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THE HEALTH OF CHELTENHAM

1968

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MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH AND
SCHOOL MEDICAL OFFICER

J. F. URSELL, D.P.A., F.A.P.H.I.
CHIEF PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR



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Annual Report on the Health of the Borough of Cheltenham for the Year 1968

*To the Worshipful the Mayor, the Aldermen and Councillors of the
Borough of Cheltenham*

Mr. Mayor, Ladies and Gentlemen,

The continuing satisfactory state of the health of the Borough, is now apparent if these annual reports are studied over the past ten years. Each year there are fewer adverse comments that one need make, and with only a few exceptions, the co-operation of the public in utilising the health services available, ensures a further steady improvement. Where improvement is not as rapid as one would wish, the cause is due, not to a lack of services, but to a failure of health education, designed to persuade the unwilling, unbelieving or apathetic members of the community to eschew unhealthy habits and ensure a longer and healthier life. Health education is probably the least spectacular weapon in the armoury of preventive medicine, but it is gradually being recognised as the most important, and in the long term, will be the most effective.

The infant mortality rate, a health problem in the town some years ago, has again shown a decrease and this for the fifth successive year, and is well below the national average. The birth rate continues to be generally comparable with the national rate, but what is not so satisfactory is a further, and what must be described as a continuing, high illegitimate birth rate.

As in recent years co-operation with other branches of the Health Service has increased. Further attachments of health visitors and district nurses have been made to general practices in the town, making these services more effective, and more readily available to the public. These changes, combined with an improved health education programme, and the use of the computer to collect and rapidly disseminate essential medical data, point the way to the health administration of the future.

New projects are still severely restricted by financial considerations and little progress was made during the year. However, within the next twelve months we should see the beginnings of a new Junior Training Centre for the mentally handicapped and the proposed Sheltered Workshop for the physically handicapped. There is as yet no immediate prospect of a new Day Nursery, although land is available and plans completed. The extension to the Adult Training Centre, deferred a year ago, cannot be restarted within the next twelve months, and the indications are that there could be a sizeable waiting list before adequate accommodation is available.

During the year the long awaited Seebohm report was published, but the Minister has decided to await the publication of the Maud Report on Local Government before making any pronouncement on the implementation of

the findings of the Seebohm Committee. The Green Paper on the National Health Service was also published during the year but presumably any decision on its findings will likewise await the Maud Report. We are therefore still in the same state of uncertainty as at this time last year.

The Local Authority's Health and Welfare Services will be affected primarily by the Seebohm Report which recommends the splitting of the personal Health and Social services into two separate administrations under separate committees, although inseparable in practice. This same mistake was made in 1948 when the Health Service was divided into its three component parts, each with a separate administration, and it has taken twenty years to come to the conclusion, as recommended in the Green Paper, that this costly and top-heavy administration must be replaced by a unified Health Service. It was the local co-operation of all concerned that ensured the success of the National Health Service, a success achieved not because of, but in spite of the National Health Service Act. If, in the event, the Local Authority's Health and Welfare Services are separated I am confident, following my happy association with social workers over many years, that the co-operation which we have always mutually enjoyed, will continue. It might well be said in the future that the success of the personal health and social services was achieved, not because of, but in spite of, the Seebohm Committee.

The following is a short summary of the more important aspects of the public health in Cheltenham during the year, which may be convenient for those who do not wish to study the report in detail.

Infant Mortality

There were eighteen deaths among infants under one year of age compared with twenty in 1967, giving an infant mortality rate of 14.3. This year's rate is again well below the national average of 18.3.

Tuberculosis

The number of notified cases of pulmonary tuberculosis continues to fall. There were only ten new cases notified throughout the year and only two deaths from the disease. The incidence of the disease in the town is also below the national rate.

Lung Cancer

The number of deaths each year caused by cancer of the lung has remained fairly static in recent years and has reflected the high national death rate from this disease. This year however, there has been a sharp rise from thirty-five deaths in 1967 to forty-six deaths in 1968. The increase in mortality has been confined to the male population, from twenty-seven to forty deaths.

Cervical Cytology (Cancer of the Womb)

Although the facilities for this test have been increased the response is not as large as one would have expected. Although the test is officially confined to the priority classes, i.e. women over 35 who have had children, no one in the town who applies will be refused this test. Women under 35 will be accepted whether they have had children or not, the only difference being that those in the older age group will be called up first.

Other Vital Statistics

There has been another small increase in the population from 75,640 in 1967 to 76,020 in 1968. The birth rate has increased slightly from 16.4 per

1000 population in 1967 to 16.5 in 1968. There has been an increase in the death rate from 11.4 per 1000 in 1967 to 12.1 in 1968.

In conclusion I would once again express my thanks to the Chairman and Members of the Health and Welfare Committee for their support throughout the year and to my staff for their loyalty and co-operation in particular Mr. J. F. Ursell, Chief Public Health Inspector and my Chief Clerk, Mr. W. H. G. Meakins. As already stated, co-operation between the family doctors and the hospitals increases each year and ensures greater effectiveness in our local health services. I am always grateful for this co-operation and also for the support and assistance which I have come to expect from the local Press.

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Medical Officer of Health.

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SECTION I

ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH SERVICES

HEALTH AND WELFARE COMMITTEEAlderman R. F. BROOKES (*Chairman*)Alderman A. J. BETTRIDGE (*Vice-Chairman*)

Councillor D. G. ALDRIDGE

Councillor Miss D. FAVELL

Councillor R. K. BEWICK

Alderman C. W. A. FOSTER

Councillor M. A. BLAKE

Councillor A. G. K. FREWIN

Alderman Miss M. N. P. DENT

Councillor C. R. F. HINE

Councillor Mrs. M. F. YEATES

Co-opted Members

Mrs G. MELLERSH

Mrs H. SMITH

Mr A. F. NUTTER

SCHOOL HEALTH SERVICE

Special Services and General Purposes Sub-Committee

Councillor D. OWEN (*Chairman*)

Councillor D. G. ALDRIDGE

Miss D. HORTON

Mr F. A. DELLAR

Councillor D. H. J. MARTIN-JONES

Alderman Miss M. N. P. DENT

Councillor P. L. L. SAUNDERS

Councillor Miss D. FAVELL

Mr. W. TIPLADY

Councillor B. R. T. GAYLARD

Councillor A. H. YATES

Mr W. A. GETHING

Councillor Mrs M. F. YEATES

Councillor J. HEAPEY

Mr S. WYLIE

SUMMARY OF GENERAL AND VITAL STATISTICS, 1968

Area of Borough	...	...	...	...	5,146 acres
Population Mid-year 1968 Registrar General's Estimate	...	...	...	...	76,020
Number of inhabited houses	(a)	Houses and Flats	...	...	24,998
(as at 31.3.69)	(b)	Hotels, Occupied Shops, etc.	...	...	642
Rateable Value (as at 31.3.68)	...	...	...	...	£3,566,612
Sum represented by a penny rate (1968-69)	...	...	...	...	£14,949 (est.)

TABULAR STATEMENT OF THE MAIN VITAL STATISTICS FOR 1968

(with comparative figures for England and Wales)

	M.	F.	Total	Cheltenham	†England and Wales
LIVE BIRTHS					
Legitimate ...	580	530	1,110		
Illegitimate ...	87	58	145		
TOTALS ...	667	588	1,255		
Rate per 1,000 population				16.5	16.9
ILLEGITIMATE LIVE BIRTHS	87	58	145		
Per cent of total live births				11.6%	
STILL BIRTHS					
Legitimate ...	6	2	8		
Illegitimate ...	—	3	3		
TOTALS ...	6	5	11		
Rate per 1,000 total live and still births				9.0	14.3
TOTAL LIVE AND STILL BIRTHS	673	593	1,266		
INFANT DEATHS (Deaths under 1 year)					
Legitimate ...	3	12	15		
Illegitimate ...	2	1	3		
TOTALS ...	5	13	18		
INFANT MORTALITY RATES					
Total infant deaths per 1,000 total live births				14.3	18.3
Legitimate infant deaths per 1,000 legitimate live births				13.5	
Illegitimate infant deaths per 1,000 illegitimate live births				20.7	
Neonatal Mortality Rate (deaths under 4 weeks per 1,000 total live births)				8.0	12.3
Early Neonatal Mortality Rate (deaths under 1 week per 1,000 total live births)				6.4	10.5
Perinatal Mortality Rate (Still births and deaths under 1 week combined per 1,000 total live and still births)				15.0	25.0
MATERNAL MORTALITY (including abortion)					
Rate per 1,000 total live and still births		—	—	—	0.2
DEATHS (all ages)	437	481	918		
Rate per 1,000 population				12.1	11.9

NOTE : The figures for births and deaths are corrected for inward and outward transfers in order that the statistics may give as true a picture as possible of local conditions.

† Estimated Mid-Year Population 48,593,000 (Provisional Data)

NOTES ON VITAL STATISTICS FOR 1968

Population

The Registrar's estimate of the population of Cheltenham for mid-year 1968 is 76,020 which is 380 more than the estimate for 1967.

Death Rate

The Crude Death Rate was 12.1 a higher figure than that of last year. The corrected Death Rate (Registrar's comparability factor 0.89) was 10.8 which is slightly lower than the figure for England and Wales.

Birth Rate

Live Births in 1968 totalled 1,255 which is 13 more than the figure for the previous year.

The Birth Rate was 16.5 and is 0.1 higher than the figure for 1967. The Registrar now provides a comparability factor for birth rates. For Cheltenham this factor is 0.98 which gives a rate of 16.2 compared with 16.9 for England and Wales.

The number of Still Births per 1,000 live and still births, was 9.0 (or 8.8 corrected) compared with 14.3 for England and Wales.

Causes of Death relating to Cheltenham Residents as given by the Registrar General for the year 1968

	Male	Female
Tuberculosis, respiratory	—	2
Meningococcal Infection	—	1
Other infective and parasitic diseases	1	—
Malignant neoplasm, stomach	10	7
Malignant neoplasm, lung, bronchus	40	6
Malignant neoplasm, breast	—	15
Malignant neoplasm, uterus	—	12
Other malignant neoplasms, etc.	38	39
Leukaemia	1	2
Diabetes Mellitus	2	5
Other endocrine, etc. diseases	1	1
Anaemias	—	2
Mental disorders	—	2
Other diseases of nervous system, etc.	4	6
Chronic Rheumatic Heart Disease	6	3
Hypertensive disease	5	1
Ischaemic Heart Disease	148	148
Other forms of heart disease	28	59
Cerebrovascular disease	34	67
Other diseases of the circulatory system	11	14
Influenza	3	1
Pneumonia	29	34
Bronchitis and Emphysema	20	6
Asthma	1	—
Other diseases of respiratory system	7	9
Peptic Ulcer	3	—
Intestinal Obstruction and Hernia	2	1
Chirrhosis of Liver	3	1
Other diseases of the Digestive System	3	5
Nephritis and Nephrosis	6	—
Other diseases, Genito-Urinary System	2	3
Diseases of Musculo-Skeletal System	—	2

Congenital Anomalies	2	6
Birth Injury, Difficult Labour, etc.	3	2
Other causes of Perinatal Mortality	—	1
Symptoms and Ill-defined Conditions	1	2
Motor Vehicle Accidents	10	6
All other Accidents	6	5
Suicide and self-inflicted Injuries	7	5
Total All Causes	437	481

DISCUSSION

As in previous years the greatest number of deaths are caused by ischaemic heart disease (coronary thrombosis) and the cancers. Approximately one third of all deaths are caused by the former, but although our knowledge of the prevention and treatment of this disease has increased in recent years, continual research has as yet produced no significant breakthrough. The cancer statistics show a sharp increase in deaths from lung cancer, as already stated, emphasising the need for continued health education especially in the schools. There is no doubt that this is a largely preventable disease.

Deaths from Accidents

Deaths from all types of accidents during the year amounted to 27 and 16 of these were caused by motor vehicles. The corresponding figures for 1967 were 17 and 12 respectively. These figures are fairly constant year by year and reflect very favourably the effort made by the Council in the promotion of home and road safety.

Infant Mortality

There were 18 infant deaths during the year compared with 20 in 1967 giving an infant mortality rate of 14.3 per 1000 live births. The rate for 1967 was 16.1. The causes of the 18 infant deaths were as follows:

	<i>Neonatal</i> (0-4 wks.) 4 wks.-1 yr.		Total
Prematurity (stated or considered to be main cause of death)	2	—	2
Respiratory	2	4	6
Congenital Defects	3	1	4
Accidental Deaths	—	3	3
Cerebral Haemorrhage	3	—	3
	10	8	18

A significant feature of the above table is that only two of the eighteen babies died of prematurity usually one of the commonest causes of infant deaths under 4 weeks and at one time a very disturbing aspect of the infant mortality in Cheltenham. As the birthweight of both these babies was under 2 lbs. 6 ozs. they were a very poor risk. There were 75 babies born prematurely during the year and the very high survival rate reflects the specialist care which these babies receive at the premature baby unit in St. Paul's Maternity Hospital.

WATER SUPPLY OF THE BOROUGH

The following report has been received from the North West Gloucestershire Water Board:

The water supply from all the sources which supply the Borough has been satisfactory in both quality and quantity.

Intermittent discolouration of the water in supply has been a nuisance during the warmer months of the previous years, but new plant, now in operation at the Tewkesbury source, is eliminating the cause. A reduction of incidence should now be noted but this, of necessity, must be gradual in view of the great mileage of distribution mains to which remedial measures must be applied.

Bacteriological and chemical examinations are made regularly of the various raw waters at sources and of the final waters going into supply. In 1968, at the main source of the Borough's supply—Mythe Waterworks, Tewkesbury—1,635 bacteriological examinations were made of the final water going into supply with a 99.63% satisfaction.

The control of other sources of supply was covered by examinations as below:—

<i>Sources</i>	<i>Raw Water</i>		<i>Final Water</i>	
	<i>Chemical</i>	<i>Bacteriological</i>	<i>Chemical</i>	<i>Bacteriological</i>
Dowdeswell ..	5	19	23	104
Northfield ..	5	12	9	13
Sandford ..	—	—	13	13
Hewletts ..	—	—	8	37

The quality of water is followed from treatment right up to the consumer's taps and this involved the examination of 10 chemical samples and 122 bacteriological samples. Of the latter, 6 which appeared doubtful were cleared on a second examination.

Radioactive Contamination of Water Supply and Rainfall

The level of radioactivity in the raw water and in the final supply has remained at a low and very acceptable level despite a slight increase which resulted from the 7th Chinese nuclear explosion in late 1967 and which continued to be detected until mid 1968. Sundry French explosions in the Pacific area yielded negligible effect.

SEWERAGE AND SEWAGE DISPOSAL

The arrangements for sewerage and sewage disposal in the Borough are reasonably adequate. Work is now proceeding with designs for the Stage I extensions to the treatment works at Hayden, and it is hoped that Barn Farm can be dispensed with for sewage treatment by the end of 1971, following the completion of the Stage I extensions at Hayden and the construction of the Northern Outfall Sewer.

Attention is also being given, when staff is available, to the duplication of the Hatherley Outfall Sewer and the replacement of the Chelt Main Sewer.

Work is continually in progress on maintenance of sewers and the updating of sewer records, this latter work being of the utmost importance in connection with the design of the Chelt Main Sewer.

SWIMMING BATHS

There are two public swimming baths in the town, a covered bath and an open-air pool. In both cases the source of the water used for filling is the mains supply and the method of treatment is filtration and automatic chlorination. In the covered bath there is a complete change of water every four hours, both in the main pool and the instructional pool. In the open-air pool there is a complete change every six hours.

Regular samples of water from the swimming baths are submitted for bacteriological examination. They showed that a satisfactory standard had been maintained throughout the year. The Chief Public Health Inspector arranges for the routine collection of samples by the Inspectors. These samples are sent for examination to the Analyst, Mr. J. Henderson, at Tewkesbury, and reports are submitted to the Public Health Committee.

MILK (SPECIAL DESIGNATION) REGULATIONS

During 1968, licences to use special designations in relation to milk sold within the Borough totalled one hundred and fifty one.

Samples are taken fortnightly for analysis and the reports are submitted to the Health Committee.

Very few results during 1968 failed to satisfy the standards of the Ministry of Health.

PREVALENCE AND CONTROL OF INFECTIOUS AND OTHER DISEASES

The following statement shows the corrected numbers of cases notified during 1968. (Tuberculosis is dealt with separately.)

Acute Encephalitis	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1
Dysentery	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1
Food Poisoning	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	13
Infective Jaundice	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	8
Malaria	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1
Measles	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	372
Meningococcal Infection	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1
Puerperal Pyrexia	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	5
Scarlet Fever	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1
Whooping Cough	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	22

NOTES ON INFECTIOUS DISEASES

Measles vaccination started in May of 1968 and this has apparently proved too late to make any difference in the number of notifications compared with last year. There is also the additional factor that the demand for this latest form of vaccination has not been as large as was expected. This however, has been the experience with other new prophylactic measures and a reduction in the incidence of the disease should become apparent in the near future.

VENEREAL DISEASES

The following report has been received from Dr. A. E. Tinkler, M.A., M.D., D.P.H., Consultant Venereologist, South Western Regional Hospital Board. The continuing rise in the incidence of venereal disease in England and Wales, which is causing such grave concern, is reflected in the figures for Cheltenham, but the rate of increase is substantially below that for the country as a whole.

TABLE 1. New Cases: All Conditions—Cheltenham 1963-68.

Year	Syphilis		Gonorrhoea		Other Conditions		Total		Totals
	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female	
1963	—	1	19	13	62	29	81	43	124
1965	1	3	41	28	96	51	138	82	220
1967	1	3	30	12	92	51	123	66	189
1968	5	1	44	12	95	64	144	77	221

Syphilis

There were five cases of acquired syphilis seen at the Cheltenham Clinic in 1968. None of these was in the early infectious stage. One case of infantile congenital syphilis was seen during the year, the first such case recorded in the town for over 10 years. This case occurred because of the failure of the mother to attend for ante-natal care rather than because of any lack of co-operation between the ante-natal and V.D. services.

Gonorrhoea

Although there was quite a significant increase in the number of cases of gonorrhoea, as compared with the previous year, the total for the town still remains low.

TABLE 2. Incidence of Gonorrhoea—Cheltenham 1963-1968.

Year	New Cases
1963	30
1965	69
1967	42* (13)
1968	56* (17)

*The figures in brackets indicate the number of patients included in the total who were not residents of Cheltenham.

ANNUAL RETURN OF FOOD POISONING NOTIFICATIONS

There were thirteen notifications of food poisoning during the year. All were very limited in extent and none was due to salmonella infection.

PUBLIC HEALTH (TUBERCULOSIS) REGULATIONS, 1952

Notifications of tuberculosis during the period from 1st January to 31st December, 1968 :—

Respiratory (Males)	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	7
Respiratory (Females)	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	3
Non-respiratory (Males)	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	—
Non-respiratory (Females)	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2

Deaths from tuberculosis during the above-mentioned period :—

Respiratory (Males)	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	—
Respiratory (Females)	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
Non-respiratory (Males)	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	—
Non-respiratory (Females)	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	—

Death Rates

The tuberculosis death rates for Cheltenham during 1968 were as follows :—

	Pulmonary Tuberculosis	0.03	} Per 1,000 of Population
	Non-Pulmonary Tuberculosis	0.00	
		0.03	
Comparative Figures	England and Wales	Total 0.04	

There were only 10 new cases of respiratory tuberculosis notified during the year. There were 12 in 1967. There were 2 deaths from the disease, the same as for the previous year. The incidence of the disease in the town and the death rate continues to be very low.

The following report has been received from Dr F. J. D. Knights, M.D., M.R.C.P., Senior Chest Physician, North Gloucestershire Clinical Area.

In 1968, 12 new cases of tuberculosis in the Borough were handled in the chest clinic services. They are analysed as follows:—

Abdominal Orthopaedic and Cervical Glands	Primary or post-primary infection	Minimal phthisis	Moderate phthisis	Advanced phthisis
2	1	3	3	3

6 of the cases were referred from the general practitioners, 3 from Mass Radiography, and 3 were picked up as contacts.

3 of the cases were immigrants; a boy of 12 with an adult-type phthisis who came from a home with a known case of tuberculosis, but who had not been in the Borough at the time of the original notification, and who therefore missed the initial contact sweep. 1 woman with advanced pulmonary tuberculosis, and 1 woman with abdominal T.B. Both these were found in contact examination.

The Register of persons notified as suffering from respiratory tuberculosis in Cheltenham stands as follows:—

RED, infectious	..	..	..	..	11
GREEN, non-infectious	..	..	..	..	135

There are 20 cases of non-respiratory tuberculosis: 7 men, 12 women and 1 child.

Contact Examinations

9 of these cases called for contact action. 72 contacts were called, and 66 were examined, a response of 90%. In addition to this a number of contacts outside the area were referred to their appropriate chest clinics for action.

Average number of contacts per case: Listed 8
Seen 7

All the 27 children called attended. Of these 17 were B.C.G. vaccinated, and 6 were tuberculin positive. These have been kept under observation at the clinic as out-patients.

No case of significance was found during these examinations.

HOUSING

The following is the number of cases dealt with during the year:

Number of cases rehoused because of tuberculosis	.. ..	Nil (Nil)
Number of cases rehoused from houses on which a Demolition or Closing Order was operative or certificate of unfitness issued	.. .. .	31 (14)

The 1967 figures are shown in brackets.

REGISTRATION AND INSPECTION OF NURSING HOMES SECTIONS 187-194. PUBLIC HEALTH ACT, 1946

At the end of 1968 there were 6 Nursing Homes on the Register.

The total number of beds available at the end of the year was 81: no beds are now available for maternity cases.

Private nursing homes in Cheltenham still provide a most valuable addition to the accommodation available for sick persons.

Many of the homes provide mainly for old persons and help in no small way to solve a problem which yearly becomes more difficult.

Visits were paid to all Nursing Homes on two or more occasions during the year.

The number of private registered nursing homes in the town is being rapidly reduced. Compared with 10 years ago the number has been reduced by half. For a number of years there has been no private maternity accommodation.

SECTION II

SECTION II

National Health Services Act, 1946

PERSONAL HEALTH SERVICES

SECTION 21

Health Centres

The Health Centre at Hesters Way continues to provide health services for an increasing number of patients. As stated in my last report it is the government's intention to encourage Local Authorities to build more Health Centres and permission to build will be given by the Ministry in spite of present restrictions on capital building programmes.

The following table shows the numbers attending the Centre during the year:—

General Practitioner Consultations	Treatment and Casualties	Child Welfare	Orthopaedic	Total
19,893	4,373	3,665	86	28,017

SECTION 22

Care of Mothers and Young Children

Child Health Clinics

These are held weekly throughout the town as follows :

St. Michael's Hall, Whaddon Road	...	Thursday
St. Paul's Hall, Swindon Road	... ..	Tuesday
Hesters Way Health Centre	... ..	Tuesday and Thursday
Bethesda Church Hall	... ..	Wednesday
Highbury Church Hall	... ..	Tuesday
Leckhampton Church Hall	... ..	Friday
Gloucester Road Methodist Sunday School		Wednesday
Coombe Glen, Alma Road	... ..	Thursday

Toddlers sessions for older children are held separately or in conjunction with these Clinics.

Records of attendances are as follows:

No. of Clinics provided	.. .. .	8
No. of children born in 1968 who attended a Clinic during the year	.. .. .	742
Total No. of Children who attended a Clinic during the year	.. .. .	3145

Total attendances made :

Children born in 1968	... ..	4,512
Children born in previous years	... ..	9,578

The nine Child Clinic Sessions held each week are still well attended and continue to supply a need appreciated by nursing mothers. Each centre is run by a voluntary committee of ladies who put in a great deal of work throughout the year to make the Centres so popular with the mothers. Their efforts are very much appreciated by the Health and Welfare Committee.

Welfare Food Centre

The distribution of welfare foods, National Dried Milk and vitamin supplements is now carried out from the Welfare Food Centre at the rear of the Municipal Offices in Royal Well Road and from all Child Health Clinics in the Borough.

Family Planning Clinic

The Cheltenham Branch of the Family Planning Association who act as the Council's Agents for the provision of this service, continues to run well attended sessions in the School Clinic premises. Requests made to the Health Department, on medical grounds, are referred to the Family Planning Association.

Plans are well advanced for the Family Planning Clinic to move from their present accommodation in the basement of the Municipal Offices to well-appointed premises at Cambray, previously occupied by Civil Defence. The Council has agreed to carry out certain adaptations to the premises and will make them available to the Family Planning Association rent free.

Care of the Unmarried Mother and Child

Arrangements for the care of the unmarried mother are provided on behalf of the Council by the Cheltenham Deanery Association for Social Work. This service is grant-aided by the Council. The number of cases dealt with in Cheltenham during the year was 134. There were 145 illegitimate births out of a total of 1,255 births, a percentage illegitimate birth rate of 11.66% representing a slight decrease on the previous year (12.1%).

St. Catherine's Home in Cheltenham provides accommodation for the admission of unmarried mothers, but they are also admitted to similar homes run by the Diocesan Moral Welfare Association in other parts of the country.

Dental Treatment for Expectant and Nursing Mothers

With the appointment of Miss M. H. Fahey, B.A.D.A., as Cheltenham's first Dental Auxiliary, we were once again able to visit Child Welfare Clinics. Treatment is still supplied basically on demand but we hope to extend our coverage to the pre-school age group in the near future.

Inspections and Visits

	<i>Pre-school Children</i>	<i>Mothers</i>
First in year	119	26
Requiring treatment	95	25
Re-inspected	10	2
Requiring treatment	9	2
First course	97	25
Subsequent course	9	—

Other	111	48
Emergency	43	6
Treatment completed	88	17

Treatment Provided

Fillings	165	32
Teeth filled	133	29
Other conservations	6	—
Extractions	154	51
Anaesthetics—Local	—	48
General—Medical	32	3
Dental	35	—
Dentures	—	8
Scaling and cleaning	6	8
Patients X-Rayed	3	5

Orthopaedic Clinic

An Orthopaedic Clinic is held on three occasions each month where children under five years can have postural and other defects remedied. Two sessions are held in the same premises as the School Physiotherapy Clinic and the third at the Health Centre.

Care of Premature Infants

Once again there has been a fall in the number of premature births and this in turn has contributed to a fall in the infant mortality rate, which as already stated includes only two premature baby deaths. This problem which for a considerable time marred the annual health record of the town, has I think, now been solved.

No. of Premature Live Births notified :

(a) In hospital	...	...	...	...	...	...	75
(b) At home	...	...	...	...	...	...	8

No. of Premature Still Births notified :

(a) In hospital	...	...	...	...	...	...	6
(b) At home	...	...	...	...	...	...	1

The following table shows in more detail the distribution of premature babies born during the year by weight and survival rate :—

Weight at birth	Premature live births														Premature still births	
	Born at home or in a nursing home															
	Born in hospital				Nursed entirely at home or in a nursing home				Transferred to hospital on or before 28th day							
					Died				Died							
	Total births (1)	within 24 hours of birth (2)	in 1 and under 7 days (3)	in 7 and under 28 days (4)	Total births (5)	within 24 hours of birth (6)	in 1 and under 7 days (7)	in 7 and under 28 days (8)	Total births (9)	within 24 hours of birth (10)	in 1 and under 7 days (11)	in 7 and under 28 days (12)	in hospital (13)	at home or in a nursing home (14)		
1. 2 lb. 3 oz. or less	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	—		
2. Over 2 lb. 3 oz. up to and including 3 lb. 4 oz.	3	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	—		
3. Over 3 lb. 4 oz. up to and including 4 lb. 6 oz.	10	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	1	1	—	—	2	—		
4. Over 4 lb. 6 oz. up to and including 4 lb. 15 oz.	20	1	1	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1		
5. Over 4 lb. 15 oz. up to and including 5 lb. 8 oz.	42	—	—	—	5	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—		
6. Total	75	2	1	—	7	—	—	—	1	1	—	—	6	1		

Notifications of Births

The following table shows the actual number of births notified in Cheltenham during the period 1st January to 31st December, 1968, and the number is adjusted by any notifications transferred in or out of the area :

	Adjusted Live Births	Adjusted Still Births	Total Adjusted Births
1. Domiciliary	178	1	179
2. Institutional	1,079	9	1,088
3. Total	1,257	10	1,267

Birth notifications are much the same as the previous year. The fall in domiciliary confinements continues and there has been a slight increase in the number of hospital confinements.

Day Nurseries

Both nurseries continue to supply a need in the town especially the Whaddon Road nursery where there is always a waiting list. If the Swindon Road nursery were as conveniently situated both nurseries could support each other in reducing the waiting list, but this will not happen until the Swindon Road nursery is replaced by the proposed new nursery on the Gloucester Road site. The new nursery has now been placed in the 1972/73 building programme.

The following table shows children on register and average daily attendances at the Nurseries during the year.

	Number of approved places	Number of children on the register at the end of the year	Average daily attendance during the year
Swindon Road Day Nursery	40	29	30
Whaddon Road Day Nursery	50	49	45

Nurseries and Child Minder Regulations Act, 1948, as amended by the Health Services and Public Health Act, 1968

On 31st December, 1968, there were 20 child minders looking after 215 children and 5 Day Nurseries/Play Groups looking after 145 children. Child Minders therefore provide a substantial number of places but largely for parents who wish to take up employment, and do little to relieve the pressure on our Day Nurseries where only priority groups are admitted such as children of unmarried mothers and of divorced or separated parents, sudden illness or removal to hospital of the mother, and other cases where genuine need is established.

During the year the amended regulations were published and are due to take effect as from 1st January, 1969. The new measures generally tighten up inspection and control, the main new provision being that all child minders must be registered, irrespective of the number of children received into the home. Previously registration was not necessary if no more than two children were looked after for reward.

National Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Children

Very close co-operation is maintained between the Health Department and Senior Inspector Hammer, of the N.S.P.C.C. Frequent joint visits are made to homes, either on the initiative of Inspector Hammer or the Health Department and these visits are of mutual benefit. I would like to record my appreciation of the many instances in which Inspector Hammer has given valuable assistance both to the Health Department and the School Health Service in the welfare of children.

Senior Inspector Hammer attends the co-ordinating committee concerned with the problem families in Cheltenham which meets every two months in the Municipal Offices.

Problem Families Committee

The work of this committee has continued throughout the year at their meeting every two months, and the attendance and support of all the officers concerned has been of great value in dealing with many of our problem families. At the end of the year 23 problem families were under review.

SECTION 23

Midwifery Services

Ante-Natal Clinics

Ante-Natal Clinics are held at the Cheltenham Maternity Hospital and Hesters Way Health Centre. At the Health Centre the clinics are run by family doctors and midwives. At the Maternity Hospital, hospital medical staff, family doctors and midwives are in attendance. At both clinics, health education activities are run by our health visitors, who give talks or individual instruction to expectant mothers. Also at both clinics relaxation classes are held and are conducted by a qualified physiotherapist.

Maternity beds for hospital confinement are allocated for medical and social reasons. Each applicant is visited by a midwife who makes an assessment of the need for institutional confinement in all cases where the reason for the application is other than medical. Institutional confinements take place at the Maternity Hospital, but occasionally when accommodation is over-booked, some cases are transferred to the Cirencester or Stroud Maternity Hospitals.

The Victoria Home, which for the best part of a hundred years has been the headquarters of the domiciliary midwifery and home nursing services, and in more recent years an annexe for the St. Paul's Maternity Hospital, was closed during the year. This large building has served its purpose well over the years but owing to the steady decrease in the number of nursing staff who wished to live in, and the cost of running a ten bed maternity unit, the Victoria Home became an uneconomic proposition which could not be justified financially. The headquarters of the domiciliary midwifery and home nursing services have now moved to No. 2 Crescent Terrace (Tel. Cheltenham 22464), to which all enquiries should now be made.

Domiciliary Midwifery

Although operating under establishment an adequate domiciliary midwifery service has been provided throughout the year by six full-time and two part-time midwives. The number of babies born at home continues to fall to such an extent that we will have to consider limiting the number of

midwifery pupils we can accept for training owing to the difficulty in providing the required training on the district. The hospitals on the other hand are coping with an increasing number of admissions, many of whom, where suitable home conditions exist, are being discharged early, sometimes within 48 hours. Much of our domiciliary midwives' time is spent dealing with the post natal care of these cases.

SECTION 24

Health Visitors

Further to my report last year, two more Health Visitors have been attached to general practices in the town and just over half of our Health Visiting staff have now been attached. This is about as far as we can go at the moment without additional Health Visitors, as they are all, whether attached or not, carrying out duties in the School Health and Maternity and Child Health service. The table below shows the varied duties carried out by the Health Visitors and the extent of their work. It does not include Health Education which is described under a separate heading later in the Report. This subject is rightly taking up an increasing proportion of the time of the Health Visitors especially in the schools and clinics.

The following is a summary of the work done by the Health Visitors during the year and includes work done on attachment to general practitioners:

Number of children visited during the year	...	...	...	5,434
First visits to infants under 1 year of age	...	...	...	1,591
Total visits to infants under 1 year of age	...	...	...	4,574
Visits to children aged 1—5 years	...	...	...	10,090
Visits to expectant mothers	...	...	...	251
Tuberculosis visits	...	...	...	186
Investigations of Social Conditions for Hospitals, visits to sick persons, old people, etc.	...	...	...	2,877
Number of attendances by Health Visitors at Clinic Sessions				1,167

SECTION 25

Home Nursing

As already stated the Home Nursing Service is now operating from new Headquarters at 2, Crescent Terrace and as in the case of the Health Visitors, the scheme of attachment to general practices has been further extended. Four home nurses are now attached to general practices in the town. Another change made during the year was the replacement of one full time nurse, who left on retirement, by two bathing attendants. The bathing of patients, especially the elderly has been taking up an increasing amount of nurses time, but there is no necessity for bathing to take up skilled nursing time. A qualified nurse can be much more usefully employed. Our two bathing attendants, unqualified, but in every other way suited for this work, can bath all but seriously ill patients, and so leave our qualified staff to use their training and experience to better advantage.

A new integrated scheme of training for the S.E.N. (State Enrolled Nurse) qualification was started during the year in conjunction with our Home Nursing Service and the Cheltenham General Hospital. S.E.N. students carry out part of their training under the supervision of the Superintendent of the Home Nursing Service and her staff, and the successful

students subsequently receive the S.E.N. qualification with a certificate of proficiency in Home Nursing. They are therefore qualified to apply for posts either with the Hospital or the Home Nursing Service.

SECTION 26

Vaccination and Immunisation

Vaccination against Smallpox

Children are not normally vaccinated against smallpox until after the first birthday. The majority of these vaccinations are done by family doctors and doctors at Child Health Clinics. 770 children were vaccinated during the year, 602 between the end of the first year and the end of the fourth year. Vaccinations done outside this age range are usually for a special reason, e.g. family going abroad. Mothers are continually encouraged to have their children protected because of the ease and rapidity with which Smallpox can be imported from abroad.

Vaccination against Diphtheria, Whooping Cough and Tetanus

Protection against these diseases begins between the 2nd and 3rd month, and with the exception of Whooping Cough, is repeated at various intervals until the child is eight. Vaccination is done by a triple (combined) vaccine.

The following figures show the number of completed courses carried out during the year and the number of booster doses:—

	<i>Diphtheria</i>	<i>Tetanus</i>	<i>Diphtheria/ Tetanus</i>	<i>Diphtheria/ Whooping Cough/ Tetanus</i>
Complete Courses	—	108	104	1,061
Boosters	111	329	1,725	918

Vaccination against Poliomyelitis

Protection against Poliomyelitis is given at the same time as the triple vaccine but is given by mouth.

During the year a total of 1098 children between the ages of 6 months and 15 years received a complete course. Booster doses covering this age group numbered 554.

Vaccination against Measles

Vaccination against measles began in May, but as the vaccine was in short supply, was limited initially to children aged 4, 5 and 6 years. However by the Autumn, supplies were more plentiful and the 1-3 year age group was included. The response has been disappointing, but this is not unusual with the introduction of a new prophylactic measure. There has not yet been time to see any significant change in the incidence of the disease.

Total number of measles vaccinations up to 31.12.68—858.

Vaccination against Tuberculosis (B.C.G.)

Details of B.C.G. vaccination will be found in the Report on the School Health Service.

All these protective procedures are going on throughout the year with results that are too well known to need repetition. It is the Health Visitor's

job to encourage parents, especially the forgetful and the apathetic, to bring their children for protection either to the family doctor or the child health clinic.

An increase in the number of immunisations and vaccinations is now becoming apparent since a child's records are now being fed into the computer at an early age. The computer tells us automatically when a child is due for the various prophylactic measures, and this information is passed to the Health Visitor who ensures the attendance of the child at the clinic. This is just one example of the way that modern technology can be harnessed to the use of preventive medicine but there will be many more in the future.

SECTION 28

Prevention of Illness, Care and After-Care

Tuberculosis

At one time, not so many years ago, most after-care work was concerned with tuberculosis. Happily this is no longer the case owing to the much reduced incidence of the disease. Only about a dozen patients in the town receive free milk supplies from the Council as they are entitled to do if their income falls below a certain level. Assistance is also available through the Tuberculosis Care Committee, a voluntary body which over the years has helped considerably, and still helps patients who are in need. Health Visitors visit patients discharged from hospital and trace contacts of infectious patients for referral to the Chest Physician.

The free milk scheme provided by the Council, under which persons notified as suffering from tuberculosis, could benefit, ceased during the year to become a Local Authority responsibility. These patients are now provided for, financially, by the Ministry of Social Security. Due to the very low incidence of the disease in the town, no more than a dozen people benefitted under the Council's scheme. These patients also benefit, if they are in need from the services of the Tuberculosis Care Committee, a voluntary body which for many years has provided funds for this purpose. This Committee now covers the much wider field of Heart and Chest diseases. The Health Visitors also provide an after-care service for the tuberculous.

Incontinence Pads

The issue of incontinence pads has now proved its value and has become a permanent part of the nursing services provided by the Home Nursing Service.

Cervical Cytology

One cervical cytology clinic is held per week but these are increased according to the size of the waiting list. The site of the clinic also alternates between the St. George's Road clinic and the Hester's Way Health Centre, according to the size of the waiting list at either place. We do not refuse any applicants and these services are well advertised, but there is still not the demand that one would expect.

General

The general work of the Health Department in the prevention of illness, care and after-care, although a delegated function under the scheme, is very

much a joint effort between our own staff, Health Visitors, Home Helps, District Nurses, etc., and other bodies, such as the Ministry of Social Security, Women's Voluntary Service, Red Cross, the County Welfare Department and the Tuberculosis Care Committee already mentioned. The Hospital Authority and the Family Doctors are very closely associated in this work especially as it concerns the care of patients discharged from hospital and the welfare of old people, and altogether it is this co-operative effort which achieves results. Cheltenham is also very fortunate in the amount of voluntary effort put into this work. I need only mention the Local Spastics Committee who run their own excellent school for spastic children, the Cheltenham Branch of the Infantile Paralysis Fellowship, the Cripples' Aid Committee, the Muscular Dystrophy and Multiple Sclerosis Group, and the well-known and greatly appreciated work done by the Committee who arrange for the weekly swimming sessions for handicapped persons at Alstone Baths. The Cheshire Home in the town is doing wonderful work.

Sick room equipment is available on loan when required for patients being nursed at home. Large items, such as wheel chairs, etc., can be obtained from the Red Cross at a small charge.

Details of all the above services and many others concerned with the health and welfare of the community, have recently been published in a booklet "Borough of Cheltenham Public Health and Social Services", which has been distributed to various organisations in the town and is available at the Health Department.

Chiropody Service

The Cheltenham Old People's Welfare Association provide a chiropody service for the town on the Council's behalf. The service is becoming more and more popular and is obviously supplying a genuine need. There is still a shortage of chiropodists and the service must still be confined to three priority classes, the aged, the physically handicapped and expectant mothers.

We have just been successful in obtaining the services of another part-time chiropodist and this will help to reduce the long waiting list.

The following is a summary of the work carried out during the year:

Number of treatments at clinics and centres	...	...	...	1,175
Elderly	...	...	...	1,160
Physically handicapped	...	...	...	15
Expectant Mothers	...	...	...	—
Domiciliary (at patient's house)	...	...	...	81
Domiciliary at General Hospital	...	...	...	—
Number on Register—December 31st, 1968	...	...	...	865
Number awaiting appointments at December 31st, 1968	...	...	...	190

SECTION 29

Home Help Service

The Home Help Service under the Organiser and her staff continue to meet as adequately as possible the heavy demand for home help service. Not all requests can be met in full but no one in need of help is refused. There is still the difficulty of being able to recruit a sufficient number of suitable home helps. The introduction of six mopeds to the service has been very successful and has resulted in many more hours being spent in work in the home instead of the time being spent on travelling. At the end of the year we were employing 90 home helps.

The following is a summary of the work done during the year :—

	Maternity	Chronic Sick	General Sickness	Old Age	Total
Families Helped	70	38	200	430	738

MENTAL HEALTH

This year was one of change for this Department, marked by great improvement in staffing and accommodation. Mr P. A. Collingborne and Mr P. F. Davidson returned from professional training in Bristol, both having successfully qualified. The Department was also fortunate in gaining much needed clerical help when Mrs B. I. Roe was appointed in August, and the whole Department moved to larger and more suitable premises in the basement previously used as the School Clinic.

Mental Illness

With better waiting and interview facilities a large number of clients have been encouraged to come to the Department where possible. To help co-ordination with other services, the Mental Welfare Officers have also attempted to see selected patients before discharge from hospital, thus attempting some continuity of support.

During the year 104 new cases were referred from various sources, and the current number of clients receiving active after-care support numbers 73. The Mental Welfare Officers were involved in 128 admissions to hospital, 104 of which were on a compulsory basis.

Once again great support was given to the Mental Welfare Officers and their clients by the Gloucestershire Association for Mental Health, in particular by those at the Nearly New Shop. Much help was also given by the W.V.S. staff at Oriel Terrace.

Mental Subnormality

The number of new referrals from the Education Department was 16, bringing the total receiving care and guidance to 152. Of these 2 are under Guardianship, 4 in Merrowdown Hostel and 33 in full-time employment.

There were 22 admissions to hospitals for short-term care, 5 for permanent care, and the waiting list for permanent care is now 12.

The North Gloucestershire Society for Mentally Handicapped Children continues to give valuable support, particularly to the Committee and helpers of the Spa Social Club. The Club now has a membership of approximately 70, and the activities become more advanced each year. This year a party of 19 members went to Drakes Island Adventure Centre at Plymouth, and the success of this venture should lead to an even larger group attending in 1969. The Club is once more indebted to many people for their support, particularly the helpers and those from the Lions Club, Rotary and Round Table who provide transport.

Whatever decisions are taken regarding the implementation of the Seebohm committee's report, the Mental Welfare Service in Cheltenham is well placed to fulfil its commitments with a staff of qualified officers and

centrally situated offices. However, this is only a small start to a much expanded service as envisaged by Seebohm, and not only will more staff and premises be required, but also a career, with promotion prospects on the service. Without these conditions expansion will not take place.

Eildon Junior Training Centre

The number of children at this centre is one hundred and eight, and there is now a waiting list.

Swimming activities continue at the Alstone Baths and are proving of great value.

Physiotherapy and Speech Therapy Sessions continue under the guidance of Mrs H. Sarma and Miss C. Newlove.

Two members of Staff are attending the Training Course for Teachers of Mentally Handicapped Children. During the year some eight Students from courses have gained their practical experience at Eildon.

St. Paul's College students continue to help in Social Training.

The Youth Community Service continue to visit and their services are most useful.

An educational holiday was arranged for nine children at Lavernock Point, Wales, during the summer and proved very successful. It is hoped to repeat this venture next year.

The Junior Training Centre is long overdue for replacement and is now inadequate to meet the demands made upon it. The waiting list will undoubtedly grow over the next two or three years before a new centre can be provided. However a site has been chosen at Bournside on the school campus, which includes the Junior and Senior Schools for the educationally subnormal and preliminary planning has begun. It is hoped that building will start in 1970. Unfortunately there is not sufficient outlet to the Adult Training Centre where extensions had to be postponed because of the financial situation. Fortunately we now have fixed dates in the capital building programme for both Centres and the position will right itself in time but during the next two to three years we are going to find difficulty in meeting the demand for places at both Centres.

Adult Training Centre

I am pleased to be able to report another successful year. We have been able to obtain work from another three factories, this makes our scope of training much wider and does mean that our trainees are given a far greater variety of work to be taught and to develop their skills on. We have again been able to maintain our record of training the people under our care up to a standard of acceptability to industry and a further six trainees have been placed in regular full-time employment.

The Centre continues to be a place of interest for the many organisations that run training courses in this area and during the Summer, we had visits from a large number of midwives from all over the country, who were attending a refresher course in Cheltenham. The Centre is also used by the National Association of Mental Health Diploma Courses for students to gain practical experience. We were also delighted to have a visit from the Town Clerk and his wife and we appreciate the interest they have shown.

75 trainees attended the Centre daily during the year but a waiting list has now built up and it is to be hoped that the extensions planned for 1971/72 will not be held up again, due to the present economic situation. They will be urgently required before they are available.

The North Gloucestershire Society for Mentally Handicapped Children has kindly provided us with a garage for use as a store room. This has already proved to be of immense value and it is planned that we will now be able to increase our numbers to 90 and form another work class.

During the present year, one member of the staff left us to work for Gloucester City Health Department but a replacement has now been made.

A party of our trainees attended a Harvest Festival Service at Christ Church Infant's School and we are very grateful to the Headmistress and her staff for the gift of fruit and vegetables they kindly sent to the Centre. We also arranged a party to attend a Youth Club Concert given at Gloucester and one of the most interesting items to report is that a number of our girl trainees regularly correspond with girls at the Sir Humphrey Gibbs Training Centre in Bulawayo, Rhodesia.

This report would not be complete without thanking all the people who have, in any way, helped the running of the Adult Centre. Particular thanks must again be given to our friends in industry for their continued support and to all the Centre Staff for their wholehearted co-operation and loyalty, who have all contributed to helping the people here in our care to live a happier and useful life.

WELFARE SERVICES

Residential Accommodation

Mr H. D. Nichols, County Welfare Officer, has kindly supplied the following information concerning the number of Cheltenham old people in residential accommodation in the area, as at 31st December, 1968:—

Home	Men	Women	Total
Arle House	14	29	43
Sunnyside	13	31	54
Ellerslie (Home for Blind)	3	13	16

Set out below are details of Cheltenham elderly people accommodated elsewhere than in Homes in the Cheltenham area. It is not every applicant from the Cheltenham area who wishes to enter a Cheltenham Home and these residents are generally accommodated in areas of their choice often where they can be visited by friends or relatives.

Home	Men	Women	Total
Atherton Close, Shurdington	—	8	8
East Court, Charlton Kings	4	5	9
Eastington Park, Stonehouse	1	—	1
East View, Stow-on-the-Wold	2	2	4
Ferney Hill, Dursley	1	1	2
Frome House, Yate	3	—	3
Grevill House, Charlton Kings	13	15	28
Horsbere House, Brockworth	—	6	6
Newton House, Cadbury Heath	—	1	1
Northleach Hospital	1	—	1
Orchard House, Bishops Cleeve	5	17	22
Paternoster House, Cirencester	—	1	1
The Priory, Tetbury	—	1	1
Puckrup Hall, Twyning	2	9	11

Ridgewood, Chipping Sodbury	2	3	5
Southfield, Stroud	2	6	8
The Willows, Eastington	4	2	6
Wyatt House, Stroud	—	1	1

Records also show that there are 16 men, 70 women and 1 married couple awaiting admission to County Homes from the Cheltenham area.

Temporary Accommodation

Under Section 21 (1) (b) of the National Assistance Act, 1948, the Local Authority has a duty to provide temporary accommodation "for persons who are in urgent need thereof, being need arising in circumstances which could not reasonably have been foreseen, or in such circumstances as the authority may in any particular case determine".

This type of accommodation is provided by the County Welfare Department at the hostel at Newent and in Cheltenham.

Welfare of Old People

Visiting of old people is undertaken by the Health Visitors working in close contact with other voluntary and statutory agencies. A register is kept of all old people in the town visited for the first time and their needs ascertained and recorded for future reference. The Health Visitor advises and provides help where she can or makes arrangements for other help to be provided. In cases where residential accommodation is considered necessary, the case is referred to the Area Welfare Officer, in Cheltenham.

We also work very closely with the Cheltenham Old People's Welfare Association who are also responsible for providing the Meals on Wheels and the Chiropody Service both very much appreciated by old people.

Removal to Suitable Premises of Persons in need of Care and Protection

(National Assistance Act, 1948, Sec. 47 and Amendment Act, October, 1951)

Three old people have been compulsorily removed from their homes during the year, either to hospital or to old people's homes, in their own interests. This is a measure which is only taken as a last resort when it becomes clear that the case is beyond the scope of the domiciliary services. Fortunately there are not many such cases. After admission, house and effects become the responsibility of the Area Welfare Officer, and the old person's interests are safeguarded. Regular reports are received from the hospital or old people's home with a view to discharge, but unfortunately when conditions ultimately make compulsory removal necessary, it is seldom that the old person is able to return home again unless there is a relative or friend willing to take over the care and responsibility.

Welfare of the Deaf

During the past year a total of 245 visits have been made by the Welfare Officer to deaf people in Cheltenham Borough. Of this number 40 were new cases referred by General Practitioners, Health Visitors or Social Workers. They were either fitted with Medresco Aids or passed on to the appropriate agencies.

The Health and Welfare Committee approved the purchase and installation of a Mountcastle Visual Bell for a young mother living in the Borough.

Due to the temporary absence from the Department of the Senior Welfare Officer, screening of infants at risk has been carried out by the Peripatetic Teaching Service. School leavers have continued to be referred to the Department and these have been offered vocational guidance by the Welfare Officer.

Student Health Visitors and Nursery Nurses attending college in the Borough have received lectures from the Senior Welfare Officer prior to her departure. Talks have also been given to various clubs and women's organisations.

The Cheltenham Deaf and Hard of Hearing Club has now its former strength in membership after a period of very poor attendance. The Committee has drawn up a comprehensive programme of activities for 1969.

The Department continues to be represented at the Hearing Assessment Clinic held in Gloucestershire Royal Infirmary, thus providing continuity between medical and social services. Several children from the Borough are patients at the Clinic.

The Social Welfare Officer has continued to visit the deaf in their homes and to assist with acquiring hearing aids for them. She has also met other needs as and when they have arisen.

Welfare of the Blind

During the year 66 new cases were reported for investigation.

Registers: Blind 181 Partially-sighted 38

Routine visits were continued throughout the year to blind and partially sighted people in their homes, hospitals and County Welfare Homes. Lessons were given in Braille, Moon, mobility and rehabilitation.

The weekly club held at Highbury Church continues to flourish and expand. The weekly attendance is now 58. We are grateful to the Voluntary Helpers—without whom we should be unable to enjoy such large meetings.

Many other social activities were enjoyed during the year including day trips to the sea and Bourton-on-the-Water, outings to the Bristol Show and the R.N.I.B. Centenary Exhibition in London. Parties and Concerts were given by the Inner Wheel, Toc H and St. John's Primary School.

Seaside holidays were arranged with assistance from Gloucestershire County Association for the Blind, Cheltenham Lions Club and the Golden Key Club. These were especially appreciated by people who were having their first holiday for many years.

As in previous years the Gloucestershire County Association for the Blind was very generous with help whenever it was required.

We were very sorry to lose the services of Miss Finley during the year but also very happy to wish her well when she left to be married. Miss Finley was our Welfare Worker for the Blind in Cheltenham for many years, and her experience and understanding in this special branch of social welfare was highly appreciated and gratefully acknowledged by blind people in Cheltenham by whom she will be long remembered.

Welfare of the Physically Handicapped

The number of physically handicapped persons on the register at the end of December, 1968, was 466.

Occupational Therapy

Miss M. D. Warren (M.A.O.T.) with the help of a part-time Occupational Therapist is now running this Centre for a full day each Wednesday, at the Whaddon Boys Club, Dart Road, where the premises are very suitable for the disabled and the staff most helpful. Thirty-five attend the Centre regularly and of these twenty-one live in Cheltenham Borough.

Aids to Daily Living and instruction in craftwork are also provided as a domiciliary service.

British Red Cross Club

This social club for the disabled meets on the 1st and 3rd Tuesday afternoon, and is planning to move to Whaddon Boys Club, where the accommodation is warmer and more suitable for the disabled. Numbers are still increasing and membership reached twenty from the Borough. Parties, outings, Sales of Work and coach trips were arranged and very greatly appreciated.

Cheltenham Cripples Aid Committee

This hard working Committee continues to do very valuable work. It provides the disabled with amenities, not available through the Health Service, and keeps in touch by regular visiting.

Aids in the Home

Many requests are received from disabled people for aids in the home and in many cases this necessitates adaptations. Each case is investigated to ensure that the most suitable appliance is provided. We work in close collaboration with the Housing Manager in these cases and the cost of aids and adaptations is met by the Health and Welfare Committee. In most cases this work is carried out in houses owned by the Council and the Housing Manager is always most helpful in obtaining estimates for us and arranging for the completion of the work.

Proposed Sheltered Workshop

Plans are now well advanced for the erection of a sheltered workshop on a site in Arle Village road. We have been greatly delayed with this project owing to the difficulty in obtaining planning consent for sites which were considered suitable. The site in Arle Village road is the fourth to be considered, but planning permission is assured and agreement reached with the Ministry of Employment and Productivity. The plans are almost complete and it is hoped building will start in the Autumn of 1969.

Meals on Wheels

This service has been operated successfully during the year in the capable hands of the Old People's Welfare Association providing a much needed and highly appreciated help for old people. The number of meals provided during the year was 14,542. (Previous year 13,622.)

HEALTH EDUCATION

The Health Visitors employed in Cheltenham are making increasing headway with Health Education among young people in the town. They are seeking to create a better teacher/health visitor involvement, in helping to meet, and answer the changing attitudes of boys and girls to the awareness of

personal and general healthy living; they also try to instil an insight into their individual responsibilities to the community in which they live and will, in future, work.

A most exciting and enticing programme is being given to school children on all aspects of parentcraft, as well as to various other groups in the town. The knowledge imparted with understanding of the needs of each section, with attractive visual aids, has done much to produce this atmosphere of awareness amongst the children, and they have shown a keen sense for more knowledge and information on the different subjects. These talks have been geared to meet the challenge of the different groups to which they have been given, and in addition, discussions have been arranged with the young and not so young on the welfare and health of each generation, and how it is applicable to them.

The large increase in numbers of talks given by the Health Visitors as appended below, shows how greatly this service is appreciated by increasing numbers in the audiences and in the constant demand for more and more talks. The number of talks given during the year was 509 with an approximate attendance of 6,927. During 1968 there were 80 talks given in Secondary Modern Schools as against 18 in 1967.

A new field has been opened up by the participation of the Health Visitors in a Day School for the Sisters and Staff Nurses of our local hospitals, and this has proved to be a splendid link up of the Health and Welfare Services with the Hospitals. In addition to this, talks and discussions with the first and second year hospital student nurses have taken place.

In their contact with various associations Medical Officers have stressed the value and necessity of good communications between the statutory and voluntary social services, with the result that a better appreciation of each service and its scope, is contributing much to the understanding of the public towards health education.

It is an attractive thought that the three services of Education, Health and Hospital, are in such close harmony that as each section co-operates with the other for the benefit to the community, they are laying down the foundation for a community which will be healthy and well educated in all aspects of the art of living.

SCHOOL HEALTH SERVICE

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE SCHOOL MEDICAL OFFICE

1965

To the Chairman and Members of the Special Services Sub-Committee

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen:

The annual report on the School Health Service shows a very satisfactory year. The number of children attending the school during the year was 1,200. The number of children who were examined by the School Medical Officer was 1,150. The number of children who were referred to the School Medical Officer for further examination was 100. The number of children who were referred to the School Medical Officer for treatment was 50. The number of children who were referred to the School Medical Officer for surgery was 20. The number of children who were referred to the School Medical Officer for hospitalization was 10.

SECTION III

The School Health Service has been successful in its work during the year. The number of children who were examined by the School Medical Officer was 1,150. The number of children who were referred to the School Medical Officer for further examination was 100. The number of children who were referred to the School Medical Officer for treatment was 50. The number of children who were referred to the School Medical Officer for surgery was 20. The number of children who were referred to the School Medical Officer for hospitalization was 10.

SCHOOL HEALTH SERVICE

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I would like to express my gratitude to the Chairman and Members of the Special Services Sub-Committee for their helpful encouragement throughout the year. My thanks are also due to the Borough Education Officer and his staff for their co-operation and to my own medical nursing and clerical staff who have all contributed to another successful year.

T. G. D. LAWSON,
School Medical Officer.

SCHOOL HEALTH SERVICE

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE SCHOOL MEDICAL OFFICER

1968

To the Chairman and Members of the Special Services Sub-Committee

Mr Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

The annual report on the School Health Service shows a very satisfactory and high standard of general health among the school children in the town. An extensive programme of school medical and dental inspection has been completed during the year. The aim of the School Health Service is to provide a continuing medical and dental cover with an increasing emphasis on special defects. This in practice means some reduction in routine medical examinations but in view of the high standard of school children's health in the town, this need cause no great concern. What is of more concern is the survival to school age of an increasing number of handicapped children, who, but for recent medical advances, would previously have succumbed to their disability. It is for this reason that more time must be devoted to special handicaps.

There has been no infectious disease or any other illness which has had any significant effect on the school health records. The effect of measles vaccination, not started until May, and then only on a limited scale, has not yet had time to produce the results we will hope to see next year. The only disease which continues with very little abatement is dental disease, but the solution to this problem is readily available. It must, however, await acceptance by the Council. The only other service for which there seems to be no lack of candidates is the Child Guidance Service where a long waiting list is the rule. This, however, is so often not primarily the fault of the children but reflects a much wider social problem outside the scope of the School Health Service.

The school nurses have considerably increased their health education activities in the schools during the year and this very happily has largely resulted from requests by head teachers. This is a very welcome trend and will be pursued enthusiastically with the continued co-operation of the teaching staff. It is only by sound health education in the schools that one can try to lay the foundations of a healthy community in the future, a community which will not only accept health services but will know how to participate with Health Authorities to the mutual benefit of both. Indeed I would like to see the health education activities in the schools extended to the Youth Services. Our health education staff would gladly offer their services.

I would like once again to express my gratitude to the Chairman and Members of the Special Services Sub-Committee for their helpful encouragement throughout the year. My thanks are also due to the Borough Education Officer and his staff for their co-operation and to my own medical nursing and clerical staff who have all contributed to another successful year.

T. O. P. D. LAWSON,
School Medical Officer.

School Medical Inspections

The routine medical inspections of school children have continued during 1968 and 3,695 children were examined throughout the year.

Children are examined:

- (a) on entry for the first time to a maintained school;
- (b) during the year in which they are 8 years old and
- (c) in the last year of their attendance at a secondary school.

Older pupils are examined before they leave school at the higher age groups in Pate's Grammar School for Girls, the Boys' Grammar School and the Technical High School.

As a result of these inspections, 304 pupils were found to have defective vision (excluding squint) and where necessary referred to the Eye Specialist. A further 532 children were found to be suffering from other defects or diseases requiring treatment, and the necessary action was taken in all cases. The number of defects requiring to be kept under observation but not requiring treatment was 1,157 and the children concerned were kept under special observation during the year. This latter group, of course, includes very many minor defects which may be remedied spontaneously and never require treatment. They are kept under observation merely as a precautionary measure. This is, of course, the main purpose of the routine medical inspections, to prevent the minor defect becoming a major one.

The school population at the end of 1968 was 12,742 and every child has an up-to-date school medical record.

Special School Medical Inspection

These inspections cover children examined other than at a routine medical inspection for some special reason. During 1968, 13 children were examined at these inspections, and the appropriate action taken.

Re-Inspections

Re-inspections have been held each term in all schools in the Borough when children who had previously been noted at routine or special medical inspections to be in need of further observation and advice, were seen by the School Medical Officers.

During 1968, 841 children were examined at these inspections.

PART I

**MEDICAL INSPECTION OF PUPILS ATTENDING
MAINTAINED PRIMARY AND SECONDARY SCHOOLS
(Including Special Schools)**

Age Group inspected (By year of Birth)	No. of Pupils who have received a full medical examination	PHYSICAL CONDITION OF PUPILS INSPECTED		No. of Pupils found not to warrant a medical examination	Pupils found to require treatment (excluding dental diseases and infes- tation with vermin)		
		Satisfactory	Unsatisfactory		For defective vision (excluding squint)	For any other condition recorded at Part II	Total individual pupils
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)
1964 and later	1	1	—	—	—	1	1
1963	674	674	—	—	7	34	40
1962	526	525	1	—	11	55	64
1961	59	58	1	—	5	5	6
1960	1022	1020	2	—	84	81	156
1959	115	115	—	—	11	8	17
1958	54	54	—	—	5	7	11
1957	36	36	—	—	3	4	7
1956	112	112	—	—	20	12	27
1955	59	59	—	—	6	1	7
1954	598	597	1	—	55	35	83
1953 and earlier	439	439	—	—	97	19	113
TOTAL	3695	3690	5	—	304	262	532

Col. (3) total as a percentage of Col. (2) total 99.86% } To two places of decimals.
 Col. (4) total as a percentage of Col. (2) total .14%

Table B. Other Inspections

Number of Special Inspections	...	...	...	13
Number of Re-inspections	...	...	...	841
TOTAL				854

Table C. Infestation with Vermin

(a)	Total number of individual examinations of pupils in schools by school nurses or other authorised persons	...	...	22,632
(b)	Total number of individual pupils found to be infested	...	...	165
(c)	Number of individual pupils in respect of whom cleansing notices were issued (Section 54 (2) Education Act, 1944)	...	...	117
(d)	Number of individual pupils in respect of whom cleansing orders were issued (Section 54 (3) Education Act, 1944)	...	...	—

PART II

**Defects found by Periodic and Special Medical Inspections
during the Year**

Defect Code No.	Defect or Disease		Periodic Inspections				Special Inspections
			Entrants	Leavers	Others	Total	
4	Skin	T	9	6	6	21	—
		O	27	10	21	58	—
5	Eyes—(a) Vision	T	23	149	132	304	1
		O	17	27	49	93	—
	(b) Squint	T	16	4	18	38	—
		O	8	3	4	15	—
	(c) Other	T	5	2	5	12	—
		O	11	6	2	19	—
6	Ears—(a) Hearing	T	3	1	6	10	1
		O	60	11	34	105	7
	(b) Otitis Media	T	1	2	2	5	—
		O	24	2	8	34	—
	(c) Other	T	—	—	1	1	—
		O	—	2	2	4	—
7	Nose and Throat	T	31	2	11	44	—
		O	118	7	20	145	—
8	Speech	T	4	—	4	8	—
		O	30	1	14	45	2
9	Lymphatic Glands	T	—	—	—	—	—
		O	32	3	2	37	—
10	Heart	T	—	1	1	2	—
		O	20	11	18	49	—
11	Lungs	T	2	—	3	5	—
		O	50	10	23	83	—

Defect Code No.	Defect or Disease		Periodic Inspections				Special Inspections
			Entrants	Leavers	Others	Total	
12	Developmental—(a) Hernia...	T	1	1	3	5	—
		O	5	—	3	8	—
	(b) Other ...	T	3	3	8	14	—
		O	44	20	52	116	—
13	Orthopaedic—(a) Posture ...	T	1	9	3	13	—
		O	6	22	12	40	1
	(b) Feet ...	T	13	6	11	30	—
		O	37	10	21	68	—
	(c) Other ...	T	5	3	2	10	—
		O	19	14	12	45	—
14	Nervous System—(a) Epilepsy	T	—	1	3	4	1
		O	1	—	6	7	1
	(b) Other ...	T	—	2	—	2	—
		O	5	6	2	13	—
15	Psychological—(a) Development	T	2	1	19	22	1
		O	16	3	17	36	1
	(b) Stability ...	T	4	4	32	40	1
		O	57	5	41	103	—
16	Abdomen	T	2	1	2	5	—
		O	13	4	8	25	—
17	Other	T	2	—	—	2	—
		O	4	3	2	9	—

(T)—Treatment. (O)—Observation.

PART III

Treatment of Pupils attending maintained Primary and Secondary Schools
(Including Special Schools)

Table A. Eye Diseases, Defective Vision and Squint

		<i>Number of cases known to have been dealt with</i>
External and other, excluding errors of refraction and squint		9
Errors of refraction (including squint)		783
Total		792
Number of pupils for whom spectacles were prescribed		432

Table B. Diseases and Defects of Ear, Nose and Throat

	<i>Number of cases known to have been dealt with</i>
Received operative treatment :—	
(a) for diseases of the ear	27
(b) for adenoids and chronic tonsilitis ...	511
(c) for other nose and throat conditions ...	23
Received other forms of treatment	110
Total	671

Total number of pupils still on the register of schools
at 31st December, 1968, known to have been
provided with hearing aids :—

(a) during the calendar year 1968	6
(b) in previous years	20

Table C. Orthopaedic and Postural Defects

	<i>Number known to have been treated</i>
(a) Pupils treated at clinics or out-patients departments	236
(b) Pupils treated at school for postural defects	—
Total	236

**Table D. Diseases of the Skin (excluding uncleanliness, for
which see Table C of Part I)**

	<i>Number of pupils known to have been treated</i>
Ringworm (a) Scalp	—
(b) Body	4
Scabies	7
Impetigo	8
Other skin diseases	13
Total	32

Table E. Child Guidance Treatment

	<i>Number known to have been treated</i>
Pupils treated at Child Guidance clinics	147

Table F. Speech Therapy

	<i>Number known to have been treated</i>
Pupils treated by speech therapists	188

Table G. Other Treatment Given

	<i>Number known to have been treated</i>
(a) Pupils with minor ailments	1472
(b) Pupils who received convalescent treatment under School Health Service arrange- ments	—
(c) Pupils who received B.C.G. vaccination ...	638
(d) Other than (a), (b) and (c) above.	
Ultra Violet Light Treatment ...	15
Chest	4
Total (a) - (d)	2129

The foregoing tables show no diminution in the number of children examined and requiring treatment. There is in fact an overall increase consistent with an increase in the school population. The incidence of defects is not high, nor should it be, if the service functions efficiently year by year.

Minor Ailments Clinics

These clinics have been reduced from three to two per week in order to allow for some of the more specialized work already referred to. This has caused no hardship as the need for these clinics has been diminishing over the years.

Audiometry

The routine testing of school children for hearing defect has continued in the schools during the year with the co-operation of head teachers, and has proved one of the most effective preventive measures of the School Health Service. The County Education Authority provides the services of a skilled examiner and the six-year old group is selected for examination, although the examiner will test any special case referred by the head teacher. This is proving a very useful means of discovering early cases of hearing defect and where necessary, treatment can be started at an early age before the disability can affect the child's education. Details of 1,401 audiometric examinations carried out in Cheltenham schools during the year, are shown in the following tables:

Routine Tests

<i>Number Tested</i> 1083	<i>Numbered Failed</i> 51	<i>Referred Hospital</i> 5
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Special Cases and Re-tests

<i>Number Tested</i> 318	<i>Number Failed</i> 64	<i>Referred Hospital</i> 12
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I am greatly indebted to Mr G. N. Barker, M.B., B.S., F.R.C.S.(Ed.), D.L.O., Ear, Nose and Throat Surgeon, Cheltenham General Hospital, for his co-operation in the examination and treatment of cases referred to him by our School Medical Officers.

PART IV

DENTAL INSPECTION AND TREATMENT CARRIED OUT BY THE AUTHORITY

Staff Changes

1. Miss K. D. Owen, B.D.S. was appointed Dental Officer in February.
2. Miss M. H. Fahey, B.A.D.A., was appointed Dental Auxiliary in September.
3. Mrs Y. Williams, Dental Clerk, resigned and Mrs L. Chivers was appointed in October.
4. Mrs R. Facey, Dental Surgery Assistant, resigned and left at the end of the year. Miss M. Walton, D.S.A., transferred to the County Dental Services and also left at the end of the year. Miss M. Cumiskey was appointed as Dental Surgery Assistant to start at the end of January. The vacancy of one Dental Surgery Assistant is at present being covered by part-time nurses.

Premises

In June came what is perhaps the biggest change in the Cheltenham Schools Dental Service for many years. We left our old premises in Royal Well and moved to new ones in County Offices, St. George's Road. The new premises and equipment have caused much appreciative comment from patients and this has perhaps been partly responsible for the increased amount of work done.

Dental Health Education

During May most of the Primary Schools were visited by Pierre, the clown, who gave the children advice on dental health education and distributed free apples. Since her appointment in September, Miss Fahey has also visited many of the Primary Schools where she has given talks and shown films.

I would like to thank all the members of the staff for their help and consideration during the year.

The figures relating to work carried out during 1968 are as follows:—

1. Inspections and Sessions

First inspection of year at school	..	..	..	..	8,068
First inspection of year at clinic ..	..	..	..	..	951
				TOTAL	9,019

Number found to require treatment	..	..	..	..	6,031
Number offered treatment	..	..	..	..	4,761
Number accepting treatment	..	..	..	..	2,315
Number re-inspected during year	..	..	..	..	1,213
Number of pupils treated	..	..	..	..	2,542
Number of courses of treatment given	..	..	..	..	2,781
Sessions devoted to treatment	..	..	..	..	1,175
Sessions devoted to inspections	..	..	..	..	99
Sessions devoted to dental health education	..	..	..	..	21

2. Attendances and Treatment

First visit	..	..	..	..	..	2,542
Subsequent visits	..	..	..	..	..	3,729
Total visits	..	..	..	..	..	6,271
Additional courses of treatment commenced	..	..	..	..	..	239
Fillings in permanent teeth	..	..	..	..	..	4,833
Fillings in deciduous teeth	..	..	..	..	..	1,744
Permanent teeth filled	..	..	..	..	..	3,105
Deciduous teeth filled	..	..	..	..	..	1,525
Permanent teeth extracted (Caries/ortho)	..	..	..	..	..	440/222
Deciduous teeth extracted	..	..	..	..	..	1,810
General anaesthetics administered by Dental Officers	..	..	..	..	..	283
General anaesthetics administered by Consultant Anaesthetist	..	..	..	..	..	589

Emergencies	..	..	..	..	..	..	384
Number of pupils X-rayed	..	..	..	..	..	..	302
Prophylaxis	..	..	..	..	..	..	266
Teeth otherwise conserved	..	..	..	..	..	..	162
Number of teeth root-filled	..	..	..	..	..	..	11
Inlays	..	..	..	..	..	..	3
Crowns	..	..	..	..	..	..	6
Courses of treatment completed	..	..	..	..	..	..	2,367

3. Orthodontics

Cases remaining from previous year	..	..	..	..	11
New cases commenced	..	..	..	..	26
Cases completed	..	..	..	..	4
Cases discontinued	..	..	..	..	3
Number of removable appliances fitted	..	..	..	..	31

INFECTIOUS DISEASES

As already stated, the impact of the common infectious diseases on the health of the school children is almost negligible as the following figures show:—

<i>Measles</i>	<i>Food Poisoning</i>	<i>Scarlet Fever</i>	<i>Whooping Cough</i>	<i>Poliomyelitis Paralytic</i>	<i>Poliomyelitis Non-Paralytic</i>	<i>Infective Jaundice</i>
138	1	Nil	3	Nil	Nil	2

The incidence of infectious disease is minimal and will be even more so with the introduction of vaccination against measles. The schools nowadays are almost entirely free of serious infectious disease and will remain so as long as our vaccination programmes are regularly pursued.

Tuberculosis

There was one notification of tuberculosis among school children during the year.

B.C.G. Vaccination

Vaccination against tuberculosis is now accepted almost universally by parents in Cheltenham. The figures given below show an acceptance rate of 72%.

The Medical Research Council follow-up of all children who have received B.C.G. Vaccination under the Local Education Authority scheme, continues. The first children to receive protection against tuberculosis by this means are now 28 years old, and in these young adults all over the country, there is a very substantial reduction in the incidence of tuberculosis.

No. of Schools	Invited	Accepted	Tuber- culin Tested	No. Positive	No. Negative	Positive Vaccinated	
12	936	779	674	36	638	5.3%	638

SPEECH THERAPY

Clinics held	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	416
Sessions for School Visiting/Clerical	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	132
Consultations	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	386
Treatments Given	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	2,198
Children Admitted	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	82
Children Discharged	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	75
Register, 31st December	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	167
Total school children treated	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	196
Total pre-school children treated	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	27

Reasons for Discharge	Stammer Boys Girls	Stammer & Dyslalia Boys Girls	Dyslalia Boys Girls	Cleft Palate Boys Girls	Other Disorders Boys Girls	Total
Provisionally cured	1 —	— —	17 9	— —	7 2	36
Much Improved	1 3	3 —	4 2	2 —	3 —	18
Slightly Improved/ Unco- operative	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	—
No Improvement	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	—
Left District and School	2 —	— —	1 —	— 1	3 —	7
Total	4 3	3 —	22 11	2 1	13 2	61

Physiotherapy

A physiotherapy clinic is held on three days per week. Children are referred by the School Medical Officer from the routine school medical inspections or from minor ailments clinics. Treatment consists of graduated exercises and ultra violet light. Progress is watched and the children are re-inspected at school.

Recuperative Holidays

We are indebted to the Cheltenham Rotary Club for generously providing a free fortnight's holiday for Cheltenham schoolboys at Weston-super-Mare.

The boys selected by the school medical officers, are convalescent or debilitated children, whose parents would not be able otherwise to provide them with a recuperative holiday by the sea. The boys stay at the Rotary Boys' House where a healthy and happy holiday, with good food and regular hours, does much to restore them to their normal vigour. Travelling expenses are also provided by the Rotary Club.

The Cheltenham Rotary Club has been providing these holidays for schoolboys in the town since 1928, and up to four boys per month can be sent to Weston. On behalf of the School Medical Committee, I would like to express our sincere thanks for this very fine example of "Service Before Self" and couple with it the gratitude of many parents in the town.

Child Guidance Clinic

The Child Guidance Clinic continues to provide a service for which there is no lessening of demand. The number of children for whom treatment is requested by parents, doctors and teachers, increases every year. Dr P. R. Doherty with his staff of psychologists and psychiatric social workers are always working at capacity both at the clinic and in the schools, to cope with the waiting list. I am very grateful to him for his co-operation and the effort he makes to see children as soon as possible.

Enuresis Clinic

The Enuresis Clinic continues to provide a most useful and much appreciated service for children subject to this distressing complaint. Many requests for the treatment of children are received from family doctors. Considerable success has been achieved and any children requiring further investigation are referred to Mr P. Boreham, F.R.C.S., at the General Hospital with the approval of the family doctor.

A summary of the work carried out during the year is as follows :—

Clinics held	...	...	...	...	...	26
New cases seen	...	...	...	...	...	48
Consultations	...	...	...	...	...	198
Cases closed	...	...	...	...	...	47
Cases still under treatment	...	...	...	...	...	24

The following table shows a breakdown of the "cases closed".

Cured	Improved	No Improvement	Total
32	5	10*	47

*Includes six children who were unable to manage the alarm unit and three who failed to keep appointments.

Employment of Children and Young Persons

During the year 112 examinations were carried out as to fitness for school children to be employed before or after school hours and the necessary certificate was granted in all such cases. The standard of fitness among Cheltenham school children is such that the refusal to issue a certificate of fitness is exceptional.

These children are kept under medical observation and there has never been any evidence that the part-time employment has been in any way detrimental to their physical or mental welfare.

All children leaving school are examined and advised in the light of their known medical histories as to any type of work for which they may have been found to be physically unsuitable and good liaison has been maintained with the Youth Employment Officer in this respect.

Handicapped Children

In accordance with the requirements of the Handicapped Pupils and Special Schools Regulations, 1959, 55 pupils have been examined or re-examined during 1968 for the purpose of ascertaining whether or not they are suffering from a disability of the mind or body, and if the disability is such as to fall within a category requiring special educational treatment as prescribed by the Regulations. Of the pupils examined during 1968 the following recommendations were made:

To attend Day Special School	..	..	..	..	40
To attend Residential School	..	..	..	..	5
Unsuitable for education at school	..	..	..	..	10

In addition a further 33 pupils were examined; 24 were found to require special education in an ordinary school and 9 were found to have no disability.

The results of these examinations which were carried out by our medical staff, who are specially qualified for the purpose, are brought before the Special Services Sub-Committee with an appropriate recommendation. They also include the examination of school children referred to the Child Guidance Clinic with the recommendation of the Medical Director.

SECTION IV

ENVIRONMENTAL HYGIENE

Report of Chief Public Health Inspector and Manager of the Public Abattoir

TO THE WORSHIPFUL THE MAYOR, THE ALDERMEN AND COUNCILLORS OF THE BOROUGH OF CHELTENHAM

Mr Mayor, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I am pleased to present my report on the Department's work during 1968 and should like to express my appreciation of the support and assistance given to me by the Chairman and members of the Health and Welfare and other Committees of the Council.

The Meat and Livestock Commission, under Part I of the Agriculture Act, 1967, required that the Abattoir be registered and a levy was imposed on each animal killed, as from 7th October, 1968, e.g. the charge for using the facilities at the Abattoir for slaughtering cattle is 12/- and the levy 4/-. It will be seen that this is a very considerable increase per animal. Whilst the Council act as agents for the Commission, for which they are entitled to a payment of $\frac{3}{4}$ d. per head, the levy is recovered from the person carrying out the slaughtering. The Commission estimate that this levy will give them a yield of £1,850,000 per annum.

The Abattoir has been at a great disadvantage from a trading point of view by the absence of any form of chilling room. I am pleased to say, however, that the scheme to build such accommodation has received the approval of the Ministry of Agriculture and agreement reached to erect the premises for £15,000, a lease being entered into with the principal users, F.M.C. (Meat) Ltd., who will defray the costs.

The Market continues to be very popular. The year saw the completion of 37 covered stalls making a total of 55, which are now let on an annual Licence at a fee of £1 per week, payable quarterly in advance, and for which there is a waiting list. The average monthly income is now around £200, compared with an annual income of £40 a few years ago.

4,065 visits were made by the Public Health Inspectors in the course of their duties under the Food and Drugs Act. It was necessary to institute proceedings in four cases—the vendor of mouldy swiss rolls which were 56 days' old, was fined £20 plus £5 5s. costs; a fine of £10 with £5 5s. costs was imposed on a shopkeeper for selling a mouldy cherry pie which was 24 days' old; for selling adulterated cold and flu capsules a chemist was fined £5 plus £10 10s. costs; and the manufacturers of a steak and onion pie containing a cigarette end purchased from a vending machine, were fined £40 plus £10 10s. costs.

Fines totalling £200 were imposed on the owners of a butcher's shop in the town for contraventions under the Food Hygiene (General) Regulations.

The Imported Food Regulations 1968, relieved the Port Authorities of the duty of inspecting much of the imported meat. Consignments are now arriving at wholesalers in Cheltenham directly from abroad and have to be inspected by this Authority.

The number of premises dealt with since 1955 by means of Closing and Demolition Orders and Certificates of Unfitness has now reached 852, which is in excess of the three five-year programmes submitted to the Ministry. The Public Health Inspectors made 5,547 visits in connection with housing during the year.

In March a letter was received from the Ministry of Housing and Local Government stating that attention was being directed to the problems arising from the need to improve that part of the country's older housing stock, to clear away such unfit houses as remain and to secure satisfactory living conditions in houses in multiple occupation. Two Ministry officials visited the town in April and were shown round various areas of sub-standard

housing in Cheltenham where redevelopment was recommended and possible improvement areas, as well as houses which had recently been reconditioned by the Council.

In May the Ministry of Housing and Local Government requested copies of the photographs which have been taken of houses reconditioned in the Borough for use in an Improvement Grant Exhibition. Photographs of two of these premises were selected and, in a letter after the event, the Ministry stated that the Minister was very pleased with the Exhibition, which was a great success.

95% (1,099) of all offices and shops registered within the Borough had been given a general inspection by the end of the year, the total registered now being 1,149. It was necessary to institute proceedings in the case of a butcher's shop where a staircase was not properly maintained and a staff-room and staircase were not kept in a clean state, resulting in fines of £60 being imposed.

32 accidents were investigated, 20 of which involved slipping or falling, and the necessary advice given to prevent a recurrence.

Cheltenham now has three Smoke Control Areas in force and two more Orders were made in 1968. It is intended to continue this policy of making Smoke Control Areas where a substantial amount of new building is likely to take place.

The deposit gauge set up to keep a record of any dust or grit emanating from the new Coal Concentration depot in Tewkesbury Road, did not show any appreciable increase, the average for the year being 9.15 tons per sq. mile per month, as compared with 10.7 tons in 1967. The averages for the gauges at Hesters Way and Municipal Offices were 6.36 tons and 9.49 tons respectively, the estimate for the whole town being 8.33 tons.

A considerable number of complaints were received during the year of nauseating smells emanating from a plant processing slaughterhouse wastes in the town. Although the firm have spent a large amount of money on smell suppression apparatus, the premises still cause grave concern. The Council agreed to my recommendation to appoint a Consultant Chemical Engineer, Dr W. Preston, M.Sc., F.R.I.C., M.I.Chem.E., of Wallington, Surrey, to investigate the plant and its efficiency. The firm agreed to co-operate, a survey of the premises has been carried out and Dr. Preston's recommendations are awaited.

The legislation dealing with the handling and transport of unsavoury products is quite archaic, the Model Byelaws varying little from those existing in 1894, any attempt to enlarge their scope being strongly resisted.

The various Training Boards and Ministries are continually advocating Refresher Courses on the different duties carried out by the Public Health Inspector. To enable an Inspector to take full advantage of these some degree of specialisation is essential. This will mean that, instead of working in areas of the town they will specialise in duties in which they have either specialist qualifications or experience.

In the sphere of public relations, a number of lectures were given to various organisations, including the Ladies' College, Student Nurses at the General Hospital, Cheltenham Consumer Group and trainee Health Visitors.

Finally, I should like to express my appreciation to my Deputy, Mr A. L. Jones, the Inspectors and other members of the staff for their loyalty and support during the year.

J. F. URSELL,

Chief Public Health Inspector.

CHIEF PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR'S STAFF

1968

TECHNICAL

Deputy Chief Public Health Inspector	<i>A. L. Jones, M.A.P.H.I., San. Science R.S.H.*†</i>
District Inspectors	<i>H. Stone, M.A.P.H.I.*†</i> <i>G. J. C. Buck, M.A.P.H.I., M.R.S.H.*†</i> <i>A. H. Carling, M.A.P.H.I.*†</i> <i>R. G. Webb, M.A.P.H.I., San Science R.S.H.*†‡</i> <i>A. Taylor*†</i>
Pupil	<i>A. Hargreaves</i>
Additional Inspector	<i>R. S. C. Walker, M.A.P.H.I.*†</i> <i>(Resigned June)</i>

ABATTOIR

Meat Inspector/Superintendent	<i>R. Hullah, M.Inst.M., M.A.P.H.I.*†</i>
Deputy Superintendent	<i>B. R. Fisher</i>
Assistant Superintendent	<i>A. H. J. Lewis</i>
Handymen	<i>A. Edwards</i> <i>S. C. Wearing</i>
Clerk	<i>Vacant</i>

*Certified Meat and Food Inspector, R.S.H.

†Public Health Inspector's Education Board Certificate.

‡Smoke Inspector's Certificate.

DISINFECTION AND DISINFESTATION

Assistant Disinfecton Officer	<i>J. W. Quarterman</i>
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RODENT CONTROL

Pests Officer	<i>B. G. Davies</i>
Rodent Operator	<i>R. T. Harvey</i>
Rodent Operator	<i>Vacant</i>

CLERICAL

Senior Clerk	<i>D. Y. Harrison</i>
Secretary	<i>Miss M. E. J. Edden</i>
Clerical Assistant	<i>Miss E. M. Oliver</i>
Shorthand Typist	<i>Mrs J. M. Parkes</i>
Junior Clerk	<i>Miss A. A. Griffiths (Resigned Sept.)</i> <i>Mrs G. Poppleton (Appointed October)</i>

SUMMARY OF VISITS, 1968

TABLE I

1. Public Health

Water Supply	66
Drainage	2,969
Stables and Piggeries	15
Waste Food Boiling Plants	6
Common Lodging House	17
Houses Let in Lodgings	6
Caravan Sites	30
Public Conveniences	46
Schools	2
Refuse Collection	110
Smoke Observations	18
Clean Air Act	370
Marine Store Dealers	10
Rodent and Pest Control	103
Houses inspected under Public Health Act	1,241
Re-visits	887
Rag Flock Premises	7
Hairdressers' Shops	70
Enquiries following Infectious Disease	58
Miscellaneous Infectious Disease Visits	24
Interviews	1,183
Noise Nuisance	284
Miscellaneous Sanitary Visits	588
	<hr/> 8,110 <hr/>

TABLE II

2. Housing

Number of houses inspected under Housing Act	1,655
Re-visits	2,056
Overcrowding—Number of houses inspected	38
Re-visits	3
Verminous Dwellings inspected	13
Rent Act	—
Miscellaneous Housing Visits	1,782
	<hr/> 5,547 <hr/>

TABLE III

3. Food Hygiene

Abattoir (Additional visits by District Inspectors)	116
Other premises—meat inspection	97
Butchers' Shops	308
Fishmongers and Poulterers	28
Grocers' Shops	422
Greengrocers and Fruiterers	104
Licensed Premises	165
Dairies and Milk Shops	127
Ice Cream Premises	153
Confectioners	56
School Canteens	87
Food Preparing Premises	378
Restaurant and Hotel Kitchens	375
Market Stalls	371
Street Vendors and Food Delivery Vehicles... ..	142
Food Inspection and Condemnation	309
Milk, Bacteriological Samples... ..	32
Food and Drugs Samples	309
Offensive Trades	42
Fried Fish Shops	51
Bakehouses	105
Miscellaneous Visits in connection with food	288
Removal of Unsound Food	214
	<hr/>
	4,279

TABLE IV

4. Offices, Shops and Factories

Factories	64
Outworkers	7
Offices and Shops	1,243
	<hr/>
	1,314

TABLE V

5. Disinfection and Disinfestation*Disinfection :*

Premises fumigated	11
Infectious articles disinfected	29
Other articles disinfected	98

Disinfestation :

Premises treated	41
Articles treated	60

Destruction of Mattresses, etc. :

Articles destroyed	9
Other visits	606

 854

TABLE VI

6. Rodent Control

Rats and Mice :

Number of visits for Inspection	...	...	...	...	1,346
Number of visits for Treatment	...	...	...	...	2,207

Other Pests :

Number of visits for Inspection	...	...	...	...	273
Number of visits for Treatment	...	...	...	...	512

4,338

TABLE VII

7. Other Visits

Shops Act—Hours of Trading	...	...	...	...	26
Shops Act—Employment of Young Persons	...	...	...	...	2
Fabrics—Misdescription Regulations...	...	...	...	...	4
Merchandise Marks Act	...	...	...	...	408
Pet Animal Shops	...	...	...	...	7
Animal Food Shops	...	...	...	...	2
Animal Boarding Establishments	...	...	...	...	2

451

Total of Tables I, II, III, IV, V, VI and VII 24,893

NOTICES SERVED

				<i>Informal Notices</i>		<i>Formal Notices</i>	
				<i>Served</i>	<i>Complied</i>	<i>Served</i>	<i>Complied</i>
Public Health Act, 1936	...	...	...	175	204	30	25
Pests Act, 1949	...	...	...	3	2	—	—
Gloucestershire County Council							
Act, 1956	...	...	...	—	1	—	—
Housing Acts	...	...	...	1	1	1	1
Factories Act, 1961	...	...	...	4	3	—	—
				<hr/> 183	<hr/> 211	<hr/> 31	<hr/> 26

In addition, letters concerning offences and contraventions noted during inspections carried out under the following Acts and Regulations were sent :

Milk and Dairies Regulations, 1959	...	...	...	...	3
Food Hygiene (General) Regulations, 1960	...	...	...	...	97
Offices, Shops and Railway Premises Act, 1963	...	...	...	...	88
Food Hygiene (Markets, Stalls and Delivery Vehicles)					
Regulations 1966	...	...	...	...	2
Merchandise Marks Act	...	...	...	...	5

INFORMATION IN REGARD TO LAND CHARGES

Requests for information under the Land Charges Act were received and dealt with during the year in respect of 2,023 official searches.

PRESCRIBED PARTICULARS ON THE ADMINISTRATION OF THE FACTORIES ACT, 1961

PART 1 OF THE ACT

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

Premises (1)	Number on Register (2)	Numbers of		
		Inspections (3)	Written notices (4)	Occupiers prosecuted (5)
(i) Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities	27	2	—	—
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority ...	377	52	3	—
(iii) Other Premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding out-workers' Premises)	11	10	1	—
TOTAL ...	415	64	4	—

2. Cases in which DEFECTS were found

Particulars (1)	Number of cases in which defects were found				Number of cases in which prosecutions were instituted (6)
	Found (2)	Remedied (3)	Referred To H.M. Inspector (4)	By H.M. Inspector (5)	
Want of cleanliness (S.1)	—	—	—	—	—
Overcrowding (S.2)	—	—	—	—	—
Unreasonable temperature (S.3)	—	—	—	—	—
Inadequate ventilation (S.4)	—	—	—	—	—
Ineffective drainage of floors (S.6)	—	—	—	—	—
Sanitary Conveniences (S.7)					
(a) Insufficient	3	3	—	2	—
(b) Unsuitable or defective	1	—	—	1	—
(c) Not separate for sexes	—	—	—	—	—
Other offences against the Act (not including offences relating to Outwork)	—	—	—	—	—
TOTAL	4	3	—	3	—

PART VIII OF THE ACT OUTWORK (Sections 133 and 134)

Nature of Work (1)	Section 133			Section 134		
	No. of out-workers in August list required by Section 133 (1) (c) (2)	No. of cases of default in sending lists to the Council (3)	No. of prosecutions for failure to supply lists (4)	No. of instances of work in unwholesome premises (5)	Notices served (6)	Prosecutions (7)
Wearing apparel (Making etc.)	17	—	—	—	—	—

OFFICES, SHOPS AND RAILWAY PREMISES ACT, 1963

Report for 1968 as submitted to H.M. Inspector of Factories,
Department of Employment and Productivity.

At the end of the year 95% of all offices and shops registered within the Borough had been given a general inspection. 64 premises were registered during the year, bringing the total to 1,149. 1,243 visits were made to these premises in 1968, bringing the total visits made under this Act since 1964 to 6,843.

Proceedings were successfully undertaken in the case of a shop where a staircase was found to be not properly maintained and a staff-room and staircase were not kept in a clean state. Fines of £60 and costs were imposed.

In other cases of failure to comply with the Act, a final warning proved sufficient to secure the necessary amenities.

The recommendations relating to lighting, which were issued by the Department of Employment and Productivity during the year, will be of great value, as will also the supplement dealing with the guarding of belt conveyors and the Regulations relating to hoists and lifts.

It is considered that the provisions of the Act relating to maintenance of a reasonable temperature could be more comprehensive. There are not many offices or shops where 60.8°F. would be either impracticable or harmful to the goods. Some supermarkets are almost too warm, but there is now a rapid turnover in food stuffs and, with the extensive use of refrigerated counters, the food sold therein is usually in excellent condition. In summer when the air temperature may be as high as 70°F. business is carried on as usual in food shops, therefore, to provide a temperature of between 60° and 70°F. should be mandatory where staff have to stand and serve over long periods.

The abolition of the open-fronted shop would also be a step forward, not only from the standpoint of the employee, but to prevent contamination by dust and exhaust emission from road vehicles.

Accidents

32 accidents were investigated and, of these, 20 involved slipping or falling.

A warning was sent in one instance where lighting was inadequate and repairs were needed to stairs and advice has been given in other similar cases. Floor surfaces in good repair have been the cause of complaint, especially when wet, and the question of the surfaces of floors could receive more attention in places such as canteens, kitchens and fishmongers. The factor in these cases, however, which is often ignored, is the wearing of unsuitable, but fashionable, footwear.

6 of the remaining accidents could have been avoided by better equipment and, in one case, by improving congested working conditions.

One accident arose from the use of a bandsaw in a meat preparation room. The firm concerned had taken all reasonable precautions to safeguard their staff and instruct them in the use of this machine. None-the-less it is apparent that a degree of risk is involved in repeatedly holding small pieces of meat—say frozen rabbit—with the fingers of the operator only a few inches from the moving blade and the manufacturers should give some thought to this danger.

I shall miss the friendly co-operation and advice of Mr Chubb, the Deputy Superintending Inspector of Factories, who retired during the year.

Registration and General Inspections

Class of Premises	No. of Premises Registered during the year	No. of Registered Premises at end of year	No. of Registered Premises receiving general inspection during the year
Offices	18	429	57
Retail Shops	40	594	163
Wholesale Shops, Warehouses ...	3	44	5
Catering establishments open to the public, canteens ...	3	81	17
Fuel storage depots ...	—	1	—
TOTALS ...	64	1,149	242

ANALYSIS OF PERSONS EMPLOYED IN REGISTERED PREMISES BY WORKPLACE

<i>Class of Workplace</i>	<i>Number of Persons Employed</i>
Offices	4,491
Retail Shops	4,521
Wholesale Departments, Warehouses ...	571
Catering Establishments open to the public	895
Canteens	70
Fuel Storage Depots	12
Total	10,560
Total Males	4,269
Total Females	6,291

Reported Accidents

Workplace	Number Reported		Total Number Investigated	Action Recommended			
	Fatal	Non-Fatal		Prosecution	Formal Warning	Informal Advice	No Action
Offices	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Retail Shops	—	17	17	—	2	4	11
Wholesale Shops, Warehouses	—	4	4	—	—	1	3
Catering establishments open to public, canteens	—	11	11	—	—	1	10
Fuel Storage Depots	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
TOTALS	—	32	32	—	2	6	24

ATMOSPHERIC POLLUTION

CLEAN AIR ACT, 1956

Smoke Control Areas

Orders in respect of Smoke Control Areas Nos. 2 and 3 came into force during the year, No. 2 Area being situated in the central area of the town and No. 3 comprising mainly new housing development by the Corporation.

Two more Orders were made in 1968—No. 4, which will come into operation towards the end of 1969 and affecting an area of land off Swindon Road to be developed privately for housing purposes, and No. 5 which has not yet been confirmed, but relates to a similar development. The cost of both these areas will be low.

Industrial Pollution

Industrial smoke has not been a cause of much concern. The great majority of factory installations are now oil or gas-fired and normally operate smokelessly. However, it is somewhat of a paradox that, in this age of the computer and of automation, there are still quite large fuel-burning establishments with rudimentary instrumentation. In many cases boilers are equipped with only the three statutory instruments required for safety purposes, namely, the water level indicator, the pressure gauge and the safety valve. Additional instrumentation, such as carbon dioxide recorders, smoke alarm systems, steam meters, etc., are still often regarded as luxuries, despite the increase in efficiency which they would provide. This point was brought home recently when a factory chimney was found to be emitting dark smoke for varying periods over several days, the firm being unaware for quite some time that such emissions were taking place, as there was no warning system. Eventually, it was found that the mechanism controlling the oil and air supply to the burners was faulty. This defect had to be remedied by the manufacturers.

Complaints were being received of smoke emission from the boilers of a large factory in the town during the winter months and the management made various attempts to improve matters by providing modulated controls to the underfeed stokers and experimenting with different grades of solid fuel. The firm eventually changed over to oil-fired warm-air heat exchange units and no further complaints are anticipated.

The total prohibition of open bonfires in industrial and commercial premises would be a significant contribution to cleaner air. The new Clean Air Act 1968 will eventually give local authorities more control over this type of nuisance.

The Wholesale Coal Depot established by the Coal Board in Tewkesbury Road has been kept under observation. A standard Deposit Gauge was also set up on the North side of the yard, but no nuisance from dust or grit has arisen during the year. The plant was designed to minimise dust emission and the conveyors are equipped with water sprinklers, whilst the yard is regularly cleaned by a mechanical sweeper.

Where plans are submitted for approval under the Building Regulations and new furnaces are to be installed in factories, etc., details of the installations are requested, including the height of new chimneys which must be approved. In a number of cases the proposed flue heights were insufficient to secure adequate dispersal of the products of combustion and had to be increased. Certain exemptions to this control are still allowed (mainly offices and shops) but this weakness in the law will shortly be remedied by the new Act.

NOISE

284 visits were made in 1968 in connection with noise. Many of these arose from noisy machinery, installation of compressors, fans, car washing plants, etc.

In November the Ministry of Housing and Local Government issued Circular 59/68 "Noise from Concrete Breakers", together with Ministry of Public Buildings and Works Advisory Leaflet No. 72, "Noise Control on Building Sites", in which is outlined the very worth-while reduction of noise which can be achieved by fitting silencers to pneumatic tools and plant and by screening.

As a result I wrote to hirers of such equipment and to the major building contractors in the town asking them to co-operate by using mufflers on concrete breakers and similar noisy plant. This has not been entirely successful and it has already been found necessary on a number of occasions to request contractors' personnel to give this matter their attention. There is no doubt that the use of this type of insulation does appreciably reduce the volume of noise which is, under normal circumstances, one of the most severe encountered by the general public.

The attention of these firms was also drawn to the fact that the Council may wish to consider taking proceedings, where permitted under the Noise Abatement Act 1960, against those using concrete breakers without effective silencers.

HOUSING ACT, 1957

The following action under the above Act was taken during the year (figures for 1967 are given for comparative purposes) :

	1967	1968
(a) Closing Orders (Basement Dwellings)	3	5
(b) Closing Orders (Parts of Houses, etc.)	2	1
(c) Closing Orders Determined	16	25
(d) Demolition Orders	1	5
(e) Houses Closed	18	32
(f) Undertakings to render premises fit	—	—
(g) Undertakings cancelled	2	2
(h) Undertakings not to use premises for human habitation	2	3
(i) Houses demolished	7	16
(j) Local Authority owned houses certified unfit ...	30	6

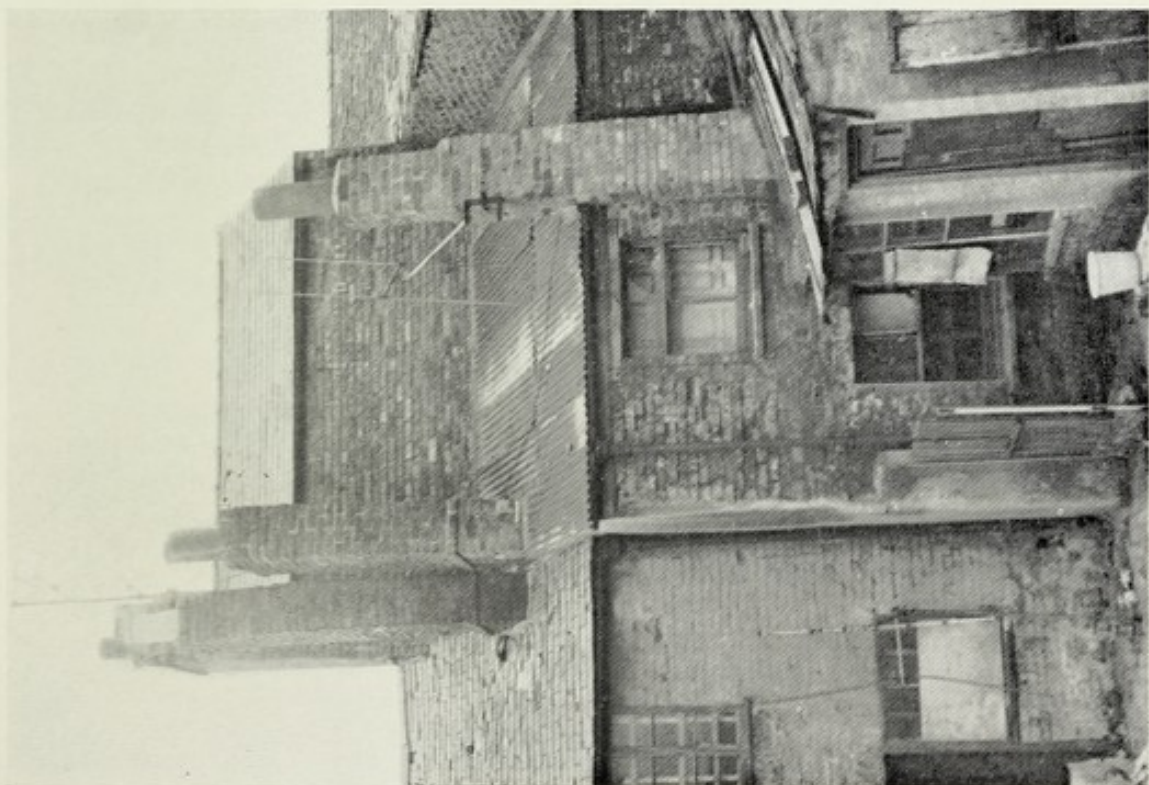
Action taken since the end of the War :

	No. of Houses	No. of persons displaced
(a) Houses closed	298	879
(b) Parts of buildings closed... ..	429	1,093
(c) Houses closed in pursuance of an undertaking by the Owner	67	222
(d) Houses demolished	461	1,100
(e) Houses made fit as a result of formal notices	352	—

NEW HOUSES

New houses completed in the Borough since June, 1945 :

	By the Council	By Private Enterprise
Up to 31st December, 1962	4,952	3,145
During 1963	31	313
„ 1964	103	360
„ 1965	157	356
„ 1966	24	487
„ 1967	163	338
„ 1968	10	240
	5,440	5,239



RIPE FOR REDEVELOPMENT!

HOUSING

46 houses were the subject of Closing and Demolition Orders and Certificates of Unfitness during the year, 16 were demolished and 6 flats and basements were closed. 27 premises were made fit for habitation and re-let.

A large three-storey Regency house which had become dangerous and on which a Closing Order existed, was demolished in default at a cost of £184.

From time to time it is the statutory duty of the Department to deal with conditions created by reason of neglect or want of cleanliness, involving, in many cases, elderly people living alone. Such a situation arose during the year after complaints had continually been received about the condition of a house occupied by an elderly lady. Notices of Entry were served under the Public Health Act 1936, which were ignored by the occupant and, eventually, a report was made to the Health and Welfare Committee and authority obtained to apply to the Magistrates' Court for an Order to enter the premises and carry out the work of cleansing and removal of the refuse. A local building contractor was engaged and undertook the task at a cost of £40. The quantity removed was four x 6 cu. yard containers of debris, including nearly 1,000 milk bottles.

Reconditioning

During the year a pair of terraced unfit houses were made into one and reconditioned. The work included new solid floors on the ground floor and wood floors on the first floor, a new staircase, three double bedrooms, internal bathroom and toilet, a living room, dining room and kitchen. Considerable damp-proofing was carried out and all external outbuildings were demolished and the land cleared, providing a good size garden and drying area. The cost of reconditioning amounted to £1,909 11s. and an Improvement Grant was obtained.

Improvement Areas

The Council is empowered under the Housing Act 1964, to secure the compulsory improvement of dwellings to provide standard amenities.

A detailed survey of two areas in the town was carried out:—

1. Marle Hill Road, Marle Hill Parade, Courtenay Street and Dunalley Parade.
2. Naunton Crescent.

Information was obtained about 327 houses, 284 of which were owner/occupied. 40 of these had already had improvement grants and approximately 25% of the owner/occupied properties lacked amenities and advice was given as to how grants could be obtained for their improvement. Of the 43 rented properties, approximately 75% lacked amenities. In view of the small proportion of rented properties, it was recommended that no statutory action be taken, but that the owners concerned be interviewed with a view to their obtaining improvement grants.

MOVEABLE DWELLINGS

CARAVAN SITES AND CONTROL OF DEVELOPMENT ACT

1960

There are 8 licensed caravan sites in the Borough with space for 158 caravans.

COMMON LODGING HOUSE

The Common Lodging House, Rowton House, Grove Street, caters for some 50 people. Although the premises are old and much modernisation is desirable, they do fulfil a great need in offering a night's lodging to people who are not provided for in any other way.

The owner has expressed his intention to close the premises, but it is hoped that this step will not occur.

PLANS

The number of plans investigated in respect of new buildings in the Borough continues to increase and observations have been submitted under the Public Health Act, Clean Air Act, Offices, Shops and Railway Premises Act and other legislation administered by this Department.

MERCHANDISE MARKS ACT, 1926

408 inspections were made under this Act, dealing with such matters as the marking of meat, tomatoes, etc., with an indication of origin. Although this Act has been repealed by the Trade Descriptions Act, 1968, which came into force on 30th November, 1968, this duty is still to be enforced by Local Authorities for a further three years under the Merchandise Marks Act.

FOOD AND DRUGS ACT, 1955

Food Hygiene

During the year further improvement was noticed in the type and quality of wrapping materials used by food traders in the town. Although the Food Hygiene (General) Regulations, 1960, require that printed material, i.e. newsprint, shall not be allowed to come into contact with open food (not being uncooked vegetables) newspapers are still permitted as secondary wrapping material. The source of these materials varies from unsold papers from newsagents to discarded papers collected from houses, the objections to which are obvious. Gradual improvement came with the use of unused newspaper waste from newspaper offices and paper mills to the present use of polythene bags, cellophane and greaseproof papers and preformed paper trays. This is particularly noticeable in the Fish and Chip and Butchery trades, who are mainly concerned with this problem. In the not-too-distant future we may see the "typical British" fish and chips in newspaper, eaten with grease-covered fingers, disappear, to be replaced by a shining, whiter-than-white plastic tray with fork, wrapped in clear cellophane.

During the latter part of 1967 the dirty and unsatisfactory conditions found at a local butcher's shop and registered food preparation room, were the subject of reports to the Health and Welfare Committee, when it was resolved to institute legal proceedings. The case was heard at the Magistrates' Court in February of this year when a total of twelve summonses were served comprising ten under the Food Hygiene (General) Regulations 1960, and two under the Offices, Shops and Railway Premises Act, 1963. The Company pleaded guilty to all summonses and were fined £20 for each offence, except one under the 1963 Act, for which a fine of £40 was imposed, making a total of £260 plus an advocates' fee of 20 guineas.

Almost immediately after the case extensive alterations and repairs were put in hand which proceeded throughout the whole summer, eventually being

completed at the end of October. The total cost was approximately £7,000 and has resulted in rather antiquated food premises being transformed into one of the most modern butcher's shops in the town.

FOOD AND DRUG SAMPLING

Three samples were adversely reported upon by the Public Analyst during the year:—

Sample No. 207—Gelatine

A formal sample of Gelatine, No. 207, was sent to the Public Analyst for examination on 31st January. He reported that the statement on this that it was "ideal for use in slimming and diabetic diets" was excessive and the manufacturer's attention was drawn to this.

Sample No. 296—Pork Sausage deficient in Meat

A sample of pork sausage with sage and thyme was certified by the Analyst to contain 53.9% meat including 22.4% fat. It was felt that this was not really a satisfactory meat level and a further sample was taken. This contained 54.7% meat including 25.8% fat. Based on a recommended standard of 65% meat for a pork sausage, this sample is deficient in meat by at least 15.8%.

This particular commodity, however, was described by the manufacturer as "Pork Sausage with Sage and Thyme" and, rather than risk an ineffective prosecution, it was decided that a strong warning letter be sent to the Company concerned.

Sample No. 410—Adulterated Cold and Flu Capsules

This sample was sent to the Public Analyst following a complaint by a member of the public that, in view of the condition of a tin containing cold and flu capsules, which had been purchased from a local chemist's shop, his Doctor had advised him against using them. The tin was corroded and discoloured and a large number of black deposits were both in the tin and on the contents.

The Public Analyst certified that these constituted adulteration and proceedings were taken against the vendor who was fined £5 and ordered to pay £10 guineas costs.

Five samples were submitted for routine bacteriological examination:—

<i>Sample</i>	<i>Result</i>	<i>Remarks</i>
Washed Milk Bottles	Organisms per bottle at 22°C., 120 to 1,200; at 37°C., 180 to 1,200.	Satisfactory.
3 Ice Creams	All Grade I	Satisfactory.
Corned Beef	Culture sterile.	Satisfactory.

SAMPLES OF FOOD AND DRUGS SUBMITTED FOR ANALYSIS

In accordance with Ministry of Health requirements, the following samples were taken:

<i>Commodity</i>	<i>Formal</i>	<i>Informal</i>	<i>Commodity</i>	<i>Formal</i>	<i>Informal</i>
Acetic Acid ..	—	1	Hamburgers ..	2	—
Almond Paste..	2	—	Honey Cake ..	—	1
Apple Sauce ..	—	1	Ice Cream ..	3	—
Artificial Cream	—	1	Ice Cream Powder	1	—
Aspirin ..	—	1	Instant Potato	—	1
Banana Bar ..	1	—	Iron Tablets ..	—	1
Barbitone Sodium	—	1	Jam ..	4	—
Batter Mixture	1	—	Jelly ..	1	—
Bayleaves ..	—	1	Lemon Cheese	—	1
Beef Sausages..	2	—	Lemon Drink ..	—	1
Beef Suet ..	1	—	Lemon Flavour	—	1
Biscuits ..	—	1	Lemon Squash	2	1
Bitters ..	—	1	Lemon Sweets	1	—
Black Pudding	1	—	Lemon Tea ..	1	—
Blackcurrant Drink	1	—	Lemon Vinegar	—	1
Bovine Kidney	—	1	Lime Drink ..	1	1
Bread ..	—	1	Liquorice Sweets	1	—
Broiled Octopus	—	1	Liver Sausage	2	—
Butter ..	3	1	Magnesia ..	—	1
Cakes ..	2	—	Margarine ..	3	2
Catarrh Syrup	—	1	Marmalade ..	—	1
Cheese ..	2	—	Milk ..	38	1
Chlorodyne ..	—	1	Mincemeat ..	1	—
Cider Vinegar	—	1	Mince Pie ..	—	1
Coffee & Chicory	1	1	Minced Beef ..	1	—
Cold Cure ..	1	3	Mineral Water	1	1
Concentrated Vegetable	—	1	Mint in Vinegar	—	1
Contraceptive Pills	—	1	Mixed Peel ..	1	1
Cornish Pasties	1	—	Nut Oil ..	1	—
Cottage Pie ..	1	—	Olive Oil ..	1	—
Cream ..	2	1	Orange Drink..	2	—
Cream Scones	1	—	Orange Squash	1	2
Creamed Mushroom	—	1	Pate de Foie ..	—	1
Cream of Tartar	—	1	Phenobarbitone	—	1
Curry Powder	2	—	Pickle ..	1	—
Curry & Rice Powder	1	—	Pork Sausages	7	1
Custard Powder	1	—	Potato Crisps ..	—	1
Dandelion Coffee	—	1	Rice Pudding ..	1	—
Dates ..	1	—	Rusks ..	—	1
Diet Food ..	—	2	Sago Pudding..	—	1
Dried Apricots	2	—	Sal Volatile ..	—	1
Dried Bananas	—	1	Salts ..	—	1
Drinking Chocolate	1	—	Sausage in Brine	1	—
Duck Meat Paste	—	1	Sausage & Sage	2	—
Evaporated Milk	2	—	Semolina ..	1	—
Evaporated Pears	—	1	Skimmed Milk	—	2
Faggots ..	1	—	Sleeping Tablets	—	4
Figs ..	1	—	Smoked Sausages	1	—
Fish Cakes ..	1	—	Soft Drink Powder	1	—
Fish Spread ..	—	1	Spanish Rice ..	—	1
Flaked Rice ..	1	—	Steak Pie ..	—	1
Food Colours ..	—	2	Stewed Steak ..	—	1
Frankfurter ..	1	—	Sugar ..	—	1
Fried Rice ..	1	—	Sweetener ..	1	1
Frozen Fish ..	3	—	Sweets ..	1	—
Frozen Sprouts	1	—	Syrup of Figs..	—	1
Fruit Pectin ..	1	—	Tapioca ..	1	—
Garlic Vinegar	—	1	Tea ..	2	—
Gelatine ..	2	—	Tomato Paste..	—	2
Glycerine, Lemon and	—	—	Tomato Rice ..	—	1
Honey ..	—	1	Tongue Sausages	1	—
Ham ..	—	1	Tonic ..	—	1

Commodity	Formal	Informal	Commodity	Formal	Informal
Tonic Water ..	.. —	1	Water .. ..	.. —	4
Trifles .. ..	.. 1	—	Whisky .. ..	.. 2	—
Vegetable Oil ..	.. 2	—	Whisky Marmalade ..	.. —	1
Vegetable Salad ..	.. 1	—	White Pudding ..	.. 1	—
Vinegar .. ..	.. 1	—	Wine .. ..	.. 1	—

Number of samples taken during 1968:

Formal .. ..	.. ..	145
Informal .. ..	.. ..	86
Total ..		<u>231</u>

FOREIGN MATTER AND MOULD IN FOOD

During the year 55 complaints were received with regard to foreign matter or mould in food. 7 of these were reported to the Health and Welfare Committee and the following action was taken:—

<i>Sample No.</i>	<i>Description</i>	<i>Action Taken</i>
216	Pin in tin of Marmalade	Warning letter sent to manufacturers.
237	Mouldy puff pastry.	Warning letter sent to vendor.
278	Chocolate drop containing pin.	Warning letter sent to manufacturers.
326	Piece of plastic weight ticket in bacon joint.	Warning letter sent to vendor.
388	Mouldy swiss rolls.	Proceedings taken against vendor; fined £20 and 5 guineas costs.
409	Mouldy cherry pie.	Proceedings taken against vendor and fined £10 with 5 guineas costs.
418	Steak and onion pie containing cigarette end.	Proceedings taken against manufacturer; fined £40 with 10 guineas costs.

There are 719 premises in the Borough which are subject to the Food Hygiene (General) Regulations 1960, as follows :—

	Food Preparation Premises	Public Houses	Butchers	Bakers	Fish Fryers	Other Food Shops
No. of Premises	251	108	56	15	18	261
No. of Premises fitted to comply with Reg. 16	250	107	54	15	18	228
No. of Premises to which Reg. 19 applies	251	107	56	15	18	239
No. of Premises fitted to comply with Reg. 19	251	107	56	15	18	237

PARTICULARS OF FOODSTUFFS EXAMINED AND REJECTED AS UNFIT FOR HUMAN CONSUMPTION

Tinned Foods	Tins	Tons	Cwts.	Qrs.	Lbs.
Meat	456	—	10	2	15
Fish	163	—	—	3	21
Vegetables	4,201	1	2	3	1
Milk and Cream	154	—	—	3	8
Fruit	1,083	—	14	0	25
Soup	419	—	3	1	5
Jam	30	—	—	1	14
Fruit Juice	90	—	1	1	1
Milk Puddings	30	—	—	1	5
Frozen Egg	4	—	—	3	0
Total ...	6,630	2	15	1	11

General	Tons	Cwts.	Qrs.	Lbs.
Meat	1	8	2	27
Fish	—	3	3	18
Bacon	—	—	3	9
Eggs	—	—	1	—
Butter and Cheese	—	—	3	21
Poultry	1	0	3	17
Frozen Food	—	13	0	9
Fresh Fruit and Vegetables	—	1	2	10
Flour and Cereals	—	—	1	0
Miscellaneous	—	1	2	14
Total ...	3	12	—	13
Grand Total ...	6	7	1	24

FOOD POISONING

An outbreak of food poisoning affecting members of the staff at one of the town's large office blocks was reported during the year.

Samples of the food supplied by the canteen were taken and, as the building was newly constructed, the water supply was thoroughly investigated. A heavy growth of *clostridium welchii* was found in curried meat, which had been served in the luncheon, this organism also being isolated from faecal samples obtained from members of the kitchen staff and employees.

THE IMPORTED FOOD REGULATIONS, 1968

The use of sealed containers for the transport of meat has been inaugurated to expedite loading and discharge at the ports. These containers are loaded in the country of origin and are not normally opened until they arrive at their destination and are required to bear an "Official Certificate". These Regulations, which came into force on 1st August, 1968, place a responsibility on the Council for their enforcement under these circumstances.

Notifications have been received from the Southampton, Newport, Holyhead and Grimsby Port Health Authorities and it was necessary to arrange for a regular system of inspection in the case of dressed beef quarters received at the premises of a local wholesaler, which is Irish "Proten" beef of good quality.

A regular delivery of bacon occurred every week at the premises of a large manufacturer of meat products. This bacon originated in Denmark and is carried unwrapped on galvanised two-tier wheeled trolleys which, on arrival, are simply wheeled out of the refrigerated vehicle into a cold store. Inside the vehicle the interior is lined with plastic sheeting on stainless steel framing and there is no doubt that this is an excellent system which will ensure freedom from contamination during transport.

Irish bacon has also been imported and jointed beef from the Argentine.

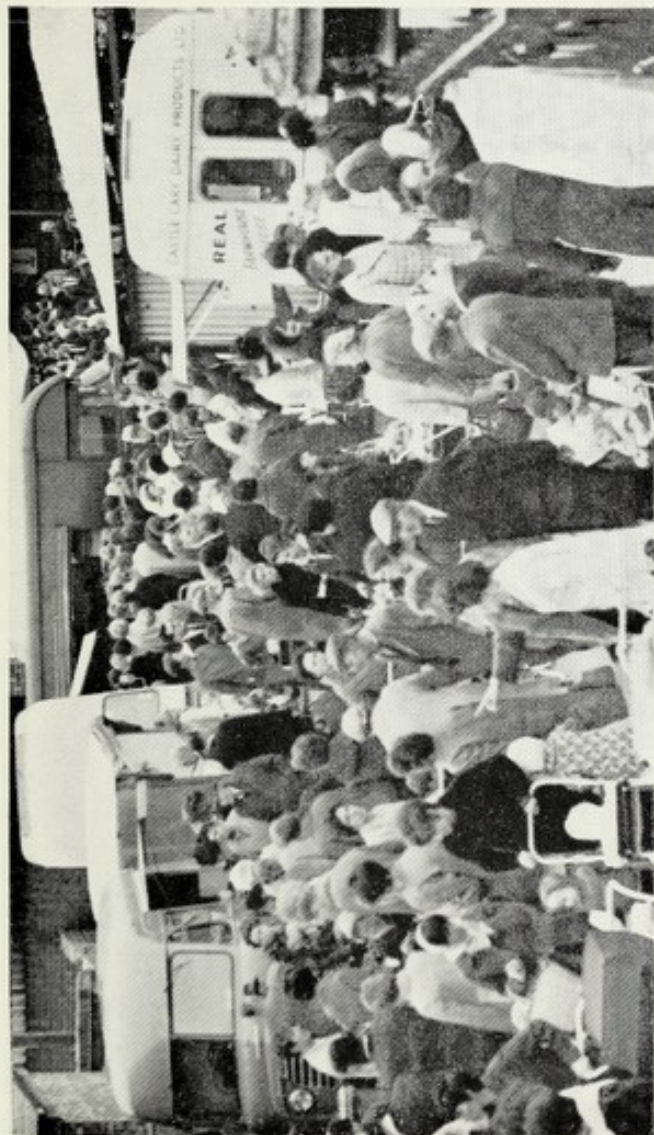
In December I was notified of the arrival of 15 tons of frozen boneless forequarter beef in 511 cases originating in France. Only a small portion of such a consignment can be examined as it has to be first thawed out. Such examination cannot be conclusive when the meat is boned, is without many lymphatic glands and without the organs of the carcase concerned. In order to check the bacteriological condition of the meat, I submitted samples to the Pathological Laboratory. No salmonella was isolated and the total amount of organisms per gram did not exceed 34,000 which was quite reasonable.

A hind and forequarter of Proten beef, part of a consignment from Ireland, was found, upon jointing at a Bourton-on-the-Water butcher's shop, to be very dark in colour and, after a few days, even during fairly cold weather, developed a taint of decomposition. The opinion was that the animal was badly bled which could have resulted from a number of conditions. It was necessary to condemn 361 lbs. of beef.

MILK SAMPLING

50 samples of pasteurised milk and 1 sample of ultra heat-treated milk were submitted for bacteriological examination. One sample of pasteurised milk failed the methylene blue test. These were in addition to the 39 samples of milk taken during the year for chemical analysis.

Four samples of milk were subjected to an anti-biotic test, all of which were negative, no penicillin being present.



A CORNER OF CHELTENHAM MARKET

RAG FLOCK AND OTHER FILLING MATERIALS ACT, 1951

Three samples of filling materials submitted for testing in accordance with the Regulations were found to be satisfactory. There are no premises licensed to manufacture rag flock in the district.

CONSUMER PROTECTION ACT, 1961

A nightdress was submitted for testing in accordance with the requirements of the Nightdresses (Safety) Regulations, 1967. The garment was cotton and was submitted for testing for flammability performance before and after several washes. It complied with the Regulations in every respect.

FLOODING

During the early part of July a recently developed area of the town was seriously flooded following rainstorms, when about 20 houses and bungalows were flooded to a depth of about 3 feet. Subsequent investigation revealed that the very heavy rain combined with a partial blockage in a foul sewer and the inadequacy of a surface water culvert nearby, were the main causes.

In view of the contamination which had taken place, immediate steps were taken to render assistance to the occupants of the houses affected. Cutlery, which had been submerged, was sterilised and sub-floor areas were sprayed with disinfectant and deodorant.

DUST EMISSION FROM ALUMINIUM FACTORY

Towards the end of the year complaints were received in regard to a fine dust thought to emanate from an Aluminium factory and said to be affecting the paintwork of cars parked at the adjoining premises. In view of the fact that these premises were a large bakery, it was thought necessary to establish the degree of pollution in the immediate vicinity.

Samples of grass and weeds were taken from the open fields separating the two factories at varying distances from a duct at the aluminium factory which discharged vapour from the anodising process. The presence of caustic soda and aluminium was established.

The matter was brought to the attention of the factory management who installed a wet scrubber into which the discharge from the anodising processes was conducted and this effectively removed the cause of the pollution.

OFFENSIVE TRADES

During the summer months a considerable number of complaints were received from residents of houses in the vicinity of the waste meat rendering plant in Arle Avenue operated by Messrs. A. H. Taylor (Butchers' Hide, Skin, Fat and Wool) Co. Ltd., of obnoxious odours arising from the processes carried on in this factory.

The rendering down of meat residues, i.e. bones, fat, intestines, the carcasses of dead animals, etc., is classed as an "offensive trade" and the premises are registered accordingly under the Public Health Act, 1936.

Similar complaints were made in 1966 when a Statutory Notice was served under Section 93 of the Public Health Act, 1936, requiring steps to be taken to eliminate objectionable odours. Arising from this the firm spent £12,000 on installing a controlled system of ventilation with a bank of activated carbon filters which effected a considerable improvement.

There is no doubt that the main cause for complaint is the effluvia emitted from the 60 ft. high duct which receives the incondensable vapours from the cooking processes and foul odours from the factory for treatment in the carbon filters.

Every complaint was investigated and, in addition, the factory was kept under routine observation. The situation was aggravated in 1968 by breakdowns in such equipment as a water pump, a recirculating fan in the ventilation system, as well as a blockage in the drainage system. The plant operator's attention was drawn to such unsatisfactory occurrences as a large accumulation of decomposing meat residues stored in the open, the practice of leaving the main doors wide open and the need for a better standard of general cleanliness.

The degree of smell varies from a relatively inoffensive odour of cooking to a most nauseating effluvia, dependent on such factors as type and condition of raw material, efficiency of treatment plant, weather and wind directions. It is at its worst in the summer months. Towards the end of the year a petition was sent to the Mayor signed by 600 residents.

The Council agreed to the appointment of a Consultant, Dr W. Preston, M.Sc., F.R.I.C., M.I.Chem.E., a specialist in odour treatment and a Chartered Chemical Engineer, to give an independent report on the problem. Messrs. A. H. Taylor agreed to co-operate with Dr Preston and also to appoint their own Consultant. Dr Preston has commenced his investigations and his final report is expected early in 1969.

PUBLIC ABATTOIR

After the increased throughput of recent years, the total number of animals slaughtered during 1968 fell by some 31% from the previous year. This figure is somewhat exaggerated by the fact that, in 1967, a comparatively large quantity of ewe carcasses were handled by a meat wholesaler, who later ceased to operate in Cheltenham. The number of such animals fell by no less than 79%. It is also a factor that the number of cows slaughtered for "manufacturing" purposes was reduced by more than half and that the number of calves for veal was reduced by 75%.

More realistically, the amount of prime beef animals (4,519) slaughtered during the year was 8.5% fewer, a figure more in line with the movement, which was evident during 1968, away from the traditional meat eating habits. This is due, in no small part, to the consumer-resistance to the rise in the retail prices of meat cuts, which are being increasingly replaced by, for example, "factory-produced" chickens and turkeys at very competitive prices.

During the year the Government-sponsored Meat and Livestock Commission came into being and, by resolution, imposed a levy on each head of livestock slaughtered from 7th October onwards, as follows:

(a) Cattle	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	4/-
(b) Calves not more than 150 lbs. deadweight	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1/-
(c) Sheep	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	4d.
(d) Pigs	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1/9d.

This scheme provides for the levy to be placed on "slaughterers, i.e. persons having control and management of slaughterhouses", in this case the Borough Council. The right to recover this levy from the person on whose behalf the slaughtering is being carried out, is also included, so, with effect from 7th October, 1968, the Abattoir fees were adjusted to include

this extra charge. The Commission estimate that this levy will yield to them about £1,850,000 per annum.

During the year negotiations were begun with F.M.C. (Meat) Ltd., who, as meat slaughterers and wholesalers, have for a number of years held a lease on a section of the hanging-room accommodation and the use of slaughtering facilities provided at the Abattoir, with a view to the provision of extra carcase hanging space in the form of a chilled room. It is hoped that this additional building will be erected early in 1969 and should result in improved keeping qualities of offals and carcass meat as brought to your attention in previous annual reports. It is also hoped that this facility will increase the use of the Abattoir's slaughtering facilities and consequently the revenue therefrom.

A total of 189 bovine animals were slaughtered as a result of the Tuberculosis Eradication Scheme. This is considerably fewer than the figure of 418 animals dealt with in 1967. 39.2% of these animals were found, on post-mortem examination, to be infected with tubercular lesions, as compared with 56.8% of those slaughtered in 1967. After the large number of animals dealt with in previous years, this figure comes as evidence of an apparent reduction in the incidence of the disease in the County and it is to be hoped that the incidence will now continue to decline.

A voluntary scheme of slaughter is now operating in respect of cattle found, on being tested on the farm by Veterinary Officers of the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food, to react to a test for Brucellosis. With the name Brucellosis (Accredited Herds) Scheme the intentions and operation are similar to those of the Tuberculosis Eradication Scheme and it is hoped to eradicate what has been reported to be an increased incidence of Brucellosis in dairy herds. The condition known as Undulant fever in humans is caused by the same *Brucella* organisms and, whilst man is said not to be infected by the consumption of meat from infected cows, infection does occur from drinking infected milk or through handling infected meat or animals. Whilst certain organs from these animals are disposed of as "condemned offals" and hygienic precautions are taken in the dressing of these carcasses, some risk to the slaughtermen and Abattoir staff engaged on this work would seem to be present. It may be that, in the future, this scheme will, like the Tuberculosis Eradication Scheme, be made compulsory and could involve large numbers, even whole herds, of animals.

**CARCASSES AND OFFAL INSPECTED AND CONDEMNED IN
WHOLE OR IN PART AT CHELTENHAM PUBLIC ABATTOIR**

Annual Summary ending 31st December, 1968

	Cattle excluding Cows	Cows	Calves	Sheep and Lambs	Pigs	Total
Number killed	4,521	249	178	14,531	9,790	29,269
Number inspected	4,521	249	178	14,531	9,790	29,269
No. of "TT Reactors" (See separate table)	51	136	2	—	—	189
Totals excluding "TT Reactors"	4,470	113	176	14,531	9,790	29,080
All diseases except Tuberculosis and Cysticercosis						
Whole carcasses condemned	5	6	14	67	34	126
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	1,734	98	4	1,611	805	4,252
% affected with disease other than tuberculosis and cysticercosis	38.8	92.2	10.2	11.6	8.6	15.0
Tuberculosis only						
Whole carcasses condemned	1	—	—	—	—	1
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	3	—	—	—	42	45
% affected with tuberculosis	0.1	—	—	—	0.4	0.2
Cysticercosis						
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	6	—	—	—	—	6
Carcasses submitted to treatment by refrigeration	6	—	—	—	—	6
Generalised and totally condemned	—	—	—	—	—	—

**ANIMALS SLAUGHTERED UNDER THE BOVINE
TUBERCULOSIS ERADICATION SCHEME DURING THE YEAR
1968 AT CHELTENHAM PUBLIC ABATTOIR**

	Cows	Bulls	Steers	Heifers	Calves	Total
Total number of "TT Reactors"	136	1	14	36	2	189
No. of carcasses totally rejected (Generalised Tuberculosis)	1	—	—	—	—	1
No. found to have localised lesions only	43	1	7	22	—	73
% infected with tuberculosis	32.3	100.0	50.0	61.1	—	39.2

**CARCASSES REJECTED AS TOTALLY UNFIT FOR
HUMAN FOOD, 1968**

Diseases	Bulls	Cows	Heifers	Steers	Calves	Sheep	Pigs	Total
Abscesses, Multiple	—	—	—	—	—	3	5	8
Actinobacillosis, generalised, actinomycosis, generalised	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Anaemia, advanced	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Blackleg	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Bruising, extensive and severe	—	—	—	—	—	2	1	3
Cysticercus bovis, generalised	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Cysticercus, cellulosae	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Cysticercus ovis, generalised	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Decomposition, generalised	—	—	—	—	1	—	1	2
Emaciation, pathological	—	—	—	—	—	13	1	14
Fever (including salmonellosis)	—	1	1	—	1	1	4	8
Foot and mouth disease	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Immaturity								
(a) Stillborn or unborn carcasses	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
(b) Oedematous carcasses and carcasses in poor physical condition	—	—	—	—	3	—	—	3

Diseases	Bulls	Cows	Heifers	Steers	Calves	Sheep	Pigs	Total
Jaundice	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1
Malignant catarrhal fever	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Mastitis, acute septic	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Melanosis, generalised	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Metritis, acute septic	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Moribund	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1
Abnormal odour, associated with disease or other conditions prejudicial to health	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Oedema, generalised	—	3	—	1	2	44	1	51
Pericarditis, acute septic	—	—	—	—	—	—	4	4
Peritonitis, acute, diffuse, septic	—	—	—	1	—	—	4	5
Pleurisy, acute, diffuse, septic	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1
Pneumonia, acute, septic	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	2
Pyæmia, including joint-ill	—	—	—	—	3	—	2	5
Sarcocysts, generalised	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Septicaemia or taxaemia	—	1	—	2	4	—	3	10
Swine erysipelas, acute	—	—	—	—	—	—	3	3
Swine fever	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Tetanus	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Trichinosis	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Tuberculosis, generalised	—	1	1	—	—	—	—	2
Tuberculosis, Congenital	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Tumours								
(a) Malignant with secondary growths	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	1
(b) Multiple	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Uraemia	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	2

TOTAL WEIGHTS OF MEAT AND ORGANS REJECTED, 1968

	Tons	Cwts.	Qrs.	Lbs.	Tons	Cwts.	Qrs.	Lbs.
Bovine								
Meat in Carcass	2	17	1	13				
Meat not in Carcass	1	0	2	21				
Organs and Viscera	8	4	0	16				
TOTAL	12	2	0	22	12	2	0	22
Ovine								
Meat in Carcass	1	3	1	17				
Meat not in Carcass	0	1	1	18				
Organs and Viscera	1	12	3	11				
TOTAL	2	17	2	18	2	17	2	18
Swine								
Meat in Carcass	1	17	2	18				
Meat not in Carcass	0	14	1	1				
Organs and Viscera	1	5	1	22				
TOTAL	3	17	1	13	3	17	1	13
TOTAL CARCASS MEAT	7	14	3	4				
TOTAL ORGANS AND VISCERA	11	2	1	21				
TOTAL	18	17	0	25	18	17	0	25

CYSTICERCUS BOVIS

There were six cases of *Cysticercus Bovis* during the year, the overall rate of infestation being 0.13 per cent.

RODENT CONTROL

The total number of complaints received in respect of rats and mice increased to 530, some 25% more than the previous year.

35 complaints were received in respect of nuisance caused by pigeons and a large number have been caught during the year. A number of operations against these birds have been carried out using the narcotic alpha chloralose and, on each occasion, this has proved to be quite effective.

170 wasps' nests were dealt with and, no doubt, this number would have been much higher had it not been for the heavy rainfall experienced in the early part of July.

A complaint was received in August of an infestation of beetles in a private house. Upon investigation it was eventually found that there were pigeons roosting in the roof space and, whilst clearing out these birds, it could be seen that the pigeons were the source of the beetle infestation, larvae being found in the droppings.

The beetle was identified as *Tenebrio molitor* which commonly infests birds' nests and was effectively destroyed by insecticide.

PREVENTION OF DAMAGE BY PESTS ACT, 1949
PART I — RATS AND MICE

	<i>Rats</i>	<i>Mice</i>	<i>Total</i>
1. Complaints Received ...	319	211	530
2. Number of Premises Inspected :			
(a) As a result of complaint :			
Private Dwellings ...		397	
Business Premises ...		126	
Local Authority Properties		25	
		—	548
(b) As routine visit or survey :			
Private Dwellings ...		528	
Business Premises ...		157	
Local Authority Properties		106	
		—	791
3. Number of Premises found to be infested :			
	<i>Rats</i>	<i>Mice</i>	
Private Dwellings ...	246	150	396
Business Premises ...	61	56	117
Local Authority Premises...	36	39	75
		—	588
4. Number of Visits Paid :			
(a) For inspection	906	440	1,346
(b) For treatment	1,395	812	2,207
		—	3,553
5. Sewer Maintenance Treatments :			
Total number of manholes in Borough			1,660
Maintenance Treatment No. 43 (May, 1968) :			
Number of sewer manholes baited with poison		251	
Number of sewer manholes where poison bait taken		19	7.6%
Maintenance Treatment No. 44 (October, 1968) :			
Number of sewer manholes baited with poison		222	
Number of sewer manholes where poison bait taken		16	7.2%

PART II — OTHER PESTS

1. Complaints Received :

<i>Ants</i>		<i>Moles</i>		<i>Wasps</i>	<i>Insects,</i>	
<i>Flies</i>	<i>Beetles</i>	<i>Rabbits</i>	<i>Pigeons</i>	<i>Bees</i>	<i>etc.</i>	<i>Total</i>
30	50	10	35	183	13	321

2. Number of Visits Paid :

Inspection	30	32	27	117	47	20	273
Treatment	25	44	16	244	181	2	512

Taylor, Young (Printers) Ltd., Cheltenham