

[Report 1960] / Medical Officer of Health, Devizes Borough.

Contributors

Devizes (England). Borough Council.

Publication/Creation

1960

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BOROUGH OF DEVIZES



ANNUAL REPORT

of the
MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH
and of the
PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR

1960

RECEIVED TO THE

THOMAS L. ...



BOROUGH OF DEVIZES

PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT,
NORTHGATE HOUSE,
DEVIZES,
WILTSHIRE

To the Worshipful the Mayor, Aldermen and Councillors of the Borough of
Devizes.

Mr. Mayor, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to present my Annual Report on the state of the
Public Health in the Borough during the year 1960.

Comment upon the quality and quantity of the town water supplies,
the arrangements for sewage disposal and a description of the public swimming
bath has been requested by the Minister of Health.

During the year the Department moved to Northgate House, where,
apart from greatly improved office accommodation, car parking provision was
made; this not only improves road safety, but on market day saves much
frustration.

I wish to thank the Council's Officers for their help and the
Council and Committee Chairmen for their ready appreciation of difficulties
in the Public Health field. I also acknowledge the willing help given by
Social Welfare Workers such as the Health Visitors, the Area Welfare Officer
and the W.V.S.

I have the honour to be,
Your obedient Servant,

KENNETH J. ADAMS

Medical Officer of Health

PUBLIC HEALTH STAFF.

Medical Officer of Health :-

K.J. ADAMS, M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.P.H. (Univ Lond)

Public Health Inspector:-

K. WILDEY, M.P.H.I.A., C.R.S.I., C.G.L.I. (San.Eng.)
Royal Sanitary Institute Certificates for Meat and
other Foods Inspection and for Sanitary Science as
applied to Buildings and Public Works.

Rodent Operative :-

F.W. BARRETT (Part-time, being shared with Devizes Rural District
Council).

Health Office Clerk :-

MRS. B. HALL.

GENERAL STATISTICS.

Area in Acres	...	...	...	...	...	...	1,419.87
Population (Registrar General's Estimate)	...	...	...	...	...	...	8,380
Number of dwellings (including shops with dwelling accommodation)	...	...	...	...	...	...	2,798
Rateable Value	...	...	...	...	...	...	£112,792
Estimated Product of 1d Rate	...	...	...	...	...	...	£458


VITAL STATISTICS.

Birth and Death Rates compared with other Areas.

(Births and Deaths per 1,000 population)

						<u>Birth Rate.</u>	<u>Death Rate.</u>
Devizes Borough	...	...	...	...	...	17.37	9.55
England and Wales	...	..	...	...	...	17.1	11.5
Wiltshire	...	...	...	...	...	19.86	10.25
Devizes Rural District	..	...	...	...	...	19.92	8.44

In calculating Birth and Death Rates, area comparability factors are issued by the Registrar General to "correct" irregularities in the age and sex structure of the population, and also to take into account any high mortality due to the presence of residential institutions.



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Births and Infantile Deaths.

	Legitimate		Illegitimate		Total
	Male	Female	Male	Female	
Live Births	68	67	3	2	140
Still Births	-	5	-	-	5
Deaths under 1 year	2	1	-	1	4
Deaths under 4 weeks	1	1	-	1	3
Deaths under 1 week	1	1	-	1	3

Infantile Mortality.

The infantile mortality rate is the number of deaths among infants of under one year of age per 1,000 registered live births. There were 4 deaths among infants under one year of age to 140 births in the area. This is too small a figure to calculate for comparative purposes, an accurate infantile mortality rate. The national rate is 21.7 deaths among infants under one year of age per thousand live births and the Wiltshire rate is 19.4.

COMMUNICABLE DISEASES

The following infectious diseases were notified during the year:-

Whooping Cough	...	...	...	28
Scarlet Fever	...	...	...	11
Measles	..	...	...	2
Tuberculosis (Respiratory)			...	2

Diphtheria.

Epidemics of this disease have occurred lately in the London area, High Wycombe and Walthamstow.

There is no doubt that the Diphtheria carriers are among us again.

To Devizes parents I would advise:-

"Over the years you have done well in getting your children immunised. If you value their safety do not relax this precaution now. The prevention of diphtheria is still in your hands - the control of an epidemic is in mine. The results of your job are more satisfactory than mine.

"If we can maintain seven children in ten immunised, you need not fear a recurrence of Diphtheria in the Devizes area.

"Children should be immunised in infancy, boosted at the age of 2 years and boosted again at the age of 5 years. "

The County Council offer an immunisation scheme and I am indebted to the County Medical Officer of Health for the following figures :-

Children immunised for first time	1958	1959	1960
Aged less than one year	87	110	90
Aged one to four years	19	23	31
Aged five to nine years	3	5	12
<u>Children receiving boosting injections</u>			
Aged one to four years	29	37	47
Aged five to nine years	28	60	79
Aged ten to fourteen years	-	1	10

Whooping Cough

28 cases of this disease were notified during the year and it is likely that many more did occur but were not diagnosed because the symptoms were modified by previous vaccination; indeed, without the Whooping cough Vaccination routines it is likely that this year would have seen a very serious epidemic, with an aftermath of lung complications and deaths.

It is distressing to see that six cases of Whooping Cough occurred in children under the age of six months. This only serves to underline how infectious the disease is, how soon any passive immunity from the mother is lost by the child, and how important it is to begin vaccination against the disease by the second or third month after birth.

Under the Wiltshire County Council scheme the following number of children were vaccinated against Whooping Cough for the first time:-

Children Immunised for first time	1958	1959	1960
Aged less than one year	73	108	92
Aged one to four years	18	21	30

Smallpox.

The following vaccinations against smallpox were given during the year:-

Age Group	Under 1	1	2 - 4	5 - 14	15 or over
Vaccinations	100	3	4	6	5
Re-vaccinations	-	-	1	3	23

Tuberculosis

Two notifications of this disease were received during the year. The fight against this infection continues and I am pleased to say that no case of tuberculosis likely to be due to infected milk has occurred; this is likely to be due to the tuberculosis eradication campaign in the local cattle and to milk sampling which monthly checks the cleanliness and safety of milk and the adequacy of pasteurisation.

The Letting Committee are also well aware of the dangers which overcrowding brings to the spread of this disease and were good enough, during the year, to revise a points system for the allocation of houses, allowing adequate prominence to be given to medical reasons for re-housing.

The County Council continues to offer vaccination to 15 year old children against the disease and have extended their vaccination programme to include older children and those attending Teachers' Training Colleges. Only children who have not already had their first infection of tuberculosis when younger are vaccinated. This procedure is, of course, subject to parental consent.

The vaccination is performed against the certainty that the child will come into contact with the infection during the next ten years or so, since by the age of 25 - 30 years most persons in England have received their first natural infection of tuberculosis. Parents do not often realise this important point.

Poliomyelitis.

No case of this disease was notified.

The County Council Vaccination Campaign was extended to all persons under 40 years of age. Three doses of vaccine are necessary and, contrary to popular belief, each dose contains the same quantity of vaccine.

Brucellosis.

This disease was made notifiable for a period of three years from 1st October, 1958; no notifications were received during the year. Several routine milk samples showed positive ring tests; this merely demonstrated that cows have been infected with Brucella in the past, but the tests do not necessarily prove that the cows are giving infected milk, indeed weak positive ring tests may be given after S 19 vaccination of the cattle. No positive biological tests for Brucella abortus in routine milk samples were obtained during the year.

Scarlet Fever

Eleven cases of Scarlet Fever occurred; this disease continues to be mild.

The Prevention of Infectious Disease.

It is the duty of this Council to control and prevent the spread of infectious diseases and a multitude of routine duties under the Public Health Acts, the Food Hygiene Regulations etc. are directed to this end. Working closely with these measures, the County Council personal health services help to prevent the appearance of infections in the individual by artificially creating immunity against them. Artificial immunities now include defence against diphtheria, whooping cough, tuberculosis, poliomyelitis, and smallpox. This year, a sixth weapon was added to the armoury, immunisation against tetanus; this vaccination is usually given with whooping cough and diphtheria prophylaxis and does not necessarily mean an individual must have more injections. In a rural community, defence against tetanus infection is well worthwhile.

As it is so important that these methods of preventing infectious diseases should be given every encouragement, I was extremely pleased that discussion about a new Clinic was re-opened during the year. There are many properties which are unfit under the Housing Act, near the centre of Devizes, and it should not prove too difficult to find a suitable site.

CAUSES OF DEATH.

Lung Cancer

Three deaths were caused by Lung Cancer during the year and the national Death Rate still climbs steeply, with no indication that the peak is reached. In 1959 Lung Cancer deaths, nationally, totalled 21,063. One thousand, two hundred and forty-three more than in 1958. There is also a tremendous difference in the incidence of death between the sexes, the ratio being about six men dying to every one woman.

The statistical correlation between Lung Cancer and smoking is well known, even by school children. The tragedy is that many children start off on their "twenty year incubation period" at the age of 12 or 13 years, so that we may expect, in the 1970's, the age distribution of the disease to include more dying in the younger age groups, i.e. 40 - 45 years.

Coronary Disease

Coronary disease, which is one of the principal sources of ill-health and premature death in middle-age, has caused 22 deaths in the area. The incidence of Coronary disease is rising nationally.

SUMMARY OF DEATHS IN THE BOROUGH FOR 1960

	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>
<u>Infectious Disease:</u>	Nil	Nil
<u>Respiratory Disease.</u>		
Tuberculosis	1	Nil
Pneumonia 	7	3
Other 	2	Nil
 <u>Cancer:</u>		
Stomach	3	3
LUNG 	3	Nil
Breast	Nil	3
Other ,... 	1	6
 <u>Heart:</u>		
CORONARY DISEASE 	15	7
Brain Haemorrhage 	5	14
Other heart and circulatory disease 	13	5
Diabetes 	Nil	Nil
Gastritis, Enteritis & Diarrhoea 	Nil	1
Congenital Malformations 	Nil	1
Motor Vehicle Accidents 	Nil	Nil
Other Accidents 	2	Nil
Suicide 	1	Nil
Other defined and ill-defined diseases 	7	13
TOTAL	60	56

HOUSING AND RE-DEVELOPMENT

Analysis of Housing Demand as at 31st March, 1961.

One-bedroomed dwellings

Number of applicants who could be suitably accommodated in one-bedroomed dwellings	...	...	...	143
Add number of persons now living in three-bedroomed Council houses who could be suitably transferred to a one-bedroomed dwelling	...	...	...	66

Total demand for one-bedroomed accommodation	...	...	...	209
Subtract approximate number of one-bedroomed dwellings present and future building schemes are planned to provide :-				
	Caen Hill	110		
	Avon Terrace	<u>40</u>		
		150		-----
				150
Apparent deficiency of one-bedroomed dwellings	...	...	...	-----
				59

Two or three-bedroomed dwellings.

Number of applicants who could be suitably accommodated in two or three-bedroomed dwellings	...	...	...	102
Subtract number of three-bedroomed houses now occupied but which could be released by suitable transfers	...	...	...	66

Total demand for two or three-bedroomed dwellings	...	...	...	36
Subtract approximate number of two or three-bedroomed dwellings present and future building schemes are planned to provide:-				
	Caen Hill	60		60

Apparent surplus of two or three-bedroomed dwellings	..	...	...	-----
				24

In considering this "surplus" of two or three-bedroomed dwellings, it should be borne in mind that -

- (1) a number of applicants could not afford to pay the economic rent of the Caen Hill dwellings -
- (2) Some tenants who could be suitably transferred to a one-bedroomed dwelling may not wish to move
- (3) A number of persons at present living in property ripe for slum-clearance action have not necessarily applied to be re-housed.

Slum Clearance.

During the year representations were made for action to be taken under the Housing Acts on two blocks of properties fronting on New Park Street and Clearance Areas were declared.

Planning and Re-development.

Work on the new terrace blocks of three-bedroomed houses at Brickley Lane was completed during the year. The next housing scheme to commence will be forty, one-bedroomed flats at Avon Terrace and tenders were received for this work at the close of the year.

Provisional plans, setting out a scheme for the Caen Hill site were approved during the year, which include the building of 26 pairs of three bedroomed semi-detached houses, 8 terraced houses, 84 single-bedroomed, three-storey flats and 25 single-bedroomed two-storey flats.

Three bungalows are being built at Bricksteed Avenue from monies and land obtained from the bequests of the late Mr. S.H.Ward.

It would be wrong to conclude this section without mentioning the great progress made by the County Council and the Contractors in building the new Junior School at Nursteed. Tremendous interest is shown by an appreciative public in such a scheme and many parents have asked me questions about it.

QUALITY AND QUANTITY OF WATER SUPPLIES

There is ample quantity of potable water for the town. It is not lead solvent and the water is chlorinated at source. The raw water has been sampled on several occasions and the results are set out below:-

Unchlorinated samples from Bourton Pumping Station Rising Main

	31.12.58.	21.1.59.	31.1.59.	3.2.59.
Probable number of Coliform bacilli, MacConkey 2 days.	5	180+	Nil	Nil
Probable number of Bact. coli (Type 1)	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil

The samples show intermittent pollution with non-faecal organisms and the results are consistent with those found in small rural supplies before chlorination.

It is not possible to sample the raw water and get a true reading without stopping the chlorinators for several hours as the chlorine is delivered by hose to the foot of the bores; therefore, regular sampling of raw water is not practised.

Three matters require comment :-

1. Bacteriological Safety.

Six samples were sent for bacteriological analysis in 1960; all were taken from taps in the town and none showed evidence of pollution.

2. Deficiency of Fluorides.

Devizes drinking water at both Shepherd's Shore and Bourton sources contains natural fluoride at approximately one-tenth part per million. It is now recognised that this level is too low to prevent dental decay and that the best concentration of fluoride is one-part per million. Some waters contain this concentration naturally and at Anglesey, Kilmarnock and Watford fluoride is added to make up the best level artificially. It is interesting that just as in some under-developed Countries, various vitamin deficiencies in the diet still exist, we in this Country cannot yet obtain in our diet the correct quantity of a nutrient for healthy teeth - fluoride; worse still, we accept the high level of dental decay at present in the population as inevitable.

3. Hardness.

From chemical analysis made in 1957, the water is hard. Figures in parts per million for samples taken 28th September, 1957 from the Shepherd's Shore and Bourton sources are set out in the tables shown overleaf.

Analysis of Water	Shepherds Shore Deep Wells and Adits.	Bourton Boreholes
<u>Physical Examination</u>		
Appearance	Clear and bright	Clear and bright.
Taste	None	None
Smell	None	None
<u>General Chemical Examination.</u>		
Reaction, pH	7.3	7.2
Free Carbon Dioxide, as CO ₂ .. .	9 parts per million	22 parts per million
Ammoniacal Nitrogen, as N	less than .005 parts per million	0.04 " " "
Albuminoid Nitrogen, as N	less than .005 parts per million	0.007 " "
Nitrous Nitrogen, as N	Nil	Minute trace
Nitric Nitrogen, as N	1.4 parts per million	1.0 parts per million
Hardness (state test used - Alkalinity and EDTA as CaCO ₃) temporary permanent	203 parts per million 30 " " "	256 parts per million 24 " " "
Permanganate figure (4 hours, 80° F), as O	0.18 " " "	.02 " " "
Alkalinity, as CaCO ₃	203 " " "	.56 " " "
Total Solids	270 " " "	360 " " "
<u>Mineral Analysis.</u>		
Calcium, as Ca	88 " " "	102 " " "
Magnesium, as Mg	3 " " "	5.5 " " "
Sodium, as Na	3 " " "	11 " " "
Carbonate, as CO ₃	122 " " "	154 " " "
Chloride, as Cl	10 " " "	10.5 " " "
Sulphate, as SO ₄	15 " " "	32 " " "
Nitrate, as NO ₃	6 " " "	4.5 " " "
Iron	0.01 " " "	0.15 " " "
Fluoride....	0.11 " " "	0.09 " " "

SEWERAGE.

Sewage from the Town is treated at two Sewage Works. The Brickley Lane - Eastleigh Road - Nursted area drains to a Works shared with Roundway Hospital and the remainder of the town with the Barracks, Roundway Park Estate and the London Road, drains to the main Sewage Works at Bath Road.

Roundway Hospital Sewage Works has for many years been quite inadequate to treat the volume of sewage received by it. In April, 1960 and January, 1961 the oxygen demand of its effluent (B.O.D.) was 100 and 80 parts per million respectively. The recommended figure is less than 20 parts per million. The concentration of suspended solids was also greatly in excess of desirable standards. Extensions to this Works are now in progress and it is hoped that the Scheme will be completed by 1962.

The Bath Road Sewage Works can be said to be working almost to maximum capacity. In April 1960 and January 1961 samples of effluent have shown an oxygen demand (B.O.D.) of 46 and 21 parts per million respectively. The concentration of suspended solids is also slightly higher than recommended standards because owing to the method of construction of the Works, only part of the effluent can be passed through the humus tanks. The final effluent is irrigated over 80 acres of agricultural land in the Whistley Road area.

If further large estates such as Caen Hill add their quota of sewage to be treated at these Works, it is likely that extensions to the Bath Road Sewage Works will be required.

PUBLIC SWIMMING POOL

The Swimming Pool was constructed in 1936, at a cost of £3,500, on a site donated by Lord Roundway; it is a rectangular open-air pool, measuring one-hundred feet by thirth-five and holding 125,000 gallons of water. The depth varies from 3'0" to 8'6". The construction is of reinforced concrete; the area around the pool is paved and surrounded by a concrete-block boundary wall. There is an engine room, changing rooms, lavatories and office accommodation on the site and entry from the changing rooms to the pool is via foot baths.

The pool is emptied and re-filled each season from the town's drinking water mains. This water supply is obtained from wells and adits in chalk, or boreholes in greensand. The water in the pool is treated by continuous sand filtration, such that the total volume of water is passed through the filters once every eight hours. After filtration, the water is chlorinated and aerated with a cascade before re-entry to the pool and scum channels are situated around the walls at top water level.

The bottom is swept daily with weighted brushes and chlorination is varied, depending upon the number of bathers, to give a constant 0.2 parts per million at the pool outlet. The Department has checked this figure occasionally and I wish to compliment the pool attendant on the fact that the correct reading has always been found.

The bacteriological examination of the water is as follows:-

	23rd June 1960.	22nd August 1960.
Plate Count Yeastrel Agar 24 hrs. 37° C aerobically	nil per ml.	nil per ml.
Probable no. coliform bacilli MacConkey 2 days 37° C	nil per 100 ml.	nil per 100 ml.
Probable number Bact. Coli (type 1)	nil per 100 ml.	nil per 100 ml.

In the sections dealing with Planning, Housing, Water, Sewerage and the Public Swimming Pool, it gives me pleasure to acknowledge the assistance of Mr. R.E. Paget, Borough Surveyor, and Mr. J.E. Hopkins, Borough Housing Officer.

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Public Drinking Water

The Drinking Pool was constructed in 1950, at a cost of \$5,000, on a site donated by Lord Rensselaer; it is a rectangular open-air pool, measuring one-hundred feet by thirty-five and holding 15,000 gallons of water. The depth varies from 3'0" to 5'6". The construction is of reinforced concrete. The area around the pool is paved and surrounded by a concrete-block boundary wall. There is an engine room, changing room, restrooms and office. Accommodation on the east side of the building leads to the pool via foot paths.

The pool is supplied and controlled from the town's water mains. The water supply is obtained from wells and runs in pipes or conduits in trenches. The water in the pool is treated by chlorination and filtration, such that the total volume of water is treated and filtered once every eight hours. After filtration, the water is chlorinated and treated with a cascade before reaching the pool and each channel is situated above the water level.

The bottom is swept daily with weighted brushes and collection is varied, depending upon the number of bathers, to give a constant 0.2 parts per million of the pool outlet. The Department has checked this figure occasionally and I wish to emphasize the pool standards on the fact that contact reading has always been found.

The bacteriological examination of the water is as follows:

22nd August 1960	27th June 1960
all per ml.	all per ml.
all per 100 ml.	all per 100 ml.
all per 100 ml.	all per 100 ml.

In the sections dealing with Planning, Housing, Water, Sewerage and the Public Drinking Pool, it gives us pleasure to acknowledge the assistance of Mr. H.K. Fogel, Borough Surveyor, and Mr. J.E. Hopkins, Borough Housing Officer.



BOROUGH OF DEVIZES

PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT,
NORTHGATE HOUSE,
DEVIZES,
WILTSHIRE

THE PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR'S ANNUAL REPORT 1960

Mr. Mayor, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to present my twelfth Annual Report.

Food premises have received a good deal of attention throughout the year with many noticeable improvements. Emphasis has been particularly directed to the protection of food on display and it can be seen that the majority of food premises in Devizes are now equipped with glass screens. Several market traders use cellophane to cover food, with good hygienic results, but efforts to persuade others to provide screens for fish, meat and fruit have not been so rewarding, the chief obstacles being the cost of installation, risk of breakage and easy detachment.

Many licensed premises were inspected and improvements carried out. Beer cellars have been most neglected by certain Publicans where cleanliness seems to them to be of no importance. In some cases the sanitary conveniences are of a low standard or inadequate.

Tolerable standards of hygiene, with progressive advances in health education of food handlers and the improvement of food premises, can only be achieved by constant endeavour through frequent visits and informal talks.

There are many old houses in Devizes which, although not condemnable under the Housing Acts, are inconvenient, obsolete, and because of their cramped dimensions, incapable of being fully modernised. These must, inevitably, continue to be lived in by dissatisfied tenants, who rightly hold the view that a bathroom, internal water closet and proper food storage accommodation are everybody's right.

My appreciation is extended to the Chairman and Members of the Health and Letting Committee, for their consideration and support which they have so willingly given at all times in solving the many problems which arise from time to time.

I am, Mr. Mayor, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

K. WILDEY

Public Health Inspector

Food Premises

There are 160 food premises in the Borough, excluding traders who have stalls in Devizes Market.

Food premises registered under the Food and Drugs Act, 1955 and the Milk and Dairies (General) Regulations, 1959:-

Fried Fish Shops	Prepared Meat Premises	Dairies	Premises for sale of ice-cream
4	10	4	40

Two dealers are registered for manufacturing ice-cream; both produce ice-cream by the cold mix method.

Milk Sampling

Samples of milk were submitted to the Pathologist at Salisbury for testing, the results were as follows :-

Test	Results
<u>Methylene Blue</u> (for keeping quality and cleanliness)	Satisfactory 64
	Unsatisfactory 4
	Bottles broken in transit 2
<u>Bacteriological</u> (for presence of tuberculosis)	Satisfactory 19
	Unsatisfactory -
	Unknown 7*

* guinea pigs died of intercurrent infection.

Nine washed bottles were submitted for a cleanliness test, all of which were within the cleanliness standard.

Meat Inspection

The Central Wiltshire Bacon Factory which closed on the 4th October, 1960 was the only slaughterhouse operating in the Borough. The 4,658 pigs slaughtered up to that period were inspected post-mortem, according to the method recommended by the Ministry of Food Memorandum 3/Meat.

Pig/Carcases/Organs or parts condemned as unfit for human consumption were as follows :-

	Tuberculosis	All Diseases except Tuberculosis
Whole pigs	1	9
Parts of Carcasses	97	5
Heads	-	3
Internal organs	-	247
Percentage of number inspected affected	1.80%	5.66%

Carcases condemned due to diseases, other than tuberculosis were :-

Pyæmia	.. .. .	4
Septicæmia	.. .. .	1
Acute Fever	.. .. .	1
Malignant neoplasms	.. .. .	2
Oedema	.. .. .	1

The Diseases of Animals (Waste Food) Order, 1957

There are only two pig breeders in the Borough who collect and boil waste food for animal feeding. These premises have been visited once a month owing to the number of outbreaks of foot and mouth disease in Wiltshire and the adjoining Counties. The temperature of the steam boiling operations were checked on several occasions and always found to be satisfactory. Cleaning and lime-washing of walls and ceilings of the boiling sheds of both premises were done in the latter part of the year.

Condemned Food

The following food has been inspected and confiscated as unfit for human consumption :-

Canned Food	No.	Bottled Food	No.	Packets	No.
Baby Food	5	Cockles	2	Jelly	1
Barley	2	Jam	6	Nestea	1
Bournvita	1	Marmalade	2	Suet	1
cream	2	Sunfresh			
rice pudding	15	Squash	3		
coffee	1	Mincemeat	1		
fruit	80	Paste	1		
fish	5	Quosh	1		
milk	36				
meat	104				
Milo	1				
fruit pudding	1				
Nescafe	1				
Ovaltine	1				
sweet corn	1				
spaghetti	1				
soup	15				
vegetables	104				
chicory	2				

Food Poisoning

No cases of food poisoning were notified during the year.

HOUSING

The following improvement grants have been received and dealt with by the Devizes Borough Council under the Housing Acts 1949-1959.

Discretionary Grants 1951 - 1960

No. of applications received	No. of applications approved	No. of Schemes completed	No. of Schemes in progress	No. of Schemes outstanding.	Total cost of proposed schemes £.	Total grants Offered £.	Grants Paid £.
22	21	13	3	5	7,906	3,171	2,351.

In addition to the above, 24 Alms Houses were modernised at a cost of £3,835.

Standard Grants 1960

No. of applications	Grant up to a maximum of	No. of Schemes Completed	No. of Schemes in Progress	No. of Amenities provided when schemes completed.				
				Bath	Hot Water Supply	W.C.	Larder	Wash Basin
12	£1,395	8	4	8	12	5	6	5

Improvement grants have given very little inducement to owners to modernise rented dwellings. The majority of the schemes reported above are for owner-occupied property.

Progress Returns forwarded to the Ministry of Housing Local Government

Number of Houses demolished :- In Clearance Areas		Displaced Persons	Displaced Families
1. Houses unfit for human habitation	29	2	1
2. Houses included by reason of bad arrangements etc. ...	-	-	-
3. Houses on land acquired under Section 43 (2) Housing Act, 1957	21	2	-
Not in Clearance Areas			
4. As a result of formal or informal procedure under Section 17(1) Housing Act, 1957	5	9	3
5. Local Authority owned houses certified unfit by Medical Officer of Health ...	-	5	1
6. Houses unfit for human habitation where action has been taken under local Acts ...	-	-	-
7. Unfit houses included in Unfitness Orders	-	-	-
Number of Unfit houses closed :-			
8. Under Sections 16(4), 17(1) and 35 (1) Housing Act, 1957	14	6	2
9. Under Sections 17(3) and 26 Housing Act, 1957 ...	-	-	-
10. Parts of buildings closed under Section 18, Housing Act, 1957	1	-	-

UNFIT HOUSES MADE FIT AND HOUSES IN WHICH DEFECTS WERE REMEDIED		
	By Owner	By Local Authority
11. After informal action by local authority	14	-
12. After formal notice under (a) Public Health Acts (b) Sections 9 and 16 Housing Act, 1957	-	-
13. Under Section 24, Housing Act, 1957	-	-
UNFIT HOUSES IN TEMPORARY USE (Housing Act, 1957)		
	Number of Houses (1)	Number of separate dwellings contained in column (1) (2)
14. Retained for temporary accommodation: (a) Under Section 48 (b) Under Section 17(2) (c) Under Section 46	- - -	- - -
15. Licensed for temporary occupation under Sections 34 or 53 ...	-	-
PURCHASE OF HOUSES BY AGREEMENT		
	Number of Houses (1)	Number of occupants of houses in Column (1) (2)
16. Houses in Clearance Areas other than those included in confirmed Clearance Orders or Compulsory Purchase Orders, purchased during the year	-	-

Disrepair Certificates

No applications for disrepair certificates were received during the year.

WATER SUPPLY

All dwelling houses in the Borough are supplied with water from the public mains. A recent survey revealed that there are 67 houses without an internal water supply and sink; these houses obtain drinking water from standpipes in the gardens or courts and in some cases one pipe is shared by many houses. Of these 67 houses, 48 have either Demolition or Closing Orders on them or are ripe for such action in the near future.

RODENT CONTROL

Your Rodent Operative carried out systematic inspection and control of vermin-infested

- (a) dwelling houses and business premises
- (b) sewers, on two occasions
- (c) sewage works on four occasions
- (d) Shepherd's Shore Water Works, on two occasions
- (e) Refuse tip, on four occasions.

He also destroyed twenty-seven wasps' nests by gassing and dealt with nine serious cluster fly infestations at dwelling houses, by spraying with insecticides.

This Council satisfactorily continues to share, on alternate weeks, the services of the Rodent Operative with the Devizes Rural District Council.

PETROLEUM (REGULATIONS) ACT, 1928 & 1936 PETROLEUM (MIXTURES) ORDER, 1929

	Number Licensed	Total Gallons	Revenue
Resale Premises	8	29,600	£. s. d. 9. 15. 0.
Private Premises	24	18,470	15. 0. 0.
	<u>32</u>	<u>48,070</u>	<u>24. 15. 0.</u>

All electrically operated and lighted petrol pumps within the Borough are now flame proof and fully in accordance with the Secretary of States Model Code.

Five disused petrol tanks have been filled solid with liquid concrete. Four new tanks have been installed in sand filled concrete vaults of approved design. The tanks were pressure tested and licences issued.

FACTORIES ACT, 1937

Part I of the Act

Premises	Number on Register	Number of		
		Inspections	Written Notices	Occupiers Prosecuted
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)
i. Factories in which Section 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities	35	21	9	Nil
ii. Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority	65	15	2	Nil
iii. Other premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding out-workers' premises)	3	3	Nil	Nil
Total	103	39	11	-

Cases in which Defects were found

Particulars	No. of cases in which defects were found				No. of cases in which prosecutions were instituted,
	Found	Remedied	Referred		
			To H.M. Inspector	By H.M. Inspector	
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)
Want of cleanliness (S.1)	3	8	-	-	-
Ineffective drainage of floors (S.6)	2	2	-	-	-
Sanitary Conveniences (S.7)					
Unsuitable or defective	5	4	-	-	-
Not separate for sexes	-	-	-	-	-
Total	15	14	Nil	Nil	Nil

