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1964

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ANNUAL REPORT
ON THE HEALTH
OF THE
COWES URBAN DISTRICT

BY

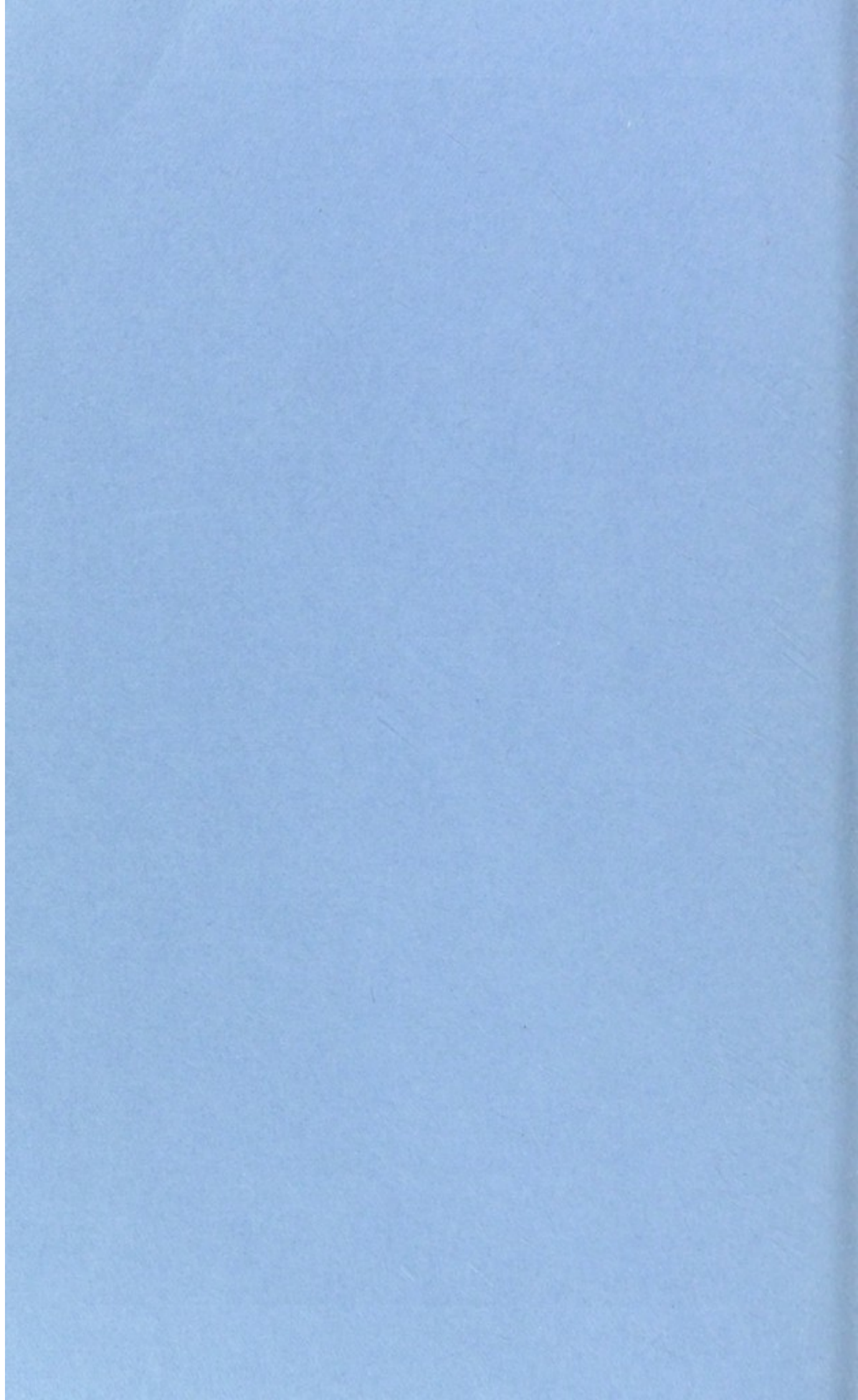
JOHN MILLS

M.D., CH.B., M.R.C.S. (ENG.), L.R.C.P. (LOND.), D.P.H.

Medical Officer of Health

ISLE OF WIGHT:

YELF BROS., LTD., PRINTERS, NEWPORT



COUNTY HALL

NEWPORT, I.W.

Tel. Newport 2261

To the Members of the Cowes Urban District Council:—

MR. CHAIRMAN AND COUNCILLORS

I have the honour to submit the Annual Report on the health of the District for the year 1964.

The Birth Rate rose from 15.5 to 17.1.

The Death Rate remained unchanged at 14.2.

The Infantile Mortality Rate again fell, from 22.6 to 13.3.

The number of deaths from cancer rose from 49 to 53. Lung cancer deaths rose from 8 to 18, sixteen occurring in men and two in women.

Two male deaths from suicide were again recorded.

No deaths from pulmonary tuberculosis were notified but two patients formerly suffering from the disease died from other causes.

Two cases of food poisoning, which proved to be of a mild nature, were notified during the year.

The cyclical outbreak of measles which had occurred in late 1963 continued until the autumn of this year, a further 223 cases being notified. There were no deaths.

No case of diphtheria or poliomyelitis was notified.

There were three cases of whooping cough.

Removal of Persons in need of Care and Attention

Under Section 47 of the National Assistance Act, 1948 it was necessary to remove two persons from their homes being in need of care and attention.

Water Supplies

The water supplies have been satisfactory in quality and quantity.

The results of bacteriological examinations were:—

<i>Satisfactory</i>	<i>Suspicious</i>	<i>Unsatisfactory</i>
148	3	6

It is probable that at least some of the unsatisfactory samples were caused by sampling errors since in all cases check samples taken a few days later were satisfactory.

The water is hard and not liable to be plumbo-solvent.
No contamination occurred.

Acknowledgment

I wish to take this opportunity of thanking the Chairman and Members of the Council for their kindness and consideration, my fellow officers in other departments for their assistance, and Mr. Woods and his Staff for their enthusiastic help and co-operation.

I am, Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

JOHN MILLS

Medical Officer of Health

PUBLIC HEALTH OFFICERS, 1964

Medical Officer of Health:—

JOHN MILLS, M.D., Ch.B., M.R.C.S. (Eng.), L.R.C.P.
(Lond.), D.P.H.

Senior Public Health Inspector:—

P. G. WOODS, M.R.S.H., M.A.P.H.I.

Additional Public Health Inspector:—

D. J. SULLIVAN, M.A.P.H.I.

Temporary Technical Assistant:—

G. WOODCOCK (Commenced 5.10.64)

Clerk:—

MISS P. M. HINDMARCH

Rodent Operative:—

C. A. F. MORRIS

GENERAL STATISTICS

Area in acres	...	...	...	...	5,542
No. of inhabited houses (end of 1964) per rate books	...	...	...	...	5,900
Rateable value, as at 1.4.64	...	...	...	...	£583,193
Sum represented by 1d. rate (1963-64)	...	...	...	...	£2,361

SOCIAL CONDITIONS

These are unchanged since the last report.

EXTRACTS FROM VITAL STATISTICS

Population (Registrar General's Figures)	...	17,590
Live birth rate per 1,000 of estimated resident population	...	17.1
Comparative factor (births)	...	1.19
Comparative Birth Rate	...	20.3
Stillbirth rate per 1,000 total (live and still) births	...	22.8
Crude death rate per 1,000 of the estimated resident population	...	14.2
Comparative factor (deaths)	...	0.86
Comparative death rate	...	12.2
Maternal mortality rate per 1,000 total (live and still births)	...	Nil
Infantile Mortality:—		
All infants per 1,000 live births	...	13.3
Legitimate infants per 1,000 legitimate births	...	13.8
Illegitimate infants per 1,000 illegitimate births	...	Nil
Deaths from Cancer (all ages)	...	53
Deaths from Measles (all ages)	...	Nil
Deaths from Whooping Cough (all ages)	...	Nil

BIRTHS

The total number of live births was 300, of which 290 were legitimate and 10 illegitimate. The live birth rate was 17.1 per 1,000 living: the birth rate for England and Wales being 18.4.

INFANTILE MORTALITY

The Infantile Mortality rate was 13.3 per 1,000 registered live births, the rate for England and Wales being 20.0.

DEATHS

The number of deaths was 249 giving a death rate of 14.2 per 1,000 of the estimated resident population. The corresponding rate for England and Wales was 11.3.

CAUSES OF DEATH	MALE	FEMALE
Tuberculosis, respiratory	—	—
Tuberculosis, other	—	—
Syphilitic disease	—	—
Diphtheria	—	—
Whooping Cough	—	—
Meningococcal infections	1	—
Acute Poliomyelitis	—	—
Measles	—	—
Other infective and parasitic diseases	—	—
Malignant neoplasm, stomach ...	1	1
Malignant neoplasm, lung, bronchus	16	2
Malignant neoplasm, breast ...	—	2
Malignant neoplasm, uterus ...	—	—
Other malignant and lymphatic neoplasms	16	15
Leukaemia, aleukaemia	1	1
Diabetes	2	1
Vascular lesions of nervous system	12	18
Coronary disease, angina	27	17
Hypertension with heart disease ...	7	3
Other heart disease	19	17
Other circulatory disease	7	2
Influenza	—	—
Pneumonia	4	7
Bronchitis	17	4
Other diseases of respiratory system	2	1
Ulcer of stomach and duodenum	1	—
Gastritis, enteritis and diarrhoea	—	—
Nephritis and nephrosis	—	—
Hyperplasia of prostate	2	—
Pregnancy, childbirth, abortion ...	—	—
Congenital malformations ...	2	1
Other defined and ill-defined diseases	8	5
Motor vehicle accidents	3	1
All other accidents	1	—
Suicide	2	—
Other violent causes	—	—
ALL CAUSES	151	98

NOTIFICATIONS OF INFECTIOUS DISEASES RECEIVED DURING THE YEAR 1964

AGE PERIODS	TUBERCULOSIS											
	New Cases						Deaths					
	Pulmonary			Non-Pulmonary			Pulmonary			Non-Pulmonary		
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
Under 1 year	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
1 and under 2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
2 "	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
3 "	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
4 "	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
5 "	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
10 "	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
15 "	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
20 "	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
25 "	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
35 "	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
45 "	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
55 "	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
65 "	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
75 "	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
75 year and over	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
TOTAL	3	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Scarlet Fever	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Diphtheria	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Dysentery	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Puerperal Pyrexia	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Pneumonia	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Erysipelas	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Whooping Cough	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Measles	6	9	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Meningococcal Infection	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Acute Poliomyelitis	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Food Poisoning	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Acute Encephalitis	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—

In addition to the cases of Tuberculosis notified within the District, 2 Pulmonary male and 2 Pulmonary female cases transferred from the mainland during the year

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE URBAN DISTRICT

As in previous years, your Senior Public Health Inspector has prepared the remainder of this Report, giving details of the inspections and general work of the Public Health Department during the year 1964.

The qualified Inspectoral staff of two remained unchanged, but it was found necessary to engage an unqualified Technical Assistant on a temporary basis to help with the additional work created in the implementation of the Offices, Shops and Railway Premises Act, 1963.

Other new legislation involving additional work for the Department included the Housing Act, 1964, the Scrap Metal Dealers Act, 1964 and the Protection from Eviction Act, 1964.

There can be little doubt that the decrease in the number of complaints of disrepair from tenants of decontrolled houses, is the result of fear of eviction by landlords.

The Protection from Eviction Act of 1964 may lessen, if not entirely remove this fear.

Some further progress has been made in re-housing families from properties already condemned, but the number of Council owned units of accommodation becoming available for re-letting, at a sufficiently low rental, are still relatively few in number, and tend to impede progress on the new five year Slum Clearance programme.

It became necessary to take legal action to secure compliance with a Nuisance Order made by the Court in connection with the improper keeping of animals, the defendant being fined £5 and £4 4s. 0d. costs.

PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTIONS IN THE AREA

These totals represent all inspections and other visits carried out by the Public Health Inspectors and the Technical Assistant.

Number of dwelling houses inspected (first inspection)	1,316
Number of dwelling houses inspected (re-inspection)	1,285
Other inspections (first inspection)	1,387
Other inspections (re-inspection)	1,083
Ineffectual visits	465
Total	5,536

NOTICES SERVED

	Informal	Formal
Public Health Acts	78	3
Food Hygiene Regulations & Food and Drugs Act	30	—
Factories Act	1	—
Offices, Shops and Railway Premises Act	78	—
Clean Air Act	3	—
Caravan Sites and Control of Development Act	3	—
Notices complied with	45	3
<i>Letters concerning:—</i>		
Housing management ... ..	...	80
Improvement Grants ... ..	...	29

DETAILS AND NUMBERS OF INSPECTIONS

Public Health Acts

Houses inspected for nuisances	1313
Verminous premises	7
Other insects	11
Ponds, ditches and watercourses	7
Tents, vans, sheds, caravans	356
Animals, pigs, poultry	71
Accumulations of refuse	29
Dustbins	11
Drainage, tested and inspected	261
Yards, passages, car parks	3

Infectious Diseases

Enquiries and Collections	248
Food Poisoning	5

Food and Drugs Act

Cafes and Restaurants	192
Butchers shops	125
Fish shops	23
Fried Fish shops	6
Greengrocers	13
Grocers	70
Bakehouses	43
Ice-cream shops, premises and vehicles	39
Cooked Meat shops	12

Licensed premises	...	...	...	...	46
Wholesale Meat premises	...	...	...	...	40
Other food premises	...	...	...	...	24
Unsound food	...	...	...	...	54
Sampling					
Ice-cream sampling	...	...	...	...	47
Water sampling	...	...	...	...	25
Housing Acts					
Certificates of Disrepair	...	...	...	...	1
Overcrowding	...	...	...	...	—
Section 9. Inspections	...	...	...	...	—
Section 16. Inspections	...	...	...	...	—
Inspections re Clearance areas	...	...	...	...	7
Council Houses					
Inspections	...	...	...	...	326
Housing applicants	...	...	...	...	181
Housing enquiries	...	...	...	...	87
Conditions of tenancy	...	...	...	...	128
Factories Act					
Inspections and enquiries (mechanical power)	...	...	...	...	39
Inspections and enquiries (non-mechanical power)	...	...	...	...	—
Clean Air Act					
Observations and visits	...	...	...	...	24
Shops Act					
Inspections and enquiries	...	...	...	...	99
Miscellaneous					
Schools	...	...	...	...	1
Holiday Camps, etc.	...	...	...	...	18
Public Conveniences	...	...	...	...	12
Rodent Control	...	...	...	...	20
Visits to owners or builders	...	...	...	...	311
Bathing establishments	...	...	...	...	26
Searches (Land Registry)	...	...	...	...	28
Improvement Grants	...	...	...	...	232
Pet Animals Act	...	...	...	...	2
Oil Burners (Standards) Act	...	...	...	...	4
Heating Appliances Regulations	...	...	...	...	3
Food complaints	...	...	...	...	9
Fairs	...	...	...	...	2
Hairdressers Premises	...	...	...	...	14
Magistrates Court	...	...	...	...	1

Rent Act	5
National Assistance Act, 1948	2
Animals Boarding Establishments Act ...	2
Ineffectual visits	465
Total	<u>5,536</u>

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES

The Public Health Inspectors continued their general duties of investigating complaints, securing the abatement of statutory nuisances and dealing with contraventions of the Public Health and other Acts. In this connection 736 complaints were received from members of the public.

Particulars of the various nuisances and defects remedied in properties totalling 276 are tabulated below:—

Doors, windows, frames, floors, sashcords repaired	14
Grates, flues, chimneys repaired	1
Gutters, roofs and rainwater pipes repaired ...	17
Defective and/or choked drains remedied ...	36
Water closets and flushing cisterns repaired or renewed	9
Accumulations of refuse removed	19
Wall and ceiling plasters repaired	8
Sinks repaired or renewed	3
New water supplies provided	1
Defective walls and pointing repaired	2
Dampness abated	12
Septic tanks and cesspools emptied	115
Vermin eradicated	5
Disinfection of bedding following disease ...	2
Artificial lighting	1
Hot water supply installed	9
Protection of food	5
Decorations in food premises	8
Cleansing	2
Yard paving repaired	2
Dustbins provided	3
New sanitary accommodation provided ...	1
Animal nuisance abated	1

RODENT CONTROL

359 complaints of infestation by rodents were made to the Public Health Department during the year and the following inspections and treatments were carried out:—

	Private Houses	Business Premises		Council-owned Premises		Agricultural Premises		Sewer Treatments	Hospitals and Schools
		C*	N/C*	D.H.*	O.P.*	C*	N/C*		
<i>Initial Visits</i>									
Rats	385	111	121	35	61	39	40	52	16
Mice	71	80	19	16	3	3	—	—	8
Totals	456	191	140	51	64	42	40	52	24
<i>Re-visits</i>									
Rats	1255	282	56	127	193	170	—	52	41
Mice	301	260	6	60	15	14	—	—	27
Totals	1556	542	62	187	208	184	—	52	68
Grand Totals	2012	733	202	238	272	226	40	104	92

C*—Contract N/C*—Non Contract D.H.*—Dwelling Houses
O.P.*—Other Premises

716 minor rat infestations and 241 minor mice infestations were dealt with.

After treatment by poisoning with warfarin, the bodies of 516 rats and 103 mice were recovered and destroyed.

The two major rat infestations shown above were at a farm and at the Local Authority's refuse tip.

At the farm, it appeared that neglect of methods of extermination on the death of the farmer, had resulted in an inevitable build-up in the rat population. A request for assistance from the farmer's widow resulted in the Department accepting the work of extermination at a fee, on an annual contract basis.

In the case of the refuse tip, it became apparent during the autumn that the quarterly treatment for the extermination of rats was insufficiently frequent. Intensive treatment resulted in an acceptable degree of destruction, in fact 49 bodies were recovered on one occasion, and it is now arranged that monthly inspections are made and such treatment as is necessary is carried out.

VERMIN AND INSECT CONTROL

On consideration of Governmental advice by Circulars and of information and advice contained in World Health Organisation reports on this subject, it has not been found necessary to discontinue the use of either of the insecticides used by the Department.

No charge is made by this Authority for general disinfection services.

Only seven complaints of the presence of fleas in private houses were dealt with during the year, and extermination of cockroaches and other beetles, woodlice, silverfish, ants etc. totalled 52 cases.

Whilst not approaching the record total of 116 in one summer, 53 wasps nests were destroyed by the staff of the Department and a proprietary form of Sodium-Cyanide powder was used for the purpose.

No case of the presence of bed-bugs or lice was reported.

DRAINAGE

(a) *General*

Since the appointment by this Council of a Building Inspector, the Public Health Inspectors deal only with the inspection and supervision of repairs to existing drains, usually following service of notices by the Department.

In this connection, 261 inspections were made. Tests are carried out where considered necessary and where it is practicable to do so.

(b) *Public Sewers Vested in the Local Authority*

Section 24 of the Public Health Act 1936 governs the procedure in connection with this type of "combined drain" and three such sewers—serving seven houses—were found to be defective and repaired on a rechargeable basis. In one case the cost of repair was the responsibility of the Local Authority, the point of defect being outside the curtilage of either of the two properties served by the "public sewer".

Clearance of 16 stoppages in such sewers—serving 40 houses—was effected at the expense of the Local Authority.

HOUSING

An abstract from the statement submitted to the Ministry of Housing and Local Government is summarised below:—

HOUSING ACT, 1957

1.	HOUSES DEMOLISHED OR CLOSED						
	Demolished or closed as a result of formal or informal procedure						
	Closed	...	...	...	...	...	Nil
	Demolished	...	...	...	...	...	1
2.	REPAIRS						
	Unfit houses rendered fit and houses in which defects were remedied during the year as a result of informal action under the Housing and Public Health Acts	...	...	...	...	...	134
3.	PUBLIC HEALTH ACTS. FORMAL ACTION						
	Housing in which defects were remedied:—						
	(a) By owners	...	...	...	...	...	Nil
	(b) By Local Authorities in default of owners						Nil
4.	HOUSING ACT, 1957. FORMAL ACTION						
	Housing in which defects were remedied:—						
	(a) By owners	...	...	...	...	...	Nil
	(b) By Local Authorities in default of owners						Nil

COUNCIL HOUSING

The practice of dividing the administration of this work between the Clerk's Department and the Public Health Department continues as in previous years.

722 visits and inspections were carried out in connection with all housing management matters delegated to the department. This figure included 326 inspections of houses to determine their condition of repair, overcrowding, decoration, observance of Conditions of Tenancy and whether the premises were maintained in a cleanly condition.

During the year the Council approved plans for providing a block of 24 flatlets for old people, with integral accommodation for a resident Warden. Building is to commence in the spring of 1965.

The number of new houses built within the Urban District during the year was as follows:—

Local Authority ...	15 houses
Housing Associations	Nil houses
Private Enterprise ...	118 houses
<hr/>	
TOTAL ...	133 houses
<hr/>	

IMPROVEMENT GRANTS

Although this Council again agreed to accept applications for Discretionary Grants, no application was received during the year.

One payment of £131 14s. 0d. was made in connection with an application approved during the previous year.

51 applications were received for Standard Grants, 46 from Owner/Occupiers and 5 from Landlords of tenanted houses, none of which were refused, but in one case the applicant decided to withdraw his application on being informed of the full requirements to render his application acceptable for grant payment.

A break-down of the details of facilities provided during the year, not of the 51 newly approved applications, but of the work actually carried out as the result of 62 previous and current approvals, is thought to be of interest and is appended:—

Amenities provided:—

(a) Fixed bath	...	...	...	...	53
(b) Shower	...	...	...	...	Nil
(c) Wash Hand basin	...	...	...	...	54
(d) Hot water supply (to any fittings)	...	...	...	...	59
(e) Water Closet (1) within the dwelling	...	...	...	...	47
(2) accessible from the dwelling	...	...	...	...	Nil
(f) Food store	...	...	...	...	52

The following payments were made during the year:—

Standard Grants paid 62. Total Cost £7,288 8s. 0d.

RENT ACT, 1957

One application was received for a Certificate of Disrepair.

After intimation to the Landlord of the Council's intention to issue a Certificate, an Undertaking to execute the works specified in that notice within six months was accepted, and the Certificate of Disrepair was not served.

COMMON LODGING HOUSES

There are no registered Common Lodging Houses in this district.

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD PREMISES

The number of premises subject to the provisions of the Food Hygiene Regulations 1955 and 1960 is appended:—

Restaurants, kiosks, canteens	33
Butchers shops	18
Fishmongers, Poulterers and fried fish shops	10
Greengrocers and Fruiterers	16
Grocers	76
Bakehouses, bakers and confectioners ...	9
Cooked meat shops	4
Licensed premises	27
Meat storage depots	4
Hotels and Clubs	15
Confectioners (sweets)	22

684 visits and inspections were made in connection with food premises to which the Food Hygiene Regulations apply.

The following items included in informal notices indicate the defects and contraventions found as a result of the original inspections.

Number of notices served	30
Defects and contraventions specified in notices:—	
Cleansing enforced	2
Redecoration	8
Wall and ceiling plaster repaired	8
Protection of foods	5
Wash-hand basins provided	2
Sinks provided or improved	3
Sanitary conveniences defective or insufficient	9
New sanitary accommodation provided ...	1
New dustbins provided	3

UN SOUND FOOD

The amounts of various foods which were condemned as unfit for human consumption and voluntarily surrendered during the year under review are given below:—

Tins and jars of fish, fruit, vegetables, milk and cooked meats, to a total weight of	Tons	Cwts.	Qtrs.	St.	lbs.	ozs.
Bacon	6	3	0	1	13	0
Poultry	3	0	0	12	11	
Frozen Foods	2	1	1	13	4	
Fish			1	4	0	
Sausages		3	0	6	0	
Meat and Offal	10	0	0	9	14	
GRAND TOTAL	1	3	2	1	3	10

Refrigerator breakdowns, by reason of electrical faults, accounted for the majority of the condemnation of Frozen Foods included above.

FOOD AND DRUGS ACT, 1955

i Milk

There are 55 registered milk dealers and 5 Dairies in the District.

Samples of milk were taken during the year from herds whose milk is retailed raw without heat treatment. These samples were examined at the Public Health Laboratory, Portsmouth, for the presence of live Tubercle Bacilli.

Number of samples taken for T.B. during 1964	...	80
Number of samples found to be positive	...	Nil
Number of samples found to be negative	...	80
Number of samples in which Brucella Abortus was isolated	...	Nil

ii Ice-Cream

The number of premises registered in this district for the manufacture, storage and sale of ice-cream is 113.

No new registrations were made during 1964.

47 samples of ice-cream were taken for bacteriological examination, the results of which were as follows:—

Grade I	...	...	31 samples
Grade II	...	...	11 samples
Grade III	...	...	4 samples
Grade IV	...	...	1 sample

Of the above, accepting both Grade I and Grade II results as satisfactory, the usual high percentage has been maintained, indeed, a rather higher percentage than would normally be expected, allowing for all the potential sources of minor forms of non-pathogenic contamination.

The Grade III sample results, all of soft ice-cream were, with one exception, found to be due to new, seasonal staff having had insufficient instruction in the thorough cleaning of machinery. The fourth case was inexplicable as previous and subsequent samples all produced Grade I results.

The one Grade IV result was found after intensive investigation to have been caused by a worn neoprene washer in the soft ice-cream machine. After renewal of this particular washer, satisfactory samples were produced.

FOOD AND DRUGS SAMPLING

The following samples of food and drugs were taken in the Cowes Urban District by the Isle of Wight County Council, who are the Food and Drugs Authority for the area:—

<i>Article Sampled</i>				<i>No. of samples obtained</i>	<i>Unsatis- factory</i>
Milk	...	...	...	68 (60 Raw, 8 Past.)	6
Syrup of Figs	...	...	...	1	—
Cough Mixture	...	...	...	5	—
Chocolate Roll	...	...	...	1	—
Coconut Ice	...	...	...	1	—
Rum and Raisin Fudge	...	...	...	1	—
Lemon Crystals	...	...	...	1	—
Rock	...	...	...	1	—
Home made cream toffees	...	...	...	1	—
TOTALS				80	6

I am indebted to the Sampling Officer of the Isle of Wight County Council for these figures.

FOOD COMPLAINTS

Only four complaints of food alleged to be unfit for human consumption, were received during the year.

Of these, two were of the presence of wasps in food, the first in a loaf of bread and the second in a doughnut. A warning was issued in each instance.

The third case was of a Steak and Kidney pie showing mould growth on the outer surface of the upper crust. The condition appeared to have been the result of improper handling methods, particularly of "stock rotation". The vendor received a formal warning to exercise greater care in the future.

The fourth case referred to an "unsatisfactory" meal taken in a local restaurant, which, on investigation, was not substantiated.

Experience has shown that a number of persons complaining of unfit or contaminated food, are not prepared to attend Court to give evidence of purchase in some cases on which the Local Authority would be prepared to prosecute.

Failure to produce sufficient evidence in Court would almost inevitably lead to the dismissal of an otherwise conclusive case.

FOOD POISONING

Two cases of Food Poisoning were notified during the year, but neither was confirmed on bacteriological examination of specimens.

FOOD INSPECTION

Following receipt of an instruction from the Minister of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food during the early days of the outbreak of Typhoid Fever in the Aberdeen area, all premises from which either Corned Beef or Tongue were sold, were visited in an effort to trace any stock of the identified brands suspected as being the causative agent in the outbreak and secure their withdrawal from sale.

For this purpose 243 visits were made during a three day period, and a number of the suspect tins were located.

With so much nation-wide publicity resulting from the Aberdeen outbreak and its direct "food-hygiene" implications, it was thought to be an opportune time to circularise

all food-handling establishments in the Cowes area. For this purpose over two hundred letters were addressed to employers, with the advice that the most rigorous precautions in food and personal hygiene should be exercised by their staffs at all times and emphasizing the particular dangers associated with cooked meats.

SHOPS ACT, 1950

There has been an increase in the number of shops in the district, from 314 in the previous year to 324 at the end of 1964.

99 inspections were made under the Act which included evening and Sunday observations in connection with "Closing Hours". In this particular connection the Local Authority exercise delegated powers from the Isle of Wight County Council.

On no occasion was it found necessary to serve a notice for any contravention of the Act.

OFFICES, SHOPS AND RAILWAY PREMISES ACT, 1963

With the implementation of the main provisions of this new Act in August, the services of a temporary Technical Assistant were arranged.

With the existing heavy demands on the time of the Public Health Inspectors, it would have been impossible, without this help, to have achieved the considerable progress shown in the following figures:—

<i>Class of Premises</i>	<i>No. of premises registered during the year</i>	<i>No. of registered premises receiving a general inspection during the year</i>
Offices	45	31
Retail Shops	126	80
Wholesale shops, Warehouses	7	2
Catering establishments open to the public, canteens	19	—
Fuel storage depots ...	3	—
Totals	200	113

Total number of visits by inspectors to registered premises under the Act, 239.

From inspections already carried out it has been found that few premises comply with all the requirements of this Act.

Numerous notices have been, and more will have to be served, to enforce the Act and this will necessitate many re-inspections in the future to ensure that the notices are complied with.

Periodic routine re-inspections will, of course, be necessary to see that facilities called for by the Act are properly maintained.

WATER SUPPLY

The mains water supply to the Cowes area is derived solely from the Isle of Wight Water Board, an authority upon which all local authorities on the Island have representation.

The sources of this supply remain unchanged, from the wells and boreholes in the chalk and green sand at Carisbrooke and the Bowcombe Valley, supplemented by approximately 20% per day from the local deep well at Broadfields Pumping Station.

Analyses of local water supplies show no evidence of plumbo-solvent action and no special precautions are therefore necessary. There is a natural fluoride content of rather less than .2 parts per million.

There are 5,843 dwelling houses in the area with an estimated population of 17,590, all of which are supplied from the mains.

Samples for bacteriological examination continue to be taken regularly by the staff of the Water Board and results sent to the Public Health Department. Where considered necessary check samples are taken by the Public Health Inspectors. The source of the supplies to the sub-areas included in the table below is subject to variation. The results of the 165 samples taken were:—

				<i>Satisfactory</i>	<i>Suspicious</i>	<i>Unsatisfactory</i>	<i>Total</i>
West Cowes							
Broadfields Well	...	...		4	1	2	7
Low Level Area	...	...		37	6	4	47
Tower Area	...	...	...	19	2	3	24
Newport Direct Supply		...		38	—	—	38
East Cowes							
Tower Area	...	...	...	22	—	1	23
Reservoir Area	...	...	...	18	—	1	19
Newport Direct Supply		...		7	—	—	7

It will be seen that of the 158 samples taken from consumer's taps, nine were classified as unsatisfactory, largely due to the application of a more rigorous examination standard; subsequent check samples all produced satisfactory results.

In addition to the foregoing, one sample was taken, on request, from the storage tanks of a Ministry of Defence tug under repair at a local shipyard. The sample result proved satisfactory.

SWIMMING AND PADDLING POOLS

There are no swimming pools in the district open to the general public, the only pool being in the grounds of a holiday camp, which is in continuous use by the camp visitors during the summer season, and is also used, by permission of the camp owners, for swimming instruction to the pupils of two local schools by the Isle of Wight Education Authority.

8 water samples were taken from this pool for bacteriological examination, all of which produced satisfactory results.

It is thought that the consistently satisfactory sample results throughout this summer have been due to the action taken by the owner during the close season, in providing adequate fencing around the swimming pool, thereby affording an effectual wind-break to prevent debris being blown into the water.

This he had been advised to do by the Senior Public Health Inspector and the results appear to have fully justified the suggestion.

A new amenity was provided for pool users in the form of a heating apparatus which raised the pool temperature by several degrees during colder weather.

There is also a children's paddling pool at this camp and another at a Caravan Camp. Both are fed from the Isle of Wight Water Board mains, and are mechanically chlorinated. At both sites the eight samples taken—four from each—all produced satisfactory results.

A third children's paddling pool, on East Cowes Esplanade, is owned by the Local Authority.

Hand-chlorination of the sea water used in this pool, by the daily addition of "Chlorsan" fluid, was followed by Lovibond Comparator tests to ascertain the residual chlorine content which showed an average of 0.4 parts per million per sample.

8 samples were taken for bacteriological examination, all of which proved satisfactory.

CARAVAN SITES

There are five licensed Caravan Sites in the area, three at West Cowes and two at East Cowes. These sites permit a total of 190 caravans.

The general requirements of the Caravan Sites and Control of Development Act 1960 are complied with on three of the five sites and of the other two, one is complete with the exception of a roadway and at the other, delayed by difficulty in obtaining Town Planning approval, the provision of necessary additional sanitary and allied facilities is in progress.

FACTORIES ACT, 1937

Local Authorities or "District Councils" as they are termed under the Factory Act, 1937, are responsible for administering the provisions relating to:—

Sanitary conveniences in all types of factories;

Cleanliness, overcrowding, temperature and ventilation in non-mechanical power factories; and

Homework (Outworkers)—Condition of premises in relation to health of outworkers.

A summary of the information required by the Ministry is tabulated below:—

PART I OF THE ACT

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

Premises	Number on Register	Number of		
		Inspections	Written Notices	Occupiers prosecuted
(i) Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities	2	1	—	—
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority	79	39	1	—
(iii) Other Premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding out-workers' premises)	3	—	—	—
Total	84	40	1	—

2.—CASES IN WHICH DEFECTS WERE FOUND

(If defects are discovered at the premises on two, three or more separate occasions they are reckoned as two, three or more "cases").

Particulars	Number of cases in which defects were found				Number of cases in which prosecutions were instituted
	Found	Remedied	To H.M. Inspector	By H.M. Inspector	
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	1	2	—	1	—
(b) Unsuitable or defective	—	—	—	—	—
(c) Not separate for sexes	—	—	—	—	—
Other offences against the Act (not including offences relating to Outwork)	—	—	—	—	—
Total	1	2	—	1	—

PART VIII OF THE ACT

OUTWORK. (Section 110 (1) (c) (2))

Nature of Work	Section 110			Section 111		
	No. of outworkers in August list required by Sect. 110 (1) (c)	No. of cases of default in sending lists to the Council	No. of prosecutions for failure to supply lists	No. of instances of work in unwholesome premises	Notices served	Prosecutions
Lampshades	74	—	—	—	—	—
Other classes of work	7	—	—	—	—	—
Total	81	—	—	—	—	—

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 10th inst. in relation to the above matter. I am sorry to hear that you are unable to attend to the same at present. I will endeavor to do so as soon as possible.

Very respectfully,
 J. H. [Name]

PART VII. (Continued from page 10)

No.	Name	Age	Sex	Color	Profession	Place of Birth	Married	Children
1	John Smith	45	M	W	Farmer	Ohio	Yes	3
2	Mary Jones	35	F	W	Housewife	Ohio	Yes	2
3	James Brown	25	M	W	Teacher	Ohio	No	0
4	Sarah White	20	F	W	Student	Ohio	No	0
5	Robert Black	18	M	W	Student	Ohio	No	0



