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URBAN DISTRICT
OF
CLEVEDON

ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE
MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH
AND THE
SENIOR
~~CHIEF~~ PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR


FOR THE YEAR

1970



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HEALTH AND HOUSING COMMITTEE

1969/70

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Vice-Chairman

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1970/71

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Mr. C.C. Hodge

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Mr. H.T. Wilkins

(Vice-Chairman of the Council)

Mr. R.W.B. Wilyman

OFFICERS

Medical Office of Health: Dr. Valerie N. Baker, M.B., Ch.B.,
D.R.C.O.G., D.P.H.

Deputy Medical Officer of Health: Dr. Olwyn K. Ockelford, M.A., M.B., B.Chir.
(resigned February, 1970)

Dr. D. McGowan, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.,
Area Medical Officer, Weston-super-Mare
Borough and Axbridge R.D.C. (from March, 1970)

Senior Public Health Inspector: L. Davey, F.R.S.H., M.A.P.H.I., A.I.P.H.E.,

Additional Public Health Inspector: C.S. Hamilton, M.R.S.H., M.A.P.H.I.,

Area Health Office,
2, Marson Road,
Clevedon.

To the Chairman and Members of the
Clevedon Urban District Council.

I have the honour to present the Annual Report for 1970.

The number of measles notifications rose to over 200, only 5 having been notified in 1969 and 27 in 1968. The reason for this was the interruption of the immunisation programme in part of 1968 and 1969, due to shortage of vaccine. However, now that supplies are adequate, I hope this is the last year that so many children will acquire measles. No cases of food poisoning or dysentery were notified in 1970.

The birth rate fell very slightly and is still above the national average. The death rate fell quite markedly and when adjusted to compare with the age and sex distribution of England and Wales, is 3 per thousand below the national rate.

Again, Mr. Davey has prepared the bulk of this report and he and Mr. Hamilton have given good service to the Council. I wish to thank them, other officers and members of the Council for their ready help at all times.

I beg to remain,

Your obedient Servant,

V. N. BAKER

Medical Officer of Health

STATISTICAL CONDITIONS OF THE AREA

General Statistics - 1970

Area	3,467 acres
Population (mid year estimate)	14,190
Area comparability factors	Births - 1.25 Deaths - 0.61
Rateable Value, 1st April, 1970	£535,126
Sum represented by a Penny Rate	£2,154

Vital Statistics for 1970

<u>Live Births</u>	<u>Males</u>	<u>Females</u>	<u>Total</u>	<u>Rate per 1,000</u>
Legitimate	89	95	184	of the estimated resident population = 13.5
Illegitimate	<u>6</u>	<u>2</u>	<u>8</u>	
	95	97	192	
Stillbirths	2	1	3	<u>Rate per 1,000 (live & still)</u> births = 15
<u>Deaths</u>	98	103	201	<u>Death Rate per 1,000 of the</u> estimate resident population = 14.2

Illegitimate live births

Rate per cent of total live births = 4.0%

Deaths from pregnancy, childbirth and abortion - 0

Death rate of infants under one year of age

All infants per 1,000 live births	(total = 6) - 31
Legitimate infants per 1,000 legitimate live births	(total = 5) - 27
Illegitimate infants per 1,000 illegitimate live births	(total = 1) - 125
Neonatal mortality rate, deaths under 4 weeks per 1,000 live births	(total = 2) - 10
Early neonatal mortality rate, deaths under one week per 1,000 total live births	(total = 1) - 5
Perinatal mortality rate, stillbirths and deaths under one week per 1,000 total live and stillbirths	(total = 4) - 21

Vital Statistics - 1962-1970

Live Births

Year	<u>Legitimate</u>		<u>Illegitimate</u>		Total	Rate per 1,000 of the		
	Male	Female	Male	Female		<u>Estimated Resident Population</u>		England & Wales
						<u>Clevedon</u>	<u>Crude Adjusted</u>	
1962	81	85	7	7	180	15.0	16.2	18.0
1963	97	87	4	0	188	16.3	20.5	18.2
1964	92	94	6	1	193	16.5	20.8	18.4
1965	95	89	4	4	192	15.7	18.7	18.0
1966	87	111	4	6	198	15.8	18.8	17.7
1967	97	108	6	8	219	17.1	23.3	17.2
1968	103	84	4	3	194	14.0	17.5	16.9
1969	97	81	8	4	190	13.6	17.0	16.3
1970	89	95	6	2	192	13.5	16.9	16.0

The adjusted birth rate, is the crude rate multiplied by the area comparability factor, which adjusts the age and sex distribution of the population to correspond with those of England and Wales. The same applies to the adjusted death rate.

Stillbirths

Year	Male	Female	Total	Rate per 1,000 live and	
				<u>stillbirths</u>	
				<u>Clevedon</u>	<u>England & Wales</u>
1962	2	1	3	17.7	18.1
1963	0	1	1	5.4	17.3
1964	1	1	2	10.2	16.4
1965	3	1	4	20.4	15.7
1966	1	1	2	10.0	15.4
1967	3	1	4	18.0	14.8
1968	1	2	3	15.0	14.0
1969	0	0	0	0	13.0
1970	2	1	3	15.0	13.0

Vital Statistics 1962 - 1970

Deaths

Year	Male	Female	Total	Rate per 1,000 of the Estimated resident population		
				Clevedon		England & Wales
				Crude	Adjusted	
1962	88	108	196	15.9	11.1	11.9
1963	78	102	180	15.9	10.0	12.2
1964	86	112	198	16.8	10.6	11.3
1965	96	138	234	19.2	9.8	11.9
1966	89	144	233	18.5	10.2	11.7
1967	87	143	230	18.0	9.0	11.2
1968	105	149	254	18.4	9.9	11.9
1969	101	128	229	16.4	9.7	11.9
1970	98	103	201	14.2	8.7	11.7

Year	Death Rate of all Infants per 1,000 live births		Death Rate under 4 weeks of age per 1,000 total live births		Death Rate of Infants under one week of age & stillbirths per 1,000 total live and stillbirths	
	Clevedon	England & Wales	Clevedon	England & Wales	Clevedon	England & Wales
1962	24.1	21.6	12.0	15.1	23.7	30.8
1963	27.2	20.9	10.9	14.2	16.1	29.3
1964	5.2	20.0	5.2	13.8	5.2	28.2
1965	26.0	19.0	20.8	13.0	40.8	26.9
1966	5.0	12.9	5.0	12.8	15.0	26.3
1967	32.0	18.3	23.0	12.5	36.0	25.4
1968	5.0	18.0	0	12.3	15.0	25.0
1969	11.0	18.0	5.0	12.0	5.0	23.0
1970	31.0	18.0	10.0	12.0	21.0	23.0

POPULATION

Year	Estimated mid-year population	Total increase from previous year	Natural increase or decrease	Net Immigration
1962	11,080	-	-	-
1963	11,270	190	increase 8	182
1964	11,670	400	decrease 5	405
1965	12,200	530	decrease 42	572
1966	12,530	330	decrease 35	365
1967	12,790	260	decrease 11	271
1968	13,830	1040	decrease 60	1100
1969	13,980	150	decrease 39	189
1970	14,190	210	decrease 9	219

CAUSES OF DEATH - 1970

		Total under 14 weeks											
SEX		all	4	& under	1-	5-	15-	25-	35-	45-	55-	65-	75+
		Ages	Weeks	1 year									
Malignant Neoplasm, Buccal cavity	M	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	F	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
Malignant Neoplasm, oesophagus	M	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	F	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-
Malignant Neoplasm, stomach	M	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
	F	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	-
Malignant Neoplasm, intestine	M	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2
	F	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	3
Malignant Neoplasm, lung, bronchus	M	6	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	3	1
	F	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-
Malignant Neoplasm, breast	M	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	F	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	-	-	-
Malignant Neoplasm, uterus	F	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-
Malignant Neoplasm, prostate	M	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Other Malignant Neoplasms	M	6	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	1	1	1	2
	F	6	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	2	3	-	-
Diabetes Mellitus	M	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	F	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1
Avitaminoses, etc.	M	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	F	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
Other Diseases of Nervous System	M	4	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	1	-	2
	F	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	1
Chronic Rheumatic Heart Disease	M	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-
	F	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Hypertensive Disease	M	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
	F	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
Ischaemic Heart Disease	M	32	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	6	9	16
	F	27	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	6	20
Other Forms of Heart Disease	M	4	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	4
	F	4	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	2
Cerebrovascular Disease	M	8	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	1	5
	F	20	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	1	2	2	14
Other Diseases of Circulatory System	M	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	2
	F	10	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	10
Influenza	M	4	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	2
	F	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2
Pneumonia	M	3	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2
	F	7	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	6
Bronchitis and Emphysema	M	8	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	3	3
	F	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-
Asthma	M	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	F	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
Other Diseases of Respiratory System	M	2	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
	F	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Peptic Ulcer	M	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-
	F	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Intestinal Obstruction and Hernia	M	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2
	F	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-

Causes of Death - contd.

		Total under 4 weeks											
SEX		all	4	& under 1-	5-	15-	25-	35-	45-	55-	65-	75+	
		Ages	Weeks	1 year									
Cirrhosis of Liver	M	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
	F	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	
Other Diseases of	M	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
Digestive System	F	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	
Hyperplasia of prostate	M	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	
Other Disease, Genito-	M	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
Urinary System	F	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	
Diseases of Musculo-	M	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	
Skeletal System	F	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	1	
Congenital Anomalies	M	3	1	1	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	
	F	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
Birth Injury, Difficult	M	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
Labour, etc.	F	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
Motor Vehicle 9	M	1	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	
Accidents	F	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	
All other accidents	M	1	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
	F	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	
Total All Causes	M	98	1	3	2	2	-	1	3	15	20	51	
	F	103	1	1	-	1	-	-	4	9	21	66	

NOTIFIABLE DISEASES

	Total Cases Notified								
	1962	1963	1964	1965	1966	1967	1968	1969	1970
Scarlet Fever	1	4	1	4	10	3	2	-	-
Whooping cough	-	5	5	18	-	10	6	8	1
Measles	1	219	5	41	275	236	27	5	213
Acute poliomyelitis	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Tuberculosis, respiratory	2	4	4	1	2	1	1	2	2
non-respiratory	3	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	-
Dysentery	-	-	6	-	-	-	66	4	-
Acute pneumonia	4	-	1	-	-	-	-	not notifiable	-
Food poisoning	1	-	-	3	-	1	2	1	-
Erysipelas	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	not notifiable	-
Puerperal pyrexia	-	2	1	3	-	-	-	"	-
Meningococcal infection	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
Acute encephalitis	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
Infective Jaundice	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	3	3

Public Health Department,
Clevedon Urban District Council,
The Council House,
Highdale Road,
Clevedon,
Somerset.

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE SENIOR PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR
FOR THE YEAR 1970

Mr. Chairman, Ladies & Gentlemen,

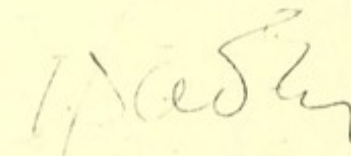
I have pleasure in presenting my Annual Report dealing with the environmental health circumstances of the District for the year 1970, and with the duties I am responsible for as Improvements Officer under the Improvement Grant Scheme and as Petroleum Officer.

The organisation of the Department has progressed more rapidly during the year since the appointment of Mr. C.S. Hamilton, as Additional Public Health Inspector, but the optimism I expressed last year that it would be completed this year has not been fulfilled because of the pressure of routine work. The proposed re-allocation of office accommodation early next year will no doubt help, and I anticipate it will be achieved early next year.

I should like to express my appreciation for the assistance, enthusiasm and loyal support of Mr. Hamilton; and my thanks to the Medical Officer of Health, the Chief Officers and staff of other departments for their assistance when requested and their willing co-operation at all times.

May I also thank the Chairman of the Council, the Chairman of the Health and Housing Committee and Members of the Council for their interest, support and confidence.

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



Senior Public Health Inspector

WATER SUPPLY

The water supply to the district is controlled by the Bristol Waterworks Company and comes from the Clevedon and Chelvey boreholes. The number of supplies to 31st December 1970 were as follows:

<u>Measured</u>	<u>Unmeasured</u>	<u>Council Houses</u>	<u>Total</u>
129	4,539	536	5,204

Routine sampling carried out by the Company for bacteriological examination gave the following results:

RAW WATERS

<u>Source</u>	<u>No. of Samples Examined</u>	<u>Average No. of Faecal Coliforms per 100 ml.</u>	<u>Average No. of Non-faecal coliforms per 100 ml.</u>	<u>Colonies on agar 2 days at 37°</u>
Chelvey	21	22	28	3

TREATED WATERS

<u>Source</u>	<u>No. of Samples Examined</u>	<u>No. free from Faecal Coliforms</u>	<u>No. free from Non-faecal Coliforms</u>	<u>% Satisfactory</u>
Clevedon Well	47	47	47	100
Chelvey	42	42	42	100
Distribution System	24	24	24	100

The chemical analyses of the distributed water from both sources and sampled by the Bristol Waterworks Company are as follows with results in milligrammes per litre:

	<u>Chelvey</u>	<u>Clevedon</u>
Total Solids	398	443
Chloride as Cl	24	36
Nitrate as N	3.1	4.3
Nitrite as N	Nil	Nil
Saline Ammonia as N	0.006	0.008
Albuminoid Ammonia as N	0.004	0.004
Oxygen Absorbed 3 hrs. @ 37°C	0.06	0.07
Total Hardness as CaCO ₃	190	369
Calcium Hardness as CaCO ₃	161	239
Magnesium Hardness as CaCO ₃	29	130
Alkalinity as CaCO ₃	269	298
pH.	7.2	7.4
Sulphate as SO ₄	29.0	51.4
Sodium as Na	65.0	13.6
Potassium as K	1.6	2.4
Silica as SiO ₂	5.6	5.4
Phosphate as PO ₄	-	-
Iron as Fe	0.005	Nil
Manganese as Mw.	Nil	Nil
Fluoride as F	Nil	0.04

The raw waters from both these sources is very hard and in May 1969, a base exchange softening plant was commissioned at Chelvey. This has resulted in a reduction in total hardness of this water from 330 milligrammes per litre to 190 milligrammes per litre, but as the supplies to the urban district are not mixed, only on those occasions when the water from Chelvey is distributed whilst maintenance work is carried out at Clevedon is there any benefit to Clevedon consumers. It is understood that a similar softening plant to the one installed at Chelvey is planned for Clevedon and will probably be operative in 1972.

A sample of the distributed water from both sources was taken and submitted to the County Public Analyst for chemical analysis, and results are as follows:

	<u>Chelvey</u>	<u>Clevedon</u>
Physical Characters	Clear and bright.	Clear and bright.
	Hazen units less than 5.	Hazen units less than 5.
Sediment	Nil	Nil
Reaction	Neutral	Very slightly alkaline
pH.	7.0	7.1
Total Solids	430.0 p.p.m	520.0 p.p.m
Total Alkalinity (as CaCO_3)	285.0 "	300.0 "
Carbonate Hardness	-	300.0 "
Non Carbonate "	-	95.0 "
Total Hardness	190.0 "	405.0 "
Chloride (as Cl)	19.0 "	29.0 "
Ammoniacal Nitrogen (as N)	0.002 "	0.002 "
Albuminoid " (" ")	0.002 "	0.014 "
Nitrate " (" ")	3.5 "	4.0 "
Nitrite " (" ")	Nil	Nil
Oxygen absorbed from Permanganate in 4 hrs. at 27°C	0.10 "	0.15 "
Free Carbon Dioxide	24.0 "	30.0 "
Iron, Copper, Lead and Zinc	Nil	Copper trace
Free Chlorine	Nil	Nil
Total Chlorine	Nil	Nil
Comment	This is a slightly hard water of satisfactory chemical purity.	This is a hard water of satisfactory chemical purity.

SUMMARY OF ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH INSPECTIONS

	<u>Visits</u>	<u>Re-visits</u>	<u>Total</u>
Housing, including Improvement Grants and mortgage surveys	390	584	974
Food Hygiene and Meat Inspection	434	95	529
General Environmental Hygiene	582	627	1209
Totals	1406	1306	2712

Complaints and enquiries received - 624

HOUSING

- (a) Number of temporary dwellings demolished 10
 (b) Number of houses made fit during year 32
 (c) Certificates of Fair Rent issued 4
 (d) Houses in multiple occupation These are being dealt with as discovered. Standards under Section 15 of the Housing Act 1961 have not yet been laid down, but suggested ones will be put to the Council early in 1971, following which a systematic survey will be made. Every effort is made initially to persuade owners of multiply occupied dwellings to convert them to self-contained flats with the aid of Improvement Grants.

	Houses erected during year		Houses in course of erection		Gained from conversion of large houses or buildings into flats or dwellings	Lost from conversion of two or more houses into one
	For slum clearance	For other purposes	For slum clearance	For other purposes		
Local authority	Nil	54	Nil	24	Nil	Nil
Private enterprise	Nil	80	Nil	183	14	Nil

Number of Post-war houses erected from 1st April 1945 to 31st December 1970.

By local authority 461
 By private enterprise 1469

Houses required:

- (i) To replace houses scheduled for demolition - nil
- (ii) To abate overcrowding - nil
- (iii) For other purposes - Old people and applicants on the Council's list
- (iv) Applications for council houses at end of year
 - (a) Urgent bona fide cases - 97
 - (b) Applications for Old People's dwellings - 145
 - (c) Others (pre-qualification period of one year) - 68

TOTAL 310

PERMANENT DWELLINGS

Number of Permanent Dwell- ings in district as at 31.12.69 (a)		<u>GAINED</u>			Total (a) & (b)	<u>LOST</u> Less houses				Number of Permanent Dwellings in district as at 31.12.70
		a) Erected b) Conversion c) Council houses sold to P.E. during 1970 (b)				a) Demolished b) Closed c) Sold during 1970 d) Conversion				
		A	B	C		A	B	C	D	
L.A.	501	88	Nil	-	589	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	589
P.E.	4107	80	14	Nil	4201	13	1	-	Nil	4187
Totals	4608	168	14	Nil	4790	13	1	-	Nil	4776

<u>OLD PEOPLE'S DWELLINGS</u>			
Total Number erected to 31.12.70		Number in course of erection	
With County Council Aid	Without County Council Aid	With County Council Aid	Without County Council Aid
Wains Close 20	Beaconsfield Road 21	Nil	Kenn Road 10
Hansons Way 18	Wills Houses, 12		
Searle Court 20	Churchill Ave.		
Cherry Ave. 18	The Elms, Princes Road 9		

IMPROVEMENT GRANTS TO PRIVATE OWNERS

Received		Approved	
Appli- cations	No. of Dwellings	Appli- cations	No. of Dwellings
Improvement Grants 23	44	22	42
Standard Grants 11	11	10	10
Special Grants NIL	NIL	NIL	NIL

	<u>Standard Grant</u>	<u>Improvement Grant</u>
Total Amount of Grant approved	£1051.5s.	£26958.10s.6d.
Average Grant approved per dwelling	£105	£641

"Old Houses into New Homes" Exhibition

This exhibition was held from the 9th to the 16th May. It was based on a stone built cottage approximately 100 years old which had been improved with the aid of an improvement grant, and in the adjoining Copse Road Chapel with the kind permission and co-operation of the Trustees. The exhibition was supported by the following exhibitors:-

Coal Utilisation Council
R.G. Riddick Ltd.
South Western Gas Board
Rentokil Laboratories Ltd.
John Tyler of Clevedon
Compact D.I.Y.
J. Hardwidge Ltd.
Hartnell, Taylor and Cook
South Western Electricity Board
Wessex Builders Merchants.

Over one thousand people visited the exhibition, and the object to provide information regarding the Improvement Grants Scheme to the general public and to stimulate the interest of owner-occupiers and landlords in the improvement of their properties, was achieved. This is shown in the increased enquiries which have subsequently been received and an increase of 10 more applications for Improvement Grants and 8 more applications for Standard Grants than in the previous year. The increase in the amount of grants approved was £532 for Standard Grants and £20,041 for Improvement Grants over the 1969 figures. The increased interest in grants, which was doubtlessly stimulated by the exhibition, was continuing at the end of the year and consequently much more time is having to be spent on this work.

FOOD

MILK

Number of Registered Distributors 22

Number of Registered Dairy Premises
(other than Dairy Farms) 1

21 samples of pasteurised milk and 2 samples of untreated milk were taken by the County Health Department with the following results:-

	Satisfactory Phosphatase and Methylene Blue tests	Satisfactory Phosphatase test	Satisfactory Methylene Blue and Ring test (Brucella abortus)	Unsatisfactory Methylene Blue Test
Pasteurised Milk	21	6	-	1
Untreated Milk	-	-	2 (1 + ve) (Brucella) (Abortus)	-

The sample of untreated milk which proved positive for brucella abortus was a special one as part of an investigation into a case of human brucellosis. One cow died shortly afterwards and as repeat sampling did not reveal any other infected milk, it was concluded that this was the source of the infection. The bulk of the milk from this producer goes for pasteurisation, but a small quantity of untreated milk was being sold to local consumers. Consequently local sale of untreated milk was stopped until the herd was proved free of brucellosis.

REGISTERED PREMISES

Premises required to be registered under Section 16 of the Food and Drugs Act 1955 are as follows:-

Manufacture and retail of Ice-Cream	2
Retail of Ice-Cream	41
Preparation and manufacture of preserved meats, etc.	3

FOOD HYGIENE

Food Hygiene (General) Regulations, 1960/1962

Routine inspections have continued throughout the year and informal action taken on contraventions of regulations 6,8,9,14,17,23 and 24.

Food premises subject to these Regulations are as follows:-

- (a) Number of premises - 143
- (b) Number of premises fitted to comply with Reg. 16 - 143
- (c) Number of premises to which Reg. 19 applies - 125
- (d) Number of premises fitted to comply with Reg. 19 - 125

MEAT AND FOOD INSPECTION

Slaughterhouses Act 1958

A comprehensive report was submitted to the Council at the beginning of the year on the abattoir, the conclusions of which were:-

1. The average kill over recent years is doubtlessly the maximum that could be handled by the present facilities.
2. Additional lairage accommodation would be advantageous to provide adequate resting of animals before slaughter.
3. Facilities for the emptying of paunches and intestines completely separate from the killing and dressing floors would aid the production of clean meat and so breach a link in the chain of salmonella infections.

The abattoir is owned by the Council and leased to a Butcher who held a slaughterhouse licence to the 31st July, 1970, on which date the lease of the premises expired. The Council resolved that the lease would be renewed for seven years on condition that the Lessee undertook to provide additional lairage accommodation and a guttery. This he accepted to do, but as the necessary work had not been carried out at the time the lease and slaughterhouse licence expired, the lease was renewed for a period of six months and a slaughterhouse licence granted for the same period to enable him to comply.

Slaughter of Animals Act 1958

Slaughter of Animals (Prevention of Cruelty) Regulations 1958

Four slaughtermen were granted the renewal of their licences to slaughter cattle, sheep, swine and goats, by means of a captive bolt humane killer or electrolethaler.

As the Council have no permanent representative at the abattoir supervision can only be exercised spasmodically when meat inspection is being carried out and by intermittent visits when other duties allow. No contraventions of the Regulations were observed at these times.

The Slaughterhouses (Hygiene) Regulations 1958, 1959 and 1966

Internal redecoration of parts of the abattoir was carried out during the year together with repairs to the floors by the Lessee.

Periodic inspections by the Divisional Veterinary Officer of the Ministry of Agriculture Fisheries and Food were satisfactory with only minor matters referred for attention. Particular attention is paid to the cleanliness of the premises and the equipment together with the hygienic storage and handling of the meat.

The Meat (Sterilization) Regulations 1969

Arrangements for the collection and disposal of condemned meat and offals to a Bristol processor have worked well during the year. Regular collections are made and a special lockable container is provided by the processor marked in accordance with the Regulations.

The Meat Inspection Regulations 1963/1966

Two qualified inspectors were employed for the whole year. Meat inspection sessions were usually confined to weekdays, but occasional weekend duties were necessary to deal with casualty slaughter or high seasonal demands for meat. A substantial amount of evening duty after normal working hours to deal with late arrivals of calves from the markets was necessary. All the meat is inspected at the end of each day's kill.

Carcasses and offal inspected and condemned in whole or in part during year:

	Cattle excluding cows	Cows	Calves	Sheep and Lambs	Pigs
Number killed	667	70	1914	3301	2685
Number inspected	667	70	1914	3301	2685
<u>All Diseases except Tuberculosis and Cysticerci</u>					
Whole carcasses condemned	-	3	13	2	2
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	233	61	68	746	674
Percentage of the number inspected affected with disease other than tuberculosis and cysticerci	34.93%	91.43%	4.23%	22.60%	25.18%
<u>Tuberculosis only</u>					
Whole carcasses condemned	-	-	-	-	-
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	-	-	-	-	2
Percentage of the number inspected affected with tuberculosis	-	-	-	-	.07%
<u>Cysticercosis</u>					
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	1	NIL	NIL	NIL	NIL
Carcasses submitted to treatment refrigeration	1	-	-	-	-
Generalised and totally condemned	-	-	-	-	-
<u>Weight of Meat condemned (in lbs.) for:</u>					
(a) Tuberculosis	-	-	-	-	20
(b) Cysticercosis	50	-	-	-	-
(c) Other	2064	2610	1078	884	1622
Total (in lbs.) condemned:	2114	2610	1078	884	1642

THE INCOME DERIVED FROM CHARGES FOR MEAT INSPECTION DURING THE FINANCIAL YEAR
WAS £309

FASCIOLIASIS

Rejection Rates of Bovine and Sheep Livers

	Throughput	Whole Livers		Part Livers	
		Total affected	%	Total affected	%
Bovine Livers	737	57	8	151	21
Sheep Livers	3301	150	5	549	16

The above table again shows the very high rejection rate for this disease with the consequent loss of food the total weight of which is over half a ton. There is, however, quite an improvement on last years figures as the following table shows:-

	Percentage of Liver and Part Livers Condemedned	
	<u>1969</u>	<u>1970</u>
Bovine Livers	43%	28%
Sheep Livers	48%	21%

This may be due to a number of factors, such as:

1. Lower rainfall resulting in a reduction in the flooding of the low lying flat areas of the County, thus denying the amphibious mud snail the intermediate host in the life cycle of *Fasciola Hepatica*, the causative parasite, its ideal breeding grounds.
2. Drainage work and chemical treatment of pastureland although this would only result in a gradual improvement.
3. Treatment of stock by farmers, but if this is the case they have had a change of heart over this problem because for some reason they have been loath to do this in the past. Sheer economic necessity may however, have influenced them, because apart from liver condemnations the stock losses from Fascioliasis are also very high. Further research is being done it is understood on new drugs which it is hoped will prove much more effective in controlling this disease than those at present available.

Extraneous Matter in Food and Food Complaints

The Somerset County Council are the Food and Drugs Authority for the district, and there is a close working liaison with the Weights and Measures Department, regarding food complaints where action under Section 2 of the Food and Drugs Act, 1955, is indicated.

There were four complaints under Section 8 of the Food and Drugs Act, 1955, where the complainants considered the articles to be unfit. Two of these were dealt with informally; there being insufficient evidence to proceed otherwise. The other two complaints were dealt with formally with written warnings to the firms involved.

In addition to investigations carried out as a result of complainants residing in the urban district there were three requests from Public Health Departments in other parts of the country, to investigate complaints they had had regarding contamination of certain foodstuffs manufactured by a large Clevedon food manufacturer. In each case a full investigation was carried out at the factory with the co-operation of the firm's Director of Productivity and Development and the resultant information supplied to the local authority. This Department could find no infringements as a result of these investigations and the respective authorities were informed accordingly.

Cleanliness of Milk Vessels

Only one complaint was received regarding the unsatisfactory state of cleanliness of the inside surface of a full one pint milk bottle. The Milk and Dairies (General) Regulations require that all milk distributors must ensure that every vessel used for milk shall be in a state of thorough cleanliness. In this particular case the cap of the bottle was undisturbed and the inside of the bottle had a greenish-brown deposit adhering to it. Representatives of the Company concerned said that a number of precautions are taken at the bottling plant as well as through washing; these include inspection by full-time scrutineers at the bottling plant and incentive payments to roundsmen to detect dirty bottles before delivery.

The legal responsibility for ensuring that bottles are clean before they are filled with milk is on the owners of the bottling plants and in most cases this responsibility is taken seriously and they go to great lengths to ensure a clean product. It is nevertheless a fact, however, that many bottles are returned to the cleansing plant in a deplorable condition either encrusted with mould or algae growths due to neglected storage before being returned to the roundsman, or stained and discoloured due to use by the householder for purposes other than the storage of milk. While milk is still delivered in returnable containers this will continue to be a source of complaint unless every person who enjoys his or her daily "pinta" makes sure that the bottle is washed out and returned to the milk roundsman as soon as possible after consumption.

The alternative is milk in disposable cartons which despite its hygienic advantages, does not seem to appeal to the British housewife and has at present, only a limited sale.

Other Foodstuffs Condemned and Voluntarily Surrendered

During the year 187 lbs. of food was inspected, found to be unfit for human consumption and voluntarily surrendered for disposal by the Council. This figure is considerably less than last year's (760 lbs.) but as is usual the largest proportion can be attributed to the failure of frozen food cabinets which often occurs at night or over the weekend when there are no staff in attendance. In such cases the foodstuffs gradually thaw out and become soft and cannot be re-frozen without considerable loss of quality and in some cases decomposition has already set in.

RODENT CONTROL

Prevention of Damage by Pests Act 1949

	Type of Property	
	Non-Agricultural	Agricultural
Number of properties in district	5568	27
Total number of properties (including nearby premises) inspected following notification	68	-
Number infested by (i) Rats	36	-
(ii) Mice	22	-

All treatments are carried out by a contractor on behalf of the Council, and regular inspections and treatments of the foreshore, river banks, open spaces and the Council's refuse tip are made. The treatments of business premises are not included in the Council's contract, but are dealt with by the contractor by arrangement with the firms concerned.

Regular routine treatments were as follows:-

The Refuse Tip - This was visited at fortnightly intervals throughout the year and treatment of infestations were found necessary on five occasions.

The River banks - This involves approximately eight miles of river banks on the urban sections of the Rivers Land Yeo and Middle Yeo. Inspections were carried out twice during the year and on each occasion rat infestations found ~~were dealt with.~~

The Foreshore - During the year eight visits were made and it was necessary to treat on only one occasion.

Council premises other than Council dwelling houses - Eight inspections were made during the year and on one occasion an infestation of mice was found and dealt with at the Council House.

Sewer baiting was carried out by the Council's contractor in May using a combined test bait and poison bait (Biotrol-Warfarin in whole grain with mineral oil as a preservative). Prior to treatment by the contractor, the Engineer and Surveyor's Department located and lifted the 37 sewer manholes selected because in the past, trouble had been experienced with jammed covers due to road tar and chippings and the fact that some of the covers had not been removed for many years.

Of the manholes baited four showed partial takes of the bait and these were re-baited until no further evidence of infestation was found.

Pest Control

The following complaints were received during the year and action taken to deal with them.

Wasps	40
Fleas	2
Cockroaches	2
Ants	1

Wasps

The Council's contractors undertake the destruction of wasps nests and the service is free to ratepayers.

Fleas

Two of the complaints received were dealt with by the contractor and charged to the occupiers. In both cases the fleas were animal in origin and in the late summer and autumn months there were a large number of complaints all found to be due to catfleas which are prolific at this time of the year. In all of these cases advice was given to the householders concerned on methods of treatment and no further action was necessary.

CARAVAN SITES AND CONTROL OF DEVELOPMENT ACT 1960

	PERMANENT RESIDENTIAL	SEASONAL HOLIDAY
Number of single caravans licensed	NIL	NIL
Number of licensed sites in respect of more than one caravan	1	1
Number of caravans on licensed sites	40	41
Number of unlicensed sites in respect of more than one caravan	NIL	2
Number of caravans on unlicensed sites	NIL	40
Number of unlicensed caravan/ camping sites used by exempted organisations	NIL	2

At the beginning of the year, none of the caravan sites within the urban district were licensed under the provisions of the Caravan Sites and Control of Development Act 1960, although all were established before the Act came into operation. Standards were drawn up based on the model standards issued by the Ministry of Housing and Local Government, and those of neighbouring Local Authorities and adopted by the Council. Investigations were made into the conditions at all the sites and the information obtained was used when attaching conditions to the two site licences issued during the year.

One of the sites was being used as a fully residential site but enquiries revealed that it had planning permission for part holiday and part residential use. An application was received after planning permission had been granted for full residential use thus regularising the position.

The site licences issued required that the sites complied with the Council's Standard Conditions and for that purpose time limits for those conditions not already met were agreed with the operators and made a condition of the Licences.

The proprietors of the other two unlicensed sites had not submitted their applications by the end of the year. In one case it was agreed with the operator to defer the submission of an application until extensive works had been carried out on his adjoining holiday site as the facilities would be shared. In addition this site is used for touring caravans and camping and special standards will be drafted for submission to the Council next year.

In the other case the proprietor failed to submit an application by the end of the year after repeated warnings and formal action on this default will be taken next year.

The proprietors of the two other sites held certificates issued by an exempted organisation, and did not therefore, require licensing under the Act.

CLEAN AIR

Clean Air Acts 1956 and 1968

General Atmospheric Pollution

Observations show heavy smoke emissions from domestic chimneys in the lower parts of the district during the winter months. As there exists an apparatus for the volumetric assessment of smoke and sulphur dioxide which was purchased some years ago, it is proposed to set up next year a monitoring station to assess the problem. As the records from this station would probably be of use in the national survey of air pollution the Warren Spring Laboratory of the Department of Trade and Industry who are responsible for it will be contacted and the information obtained offered to them.

Factory Chimneys

Complaints received of the emission of dark smoke from factory chimneys have been less than in the previous year. Observations have however, been maintained and informal action has been necessary on several occasions. The main source of complaint has been the chimney of a large incinerator plant, and this has been due to overloading following the accumulation of large quantities of refuse when the plant has been closed down for short periods. The problem is appreciated by the Management who have taken immediate action following representations and no formal action has been considered necessary.

No plans for the erection of new chimneys of fuel burning plant requiring checks to be made to ensure sufficient height to prevent nuisance from smoke and fumes, were received during the year.

Smoke Nuisances from Garden Bonfires

The campaign started last year to circularise persons causing smoke nuisances to the inhabitants of the neighbourhood from the indiscriminate lighting of garden bonfires has resulted in some improvement. There are still, however, many householders who make a habit of regularly burning green garden refuse on unattended bonfires producing acrid smoke which is a nuisance and causes distress and discomfort to persons suffering from chest complaints. This problem will diminish considerably once it is realised how much garden refuse can be composted and subsequently used to advantage as fertilizer. Refuse which cannot successfully be composted can be taken to the Council's tip or for the prepayment of £1 up to one lorry load will be collected providing it can be easily loaded. It is also perfectly possible to burn garden refuse without causing a nuisance. This can be done by first drying out the refuse to be burned, starting a small well burning fire and feeding the refuse gradually to maintain a strong clean burning fire producing little or no smoke. Consideration should also be paid to the weather conditions when it is proposed to light the fire because even if little or no smoke is produced, nuisance can result from windbourne fly-ash and smuts.

THE OFFICES, SHOPS AND RAILWAY PREMISES ACT, 1963

Registrations and Inspections

Twenty eight premises were newly registered during the year. There were 152 premises on the register at the end of the year, employing 251 males and 441 females, a total of 692.

TABLE "A"

REGISTRATIONS AND GENERAL INSPECTIONS

Class of Premises	Number of Premises Newly Registered during the year	Total Number of Registered Premises at End of Year	Number of Registered Premises Receiving One or More General Inspections During the Year
Offices	12	45	2
Retail Shops	20	94	3
Wholesale Shops, Warehouses	1	2	-
Catering Establishments Open to the Public, Canteens	1	10	3
Fuel Storage Depots	-	1	-
TOTALS	34	152	8

TABLE "B"

Number of Visits of all kinds (including general inspections) to Registered Premises	67
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TABLE "C"

ANALYSIS OF PERSONS EMPLOYED
IN REGISTERED PREMISES BY WORKPLACE

Class of Premises	Number of Persons Employed
Offices	245
Retail Shops	361
Wholesale Shops, Warehouses	15
Catering Establishments open to the public	69
Canteens	1
Fuel Storage Depots	1
Total	692
Total Males ...	251
Total Females	441

FACTORIES

Factories Act 1961

Sanitary Accommodation Regulations 1938

Number of premises on register in which no mechanical power is employed and Sections 1, 2, 3, 4, 6 and 7 are enforced by the Local Authority NIL

Number of premises on register in which mechanical power is employed and Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority 53

Number of inspections made 4

Number of re-inspections made 7

Total 11

Defects

Found

Remedied

Sanitary Conveniences

(a) Insufficient	NIL	
(b) Unsuitable or defective	2	2
(c) Not separate for sexes	-	-
(d) Other defects...	2	2

PLANS

All plans submitted for Planning and Building Regulations approval of buildings to which the Factories Act 1961, Offices, Shops and Railway Premises Act, 1963, or the Food Hygiene (General) Regulations 1960/62 were applicable, have been scrutinised and comments made to the applicants.

PET ANIMALS ACT 1951

Two licensed premises exist in the district, and the requirements of the Act are satisfactorily complied with in each case.

ANIMAL BOARDING ESTABLISHMENTS ACT 1963

One establishment is licensed by the Council in accordance with the provisions of this Act. Regular inspections show that the conditions of the licence are fully observed and the premises satisfactorily maintained in a clean and sanitary condition.

PETROLEUM (CONSOLIDATION) ACT 1928 and 1936

Number of installations licensed at the 31st December 1970	16
Total storage capacity at the 31st December, 1970	61,700 gals
Number of underground storage tanks disposed of	12
Capacity of underground storage tanks disposed of	5,100 gals
Number of underground storage tanks transferred to diesel storage	1
Capacity of underground storage tanks transferred to diesel storage	1,000 gals
Number of new underground storage tanks installed	6.
Capacity of new underground storage tanks installed	21,000 gals
Number of visits made	64

At the ordinary meeting of the Council in December, 1969, it was resolved that all petroleum installations would be required to comply with the Home Office Model Code regarding electrical equipment and its installation by December, 1970. By this date only two of the sixteen installations had failed to comply and action was initiated to deal with these defaults.

In November a plan was approved by the Council for the replacement of four attendant operated petrol pumps with post payment self-service petrol pumps at one filling station. As the one other petrol pump at this station was a coin operated self-service pump, the new proposals converted it completely to self-service. The new installation will be operated by one attendant in a central console from which the delivery of petrol from each pump is both controlled, measured and printed bills produced electronically. Special pre-licensing and licensing conditions were drawn up and approved by the Council which included improvements to the forecourt drainage system and the installation of a petrol/oil interceptor to prevent the discharge of petrol and oil into the sewer.

Seven underground tanks the total storage capacity of one other filling station were disposed of and replaced by two new tanks of a total storage capacity of 10,000 gallons. This discontinued the use of suction lines which passed underneath the workshops and were considered a potential hazard. In addition the opportunity was taken to install a petrol/oil interceptor to prevent the discharge of petrol and oil into the sewer.

