J.
- * Brown, Mrs. J.E.
- * Cheetham, Lt. Col. A.E.E.
- * Clarkson, Miss J.
- * Cusack, W.J.
- * Davis, E.A.
- * Edwards, W.H.G.
- * Farnham-Godley, Mrs. F.
- * Field, C.E.J.
- * Fisher, Mrs. C.A.
- * Gale, E.W.
- * Gardner, A.E.R.
- * Henry, E.T.
- * Hibbard, A.G.
- * Holman, W.T.
- * Iles, Mrs. E.D.
- * Jackson, A.E.R.
- * King, K.G.
- * Lavelle, J.P.
- * Lee, L.J.
- * Light, W.J.
- * MacCarthy, Lt. Col. J.H.
- * May, Mrs. W.J.
- * Payne, J.A.
- * Pinder, A.A.
- * Prior, W.P.
- * Shaw, H.E.
- (1) Shepherd, Earl of (Chairman of Council)
- * Smith, F. H. H. H. H. H.
- * Spackman, E.E.
- * Staggall, H.J.
- * Thomas, G.W.
- * Townsend, G.A.
- * Wray-Giles, C.
- * Wyllie, Mrs. B.H.
- * Young, D.J.
- * Young, E.

- (2) - Chairman of Public Health Committee.
- (2) - Vice-Chairman of Public Health Committee.
- * - Members of Public Health Committee.

PUBLIC HEALTH OFFICERS OF THE AUTHORITY

(a) MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH:

John R. Wray, M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.P.H., M.F.C.M.

Offices: Municipal Offices,
Monkton Park,
Chippenham.
Tel.No. Chippenham 2821.

Also: Medical Officer of Health for the:

Boroughs of Calne, Chippenham and Malmesbury,
and the
Rural District of Malmesbury.

Medical Officer, Wiltshire County Council.

School Medical Officer.

Secretary to the Medical Officer of Health:

Mrs V.L. Gregory.

(b) CHIEF PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR:

H.J. Taylor, F.A.P.H.I., M.R.S.H.

Offices: Bewley House,
Marshfield Road,
Chippenham.
Tel.No. Chippenham 2854.

Deputy Chief Public Health Inspector:

A.F.M. Howard, M.A.P.H.I., A.R.S.H.

Additional Public Health Inspectors:

S.H. Murray,	M.A.P.H.I.
E.J. Silvester,	M.A.P.H.I.
G. Jones,	M.A.P.H.I.

(c) COMMITTEES OF THE COUNCIL which are concerned
with matters of Public Health:

Public Health Committee.

Housing Committee.

Finance, Staff and General Purposes Committee.

These Committees meet six-weekly throughout
the year, except during August, and deal with
all matters appertaining to Public Health and
Housing.

Accident Prevention Committee - this meets quarterly.

- - - o o o o o o o - - -

PUBLIC HEALTH OFFICES OF THE AUTHORITY

(a) MEDICAL OFFICES OF HEALTH:

John R. Wray, M.D., L.S.C.S., D.P.H., M.P.C.M.

Offices: Parkland Offices;

Newton Park,

Chippewas,

Tel. No. Chippewas 3831.

Also: Medical Officer of Health for the

Baronage of Cairns, Chippewas and Wainwright,

and the

Local Medical Officer of Health.

Medical Officer, Wainwright County Council.

Local Medical Officer.

Secretary to the Medical Officer of Health:

Mrs V. L. Gregory.

Digitized by the Internet Archive

in 2017 with funding from

Wellcome Library

Chippewas,

Tel. No. Chippewas 3831.

Deputy Chief Public Health Inspector:

A. P. M. Howard, M.A.P.H.I., M.B.S.H.

Additional Public Health Inspectors:

S. M. Hurley, M.A.P.H.I.

E. A. Hurley, M.A.P.H.I.

G. Jones, M.A.P.H.I.

(c) COMMITTEES OF THE COUNCIL which are concerned

with matters of Public Health:

Public Health Committee,

Housing Committee,

Finance, Staff and General Purposes Committee.

These Committees meet six-weekly throughout

the year, except during August, and deal with

all matters pertaining to Public Health and

Housing.

Accident Prevention Committee - this meets quarterly.

<https://archive.org/details/b29088070>

To the Chairman and Members of the
Calne and Chippenham Rural District Council:

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

The Annual Report for 1972 gives the vital statistics
for the Rural District, and the causes of death as supplied by the
Registrar-General in May 1973.

The incidence of notifiable disease was low, although it
was an epidemic year for measles. There were no outstanding health
problems to report.

I should like to thank the Council and its Officers for
making my work in Wiltshire interesting and happy.

I have the honour to be,

Your obedient Servant,

J. R. WRAY,

Medical Officer of Health.

To the Chairman and Members of the
Caine and Chipman Rural District Council:

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

The Annual Report for 1972 gives the vital statistics
for the Rural District, and the causes of death as supplied by the
Registrar-General in May 1973.

The incidence of notifiable diseases was low, although it
was an epidemic year for measles. There were no outstanding health
problems to report.

I should like to thank the Council and its Officers for
making my work in Wiltshire interesting and happy.

I have the honour to be,

Your obedient servant,

J. R. Wray,

Medical Officer of Health.

REPORT of the MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

1. GENERAL STATISTICS.

Area (in acres)	85,388
Population (Registrar-General's estimate)	31,340
Number of inhabited houses, as at 1st April 1972... ..	9,269
Number of Council dwellings, as at 31st December 1972... ..	2,028 permanent 32 temporary
Number of applicants for Council dwellings, as at 31st December 1972... ..	493
Rateable Value, as at 1st April 1972	£ 1,083,694
Estimated Penny Rate for 1972/3	£ 10,625

The estimated penny rate for 1972/3 is based on the 1972 Rateable Value of the District.

2. VITAL STATISTICS.

2a. BIRTH AND DEATH RATES.

Birth and Death Rates compared with other Areas.

(Births and Deaths per 1000 population, standardised*)

	<u>Birth Rate:</u>		<u>Death Rate:</u>	
	<u>1971</u>	<u>1972</u>	<u>1971</u>	<u>1972</u>
Calne and Chippenham Rural District	20.0	16.2	12.1	10.8
Wiltshire	17.4	16.4	10.5	10.9
England and Wales	16.0	14.8	11.6	12.1

* Comparability figures are supplied to each District by the Registrar-General. These take into account the varying age/sex distribution of the population in different parts of the country. When applied to the local rates, they allow a more accurate comparison to be made between different areas.

2b. LIVE BIRTHS.

	<u>Males:</u>	<u>Females:</u>	<u>Totals:</u>
Legitimate	262	243	505
Illegitimate	12	14	26
Totals:	274	257	531

2c. STILL BIRTHS AND PERINATAL MORTALITY.

Nine still births were notified during 1972, an increase of two over the total notified during 1971. The rate per 1000 total live and still births is nine. The rate for England and Wales, as given by the Registrar-General, is twelve.

Perinatal mortality means still births and deaths under one week of age. The rate for the district was twenty-two per 1000 total births (live and still), and for England and Wales it was also twenty-two.

2d. INFANT MORTALITY.

	<u>Males:</u>	<u>Females:</u>	<u>Totals:</u>
Under one year	5	4	9
Under four weeks...	5	3	8
Under one week	5	2	7
Infant Mortality Rate for the District ...	17	per 1000 live births.	
Comparative Rate for England and Wales ...	17	per 1000 live births.	

2e. DEATHS: ANALYSIS OF CAUSES OF DEATH.

	<u>Males:</u>	<u>Females:</u>	<u>Totals:</u>
Late effects of respiratory tuberculosis ...	1	-	1
Malignant neoplasm, buccal cavity, etc. ...	2	-	2
Malignant neoplasm, stomach	6	3	9
Malignant neoplasm, intestine	5	5	10
Malignant neoplasm, lung, bronchus	12	4	16
Malignant neoplasm, breast... ..	-	6	6
Malignant neoplasm, uterus... ..	-	1	1
Malignant neoplasm, prostate	1	-	1
Leukaemia	1	1	2
Other malignant neoplasms	14	7	21
Diabetes mellitus	1	2	3
Anaemias	1	-	1
Meningitis	1	-	1
Multiple sclerosis	1	1	2
Other diseases of nervous system	2	-	2
Chronic rheumatic heart disease... ..	-	5	5
Hypertensive disease	2	3	5
Ischaemic heart disease	45	26	71
Other forms of heart disease	5	5	10
Cerebrovascular disease	20	19	39
Other diseases of circulatory system... ..	10	6	16
Influenza	1	2	3
Pneumonia	10	9	19
Bronchitis and emphysema	9	2	11
Asthma... ..	1	-	1
Other diseases of respiratory system... ..	1	1	2
Peptic ulcer	1	-	1
Intestinal obstruction and hernia	-	1	1
Other diseases of digestive system	1	-	1
Hyperplasia of prostate	1	-	1
Other diseases of genito-urinary system	1	-	1
Congenital anomalies	1	3	4
Birth injury, difficult labour, etc. ...	3	1	4
Other causes of perinatal mortality	1	-	1
Symptoms and ill-defined conditions	1	-	1
Motor vehicle accidents	3	2	5
All other accidents	3	2	5
Suicide and self-inflicted injuries	1	-	1
All other external causes	-	1	1
Totals:	169	119	287

2f.

DEATHS: BY AGE GROUPS.

	<u>Males:</u>	<u>Females:</u>	<u>Totals:</u>
<u>Under 4 weeks:</u>			
Congenital anomalies	1	2	
Birth injury, difficult labour etc. ...	3	1	
Other causes of perinatal mortality ...	1	-	
	5	3	8
<u>4 weeks and under 1 year:</u>			
All other accidents	-	1	
	-	1	1
<u>1 - 4 years:</u>			
Leukaemia	-	1	
	-	1	1
<u>5 - 14 years:</u>			
Leukaemia	1	-	
	1	-	1
<u>15 - 24 years:</u>			
Motor vehicle accidents... ..	1	-	
	1	-	1
<u>25 - 34 years:</u>			
Other diseases of nervous system	1	-	
Cerebrovascular disease... ..	1	-	
Pneumonia	1	-	
Congenital anomalies	-	1	
	3	1	4
<u>35 - 44 years:</u>			
Malignant neoplasm, stomach	1	-	
Malignant neoplasm, intestine	1	-	
Other malignant neoplasms	-	1	
Cerebrovascular disease... ..	-	1	
All other external causes	-	1	
	2	3	5
<u>45 - 54 years:</u>			
Malignant neoplasm, lung, bronchus ...	-	1	
Malignant neoplasm, breast	-	2	
Other malignant neoplasms	2	1	
Multiple sclerosis... ..	-	1	
Chronic rheumatic heart disease	-	1	
Hypertensive disease	-	1	
Ischaemic heart disease... ..	5	1	
Other forms of heart disease... ..	1	-	
Pneumonia	1	-	
Asthma	1	-	
Motor vehicle accidents... ..	-	1	
Suicide and self-inflicted injuries ...	1	-	
	11	9	20

	<u>Males:</u>	<u>Females:</u>	<u>Totals:</u>
<u>55 - 64 years:</u>			
Malignant neoplasm, buccal cavity, etc.	1	-	
Malignant neoplasm, stomach	2	-	
Malignant neoplasm, lung, bronchus ...	1	2	
Malignant neoplasm, breast	-	1	
Malignant neoplasm, uterus	-	1	
Other malignant neoplasms	7	1	
Chronic rheumatic heart disease	-	2	
Hypertensive disease	1	-	
Ischaemic heart disease... ..	8	2	
Other forms of heart disease... ..	1	-	
Cerebrovascular disease... ..	3	1	
Other diseases of circulatory system ...	2	1	
Influenza	-	1	
Pneumonia	1	1	
Bronchitis and emphysema	3	-	
Intestinal obstruction and hernia... ..	-	1	
Other diseases of digestive system ...	1	-	
All other accidents	1	1	
	32	15	47
<u>65 - 74 years:</u>			
Late effects of respiratory tuberculosis	1	-	
Malignant neoplasm, buccal cavity, etc.	1	-	
Malignant neoplasm, stomach	-	2	
Malignant neoplasm, intestine	1	3	
Malignant neoplasm, lung, bronchus ...	9	1	
Malignant neoplasm, breast	-	1	
Other malignant neoplasms	3	2	
Diabetes mellitus	1	-	
Meningitis	1	-	
Multiple sclerosis... ..	1	-	
Other diseases of nervous system	1	-	
Chronic rheumatic heart disease	-	1	
Ischaemic heart disease... ..	18	7	
Other forms of heart disease... ..	2	-	
Cerebrovascular disease... ..	6	3	
Other diseases of circulatory system ...	4	1	
Influenza	1	1	
Pneumonia	4	4	
Bronchitis and emphysema	3	-	
Other diseases of respiratory system ...	-	1	
Peptic ulcer	1	-	
Motor vehicle accidents... ..	2	-	
All other accidents	1	-	
	61	27	88
<u>75 years and over:</u>			
Malignant neoplasm, stomach	3	1	
Malignant neoplasm, intestine	3	2	
Malignant neoplasm, lung, bronchus ...	2	-	
Malignant neoplasm, breast	-	2	
Malignant neoplasm, prostate... ..	1	-	
Other malignant neoplasms	2	2	
Diabetes mellitus	-	2	
Anaemias... ..	1	-	
Chronic rheumatic heart disease	-	1	
Hypertensive disease	1	2	
Ischaemic heart disease... ..	14	16	
Other forms of heart disease... ..	1	5	
Cerebro-vascular disease	10	14	
Other diseases of circulatory system ...	4	4	
Carried forward:	42	51	

	Males:	Females:	Totals:
<u>75 years and over (continued):</u>			
Brought forward:	42	51	
Pneumonia	3	4	
Bronchitis and emphysema	3	2	
Other diseases of respiratory system ...	1	-	
Hyperplasia of prostate... ..	1	-	
Other diseases of genito-urinary system	1	1	
Symptoms and ill-defined conditions ...	1	-	
Motor vehicle accidents... ..	-	1	
All other accidents	1	-	
	<u>53</u>	<u>59</u>	112

3. INFECTIOUS AND NOTIFIABLE DISEASE.

The following table gives details of cases of notifiable disease during the past four years:-

	<u>1969</u>		<u>1970</u>		<u>1971</u>		<u>1972</u>	
	(a)	(b)	(a)	(b)	(a)	(b)	(a)	(b)
Tuberculosis	4	4	7	7	4	4	7	7
Scarlet Fever	4	4	4	4	3	3	6	6
Whooping Cough	-	-	10	10	15	15	1	1
Measles	138	138	129	129	59	59	81	81
Dysentery	9	7	2	2	-	-	3	3
Cerebro-Spinal Fever	-	-	1	1	1	1	-	-
Salmonella Infections	1	1	2	2	3	3	4	4
Food Poisoning	4	-	-	-	2	-	1	-
Infective Hepatitis	35	35	22	22	8	8	2	2
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	-	-	1	1	-	-	-	-
Leptospirosis	-	-	-	-	1	1	-	-
Totals:	195	189	178	178	96	94	105	104

(a) = Numbers originally notified.
(b) = Final numbers, after correction.

(a) Tuberculosis.

Seven cases were notified during the year. In each case a Health Inspector visits the home and reports on the sanitary circumstances. The Chest Physician, helped by Health Visitors of the County Council, checks on the family and all contacts. All school-children at secondary school are offered B.C.G. immunisation, which protects against tuberculosis.

(b) Measles.

This was an epidemic year, with 81 cases reported. Immunisation is offered to all children in their second year of life.

(c) Dysentery.

Three isolated cases were reported.

(d) Salmonella and other Food Poisoning.

Four sporadic cases of Salmonella were notified. In one case of Food Poisoning notified, no cause could be found.

(e) Infective Hepatitis.

Two cases only were reported.

(f) Immunisation.

I am grateful to Dr.C.D.L.Lycett, the County Medical Officer of Health, for the following immunisation statistics for the Rural District, carried out in 1972:-

	Children born in years:-							
	1972	1971	1970	1969	1968	1963 to 1967	1957 to 1962	Others under 16.
<u>Primary Immunisations completed during 1972:</u>								
Diphtheria	195	177	5	3	2	7	1	-
Whooping Cough	190	172	4	3	1	-	-	-
Measles	-	269	49	18	13	11	1	-
Tetanus	195	177	5	3	2	8	9	11
Poliomyelitis	193	177	6	4	2	8	-	-
<u>Reinforcing Immunisations given in 1972:</u>								
Diphtheria	-	124	180	16	86	300	4	-
Whooping Cough	-	98	134	7	1	3	-	-
Tetanus	1	125	181	16	86	308	23	-
Poliomyelitis	-	122	166	15	85	260	5	-

Age Group:-	Months:				Years:		
	0-3	3-6	6-9	9-12	1	2-4	5-15
*Smallpox Vaccinations	-	-	-	-	14	12	6
Smallpox Re-Vaccinations	-	-	-	-	-	2	33

* Vaccination discontinued as a routine measure for early childhood in September 1971.

4. WATER SUPPLIES.

I am indebted to the Engineer to the North Wilts Water Board for the following comprehensive report on water supplies, which is amplified by information included in the Chief Public Health Inspector's section of this report.

It will be seen that the second and third paragraphs in the Development section refer to work in the Devizes Rural District; these are included to give a general picture of the Board's developments.

Development.

During the year under review the borehole at Lacock has been completed and tested satisfactorily.

A scheme for the development of the Easterton borehole, including further storage capacity for the Market Lavington area, has been approved by the Board.

An experimental treatment plant for the removal of dissolved iron in the waters obtained from the greensand has been installed and is being commissioned at Bishops Cannings. If this plant proves satisfactory, the Board intends to install similar treatment plants at other sources associated with this iron problem.

Due to the ever-increasing demand for water, the Board's standby borehole at Milbourne is being brought into commission and an additional 1½-million gallon reinforced concrete reservoir is being built at Allington to increase the storage capacity for the Chippenham area and the surrounding Rural District.

Consumption.

	1971	1972
Average daily consumption in million gallons	9.44	10.06
Metered supplies	3.29	3.31
Unmetered supplies	6.15	6.75

The Board is still meeting this demand with some reserves.

Bacteriological Examination of Water.

(a) Samples taken from consumers' supply points:

During the year 1,234 samples from consumers' supply points were examined; of these:-

- 1,162 were satisfactory, having coliform counts of less than 1
- 46 were reported to have coliform counts of 1-2
- 26 were reported to have coliform counts of 3 or more.

On the occasions when reports of coliform counts were received from the Laboratory, investigations and repeated samplings were undertaken and continued until satisfactory reports were received.

(b) Samples taken from sources:

695 samples of water from sources were submitted for examination. These tests showed:-

Excellent:	Coliform count of less than 1	...	...	638
Satisfactory:	" " " 1-3	...	...	44
Suspicious:	" " " 4-10	...	...	7
Unsatisfactory:	" " " more than 10	...	...	6

Samples excellent and satisfactory: 98.2%

(c) Typical Analysis of Raw Waters:

	Source and Date:-				
	Chippenham	Redbourne	Charlton	Calstone	Widdenham
	Borehole 15.11.72	Borehole 20.9.72	Borehole 26.7.72	Springs 17.1.73	Springs 21.3.72
Colour	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Odour	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Chlorinous
pH	7.1	6.9	7.3	7.3	7.4
Free CO ₂ (p.p.m.)	42	65	26	30	20
Chloride (")	46	37	19	13	40
Hardness: (")	340	305	305	325	300
Carbonate (")	255	255	245	275	230
Non-Carbonate (")	85	50	60	50	70
Nitrate Nitrogen (")	0.5	0.6	3.0	3.0	2.4
Nitrite Nitrogen (")	0.01	0.01	Absent	Absent	Absent
Oxygen Absorbed (")	0.30	0.00	0.30	0.10	0.00
Alb. Nitrogen (")	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.02
Iron (")	0.04	Absent	0.04	Absent	0.03
Zinc (")	Absent	Absent	Absent	Absent	0.04
Other Metals (")	Absent	Absent	Absent	Absent	Absent
Fluoride (")	0.60	0.75	0.30	0.15	0.26

The Board continues to exercise supervision of the quality of raw water from all the sources by submitting samples to their Consultant Chemists, the Counties Public Health Laboratories, London, and any changes in chemical or mineralogical qualities of the water are reported upon by Mr. Gordon Miles, the Principal of those Laboratories.

The Board is advised by its Consultant Chemists that none of the waters supplied is plumbo-solvent.

I am grateful to Mr.W.Langley Jones for the following information on sewerage and sewage disposal schemes:-

During the next financial year, the following schemes were expected to be undertaken, but because of the reduction in capital monies available from the County Council, it is unlikely that very much of this work can be started until 1974/5. The schemes affected are:-

REPORT of the CHIEF PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR
of the CALGARY and DISTRICT BOARD OF HEALTH

To the Chairman and Members of the
Calgary and District Board of Health

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have the pleasure to present to the
Annual Report of the Board of Health for the year 1972,
which is the last report to be presented to
this Council.

ANNUAL REPORT

This year I shall confine my comments to two aspects
of the work of the department, namely housing improvement grants
and poultry inspection.

Housing Improvement Grants.

CHIEF PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR

and Public Health Officer.

In assessing the results of the grant scheme with a
view to making it more effective in the district it is, perhaps,
relevant to compare the results of the Housing Act 1969 - which
increased the amount of grant available and relaxed conditions -
with that of the Housing Act 1959 which introduced Standard Grants.

for the year

It will be seen from the figures given in the body of
this Report that, whereas the Housing Act 1969 created a ceiling and
subsidised payments in the form of grants, this year is the
first since the introduction of the 1969 Act that we have reached
the performance of 1969, or even the average performance for the
years 1968 to 1969.

1972

The reason for this does not lie in lack of knowledge of
or interest in grants by the general public as the average number
of applications approved from 1968 to 1969 was 20 per year, and
the number from 1970 to 1972 was 106; nor does it appear to be
due to high costs and lack of money as at present it is very
difficult to find buildings fit even quite for work.

There is no visible reduction in the building labour
force in the area but it does appear that this labour is now more
employed in extending houses for homeowners who, five years
ago, would have opted to be built a larger house. Also, the
improvement and conversion schemes are more extensive, and
therefore more expensive in labour and materials, than they were.

We have always tried to obtain the best possible
improvements up to the current standards and I think that this
policy should continue. On the other hand, if we are to secure
the improvement of a greater number of houses with a more or less
fixed labour force, it follows that we should discourage
excessive expenditure on individual grant-aided schemes.

REPORT of the CHIEF PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR

To the Chairman and Members of the
Calne and Chippenham Rural District Council:

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to present my contribution to the Annual Report of the Medical Officer of Health for the year 1972, which is the last-but-one such Annual Report to be presented to this Council.

This year I shall confine my comments to two aspects of the work of the department, namely, housing improvement grants and poultry inspection.

Housing Improvement Grants.

Although there was an increase this year in the number of houses improved or provided by conversion, it did not reach the peak years of 1962 and 1967.

In assessing the results of the grant scheme with a view to making it more effective in this district it is, perhaps, relevant to compare the impact of the Housing Act 1969 - which increased the amount of grant to £1000 and relaxed conditions - with that of the Housing Act 1959 which introduced Standard Grants.

It will be seen from the figures given in the body of this Report that, whereas the 1959 Act created a sudden and maintained increase in the number of improvements, this year is the first since the introduction of the 1969 Act that we have reached the performance of 1968, or even the average performance for the years 1960 to 1968.

The reason for this does not lie in lack of knowledge of or interest in grants by the general public as the average number of applications approved from 1960 to 1968 was 88 per year, and the number from 1970 to 1972 was 106; nor does it appear to be due to high costs and lack of money as at present it is very difficult to find builders to even quote for work.

There is no marked reduction in the building labour force in the area but it does appear that this labour is now much more employed in enlarging houses for householders who, five years ago, would have moved to or built a larger house. Also, the improvement and conversion schemes are more extensive, and therefore more expensive in labour and materials, than they were.

We have always tried to obtain the best possible improvements up to the current standards and I think that this policy should continue. On the other hand, if we are to secure the improvement of a greater number of houses with a more-or-less fixed labour force, it follows that we should discourage excessive expenditure on individual grant-aided schemes.

REPORT of the CHIEF PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR

To the Chairman and Members of the
Caine and Chippendale Rural District Councils

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to present my contribution to the
Annual Report of the Medical Officer of Health for the year 1972,
which is the last-but-one such Annual Report to be presented to
this Council.

This year I shall confine my comments to two aspects
of the work of the department, namely, housing improvement grants
and poultry inspection.

Housing Improvement Grants.

Although there was an increase this year in the number
of houses improved or provided by conversion, it did not reach
the peak years of 1965 and 1967.

In assessing the results of the grant scheme with a
view to making it more effective in this district it is, perhaps,
relevant to compare the impact of the Housing Act 1959 - which
increased the amount of grant to £1000 and relaxed conditions -
with that of the Housing Act 1955 which introduced Standard Grants.

It will be seen from the figures given in the body of
this Report that, whereas the 1959 Act created a sudden and
sustained increase in the number of improvements, this year is the
first since the introduction of the 1959 Act that we have reached
the performance of 1968, or even the average performance for the
years 1960 to 1968.

The reason for this does not lie in lack of knowledge or
interest in grants by the general public as the average number
of applications approved from 1960 to 1968 was 88 per year, and
the number from 1970 to 1972 was 106; nor does it appear to be
due to high costs and lack of money as at present it is very
difficult to find builders to even quote for work.

There is no marked reduction in the building labour
force in the area but it does appear that this labour is now more
more employed in enlarging houses for householder who, five years
ago, would have moved to or built a larger house. Also, the
improvement and conversion schemes are more extensive, and
therefore more expensive in labour and materials, than they were.

We have always tried to obtain the best possible
improvements up to the current standards and I think that this
policy should continue. On the other hand, if we are to secure
the improvement of a greater number of houses with a more-or-less
fixed labour force, it follows that we should discourage
excessive expenditure on individual grant-aided schemes.

This was done, up to 1954, by fixing a maximum expenditure on improvement schemes: its re-introduction now could well result in everyone having to think more carefully about the purpose and usefulness of the grant system and, ultimately, increase the rate of housing improvements.

Poultry Slaughterhouses and Processing
Establishments - Inspection Service.

This Council has implemented the advice given in Circular No.22/61 on Food Hygiene Codes of Practice - Poultry Dressing and Packing, and a later circular letter of the 30th August 1966 on Poultry Inspection.

It was acknowledged by the then Ministry of Health that with the number of table birds being produced it was impossible for local authority inspectors to examine every bird or carcase, and as a result a system of scrutiny by the industry itself under the general supervision of the local authority has been adopted at the large Poultry Packing Station in this district.

In my opinion this method of inspection, with all its disadvantages, has worked well, thanks to a very high standard of quality control adopted by the Company.

This is not to say that the system has been perfect - far from it - but intrinsically it is a sound method of inspection, particularly if it is backed up by a reasonable number of full-time local authority poultry inspectors.

This improved method of fresh poultry inspection is not acceptable to the European Community which, by its Directive of the 15th February 1971, insists that the fresh poultry inspection service and hygiene standards at poultry processing establishments must come under the control of official veterinary surgeons with qualified assistants who must have had special practical and theoretical training as poultry inspectors.

These new arrangements will not be the immediate concern of this Council, but implementation of the Directive requirements will be the responsibility of the new local authorities elected after June 1973.

The various Ministries have paid lip service to the very high standard of the Meat Inspection Service in this country, which is operated generally by qualified Public Health Inspectors and Meat Inspectors, and yet they have bowed to the insistence of the European Community that only veterinary surgeons are qualified to undertake this important work. It should be pointed out that officers equivalent to Public Health Inspectors do not exist in Europe.

My grateful thanks are extended to the staff of the Public Health Department for their loyal service to the Council, and for their help in the compilation of this Report.

I would like especially to extend a 'thank-you' to Dr.Wray for his continued support and advice to the Department, and to express my regret that he has decided to resign his post as Medical Officer of Health to the Council, but I wish him every success in his new appointment in East Africa.

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

Your obedient Servant,

H. J. TAYLOR,

Chief Public Health Inspector.

This was done, up to 1954, by fixing a maximum expenditure on improvement schemes; the re-inspection now could well result in everyone having to think more carefully about the purpose and usefulness of the grant system and, ultimately, increase the rate of housing improvements.

Poultry Slaughteries and Processing
Establishments - Inspection Service

This Council has implemented the advice given in Circular No. 25/51 on Food Hygiene Codes of Practice - Poultry Dressing and Packing, and a later circular letter of the 30th August 1955 on Poultry Inspection.

It was acknowledged by the then Ministry of Health that with the number of table birds being produced it was impossible for local authority inspectors to examine every bird or carcass, and as a result a system of scrutiny by the industry itself under the general supervision of the local authority has been adopted at the large poultry packing stations in this district.

In my opinion this method of inspection, with all its disadvantages, has worked well, thanks to a very high standard of quality control adopted by the Company.

This is not to say that the system has been perfect - far from it - but intrinsically it is a sound method of inspection, particularly if it is backed up by a reasonable number of full-time local authority poultry inspectors.

This improved method of fresh poultry inspection is not acceptable to the European Community which, by its Directive of the 15th February 1971, insists that the fresh poultry inspection service and hygiene standards at poultry processing establishments must come under the control of official veterinary surgeons with qualified assistants who must have had special practical and theoretical training as poultry inspectors.

These new arrangements will not be the immediate concern of this Council, but implementation of the Directive requirements will be the responsibility of the new local authorities elected after June 1973.

The various Ministries have paid lip service to the very high standard of the Meat Inspection Service in this country, which is operated generally by qualified Public Health Inspectors and Meat Inspectors, and yet they have bowed to the insistence of the European Community that only veterinary surgeons are qualified to undertake this important work. It should be pointed out that officers equivalent to Public Health Inspectors do not exist in Europe.

My grateful thanks are extended to the staff of the Public Health Department for their loyal service to the Council, and for their help in the completion of this report.

I would like especially to extend a 'thank-you' to Dr. May for his continued support and advice to the Department, and to express my regret that he has decided to resign his post as Medical Officer of Health to the Council, but I wish him every success in his new appointment in East Africa.

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

Your obedient servant,

M. J. WYLER,

Chief Public Health Inspector.

SUMMARY OF PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTORS' VISITS DURING 1972

Public Health.

Investigations into complaints of nuisance due to:-									
premises prejudicial to health	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	18
keeping of animals	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	35
accumulations or deposits	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	27
atmospheric pollution	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	35
noise	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	13
drainage	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	53
other causes	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	46
General inspection of District for nuisances	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	81
Re-visits concerning nuisances	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	168
Visits re:-									
water supplies	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	37
sanitary surveys	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	440
sewer connections	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	15
land drainage	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	116
infectious diseases	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	54
treatment of infested premises - insects etc.	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	39
rodent control	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	18
Inspections of:-									
private caravan sites	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	48
Council caravan sites	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	190
gypsy camps	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	6
public conveniences	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	165
Other public health calls and re-visits	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	467

Housing.

Houses inspected under Public Health Acts	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	11
Re-visits to the above houses	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	5
Houses inspected under Housing Acts	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	354
Re-visits to the above houses	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	64
Houses inspected for overcrowding	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	3
Houses inspected re improvements	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	239
Re-visits to the above houses	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	298
Visits re housing advances	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	44

Food and Drugs.

Inspections of:-									
bakehouses	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	8
butchers' shops	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	20
canteens, cafes, etc.	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	49
dairies and milk distributors	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	12
fried fish shops	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	7
grocers and general stores	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	54
licensed premises	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	34
poultry packing stations	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	120
stalls, vehicles, etc.	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	33
other food premises	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	15
knackers' yards	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	11
Follow-up visits to the above premises	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	5
Complaints investigated	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	18
Other Food and Drugs visits and re-visits	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	18

General.

Offices, Shops and Railway Premises Acts:-									
general inspections	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	14
other inspections	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	54
Factories Acts:-									
visits to factories	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	34
visits to outworkers' premises	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	—
Visits re:-									
litter	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	211
abandoned vehicles	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	252
refuse and salvage collection	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	132
refuse disposal	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	87
petroleum licensing	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	30
Miscellaneous visits	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	279

- - - o o o 0 o o o - - -

Public Health.

Investigations into complaints of nuisances due to:-					
premises prejudicial to health	18	...	...	...	...
keeping of animals	35	...	...	...	...
accumulations or deposits	37	...	...	...	...
atmospheric pollution	35	...	...	...	...
noise	13	...	...	...	...
drainage	23	...	...	...	...
other causes	45	...	...	...	...
General inspection of districts for nuisances	51	...	...	...	...
Re-visits concerning nuisances	158	...	...	...	...
water supplies	37	...	...	...	...
sanitary surveys	440	...	...	...	...
sewer connections	15	...	...	...	...
land drainage	115	...	...	...	...
infectious diseases	54	...	...	...	...
treatment of infected premises - infectious etc.	39	...	...	...	...
rodent control	18	...	...	...	...
private caravans sites	48	...	...	...	...
Council caravan sites	190	...	...	...	...
gypsy camps	5	...	...	...	...
public conveniences	155	...	...	...	...
Other public health calls and re-visits	457	...	...	...	...

Housing.

Houses inspected under Public Health Acts	11	...	...	...	...
Re-visits to the above houses	2	...	...	...	...
Houses inspected under Housing Acts	354	...	...	...	...
Re-visits to the above houses	54	...	...	...	...
Houses inspected for overcrowding	3	...	...	...	...
Houses inspected for improvements	238	...	...	...	...
Re-visits to the above houses	200	...	...	...	...
Visits to housing schemes	44	...	...	...	...

Food and Drugs.

Inspections of:-					
butcher's shops	8	...	...	...	...
butcher's shops	20	...	...	...	...
confection, cakes, etc.	48	...	...	...	...
dairies and milk distributors	13	...	...	...	...
fish shops	7	...	...	...	...
grocers and general stores	54	...	...	...	...
licensed premises	54	...	...	...	...
public drinking stations	130	...	...	...	...
stalls, vehicles, etc.	31	...	...	...	...
other food premises	15	...	...	...	...
brewers' yards	17	...	...	...	...
Follow-up visits to the above premises	5	...	...	...	...
Complaints investigated	18	...	...	...	...
Other food and drugs visits and re-visits	15	...	...	...	...

General.

Offices, Shops and Railway Premises Acts:-					
general inspections	14	...	...	...	...
other inspections	54	...	...	...	...
visits to factories	34	...	...	...	...
visits to outworkers' premises	—	...	...	...	...
lifts	211	...	...	...	...
abandoned vehicles	135	...	...	...	...
refuse and refuse collection	133	...	...	...	...
refuse disposal	87	...	...	...	...
petroleum licensing	30	...	...	...	...
Miscellaneous visits	279	...	...	...	...

A. PUBLIC HEALTH - GENERAL.

A.1. DRAINAGE.

(a) Sewer Connections.

Most domestic and trade premises without satisfactory means of drainage are connected to new public sewers within three or four years of the completion of sewerage schemes.

From time to time the owners of premises with unsatisfactory septic tank systems are persuaded to connect to the sewer, so that ultimately almost all domestic or trade premises in this District, within 100 feet of a sewer, are connected thereto.

The Burton public sewer was not ready for connections by the 31st December 1972, but every effort will be made to secure 100% connections in 1973.

Short sections of the South-Eastern Sewerage Scheme were completed before the end of 1972 and a small number of property owners have already connected to these sewers. As the sewers become available in Compton Bassett, Cherhill and Calne Without, pressure will be applied to owners of properties not provided with satisfactory means of drainage to connect to these sewers.

(b) Drainage Survey.

A survey of existing drainage facilities has been carried out in the Parishes of Compton Bassett, Cherhill and Heddington. Arising from this survey, a number of modifications to the proposed route of the new sewer have been suggested to, and agreed by, the Council's Engineer and Surveyor.

(c) Sampling of Effluents from Sewage Disposal Works.

Examination of effluents from the Council's sewage disposal works is arranged by the Engineer and Surveyor and carried out by the Council's Chemist at the Thingley Sewage Disposal Works.

No complaints have been received this year of pollution by sewage effluent.

(d) Land Drainage.

Little progress has been made concerning improvements to various lengths of watercourses in the Rural District.

The Engineer and Surveyor has carried out drainage surveys in Christian Malford, East Tytherton and Heddington and has forwarded his proposals to the County Land Agent to prepare and submit land drainage improvement schemes to the Minister of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food for approval. Because of a heavy programme of similar work and a severe staff shortage, some delay will occur before operations actually commence on these schemes.

A.2. PUBLIC CONVENIENCES.

The new conveniences in the Corsham Central Area were opened to the public very unobtrusively in October. An opportunity to put Corsham and its Town Band in the national limelight by arranging a Cloche Merle opening ceremony was not taken up.

A.2. (contd.) It is a matter of regret that wilful damage was done to both male and female sections before the conveniences had been in use for two days. Since then, expense and trouble have been incurred in rectifying the destructive efforts of the dreary morons responsible for this. Such people are a danger to society too, for in damaging the hand-washing facilities they make it possible for an outbreak of intestinal infection to commence.

The new public convenience planned for Biddestone is expected to be built during 1973.

A.3. WATER SUPPLIES.

Almost all the water supplied to this District is provided by the North Wilts Water Board, with the Bristol Waterworks supplying a small area at Burton. Ross Poultry Ltd. obtain water from their own borehole for their poultry packing station at Sutton Benger.

(a) Adequacy of Supplies.

Local complaints of sporadic loss of supply at New Zealand during dry periods were received and investigated.

This hamlet is the highest point on a section of main at the extreme end of the supply, and a heavy draw-off at a lower level reduces the water pressure in the mains, so that no water gravitates to the small temporary storage tank and local residents are without water for intermittent periods.

The North Wilts Water Board, I understand, have a scheme in hand to improve the situation in this area.

(b) Private Supplies.

Over the years, many small private supplies have been phased out and connections made to the public mains. A few private supplies remain in use in isolated areas to supply individual farms and cottages where the cost of bringing in mains water is prohibitive.

Three samples are shown on our table of sample reports: the two unsatisfactory samples were taken from wells, where the owner was interested in an emergency supply but was already on the mains. The well supplying the satisfactory sample has been replaced by a mains connection.

(c) Contamination.

A proportion of samples taken from public mains have shown minor pollution with faecal or non-faecal contamination, and the table of samples indicates the sources of supply of these unsatisfactory reports. These were mostly of no significance and some samples were taken in areas where fractured mains had recently been repaired.

(d) Sampling for Bacteriological and Chemical Examination.

Samples of treated water, as supplied to consumers, are taken by the Public Health Department for bacteriological examination at the Public Health Laboratory, Manor Hospital, Bath.

Weekly samples are taken from houses supplied directly from the main sources and from various points to give comprehensive coverage of supplies throughout the District.

The monthly samples are taken from places at the ends of the mains, or as a check on supply areas between the weekly sampling points.

Untreated water is not sampled by this Department, these samples being taken by the North Wilts Water Board. The Water Board also takes its own check samples at consumer supply points, and information on the reports on such samples is given by the Medical Officer of Health in his section of this Report.

A.3.
(contd.)

Analysis of Reports on Samples taken by this
Department for Bacteriological Examination.

	Satis- -factory:	Suspect (non-faecal coliforms present)	Unsatis- -factory: (faecal- type coliforms present)
<u>Weekly Samples:</u>			
Bristol Waterworks: Burton	40	4	1
Calstone supply: Theobalds Green	44	3	-
Cherhill " : Yatesbury	45	2	-
Chippenham " : Bowden Hill	43	4	-
" " : Fiveways	44	2	-
Goodshill " : Velley Hill	44	2	1
Rodbourne " : Stanton St. Quintin	42	5	-
Washwells " : Box (Market Place)	43	4	-
Widenedham " : Box (Bargates)	43	3	2
Mixed sources: Castle Combe	44	1	-
Christian Malford	45	1	-
Colerne	41	3	1
Cornam (Bath Road)	46	2	-
Hilmarton	41	6	-
Marshfield Reservoir	43	3	-
Nettleton (Horsdown)	42	-	-
West Kingston	47	-	-
<u>Monthly Samples:</u>			
Compton Bassett	10	6	1
Draycot Cerne	9	1	-
East Tytherton	9	-	-
Foxham	9	-	-
Grittleton	9	2	-
Neston	7	1	-
<u>Total of Samples taken:</u>			
Public supplies	790	55	6
Private supplies	1	-	2

A.4. REFUSE COLLECTION AND DISPOSAL.

(a) Refuse Collection.

This service has operated successfully with minor complaints being received from individual householders of dustbins not being emptied, and when such complaints have been received, special collections have been arranged by the foreman.

Due to a prolonged Christmas recess, special arrangements were made on three days during this period to deliver polythene sacks to householders in the six parishes who would not receive a collection, so that their surplus refuse could be stored pending the next scheduled collection. This arrangement was much appreciated.

Some 8,600 tons of refuse is estimated to have been collected during the year, and the tonnage is increasing with the completion of additional properties.

A total of 108,522 miles has been travelled by vehicles used in this service and of this total, 58,597 miles has been clocked by the regular refuse collection vehicles.

A.4. The Rural District has been split into fifteen main collection (contd.) routes and two minor routes, from which collections are made each week. The staff employed in this service consists of:-

Foreman	1
Full-time loaders	6
" " drivers	3
Relief driver/loader	1
" loader	1
Salvage driver	1
" loader	1
" baler	1
Mechanic/Tip Attendant	1
	<hr/> 16 <hr/>

(b) Refuse Disposal.

The Council has had acute problems with regard to refuse disposal owing to the completion of tipping at Calne Without, Grittleton and Sutton Benger refuse tips.

Fortunately, Chippenham Borough Council is allowing this Council the use of their Westmead tip until such time as the Leigh Delamere quarry can be made ready for tipping. The work at Leigh Delamere includes the lining of the quarry with butyl sheeting and the construction of settlement tanks to hold effluent from the tipping area before the eventual disposal of the effluent to a watercourse or to the adjoining public sewer, according to its quality. This tip is unlikely to be available for use until March/April 1973.

When the new District No.1 (North Wilts) is established in April 1974, refuse disposal for this enlarged district may be centred on the refuse incineration plant now being constructed in Swindon.

(c) Dustbins.

During 1972, 109 strong heavy-duty polythene dustbins were sold to members of the public at £2.10. each.

We have had to deal with several complaints alleging that the refuse collectors had damaged bins. Upon investigation, it was nearly always found that these bins, genuinely purchased as dustbins, were quite unsuitable for the usage normally given to them, which is a lifetime in the open, often heavy with refuse, and lifted to shoulder height by one handle for emptying. Some plastic materials crack and split after a short while, and handles - held on by plastic lugs no more than 3/16-inch thick - pull away because their anchorages are patently inadequate.

Where these circumstances arise, the none-too-pleased householder is given details of her bad buy and advised to get one approved by the Council. These are specially designed, extremely strong and (short of lighting fires in them) are virtually indestructible. They also retain their shape, which means that the lids always fit and keep the contents dry. Manufacturers of such articles should take the trouble to see that the goods are suitable for the purpose for which they are sold. A prosecution taken under the Sale of Goods Act would be very interesting.

(d) Civic Amenities Act 1967.

The Removal and Disposal of Vehicles Regulations 1968.

There was a considerable increase in the number of vehicles abandoned during the year - a total of 98, compared with 40 in 1971. Most of these were removed from Council housing estates or the M.4 motorway. A few of the vehicles were found to be stolen or the subject of Police enquiries. There were also three cars belonging to an international car hire organisation found abandoned - all in running order, undamaged, and in two cases complete with ignition keys.

A.4. The official procedure required, under the Act, to trace the (contd.) legal owner of an abandoned car is time-consuming, often fruitless, and in the majority of cases out of all proportion to the value of the vehicle concerned.

<u>Total number of vehicles abandoned:-</u>		98	(89 cars and vans, 2 lorries, 3 caravans, 4 motorcycles)
<u>Where abandoned:-</u>			
<u>M.4 Motorway:</u>	<u>Other roads:</u>	<u>Council land:</u>	<u>Private land:</u>
35	20	37	6
<u>How dealt with:-</u>			
Removed from site where abandoned by owners (Seven days notice affixed to vehicle)	...	...	39
Removed and recovered from custody by their owners	...	...	17
Removed and subsequently sold	...	...	12
Removed and sold as scrap, or removed as scrap by dealers	...	...	23
Action pending	...	...	7

(e) Litter.

The number of public health inspectors' visits (211) indicates the size of this problem and the constant attention needed to keep the environment reasonably clean and tidy. Each recorded visit represents a halt and an investigation. If the objectionable article is portable it is, there and then, put into the car (this is something that anyone concerned about the countryside can do); should the article be too large, an instruction is issued to the foreman to pick it up.

If this sideline of our work - the never-ending task of trying to cope with the oafs of society - were neglected, the litter in the countryside would be much more apparent and objectionable. We provide ample facilities for the public to dispose of their unwanted goods in a lawful, convenient and civilised manner.

An approach was made to a very big company to print an anti-litter instruction on their large plastic sacks, which are used for agricultural fertilisers etc., but their concern for the environment was not quite strong enough for them to agree to this. An abandoned plastic sack is a well-known piece of agricultural litter on verges and in hedges. Posters advertising fetes, gymkhanas, elections, etc. are noted and the organisers are asked to remove them all within two days after the event. We consider that reasonable advertising is one thing, but an abandoned, out-dated poster is litter.

A.5. SALVAGE OF WASTE PAPER.

During 1972, the amount of salvage sold to the mills totalled 278,751 kilograms (approximately 274 tons), valued at £2,667. This is a reduction of 15 tons on the amount collected and sold the previous year.

According to national statistics, it has been estimated that 3lbs. of paper per property per week could be salvaged, but the figure for this district is 1.2lbs. per property per week, an amount well below the national average. The reduced amount is due to the non-co-operation of at least 50% of ratepayers, who make no attempt to salvage waste paper.

A.5. Some salvage has to be taken direct to the refuse tip as it (contd.) contains too many contraries and would not be acceptable to the mills. Much of this is collected from trade premises, particularly in Corsham, and appeals to tradespeople to salvage only clean paper has not brought forth much response.

A.6. CARAVAN SITES.

The number of licensed sites has now dropped to eighteen, of which thirteen are of long standing, the remainder being licensed for temporary periods. In addition to the sites licensed for residential use there are four sites registered for use by members of the Caravan Club.

Total Number of Current Licences:

<u>Parish:</u>	<u>No. of Licences:</u>	<u>No. of Caravans:</u>
Box	3	30
Bremhill	3	3
Christian Malford	1	1
Colerne	1	1
Corsham	2	3
Hilmarton	1	1
Kington Langley	2	2
North Wraxall	1	1
Pewsham	1	1
Sutton Benger	2	2
Yatton Keynell	1	1
	<u>18</u>	<u>46</u>

(b) Sites Provided by the Council.

The Council provides 104 standings for residential caravans and those on the Corsham, Sutton Benger and Yatton Keynell sites have been satisfactorily maintained.

The amenities at the Thickwood site near Colerne have been improved but the expected response from licensees to improve the general appearance of the site has not materialised. Few of the occupants take a pride in their plots and as a result this caravan site bears no resemblance to other well-maintained sites belonging to the Council. I have offered to provide top-soil to enable parts of the site to be cultivated or grassed over, but I have not had a single request for this.

The Council is facing a difficult situation in respect of the Northleaze Caravan Site at Corsham, where the present lease will expire in 1974. Negotiations are proceeding in an attempt to secure a renewal of the present lease on new terms, but these negotiations had not reached any finality by the end of 1972.

A.7. NUISANCES FROM FARMING ACTIVITIES.

We continue to receive complaints of smell from the spreading of manure from intensive farming units onto the land. This year, probably owing to the cooler season, there were fewer than usual.

A complaint of heavy pollution of a watercourse by effluent from a newly-established intensive farming unit was verified. The firm in question claimed that they were unaware of this discharge, but took immediate steps to remove it and amended their internal drainage system to prevent a recurrence. This will be kept under observation to ensure that they are successful.

The only serious trouble that occurred was when a careless operator allowed a considerable quantity of sewage sludge to discharge into a roadside ditch and onto the road. The possibility of prosecution of the firm concerned was considered.

A.7. (contd.) Several reports of silage effluent entering watercourses were investigated. This is a very strong liquid which is highly lethal to all forms of stream life. Prevention of pollution of streams is the responsibility of the River Authority, but as a matter of urgency we make a preliminary survey before passing the matter to the Authority. A particularly baffling case occurred when silage effluent appeared at the outlet of an underground stream at Gaulter's Mill, Nettleton, although no silage is produced for a considerable area around this outlet. The River Authority are still endeavouring to trace the source of this pollution.

A.8. INFECTIOUS DISEASE.

Routine enquiries have been made into all cases of infectious disease referred to this department. There were no epidemics, and only sporadic cases occurred. The Continental holiday resorts were apparently free from epidemics, as we had no requests to follow up contacts returning home. Steam disinfection of bedding had to be arranged to clear up an obstinate case of scabies, the first for a number of years.

A.9. CLEAN AIR ACTS 1956 and 1968.

There were four applications for determination of chimney height during the year. In one case, where it was considered that the level of density and future development in Corsham warranted a different area classification to that used by the architects in their calculations, and an increase in chimney height was obtained.

Domestic oil-fired boilers on a private estate again gave rise to complaints of "oil fumes". This is caused by an inherent defect in the design of early versions of the "wall flame" boiler, which is made worse by poor maintenance and the fact that the premises concerned are bungalows with relatively low chimneys. There is no statutory action that can be taken, but the estate in question was circularised, reminding owners of the problem, emphasising the need for regular servicing and for the service engineer to pay particular attention to adjustments.

Other contributions to atmospheric pollution arise from the burning out of old cars, and the use of old tyres to assist the burning of hedge trimmings and other articles for which burning is the traditional method of disposal. It would materially assist the purity of our atmosphere if all tyres had a returnable deposit on them, like beer bottles or hired deck chairs.

A complaint of dust nuisance was received in respect of a stone crushing plant. Although the fall-out was sufficient to warrant action, the situation was self-remedying because the operations had a very limited life, being in a redevelopment area. Some fundamental steps were taken however, to effect a reduction in the amount of dust emitted.

A.10. OFFENSIVE TRADES.

There are no offensive trades, as defined by Section 107 of the Public Health Act 1936, established within this District.

A.11. NOISE ABATEMENT.

Noise nuisance has again been one of our minor problems, but discussion with the perpetrators usually has the desired effect.

During the past year, two complaints of noise from social clubs, one of use of a diesel engine late at night, and one of a pigeon scarer exploding all night, were received and dealt with.

Another complaint of noise from industrial premises was confirmed and negotiations with the proprietor secured abatement.

A justified complaint was received in respect of a mobile welding machine. This machine was not working all hours of the day but it did work for considerable periods when needed, and the 'thumping' noise was uncomfortable. Elementary measures such as taking the machine indoors, closing the doors, standing it on a soft base etc. reduced the volume to a point where the situation was reasonably acceptable.

B. FOOD AND DRUGS.

B.1. FOOD PREMISES: FOOD HYGIENE (GENERAL) REGULATIONS 1960.

The food premises within the Rural District consist of:-

Premises:	No.	No. complying with Regn.16 (wash-basins provided):	No. of premises to which Regn.19 (facilities for washing food and equipment)	
			(a) applies:	(b) is complied with:
Bakers	7	7	7	7
Butchers	8	8	8	8
Fish and Fruit Shops	4	4	3	3
Grocers and General Stores	60	60	30	30
Licensed Premises	60	60	60	60
Restaurants and Cafes	11	11	11	11
Sweets and Ices Shops	13	13	-	-
Factories and Distributors	1	1	1	1
	164	164	120	120

Poultry Packing Station, Sutton Benger.

A total of 120 visits was made to the poultry packing station during the year. These visits are routine, but are made at any time when the public health inspector can do so. The tour of inspection there includes the live chickens, the carcasses and the viscera; also the general conduct of the factory in respect of handling, freezing and packing, plus the external environment.

The factory is now processing about 42,000 broilers a day, usually a few less on a Friday, and averaging just over 200,000 per week. The total kill for 1972 was 10,311,974, the total number of rejects being 68,548, which represents a percentage of 0.66. These reject figures are higher than usual because of the nationwide fowl pest epidemic during the year. The condition is not transmissible to man and the flocks in question had, in any case, been released by the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food for processing. The chickens affected were obviously scrawny.

Improvements in the factory have been more extensive than ever before. The automatic mechanical process now stuns, bleeds, scalds, de-feathers, cuts vents, removes heads, neck and feet, and then finally eviscerates. It is only then that employees have to handle the chickens for the purpose of separating the edible and inedible offal. The two mechanical eviscerators look something like Emmett magic roundabouts with their automatic actions, but between them they can effectively deal with 7,500 broilers an hour. The action of cradling, probing, clutching and withdrawing is fascinating.

Then there is the new Alwetech plant which has been added to the sewage disposal works in order to anticipate the increased demand to be made on the factory drainage system. This new Norwegian system is the first operational plant of its kind in the United Kingdom. Its purpose is to produce from the works' discharge a proteinaceous sludge capable of being used as a valuable additive to cattle food. The sludge produced is a thick heavy one with 8% solids. This means that the effluent is that much cleaner whilst the transport of thick sludge is considerably more economical than a watery one. It is a pity that so far the use of the sludge has not been commercially applied, but this will one day be done because we shall not be able to afford the wastage.

B.1. The other principal project is the large-scale cooking, freezing (contd.) and packing of 'Southern-Fried' chicken portions, ready to eat. This project has evolved from a small experimental pilot scheme to the present completely separate section of the factory. Plans are in hand for yet further extensive alterations and improvements resulting in considerably more automation and less handling.

This factory was selected for a visit of inspection by 200 International delegates to the Poultry Congress held in London last September. Special visits are also made by interested persons from all over the world.

Licensed Premises.

During the year, another brewery was persuaded that it would be better to have completely new sanitary accommodation, approached from indoors, rather than spend money on the out-moded and unsatisfactory external lavatories. A plan was accordingly produced, a sum was included in their annual estimates, and the work is expected to be done during the early part of 1973.

Another public house also is improving its sanitary accommodation, without any pressure from my department. An advance look at the draft plan enabled us to improve the scheme with a small modification.

A club which caused concern last year had still not been provided with adequate sanitary facilities and storage space by the summer; objection was therefore made to renewal of their licence. This resulted in their application for a ten-year licence being replaced by one for a year. The Council then withdrew its objection on the understanding that the work be carried out during the ensuing twelve months. At the end of the year the new sanitary accommodation and beer store was nearly completed.

Bakehouses.

The seven bakehouses in the Rural District are situated at:-

Bremhill	...	...	...	1
Castle Combe	...	...	...	1
Cherhill	...	...	...	1
Colerne	...	...	...	1
Corsham	...	...	...	3

Fried Fish Shops.

The fish-and-chip shop at Corsham was finally closed during the year, and we no longer have any such shops in the Rural District.

A cafe in the District is now used as a depot for two mobile fish-and-chip vans operating over a large area of the countryside, and these are inspected periodically.

Mobile Shops.

Several mobile shops, including grocers, butchers, greengrocers and cafes, are based in this District. No registration for these vehicles is required under the Food Hygiene Regulations but they are inspected from time to time, when in operation, to ensure that a suitable standard of hygiene is maintained.

The cafes have operated from a lay-by off the Malmesbury road, under licence from the Wilts County Council, but this licence was withdrawn towards the end of the year as the lay-by is to be removed in the course of road improvements.

A number of travelling shops come into the Rural District from adjoining areas and these are checked, when found, for compliance with the Regulations.

B.2. FOOD COMPLAINTS.

The eighteen complaints investigated by the Department included the following:-

A complaint was received concerning the sale of mouldy tomatoes. This condition would have been noticed by the salesman and remedied if the tomatoes had been sold loose, but they were on a cardboard tray with a cellophane covering, having been packed previously on the premises. It was apparent that they had been left in the package for too long, and the mould was on the underside where it could not be seen. As a result of this, we asked for strict adherence to stock rotation, and a re-packing of any unsold after two days.

Pre-packing of susceptible food provides valuable protection against contamination, but to pre-pack everything, as now seems to be the fashion, is an unnecessary expenditure, causing more problems than it solves.

One resident complained of mites found in packets of cereal. On investigation, it was found that the infestation had originated in the house and appropriate action was taken to remedy it.

A complaint of oily material in a loaf of bread supplied by a baker from outside the Rural District was investigated, and a strong warning letter sent to him, as a first offender.

The presence of a worm in a frozen cod steak was taken up with the manufacturers. This is a common, but harmless, parasite in cod, and every endeavour is made during preparation to remove them, but this one got through.

A retailer complained of the sour condition of sausages delivered to him by a nationwide wholesaler. This matter was taken up strongly with the firm concerned, and from their reply it was obvious that a thorough investigation into the circumstances was made by them.

Complaints of (a) a fly in a cake, and (b) mouldy cream, purchased by residents in the District from shops in other districts, were passed to the appropriate authorities for action.

A sausage roll containing a metal washer was sent to us by another authority, on complaint from a motorist that he had purchased it at the Leigh Delamere cafeteria. It had been supplied in a sealed container to the customer. The manufacturers were at a complete loss to account for this, having a new factory with most modern electronic scanning devices. The local Chief Public Health Inspector confirmed this and praised the firm for their efficiency.

B.3. CONDEMNED FOODS.

There has been a steady flow of requests from retailers for certificates of unfitness of food owing to the breakdown of refrigerated fittings, which has a habit of occurring during weekends. There were eight such occurrences and food to a total value of £316 was surrendered. Condemnation of other foods was minimal, comprising a few damaged tins of meat.

B.4. MILK AND DAIRIES.

(a) Registration.

The number of registered distributors has increased by two. Retail shops, such as grocers, which sell small quantities of bottled milk, are included in this category.

No. of registered dairies 9

No. of registered distributors 25

Fourteen samples of ice cream were taken for routine examination, with the following results:-

Grade:

I	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	7
II	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	10
III	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	-
IV	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	-

B.6. SLAUGHTERHOUSES AND KNACKERS' YARDS.

There are no slaughterhouses in the Rural District, but we have one knackers' yard, where a new slaughter hall, cooking house and amenity block for employees have been brought into use. These buildings are well-designed and equipped, and are a great improvement on the obsolete buildings they replaced.

Six slaughtermen's licences were issued in 1972, all to men employed at the above knackers' yard.

The number of horse carcasses received at this yard during the year totalled 61; of these, 36 had been slaughtered on farms.

C. HOUSING.

C.1. HOUSING ACT 1969.

Survey of Parishes.

In accordance with the requirements of the above Act, preliminary surveys were completed during the year of all houses of a rateable value of less than £56 in the Parishes of Biddestone, Hilmarton, Kington Langley and Nettleton, to ascertain the standards existing in these smaller properties.

The following statistics have emerged from the surveys:-

	Biddestone	Hilmarton	Kington Langley	Nettleton	TOTAL:
Total surveyed	88	130	89	112	419
Not unfit	65	105	80	85	335
Not unfit, but requiring substantial repair	12	-	3	1	16
Unfit, but repairable at reasonable expense	9	12	-	11	32
Unfit, but not repairable at reasonable expense	2	13	6	15	36
Lacking amenities	27	31	21	41	120
Improveable to Standard Grant standard	27	24	16	38	105

Generally, these surveys have revealed a reasonable standard of fitness in the houses in the District. A majority of those lacking amenities are owner/occupied by elderly persons who do not want the upheaval necessitated by large-scale improvements. As these properties become vacant they are usually the subject of improvement grants. A number

of those recorded as unfit are now in process of improvement, the classification having been made at the time of inspection. There is still a hard core of sub-standard, low-rented properties, where the tenant does not wish to move, or which are in the "problem family" group and it would not be economic for the owner to carry out more than the essential works of maintenance.

The standard of housing has improved incredibly since the last detailed survey was made in 1945-7. Virtually every house now has mains water and electricity, the vast majority have water-borne sanitation, either to a public sewer or to a septic tank, and very few cottages can be found to be in the ill-cared-for and neglected condition which was quite usual in 1945.

As an example, Kington Langley has recently been re-surveyed, and significant figures for that Parish are:-

	1946:	1972:
Total surveyed	109	90
Number not repairable at reasonable expense	27	6
" served by well	22	-
" with pail or elsan closets	88	-
" with unsatisfactory drainage	79	-

The reduction in total is accounted for by demolitions or by combining two houses into one. A few have been improved beyond the rateable value ceiling.

The cottages found to be unfit will be reported in due course for action to be taken to improve them to a reasonable standard.

C.2. HOUSING IMPROVEMENT GRANTS.

I have, in my introduction to this report, commented on the current trend and referred to the figures given below in the statistics section. There is a growing opinion that improvement grants should be confined to properties which are to be permanently occupied. Like many other districts, we have our share of grant-aided properties which are used for weekends and holidays, the general impression being that the enthusiasm for the cottage gradually wanes and the visits get shorter, at longer intervals. These second homes may add to the national total of fit houses but not to the national total of fully-used fit houses. In fact, they actually detract from the national total of properly-housed families because they are purchased at prices beyond the local means and they make undue demands on local builders and on building materials. All these are factors pushing up property prices.

The provision of £1,000 grant to a property which costs perhaps £15,000 or more by the time it is completed is neither here nor there; it is not the assisting material factor it was intended to be. I cannot help feeling that it is wrong to give a grant unless the local authority is assured that the house is to be used for serious occupation. Even then the grant should become a charge on the property for a period of three years, being cancelled at the end of that time when the Council is satisfied that the conditions have been met.

C.3. FAIR RENTS.

During the year, twelve applications for qualification certificates were received, seven certificates were issued, and one was refused.

C.4. HOUSES IN MULTIPLE OCCUPATION.

There is only one property in the Rural District - at Pickwick Road, Corsham - known to be in multiple occupation.

C.5. COMMON LODGING HOUSES.

There are no common lodging houses in the Rural District.

C.6. HOUSING STATISTICS.

(a) Number of Dwellings in the District:

No. of inhabited houses (as at 31st March 1972)	...	...	...	9,269
" " Council dwellings (as at 31st December 1972)	...	...	...	2,028
" " temporary Council dwellings (as at 31st December 1972)	...	...	...	32

(b) Proceedings under Housing Acts:

Houses inspected for fitness	...	...	...	...	...	...	354
No. reported as unfit for human habitation	...	...	...	...	...	...	66
Notices served requiring defects to be remedied (Secs.9,16)	...	...	...	...	...	...	19
Houses made fit after service of formal notices:-							
(i) by owners	...	...	...	...	...	...	4
(ii) by local authority in default of owners	...	...	...	...	...	...	-
Houses made fit as a result of informal action	...	...	...	...	...	...	13
Demolition Orders made (Sec.16)	...	...	...	...	...	...	-
Houses demolished	...	...	...	...	...	...	6
Demolition Order revoked, house made fit (Sec.24)	...	...	...	...	...	...	4
Undertakings not to re-let accepted (Sec.16)	...	...	...	...	...	...	-
Undertakings to make fit accepted (Sec.16)	...	...	...	...	...	...	-
Undertakings to make fit complied with	...	...	...	...	...	...	4
Closing Orders made (Secs.17,18)	...	...	...	...	...	...	-
Houses closed	...	...	...	...	...	...	-
Closing Order revoked, house made fit (Sec.27)	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Cases of overcrowding discovered during the year	...	...	...	...	...	...	-
" " " abated	...	...	...	...	...	...	-

(c) Improvement Grants - General:

	<u>Applications Approved:</u>			<u>Completions:</u>		
	<u>Disc.</u> <u>Grants:</u>	<u>Std.</u> <u>Grants:</u>	<u>Total:</u>	<u>Disc.</u> <u>Grants:</u>	<u>Std.</u> <u>Grants:</u>	<u>Total:</u>
Average/year 1955-9 incl.	-	-	-	53	-	53
" " 1960-8 "	45	43	88	44	36	80
" " 1970-2 "	86	20	106	53	22	75

(d) Standard Grants:

					1972:	1971:
Applications received	...	...	...	(no. of houses)	20	15
" approved:-						
(i) owner/occupied property	...	(" ")			17	10
(ii) other	"	(" ")			3	3
No. of houses improved	...	...	...	...	17	16
Amount of grants paid	...	...	...	...	£ 4,841	£ 3,368

(e) <u>Discretionary Grants:</u>	<u>1972:</u>	<u>1971:</u>
Applications received for conversions (no.of houses)	7	11
" " " improvements (" " ")	94	75
Approvals for conversion of:-		
(i) owner/occupied property ... (" " ")	-	1
(ii) other " .. (" " ")	12	4
Approvals for improvement of:-		
(i) owner/occupied property ... (" " ")	69	47
(ii) other " ... (" " ")	22	29
No. of dwellings provided or improved	69	58
Amount of grants paid	£ 56,974	£ 40,579

D. FACTORIES, OFFICES, SHOPS, ETC.

D.1. OFFICES, SHOPS AND RAILWAY PREMISES ACT 1963.

The administration of the Act generally runs smoothly, largely because the majority of registrations in this area are of small businesses where the employer often works with the staff, and we normally find that if the reason for a requirement can be explained, the employer will co-operate. Only six registered premises employ more than twenty persons.

We have two contrasting warehouses premises in the District. At one, where components are packed, the management are very conscious of their obligations to staff, and conditions are very good. These premises are our major source of accident reports, but on no occasion have we been able to criticise the management.

At the other - an ex-aircraft hangar - used as a transit depot, where diesel-powered fork-lift trucks are used for stacking materials, there are occasions when the exhaust fumes from these engines reach an obnoxious level, but this is intermittent. We are endeavouring to take analyses of these fumes when at a high level of concentration, but so far have been unsuccessful. It is considered that the management could improve matters considerably by keener maintenance of the machines or by the installation of mechanical ventilation, but we get little co-operation here and we feel that, until we acquire some concrete evidence, we cannot "twist their arms".

(a) Registrations and Inspections.

Class of Premises	No.of premises registered during the year	Total no.of registered premises at end of year	No.of registered premises receiving general inspections during the year
Offices	1	30	3
Retail shops	-	59	7
Wholesale shops and warehouses	-	4	1
Catering establishments open to the public, canteens	2	20	3
Fuel storage depots	-	3	-
Totals:-	3	116	14

The total number of visits of all kinds by Public Health Inspectors to registered premises during 1972 was fifty-four.

(b) Analysis of Persons employed in Registered Premises by Workplace.

Class of Workplace	No. of persons employed
Offices	252
Retail shops	209
Wholesale departments, warehouses	151
Catering establishments open to the public	217
Canteens	3
Fuel storage depots	15
Total:	847
Total Males:	311
Total Females:	536

(c) Exemptions.

Part I:	Space (Section 5(2))	...	...	...	...	...	Nil
" II:	Temperature (Section 6)	...	...	...	...	...	Nil
" III:	Sanitary conveniences (Section 9)	...	...	...	...	...	Nil
" IV:	Washing facilities (Section 10)	...	...	...	...	...	Nil

(d) Contraventions.

	Found:	Remedied:
Sec. 4: Cleanliness	1	1
" 5: Overcrowding	1	1
" 6: Temperature	1	1
" 7: Ventilation	1	-
" 8: Lighting	1	1
" 9: Sanitary conveniences	1	1
" 10: Washing facilities	2	2
" 11: Supply of drinking water	-	-
" 12: Accommodation for clothing	-	-
" 13: Sitting facilities	-	-
" 14: Seats for sedentary workers	-	-
" 15: Eating facilities	-	-
" 16: Floors, passages, stairs	1	1
" 17: Fencing exposed parts of machinery	-	-
" 18: Protection of young persons from dangerous machinery	-	-
" 19: Training of young persons working at dangerous machinery	-	-
" 23: Prohibition of heavy work	-	-
" 24: First aid - general provisions	2	1
Information for Employees Regulations 1965	-	-
Totals:	11	9
No. of prosecutions:	Nil	

(e) Staff.

No. of Inspectors appointed under Sec.52(1) or (5) of the Act ... 4

No. of other staff employed for most of their time on work in connection with the Act ... Nil

D.2. FACTORIES ACT 1961.

There are eighty-seven registered factories in this Rural District, six of which are on Crown property and are controlled entirely by the Factories Inspectorate.

(a) Registrations and Inspections.

Premises	No. on Register	Inspection	No. of:-	
			Written Notices:	Occupiers Prosecuted
(1) Factories in which Sections 1,2,3,4 and 6 are enforced by local authority	-	-	-	-
(2) Factories not included in (1) in which Section 7 is enforced by local authority	81	34	3	2
(3) Other premises in which Section 7 is enforced by local authority (excluding outworkers' premises)	6	-	-	-
Totals:	87	34	3	2

(b) Number of Cases in which Defects were found.

Particulars	No. of cases where defects were:-				Prosecu- -tions
	Found	Remedied	Referred:-		
			to H.M. Insp'r.	by H.M. Insp'r.	
Sanitary conveniences (Sec.7):					
(a) Insufficient	1	1	-	-	-
(b) Unsuitable or defective	2	2	-	-	-
(c) Not separate for the sexes	-	-	-	-	-
Totals:	3	3	-	-	-

(c) Outworkers.

Two notifications were received during the year from other authorities of outworkers resident in this District. These outworkers were engaged in glove-making.

E. RODENT CONTROL ETC.

E.1. RODENT OFFICERS.

An additional Rodent Officer, Mr. R.R. Pearce, was appointed on the 1st May 1972, his time to be shared equally by this Council and the Borough Council of Chippenham. His work in this District has been principally inspections and rodent treatment on farms, and assisting Mr. Holmes on sewer surveys and treatments. The number of visits to farms in 1972 was 568, as compared with 89 in 1971.

Many minor infestations of rats and mice were reported and arrangements made for them to be treated, either by the farmer himself or by firms contracted to do this work. There are few, if any, private rodent contractors within a radius of fifteen miles of Chippenham, and so the expert advice of the Council's Rodent Officers on rodent eradication is much appreciated.

E.2. PREVENTION OF DAMAGE BY PESTS ACT 1949.

I set out below the details of an annual return sent to the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food. The figures referred to in paragraphs 2(a), 2(b), 3(a) and 3(b) represent the number of individual premises visited in connection with rodent infestation complaints, and do not include subsequent re-visits.

(a) Inspection of Properties other than Sewers.

	Type of Property:-	
	Non-Agricultural	Agricultural
1. No. of properties in the District	8,238	1,031
2.(a) Total no. of properties (including nearby premises) inspected following notification	322	37
(b) No. infested by:- (i) Rats	107	24
(ii) Mice	60	12
3.(a) Total no. of properties inspected on routine surveys	331	568
(b) No. infested by:- (i) Rats	63	337
(ii) Mice	-	410

(b) Sewer Test-Baiting and Treatment.

All sewerage systems were test-baited during the course of the year but little infestation was found.

A small infestation was located in sewers near H.M.S. 'Royal Arthur' at Westwells, Corsham, and six manholes were poison-baited with warfarin; the sewers were declared free of infestation after five visits of inspection.

Dry sausage-rusk containing the preservative paranitrophenol is the bait base used in test-baiting. Pinhead oatmeal, sugar and oil, with the preservative and warfarin, is used as a poison bait and this proves a very effective poison.

E.3. OTHER PESTS.

Our main sources of complaint were again cluster flies. This is a harmless fly which breeds in pastureland and moves into warm lofts to hibernate, to the consternation of the householder. Some roof spaces are infested year after year.

The wasp problem was less than usual but some nests, which appeared to be full of queen wasps, were dealt with in late autumn. Advice was given on two occasions on the control of bats.

We had one case of fleas reported during the year, but it was hardly a success story. This was not in any way due to ineffective treatment but to the absence of the essential follow-up action by the occupier after fumigation and spraying. It is normally adequate to fumigate or spray once: this cottage had three treatments of both, including the removal of a considerable amount of bedding and rubbish. The occupier was an elderly person under the care of the Welfare Services; there was no electricity in the cottage and therefore it was not possible to operate a vacuum cleaner.

It took the Home Help considerably longer than is usual to render the cottage completely free, but some time after the third double treatment the reports of their presence ceased, and we assumed thankfully that all was finally well.

F. MISCELLANEOUS.

F.1. PETROLEUM LICENCES.

There are now 140 premises licensed for the storage of petroleum and one for the storage of carbide of calcium, in the Rural District.

When installations are no longer licensed for the storage of petroleum, licensees are advised of methods of rendering such installations safe before filling underground tanks with weak concrete.

Licensees who intend to use petroleum storage tanks for the storage of other liquids such as paraffin, are advised to have such tanks effectively de-gassed before they are re-used.

F.2. DISEASES OF ANIMALS (WASTE FOODS) ORDER 1957.

Five premises are now registered for the boiling of swill, a reduction of one since 1971.

Before the first outbreak of swine vesicular disease was notified in Wiltshire, all licensees were reminded of their obligations under the above Order and asked to adhere strictly to the licence conditions.

F.3. ANIMAL BOARDING ESTABLISHMENTS ACT 1963.

Eight premises were licensed during 1972. Routine visits are made to these establishments to ensure that the licensing conditions are being complied with.

F.4. SCRAP METAL DEALERS' ACT 1964.

There were seventeen registered scrap metal dealers in the Rural District at the end of 1972. Of these, five are exempt from the keeping of detailed records and are registered as itinerant collectors.

F.5. DEPOSIT OF POISONOUS WASTE ACT 1972. DEPOSIT OF POISONOUS WASTE (NOTIFICATION OF REMOVAL OR DEPOSIT) REGULATIONS 1972.

The owners of all factories registered within the Rural District had their attention drawn to the above Act and Regulations, which make it an offence punishable by heavy penalties to deposit on land any poisonous, noxious or polluting waste in circumstances in which it can give rise to an environmental hazard, cause danger to persons and animals, or pollute any water supply.

An extensive survey was made of likely areas which might be used for the deposit of poisonous or noxious wastes, but no such deposits were found. Two owners of premises with noxious waste for disposal regularly notify this Department of their intention to dispose of such waste outside the District, as required by the Regulations.

F.6. POISONOUS BEADS.

Following the disclosure in the Press and on television of the fact that certain tropical seeds, used for necklaces and similar trinkets for many years, had been found to contain a deadly poison, a considerable number of such articles were collected at this office from the general public, and those containing the noxious seeds were destroyed.

It took the Home Help considerably longer than is usual to render the
 as I suppose completely free, but some time after the third double treatment
 the reports of their presence ceased, and we assumed that all
 was finally well.

1.1. THE STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA

MISCELLANEOUS

There are now 100 premises licensed for the storage of petroleum
 and one for the storage of carbide in calcium, in the Rural District.

When installations are no longer licensed for the storage of
 petroleum, licenses are advised of methods of rendering such installations
 safe before filling underground tanks with weak concrete.

Licenses who intend to use petroleum storage tanks for the
 storage of other liquids such as paraffin, are advised to have such tanks
 effectively de-gassed before they are re-used.

1.2. DISEASE OF ANIMALS (WASTE FOODS) ORDER 1937

Five premises are now regulated for the boiling of swill, a
 reduction of one since 1937. Before the first outbreak of swine vesicular disease was notified
 in Wiltshire, all licenses were required of their obligees under the
 above Order and asked to adhere strictly to the license conditions.

1.3. ANIMAL SKELETONS REGULATIONS ACT 1933

Eight premises were licensed during 1937. Routine visits are
 made to these establishments to ensure that the licensing conditions are
 being complied with.

1.4. SCRAP METAL DEALERS' ACT 1934

There were seventeen registered scrap metal dealers in the Rural
 District at the end of 1937. Of these, five are exempt from the keeping
 of detailed records and are registered as itinerant collectors.

1.5. DEPOSIT OF POISONOUS WASTE ACT 1932

The centers of all factories registered within the Rural District
 had their attention drawn to the above Act and Regulations, which make it
 an offence punishable by heavy penalties to deposit on land any poisonous,
 noxious or polluting waste in circumstances in which it can give rise to an
 environmental hazard, cause damage to persons and animals, or pollute any
 water supply.

An extensive survey was made of likely areas which might be used
 for the deposit of poisonous or noxious wastes, but no such deposits were
 found. Two permits of premises with noxious waste for disposal regularly
 notify this Department of their intention to deposit of such waste outside
 the District, as required by the Regulations, and in every case

Following the disclosure in the Press and on televising of the
 fact that certain tropical seeds, used for garden and similar plants
 for many years, had been found to contain a deadly poison, a considerable
 number of such articles were collected as this office from the general
 public, and those containing the noxious seeds were destroyed.



