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RURAL DISTRICT OF CHELTENHAM

ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

FOR THE YEAR 1968.

Public Health Staff

STEPHEN KNIGHT

M.B., B.S.(LOND.), M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.P.H.
Lexham Lodge, Copt Elm Road, Charlton Kings, Cheltenham.
Telephone: Cheltenham 25746.

Surveyor and Chief Public Health Inspector.

L. GROGAN

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

Deputy Surveyor and Chief Public Health Inspector

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

Additional Public Health Inspector/Assistant Surveyor

M. M. WIDDOWS, M.A.P.H.I., A.R.S.H.

Additional Public Health Inspectors

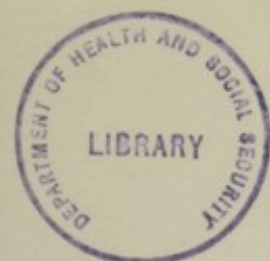
B. C. MORGAN, M.A.P.H.I.


A. J. ANDREWS, M.A.P.H.I.

J. TURNER, M.A.P.H.I., A.R.S.H.

Chief Clerk

J. N. ALLANACH.





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CHELTENHAM RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL.

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

FOR THE YEAR 1968.

To the Chairman and Members of the
Cheltenham Rural District Council.

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to submit the Annual Report for 1968 on the health and sanitary circumstances of the Rural District.

I am indebted to many officers of the Council for much of the material from which the report is compiled and especially to Mr. L. Grogan, the Surveyor and Chief Public Health Inspector for sections dealing with the work of his department.

The annual health statistics are satisfactory and in general are favourable to the Rural District.

The Registrar-General's estimate of the population, 41,430 is 1,070 more than in the previous year; so the growth in population of recent years is maintained.

The Birth Rate, 16.8 births per 1,000 population, shows a slight decline, as it has done for the last three years and is in line with that for the County and country as a whole.

The incidence of infectious disease was extremely low due, in no small measure, to the success of preventive measures. Parents readily take advantage of the facilities for immunisation and vaccination of their children against the common infectious diseases. Nearly every child is protected in this way.

Owing to the national economic situation only those sewerage schemes can be carried out where the need is most urgent and is a hazard to public health. However seven schemes were completed during the year and that for Haydon and Uckington submitted to the Ministry.

The number of intensive farming units continues to increase. Where this type of farm is in close proximity to housing development, householders complain of nuisances. Objection is taken to methods of manure disposal which are in accordance with standard agricultural practice. High power spraying of liquid manure on limited areas of land is a particular source of annoyance. Some measure of control needs to be exercised in the development of such land.

I am glad to have this opportunity of thanking members of the Council for their support and my colleagues for their help during the year.

I am, Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,

STEPHEN KNIGHT

Medical Officer of Health.

CHELTENHAM RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL.

STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE AREA.

Area (in acres)	81,948
Registrar-General's estimate of mid-year population (including members of the Armed Forces)	41,430
Number of Inhabited Houses (end of 1968)	12,806
Rateable Value (at 31.12.1968)	£1,594,969
Sum represented by a penny rate	£ 6,577

VITAL STATISTICS.

These statistics give particulars of the births and deaths in the Rural District.

MOTHERS and INFANTS.

1. <u>LIVE BIRTHS</u>	<u>Total</u>	<u>Male.</u>	<u>Female.</u>
Number: Legitimate	671	330	341
Illegitimate	25	7	18
	<hr/>		
TOTAL	696	337	359
	<hr/> <hr/>		
Birth Rate per 1,000 of the population	16.8		
Area Comparability Factor(Births)	1.02		
Ratio of local adjusted birth rate to national rate	1.01		
 2. <u>ILLEGITIMATE LIVE BIRTHS</u>(Per cent of Total Live Births)	 3.6		
 3. <u>STILL BIRTHS.</u>	<u>Total</u>	<u>Male.</u>	<u>Female.</u>
Number: Legitimate	4	1	3
Illegitimate	---	---	---
	<hr/>		
TOTAL	4	1	3
	<hr/> <hr/>		
3. Still Birth Rate per 1,000 total (live and still) Births	<u>6</u>		
 4. <u>TOTAL LIVE AND STILL BIRTHS:</u>	 <u>700</u>		
 5. <u>INFANT DEATHS</u>	<u>Total</u>	<u>Male.</u>	<u>Female.</u>
(1) Deaths of infants under 1 year:			
Number: Legitimate	3	1	2
Illegitimate	---	---	---
	<hr/>		
TOTAL	3	1	2
	<hr/> <hr/>		
(2) Neo-natal Deaths under 4 weeks:			
Number: Legitimate	2	---	2
Illegitimate	---	---	---
	<hr/>		
TOTAL	2	---	2
	<hr/> <hr/>		

VITAL STATISTICS. (Continued)

MOTHERS and INFANTS. (Continued)

(3) Early neo-natal Deaths of Infants under 1 week	<u>Total</u>	<u>Male.</u>	<u>Female.</u>
Number: Legitimate	2	----	2
Illegitimate	----	----	----
	<hr/>		
<u>TOTAL</u>	<u>2</u>	<u>----</u>	<u>2</u>

6. INFANT MORTALITY RATES.

Total infant deaths per 1,000 total live births	4
Legitimate infant deaths per 1,000 legitimate live births	4.5
Illegitimate infant deaths per 1,000 illegitimate live births	Nil

7. NEO-NATAL MORTALITY RATE (deaths under
4 weeks per 1,000 total live births) 3
8. EARLY NEO-NATAL MORTALITY RATE(deaths under
1 week per 1,000 total live births) 3
9. PERINATAL MORTALITY RATE (still births and
deaths under 1 week combined per 1,000
total live and still births) 9
10. MATERNAL MORTALITY (including abortion)
Number of Deaths None.
Rate per 1,000 total live and still births Nil.

11. <u>DEATHS:</u>	<u>Total.</u>	<u>Male.</u>	<u>Female.</u>
Number	354	182	172
Death rate per 1,000 of the population	8.5		
Area Comparability Factors (Deaths)	1.26		
Ratio of local adjusted death rate to National rate	0.9		

POPULATION:

The Registrar-General's estimate of the population for mid 1968 is 41,430, an increase of 1,070 persons during the year, this is the usual order of the annual increase.

BIRTH RATE:

There were 696 live births during the year, making the Birth Rate 16.8 per 1,000 population. The local average is much the same as that for the country as a whole.

DEATH RATE:

354 people died during the year, the Death Rate being 8.5 per 1,000 population, again considerably below the national average of 11.9.

INFANT MORTALITY:

Only three infants under one year of age died so that the infantile mortality rate is at the exceptionally low figure of 4 such deaths per 1,000 total live births.

VITAL STATISTICS. (Continued)

CANCER:

Death Rates from Cancer per 1,000 population:

	<u>England & Wales.</u>			<u>Cheltenham Rural District Council</u>		
	<u>M.</u>	<u>F.</u>	<u>Persons.</u>	<u>M.</u>	<u>F.</u>	<u>Persons</u>
Cancer of the Lung	1.011	0.197	0.593	0.5	0.15	0.3
Other cancer	1.572	1,866	1.723	0.1	0.6	0.3

Eleven men and three women died of cancer of the lung. Even so the local death rate from this cause and other forms of cancer is much lower than in the country as a whole.

CAUSES OF DEATH:

The causes of death in the following table are classified under the Abbreviated List (B List) of International Statistical Classifications:

	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>
B 6 Other Tuberculosis, Incl. late effects	-----	1
B 19 (1) Malignant Neoplasm - Stomach	2	4
B 19 (2) Malignant Neoplasm - Lung, Bronchus	11	3
B 19 (3) Malignant Neoplasm - Breast	-----	4
B 19 (4) Malignant Neoplasm - Uterus	-----	4
B 19 (5) Leukaemia	1	-----
B 19 (6) Other Malignant Neoplasms, etc.	19	15
B 21 Diabetes Mellitus	2	2
B 22 Avitaminoses, etc.	-----	1
B 46 (1) Other Endocrine etc., Diseases	-----	2
B 23 Anaemias	-----	3
B 24 Meningitis	1	-----
B 46 (4) Other Diseases of Nervous System, etc.	3	1
B 26 Chronic Rheumatic Heart Disease	2	2
B 27 Hypertensive Disease	1	1
B 28 Ischaemic Heart Disease	55	34
B 29 Other Forms of Heart Disease	12	17
B 30 Cerebrovascular Disease	21	36
B 46 (5) Other Diseases of Circulatory System	16	9
B 31 Influenza	1	5
B 32 Pneumonia	8	7
B 33 (1) Bronchitis and Emphysema	7	1
B 33 (2) Asthma	1	1
B 46 (6) Other Diseases of Respiratory System	4	1
B 34 Peptic Ulcer	-----	1
B 35 Appendicitis	1	-----
B 37 Cirrhosis of Liver	-----	1
B 46 (7) Other Diseases of Digestive System	1	3
B 39 Hyperplasia of Prostate	1	-----
B 46 (8) Other Diseases, Genito-Urinary System	-----	1
B 46 (10) Diseases of Musculo-Skeletal System	1	2
B 42 Congenital Anomalies	1	-----
B 43 Birth Injury, Difficult Labour, etc.	-----	2
B 45 Symptoms and Ill-Defined Conditions	2	6
BE 47 Motor Vehicle Accidents	4	1
BE 48 All other Accidents	4	-----
BE 50 All other External Causes	-----	1
	<u>TOTAL</u>	<u>182</u>
		<u>172</u>

VITAL STATISTICS. (Continued)

BIRTH, DEATH and INFANTILE MORTALITY RATES in the DISTRICT FOR THE LAST FIVE YEARS.

	<u>1964</u>	<u>1965</u>	<u>1966</u>	<u>1967</u>	<u>1968</u>
<u>Birth Rate</u> (per 1,000 population)	20.47	21.89	19.3	17.9	16.8
<u>Death Rate</u> (per 1,000 population)	8.6	8.6	9.6	8.4	8.5
<u>Infantile Mortality Rate</u> (per 1,000 live births) (deaths of infants under 1 year)	17.7	16.97	8.0	17.0	4
<u>Neonatal Mortality Rate</u> (per 1,000 live births) (Deaths of infants under 1 month)	10.9	13.30	2.7	10	3

COMPARISON WITH THE BIRTH, DEATH AND INFANTILE MORTALITY RATES FOR ENGLAND AND WALES ETC. FOR 1968.

	<u>England & Wales</u>	<u>County of Glos.</u>	<u>Cheltenham R. D. C.</u>
<u>Live Birth Rate</u> (per 1,000 Population)	16.9	17.4	16.8
<u>Still Birth Rate</u> (per 1,000 total Live and Still Births)	14.3	11.8	6
<u>Infantile Mortality Rate</u> (per 1,000 Live Births - deaths of Infants under 1 year)	18	14.5	4
<u>Neonatal Mortality Rate</u> (per 1,000 Live Births - deaths of Infants under 1 month)	12.3	10.1	3
<u>Perinatal Mortality Rate</u> (per 1,000 Live and Still Births - Still Births and Infants Deaths under 1 week)	25.0	20.3	9
<u>Early Neonatal Mortality Rate</u> (per 1,000 total live births) (Deaths under 1 week of age)	---	9	3
<u>Death Rate</u> (per 1,000 population)	11.9	10.4	8.5

PREVALENCE OF, AND CONTROL OVER
INFECTION AND OTHER DISEASES.

INFECTIOUS DISEASES NOTIFIED DURING 1968.
(excluding Tuberculosis)

	Under 1 year		1 - 4		5 - 14		15 - 24		25 and over.		Age Unknown		Total	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
Scarlet Fever	-	-	1	1	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	4	1
Whooping Cough	1	-	1	-	-	4	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	4
Poliomyelitis, para- lytic, non-paralytic	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Measles	9	10	167	140	78	96	1	4	-	1	3	3	258	254
Diphtheria	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Dysentery	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Meningococcal infection	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-

	Under 5 years		5 - 14		15 - 44		45 - 64		65 and over		Age Unknown		Total	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
Pneumonia	1	1	-	1	-	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	3	2
Encephalitis, infectious	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Erysipelas	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	2	-	-	1	2
Puerperal Pyrexia	-	-	-	-	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2
Infective Jaundice	1	-	3	3	2	-	-	-	1	-	-	1	7	4

Scarlet Fever

Only five cases were notified. The incidence is low and the disease mild.

Diphtheria

The District continued free from diphtheria.
No case has occurred since 1949.

Whooping Cough

Only six cases were notified, vaccination brings relief from this disease.

Measles

An epidemic of measles occurred giving rise to 512 cases. The response to the newly instituted vaccination against measles is good and it may be expected to prevent large scale outbreaks.

Poliomyelitis

The District was free from poliomyelitis.

Dysentery

No notifications were received.

PREVALENCE OF, AND CONTROL OVER
INFECTION AND OTHER DISEASES.

INFECTIOUS DISEASES NOTIFIED DURING 1968. (Continued)
(excluding Tuberculosis)

Food Poisoning

Two cases of food poisoning occurred. They were associated with an outbreak in a neighbouring area.

(a) Food Poisoning Notifications (Corrected) as Returned to Registrat General.

<u>1st Quarter</u>	<u>2nd Quarter</u>	<u>3rd Quarter</u>	<u>4th Quarter</u>	<u>Total</u>
----	-----	2	----	2

- (b) CASES OTHERWISE ASCERTAINED: Nil
- (c) SYMPTOMLESS EXCRETORS Nil
- (d) FATAL CASES NIL

<u>AGENT</u>	<u>No. of Outbreaks</u>		<u>No. of Cases</u>		<u>Total No. of Cases</u>
	<u>Family Outbreaks</u>	<u>Other Outbreaks</u>	<u>Notified</u>	<u>Otherwise Ascertained</u>	
<u>Agent not identified</u>	Nil	Nil	2	Nil	2

DIPHTHERIA IMMUNISATION 1968.

Immunisation against Diphtheria during 1968 was as follows:-

<u>Age at 31.12.68</u> <u>i.e. born in year</u>	<u>Under 1 yr.</u> <u>1968</u>	<u>1 yr.</u> <u>1967</u>	<u>2 - 4 yrs.</u> <u>1966-1964</u>	<u>5 - 14 yrs.</u> <u>1963-1954</u>	<u>TOTAL..</u>
<u>Primary Immunisation</u>	201	454	21	37	714
<u>Re-inforcing injection</u>					1,279

VACCINATION AGAINST SMALLPOX.

The following table sets out the details of the records of vaccination received during the year:-

<u>VACCINATION</u>	<u>Under 1 yr.</u>	<u>1 yr.</u>	<u>2 - 4 yrs.</u>	<u>5 - 14 yrs.</u>	<u>15+</u>	<u>Total</u>
	3	135	231	18	----	387

TUBERCULOSIS

NEW CASES.

	<u>Children</u>		<u>All persons.</u>
	<u>0 - 4 yrs.</u>	<u>5 - 14 yrs.</u>	
Respiratory	-----	-----	3
Meninges and C.N.S.	-----	-----	-----
Other forms	-----	-----	-----
	<u>TOTAL</u>		<u>3</u>

DEATHS.

	<u>Male.</u>	<u>Female</u>
Respiratory	-----	1
Meninges and C.N.S.	-----	-----
Other forms	-----	-----

TUBERCULOSIS REGISTER.

The number of cases on the register at 31st December, 1968 was as follows:-

<u>Male</u>	<u>Pulmonary</u>		<u>Non-pulmonary</u>			<u>All forms</u>
	<u>Female</u>	<u>Total</u>	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>	<u>Total</u>	<u>Total</u>
<u>43</u>	<u>12</u>	<u>55</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>11</u>	<u>12</u>	<u>67</u>

One person died from tuberculosis and three new cases were notified. Nowadays treatment of the disease is effective and patients are not ill for long periods. When a new case occurs every effort is made to find the source of the infection and to trace all the contacts. By such means together with full support of the Mass Radiography Service and B.C.G. Vaccination, tuberculosis could be eradicated.

FOOD & DRUGS ACT 1955 - Clean Food and Food Hygiene.

PUBLIC HEALTH.

Regulations are in force for securing hygienic methods in the handling, wrapping and delivery of food for sale in the open air. The Food Hygiene Regulations require that clean food should be dealt with only by clean persons in clean premises, using clean equipment.

Food shops and similar establishments are inspected regularly to ensure that food is wholesome and that the premises comply with requirements.

NATIONAL ASSISTANCE ACT, 1948.

Section 47 - Removal to Suitable Premises of Persons in need of care and attention.

National Assistance (Amendment) Act, 1951 - Section 1.

These Acts give local authorities power to apply to the Courts for the compulsory removal of aged or sick persons who are living in insanitary conditions and are unable to provide for themselves and are not receiving from other people, proper care and attention. It was not necessary to make any application to the Court during the year.

The Home Help Service and Old People's Welfare Committee are of great assistance to many elderly people, enabling them to carry on in their own homes even though they have been left on their own.

Old People's Welfare Committee.

An Old People's Welfare Committee operates in the area. The Committee helps to co-ordinate local Services, both voluntary and statutory, for the elderly. This Committee has proved most useful and members act as visitors in their own area. Mr. W. A. G. Acocks is the Hon. Secretary of the Cheltenham Rural Districts Old People's Welfare Committee.

NATIONAL ASSISTANCE ACT, 1948. (Continued)

Meals on Wheels:

A meals on wheels scheme operates in the Rural District. The service is developing and it is expected to extend to supply all those in need of the meals.

The W.R.V.S. act as agents of County Welfare in promoting the Scheme through the local organiser, Mrs. S. Dagley Morris. The deficit on the service is met by equal contributions from the County Council and District Council.

Families at Risk:

A "Prevention of Homelessness" Scheme has been agreed between the County Council and the District Council. The Council may refer families for inclusion in this scheme when the rent arrears amount to £10 or four weeks rent. In cases so referred the County Council agrees to guarantee 85% of the arrears and supervision of the family is undertaken by the County Council Social Welfare Officer.

If a family are in danger of losing their home, the Divisional Medical Officer of Health calls a meeting of representatives of social agencies concerned, in order that the circumstances may be discussed and a co-ordinated effort made to help the family.

CHILD HEALTH SERVICES

PUBLIC HEALTH

GENERAL PROVISIONS FOR HEALTH SERVICES.

Laboratory Facilities.

Samples of water, milk and ice-cream and pathological specimens are sent for bacteriological analysis to the Public Health Laboratory, Gloucester. The laboratory is part of the Public Health Laboratory Service of the Ministry of Health and no charge is made for making use of its services.

Specimens for chemical examinations are submitted to the City Analyst, Bristol, or to the County and City Analyst, Worcester.

HOME HELP SERVICE.

This service is organised by the County Council and a charge is made according to a scale of assessment.

The Home Help takes over the running of the home where the housewife is temporarily incapacitated through illness. As noted elsewhere, the Service is very useful to old people who can no longer manage because of infirmity.

Appeals for assistance from the Home Help Service should be made to Mrs. Williams, the Area Home Help Organiser at The Divisional Health Office, Copt Elm Road, Charlton Kings, Cheltenham. (Telephone No. Cheltenham 25746 and 25747)

Nursing in the Home.

The area is under the control of the County Council. Information is available from the Divisional Health Office, Charlton Kings.

CHILD HEALTH CLINICS.

Apperley	Last Thursday	Starway	2nd Friday
Ashchurch	Alternate Tuesdays	Twynning	2nd Thursday
Bishops Cleeve	Each Wednesday	Warden Hill	Each Tuesday
	1st Thursday(Toddlers)		4th Monday(Toddlers)
Dumbleton	4th Friday	Winchcombe	1st. & 3rd. Tuesdays.
Leckhampton	Each Friday	Witcombe & Bentham	1st. & 3rd. Tuesdays.
Prestbury	Each Tuesday	*Gotherington	1st. Wednesday
The Reddings	2nd. & 4th. Thursday	*Swindon Village	2nd. and 4th. Mondays.
Shurdington	1st., 3rd. and 5th Wednesday (Toddlers)		

*MOBILE UNIT

These Clinics are under the administration of the County Council. Nearly all mothers and babies attend. The bulk of the work falls upon the ladies of the local Voluntary Committees and the thanks of the community are due to them for their devotion to this work.

PUBLIC SWIMMING BATHS.

Stanton Open Air Pool.

This concrete lined pool has a capacity of 70,000 gallons and is situated a few hundred yards to the east of the village. During the summer months it is in constant use, not only by bathers from Stanton and the surrounding villages, but also by visitors to the Gloucestershire Education Authority's Summer Youth Camp, close by.

While the pool is maintained and administered by the Parish Council, the water is supplied by the Water Undertaking. Chlorination is carried out by means of sulphate of ammonia and chloros and the pool is emptied, thoroughly cleansed and re-filled at approximately fortnightly intervals. Samples for bacteriological examination are taken periodically.

WATER SUPPLY.

The supply in the district was satisfactory in quantity and quality throughout the year. All the supplies are chlorinated.

Samples were taken for bacteriological analysis from public and private supplies.

None of the waters are liable to have plumbo-solvent action.

	<u>No. of Houses.</u>	<u>Estimated Population.</u>	<u>No. of houses supplied direct into houses.</u>	<u>Population supplied direct into house.</u>	<u>Population supplied by means of standpipe.</u>
Alderton	224	665	224	665	
Ashchurch	823	2,963	823	2,963	
Badgeworth	729	2,339	729	2,339	
Bishops Cleeve	1,958	6,622	1,958	6,622	
Boddington	94	301	94	301	
Buckland *	86	254	86	254	
Coberley*	85	309	85	309	
Cowley	100	314	100	314	
Deerhurst	194	618	189	602	
Dumbleton*	173	564	170	554	
Elmstone Hardwicke	71	263	71	263	
Gotherington	284	882	284	882	
Great Witcomb*	34	108	34	108	
Hawling	50	171	50	171	
Leckhampton	1,491	4,628	1,491	4,628	
Leigh	91	285	91	285	
Oxenton*	56	166	56	166	
Prescott*	27	90	27	90	
Prestbury	1,721	5,463	1,721	5,463	
Shurdington	688	2,162	688	2,162	
Snowhill	64	221	64	221	
Southam	241	707	241	707	
Stanton	100	282	100	282	
Stanway	133	412	133	412	
Staverton	256	720	256	720	
Stoke Orchard	96	308	96	308	
Sudeley*	39	146	39	146	
Swindon	368	1,223	368	1,223	
Teddington	95	281	93	279	2
Toddington	120	408	120	408	
Twynning	303	969	296	947	
Uckington	116	386	116	386	
Up Hatherley	392	1,132	392	1,132	
Walton Cardiff	20	60	20	60	
Winchcombe	1,404	4,326	1,403	4,324	2
Woodmancote	530	1,703	530	1,703	
TOTAL	13,256	42,451	13,238	42,399	4

*PRIVATE or PART PRIVATE SUPPLIES.

Report by the Engineer and Surveyor
on the Work of the Surveyors and Public Health Dept.
for the year 1968.

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen:

I have pleasure in presenting my annual report as the Council's Chief Public Health Inspector during 1968 on the work of the above department, which is set out in the following tables and summaries.

The serious widespread flooding, affecting residential properties, roads and agricultural land which occurred during the year, served to emphasise the increasing problems arising from the disposal of surface water. This is due in part to streams and water-courses previously capable of carrying the run-off from agricultural land being unable to cope with the high level of surface water now being discharged from the urban areas. The position is further aggravated as new residential developments and land drainage schemes are carried out. The result is that widespread flooding of residential property and agricultural land, not previously affected, now frequently occurs. It therefore follows that further large-scale development, which will undoubtedly take place in the years to come, will enlarge the problem both generally and locally, as streams and watercourses, in their present condition, will be unable to deal with the increased volume of surface water.

It will be appreciated that, as the drainage from our area passes into the areas of adjoining districts, and, as has been pointed out, this is not only a local, but also a general problem, any remedial measures must be undertaken in liaison with other authorities.

A step in this direction has already been taken by the formation of a Working Group comprising of Engineers from Gloucester Rural District Council, Cheltenham Rural District Council and the County Council with observers from adjoining authorities, to examine temporary expedients to alleviate existing flooding problems and to take full account of future planning possibilities.

It will be recalled that during the year 1968 before the Surveyors and Public Health Departments were separated, I was the Chief Public Health Inspector and Surveyor. As this will be my last report I should like to take this opportunity of thanking all the members of the Council's Staff for the friendly and close co-operation which has prevailed throughout with all departments.

I would particularly like to express my appreciation of the friendly and helpful consideration that I have received from Dr. Stephen Knight, the Medical Officer of Health and from my previous Deputy, Mr. F. H. Lewis. I should like to extend to Mr. Lewis my very best wishes for success in his new post as Chief Public Health Inspector and I hope that we shall continue to work with the same close collaboration which we have enjoyed for so many years.

Finally I would like to express my sincere thanks to the Chairman and Members of the Council for their confidence and support, and for the consideration they have shown me in dealing with the work of the Department.

I am, Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,
Your obedient servant,

L. GROGAN

Engineer & Surveyor.

HOUSING

The number of new dwellings completed in the district during the year totalled 422, of these 415 were erected by private enterprise. The Council completed 6 dwellings at Alderton.

Taking a figure of slightly over 3 persons per dwelling, it is estimated that accommodation was provided for a population of approximately 1,350, with consequent increase in the demand for services, such as sewerage and refuse collection.

The Council has continued its activities regarding improvement grants and owners of property are encouraged to make applications and every assistance is given to applicants. There are still many properties in need of improvement and it is hoped that in course of time, the majority, if not all, will take advantage of the benefits of the scheme.

Repair to Council Houses

Repairs to Council houses are generally carried out by direct labour, and at the end of the year, we employed a total of thirteen men upon this work (not including the Foreman). The following figures show the work carried out:-

	<u>31.12.67</u>	<u>Year Ending:</u> <u>31.12.68</u>
No. of houses repairable by the Council at the end of the year (others will be released from Contractors from time to time)	1,745	1,784
No. of Garages repairable by the Council	408	432
No. of repair orders completed by the Council's staff (an order may contain several items)	1,512	1,535
No. of repair orders completed by Contractors including electricity and gas	481	721

	<u>Completed</u> <u>1960-1967</u>	<u>Completed</u> <u>1968</u>	<u>Tenders</u> <u>Accepted</u>	<u>Outstanding</u>
Number of Pre-war Council Houses improved	126	80	13	40

	<u>31.12.67</u>	<u>Year Ending:</u> <u>31.12.68</u>
No. of houses overhauled and re-decorated externally (by contract)	322	239
No. of tiled surround fireplaces fitted	10	33
No. of defective draining boards replaced	35	40
No. of defective firebaskets/bottom bars replaced	46	55
No. of Hot Water Cylinders	19	13
No. of defective sinks replaced	4	5
No. of W.C. pans replaced	27	29
No. of defective taps replaced	10	22
No. of defective flush boxes replaced	19	15
No. of defective chimney pots replaced	5	8
No. of defective lavatory basins replaced	17	17
No. of gate-posts renewed	25	31
No. of roofs repaired	110	126
No. of eaves gutters and/or downpipes repaired	119	107

HOUSING

(Continued)

Repairs to Council Houses (Continued)

	<u>Year Ending:</u>	
	<u>31.12.67</u>	<u>31.12.68</u>
No. of visits to Council houses for various purposes	3,944	3,782
No. of cases where damage has been repaired at the tenant's expense	46	24

Other activities in housing:Housing Act, 1957 - 1961

Houses demolished in Clearance Areas, unfit for human habitation	Nil	Nil
Houses demolished not in Clearance Areas but as a result of formal or informal procedure under Section 16 or Section 17 (1) Housing Act, 1957	10	Nil
Unfit houses closed under Section 16 (4), 17 (1) and 35 (1) Housing Act, 1957, and Section 26 Housing Act, 1961	Nil	Nil
Unfit houses made fit and houses in which defects were remedied:		
After informal action	34	18
After formal notice under Sections 9 & 16 Housing Act, 1957	4	Nil
After formal notice under Public Health Acts	Nil	Nil
After determination of a demolition order, under Section 24, Housing Act, 1957	6	Nil
After determination of a closing order under Section 27, Housing Act, 1957	8	1
Number of housing inspections or re-visits:	225	130

Improvement GrantsDiscretionary GrantsConversions

Applications Received (dwellings)	4
Applications Approved - owner-occupied (dwellings)	2
Total Amount Approved	£800
Grants Paid (No. of Dwellings)	4
Grants Paid - Total Amount	£658

Improvements

Applications Received (dwellings)	16
Applications Approved - owner-occupied (dwellings)	18
Applications Approved - other (dwellings)	3
Total Amount Approved	£7,986
Grants Paid (dwellings)	25
Grants " Total Amount	£6,979

Standard Grants

Applications Received (dwellings)	16
Applications Approved - owner-occupied Full Standard (normal limit) (dwellings)	5
Applications Approved - owner-occupied Full Standard (higher limit) (Dwellings)	5
Applications Approved - owner-occupied Reduced Standard	4
Applications Approved other dwellings Full Standard (higher limit)	1
Applications Approved other dwellings Reduced Standard	2
<u>Grants Paid</u> (dwellings)	12
Grants Paid - Total Amount	£2,078
Amenities Provided:-	
Fixed baths or showers	7
Wash Basins	8
Hot Water supplies at 3 points	8
Water closets	12
Food Storage Facilities	4

Higher Limit Grants

- Dwellings	6
Additional Work	
Nos. of bathrooms	5
No. of piped water supplies	2
No. of septic tank drainage systems	3
Reduced Standard Grants (dwellings)	1

HOUSING

(Continued)

Improvement Grants (Continued)

The results have in all instances been very satisfactory and there is no doubt that improvement grants have enabled accommodation to be retained and thus avoided the Council having to provide more houses.

	<u>31.12.67</u>	<u>Year Ending:</u>	<u>31.12.68</u>
Number of Visits	225		530

Building Regulations

The work in connection with the Building Regulations is as follows:-

	<u>31.12.67</u>	<u>Year Ending:</u>	<u>31.12.68</u>
<u>New houses completed:</u>			
Council houses/flats	36		6
Private Enterprise	368		415
Cheltenham Corporation	28		-
Gloucestershire County Council	-		1
	<u>432</u>		<u>422</u>
No. of dwellings provided by conversion of existing buildings and dwellings	9		8
<u>No. of houses in course of erection</u>			
Council	6		7
Private Enterprise	362		232
Total number of plans received and considered	881		850
Total number of plans approved permanent	803		767
Total number of plans disapproved	78		83
Plans declared of no effect	134		12
Applications for relaxation approved	-		2
Number of informal notices sent	7		4
Number of recommendations to Area Planning Officer	655		715
Number of visits to properties and sites	3,458		3,256

Each plan when received is checked and if there is any discrepancy and time permits, the owner's or architect's attention is drawn to this with a view to the necessary alterations being made prior to consideration by the Committee.

Every endeavour is made to inspect work at the following stages - excavation of foundations; completion of concrete foundations; dampcourse; roofing; testing of drains; installation of fittings; and completion.

In a number of cases, the owners of houses have obtained loans through the Council under the Housing (Financial Provisions) Act, 1958 (as amended), and in such cases more frequent inspections are made and the work is closely checked before certificates are issued for payments.

PUBLIC HEALTH

Under this heading has been included the work in connection with milk supply, infectious diseases, water supply, nuisances, disinfections, tents, vans and sheds, factories and workshops, pollution of streams, inspection of food premises, public conveniences and sewage disposal, etc.

The following figures show the activities during the year:-

	<u>Year Ending:</u>	
	<u>31.12.67</u>	<u>31.12.68</u>
Number of complaints received or nuisances discovered	83	87
Nuisances abated	48	59
Complaints not justified	35	28
Informal notices sent	41	15
Statutory notices served	1	2
Number of premises disinfested	1	2
Number of visits in connection with the above items	325	283
Number of new drainage systems installed	61	45
Visits to new drainage systems	259	172
Number of visits to public conveniences	29	24
Infectious disease visits	24	6
Other Public Health Visits, i.e. Clean Air Act, Farm drainage, etc.	349	469

Inspection of Foods:

The following foodstuffs have been condemned:-

	<u>Cwts.</u>	<u>Qrs.</u>	<u>lbs.</u>	<u>ozs.</u>
Meat	7	3	5	9½
Vegetables	1	0	17	12½
Fruit		1	22	-
Poultry			25	10½
Pastry			14	6
Fish		3	26	12
Total	10	2	20	12

PUBLIC HEALTH

(Continued)

Carcases and Offal inspected and condemned in whole or in part:

	<u>Cattle</u>	<u>Calves</u>	<u>Sheep and Lambs</u>	<u>Pigs</u>	<u>Horses</u>
Number killed	90	2	665	194	-
Number inspected	90	2	665	194	-

All diseases except tuberculosis and
Cysticerci:

Whole carcasses condemned	-	-	-	-	-
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	10	-	24	6	-
Percentage of number inspected affected with disease other than tuberculosis and cysticerci	11.1%	-	3.6%	3.1%	-

Tuberculosis:

Whole carcasses condemned	-	-	-	-	-
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	-	-	-	-	-
Percentage of number inspected affected with tuberculosis	-	-	-	-	-

Cysticercosis:

Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	-	-	-	-	-
Generalised and totally condemned	-	-	-	-	-
Percentage of number inspected affected with Cysticercosis	-	-	-	-	-

Total amount of meat condemned:

1 cwt. 2 qrs. 8 lbs.

Methods of disposal of Condemned Food:

Condemned food is disposed of as follows:

- (a) By burial in lime.
- (b) In suitable cases by disposal to knackers' yards by arrangement with the adjoining Public Health Authority.

Number of Special Examinations of a Stock or Consignment of food Nil

Number of visits to Slaughterhouses 49

The Imported Food Regulations, 1968

Examination of imported foodstuffs

These Regulations came into force on the 1st August, 1968 and now enable imported food to be inspected at it's point of destination where an importer gives to the port health authority an undertaking in writing that the container has been sealed and will not be opened until it reaches the place of destination specified in the undertaking.

There are in this district at the present time two depots which are receiving imported food (mainly meat) by containerisation service and the number of consignments examined are as follows:

APPROXIMATE TOTAL WEIGHTS

	Tons	Cwts.	Qrs.	Lbs.
6 consignments : French Frozen Boneless Beef	112	0	1	24
7 consignments : Danish Bacon	14	10	0	0
1 consignment : Irish Bacon		17	0	16
TOTAL (APPROX.)	127 Tons	7 Cwts.	2 Qrs.	12 lbs.

Food Hygiene (General) Regulations, 1960

Food shops and catering establishments are inspected to ensure that food is wholesome and to verify compliance with the Act. The number of premises are as follows:

<u>Trade</u>	<u>Total</u>	<u>Fitted to comply with Regulation 16</u>	<u>Regulation 19 applicable</u>	<u>Fitted to comply with Regulation 19</u>
Bakers	8	8	8	8
Butchers	12	12	12	12
Cafes	10	10	10	10
Confectioners	9	7	8	8
Fishfriers	2	2	2	2
General Stores	54	50	53	50
Greengrocers	7	5	7	7
Sweet Retailers	2	2	1	1
Hotels	13	13	13	13
Public Houses	49	47	47	47
Factory Canteens	11	11	11	11
Clubs	12	10	12	12
Wet Fish	1	1	1	1
	<u>190</u>	<u>178</u>	<u>185</u>	<u>182</u>

Mobile General Stores:	5
Mobile Butcher's Stores:	1
Mobile Fish Frier:	1
Mobile Cafe:	1
Mobile Wet Fish:	1
Mobile Greengrocers:	2
Informal Notices sent:	13

Food and Drugs Act, 1955

During the year 6 complaints were received as to the condition and quality of food purchased by members of the Public. Action was taken as follows:-

Not justified:	1
Warning letters sent to offending firms:	5
Prosecutions:	NIL

Section 16 (1)

Number of premises registered for the sale and storage of icecream:	102
Number of applications considered and licences issued during the year:	2
Number of premises registered for the preparation of preserved foods intended for sale:	5
Total number of visits in connection with the Food and Drugs Acts:	184

Offices, shops & Railway Premises Act, 1963.

During the year a further 7 premises were registered.
Total number of registered premises: 134

Offices, Shops & Railway Premises Act, 1963. (Continued)

General inspections were continued during the year throughout the Rural District and the various classes of premises were found to be generally satisfactory.

Only minor infringements were again found to contravene the Act and these were dealt with by verbal notice and followed up by letter where found to be necessary.

No serious contraventions were found during the year.

No accidents were reported at the time of inspections. Owners and occupiers of registered premises have been reminded of their legal obligations in respect of accidents.

No. of informal notices sent: 8
 No. of visits: 102

The Caravan Sites and Control of Development Act, 1960.

At the end of the year the number of licenced sites in use totalled 97, covering 761 (including 219 seasonal) caravans.

Inspections of the larger sites have not revealed any serious contraventions of the site licence conditions.

Applications were dealt with as follows:

New Sites 13 relating to 15 caravans.
 New Sites (seasonal) Nil
 Additions to existing sites 1 relating to 2 caravans.
 Additions to existing sites(seasonal) 2 relating to 23 caravans.
 Renewal of site licences 16 relating to 17 caravans.

No. of visits to sites: 456
 No. of informal notices served: 3

Factories Act, 1961:

	Year ending:	
	31.12.67	31.12.68
Number of visits to factories:	221	224
Number of informal notices served:	Nil	5

See also additional information annexed to this report.

PUBLIC HEALTH (Continued)

Sewage Disposal:

The following works were completed during 1968:-

- Provision of sewers, works and pumping stations at Twynning.
- Relief sewer at Winchcombe.
- Enlargement of Winchcombe S.D.W.
- Provision of sewer and S.D.W. Teddington.
- Extension to Gotherington S.D.W.
- Provision of sewer to Henley Bank, Badgeworth.
- Diversion of Sewers for M. 5 Motorway.

Works proposed:-

- Provision of sewers - Uckington & Haydon.
- Provision of main sewerage at Apperley, Deerhurst.
- Enlargement of Sewage Works, Brockhampton.

No. of visits to Sewage Works: 2,153

Water Supplies:

The number of new connections made to the mains during the year totalled: 365

Number of visits to supplies, etc. 163

Refuse and Salvage:

Built-up areas receive two collections and the remainder of the district one collection every fortnight. The volume of household refuse is increasing and changing in nature due to the growing tendency to prepack commodities, and this is causing difficulty in disposal.

The controlled method of tipping is undertaken and refuse was tipped at Winchcombe and Twynning. Refuse from the South of the district was tipped at the Cheltenham Corporation Tip.

No. of visits to tips, etc. 285

Vehicles: 4 Shelvoke & Drewry 35 cu. yd. Pakamatic
2 -ditto- 50 cu. yd. Pakamatic
1 Karrier 12 cu. yd. side loading tipper

An order was placed for the supply of one S. & D. 20 cu. yd. Vehicle to replace the Karrier side loading vehicle.

	<u>31.12.67.</u>	<u>Year ending:</u> <u>31.12.68.</u>
No. of Dwellings	12,841	13,256
Distance travelled by vehicles (miles)	63,216	60,392

CAR PARKS.

Work was completed on the provision of a car park for 42 cars at Bull Lane, Winchcombe and brought into use during April.

Number of visits: 155

PETROLEUM (REGULATION) ACTS, 1928 and 1936.

No. of informal notices served: 32
 No. of licences issued to store petroleum: 85
 No. of visits: 254

PREVENTION OF DAMAGE BY PESTS ACT, 1949.

	<u>Non- Agricultural:</u>	<u>Agricultural:</u>
1. No. of properties in District	13,216	809
2(a) Total number of properties (including nearby premises) inspected following notification	340	106
(b) Number infested by Rats	269	87
" " " Mice	46	1
3(a) Total Number of properties inspected for Rats and/or Mice for reasons other than notification	101	230
(b) Number infested by Rats	11	8
" " " Mice	Nil	Nil
No. of visits by Pest Operator	1,844	
" " " " other members of Staff	<u>78</u>	
TOTAL	<u>1,922</u>	

Treatment of Sewers:

The Council's sewers were test baited and treated as follows:-

<u>Parish:</u>	<u>March Manholes Test Baited</u>	<u>Infested and treated</u>	<u>July Manholes Test Baited (No Takes)</u>	<u>October Manholes Test Baited</u>	<u>Infested and Treated.</u>
Bishops Cleeve	7	---	---	7	---
Prestbury	18	---	---	21	2
Shurdington	7	---	---	7	---
Southam	7	---	---	7	---
Winchcombe	21	2	3	16	---

LOANS FOR HOUSE PURCHASE.

The work involved is first in checking the plans and specifications prior to loan sanction, and afterwards inspection of the work to see that it is satisfactory, and certifying payment at the appropriate stages.

During the year, advances were made in 49 cases, these totalling £110,365

Number of visits: 113

SUMMARY of VISITS.

	1966.	Year ending:	
		1967.	1968.
Council House repairs	4,431	3,944	3,782
Housing Act inspections	247	255	130
Improvement Grants	204	225	530
Building Byelaws	3,232	3,458	3,256
<u>Public Health:</u>			
Nuisances, Statutory Notices, etc.	428	325	283
New drainage systems	167	259	172
Public conveniences	23	29	24
Infectious diseases	18	24	6
Other Public Health Visits(Clean Air Act, Farm Drainage, etc.)	427	349	469
Slaughterhouse	85	71	49
Imported Food Regulations 1968	---	---	49
Food and Drugs Acts	306	293	184
Offices, Shops & Railway Premises Act, 1963	134	144	102
Caravan Sites	627	406	456
Factories and Workshops Act	238	221	224
Sewage Disposal Works, etc.	2,112	2,505	2,153
Water supplies	139	98	163
Refuse and Salvage	312	370	285
Public Rights of Way	90	134	87
Car Parks	203	105	155
Petroleum Act, 1928 & 1936	212	191	254
Pest Destruction	2,041	2,114	1,922
Loans for House Purchase	48	46	113
Miscellaneous visits	367	322	361
Depot	174	331	207
	<u>16,262</u>	<u>16,189</u>	<u>15,416</u>

APPENDIX

FACTORIES ACT, 1961

Annual Report of the Medical Officer of Health
in respect of the year 1968 for the Rural District
of Cheltenham in the County of Gloucestershire

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)	Inspections (3)	Number of written Notices (4)	Occupiers Prosecuted (5)
(1) Factories in which sections 1,2,3,4 & 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities	28	35	---	---
(2) Factories not included in (1) in which section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority	105	140	---	---
(3) Other premises in which section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding out-workers' premises)	21	49	---	---
TOTAL:	154	224	---	---

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)	Referred by H.M. Inspector (5)	
Sanitary Conveniences (S7)					
(a) Insufficient	1	1	---	---	---
(b) Unsuitable or defective	4	4	---	1	---

Part VIII of the Act
Outwork
(Sections 133 and 134)

No. of Outworkers

Nil

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