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BOROUGH OF DEVIZES

# ANNUAL REPORT

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



1962.







## 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 1962. This is the seventh year that I have served as your Medical Officer of Health, and it seemed an opportunity to alter the form of my report.

It is generally expected that the work of a Medical Officer of Health shall deal largely with the suppression of infectious disease and the work of a Public Health Inspector is concerned mostly with drains. In fact, the Public Health Officers' Regulations, 1959 lay down that I have the duty to keep myself informed as far as practicable respecting all matters affecting or likely to affect, the public health of the district and be prepared to advise you about this.

A Public Health Inspector under the same Regulations must "by inspection of his district systematically and ... as occasion requires keep himself informed of the sanitary circumstances of the district and of the nuisances therein .....". He has several other listed duties but the point I am making about your Public Health Officers is that their duties are wide, perhaps becoming more diverse as each year goes by. This should properly be reflected in an Annual Report and perhaps you will forgive me for devoting less space to infectious disease than in previous years.


I wish to thank the Council's Officers, the Council and Committee Chairmen for their help during the year and to acknowledge the assistance given me by the Health Visitors and Social Workers when there have been individual welfare problems to solve in the District.

I have the honour to be,  
Your obedient Servant,

KENNETH J. ADAMS.

Medical Officer of Health.





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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 Clerks :-

MRS. E.E. NOAKES.  
MRS. Y.F. STOREY.

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GENERAL STATISTICS

Area in Acres	....	....	....	....	....	....	1,419.87
Population (Registrar General's Estimate)	....	....	....	....	....	....	8,680
Number of dwellings (including shops with dwelling accommodation)							2,828
Rateable Value	....	....	....	....	....	....	£117,918
Estimated Product of 1d Rate		....	....	....	....	....	£470





## 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	....	....	....	18.09	9.12
England and Wales	....	....	....	18.0	11.90
Wiltshire	....	....	....	19.57	10.82
Devizes Rural District	....	....	....	19.31	9.89

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.

### Births and Infantile Deaths.

	<u>Legitimate</u>		<u>Illegitimate</u>		<u>Total</u>
	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>	
Live Births	67	78	5	4	154
Still Births	1	2	-	-	3
Deaths under 1 year	1	1	-	-	2
Deaths under 4 weeks	-	1	-	-	1
Deaths under 1 week	-	1	-	-	1

### 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 2 deaths among infants under one year of age to 154 births in the area. This is too small a figure to calculate for comparative purposes, an accurate infantile mortality rate. The national rate is 20.7 deaths among infants under one year of age per thousand live births and the Wiltshire rate is 20.67.





### Maternal Mortality

No deaths were attributed to childbirth during the year. That this state of affairs should continue needs careful planning - planning which rests partly upon the shoulders of a housing authority for several factors are combining to upset our maternal mortality experience. These are -

1. More people are getting married.
2. People are getting married younger.
3. Women are completing their families earlier in married life possibly in order to return to a career.

The number of births nationally is annually increasing and so is the demand for maternity beds. In a recent Ministry of Health report criteria were listed which a maternity case should fulfill before a home confinement is booked. These are, that :-

1. The woman's general physical state is unimpaired.
2. She is pregnant for the 2nd, 3rd or 4th time, the previous confinement having been normal and that she is under 35 years of age.
3. She is a primigravida under 30 years of age.
4. She is Rhesus positive or has no antibodies.
5. THE HOME CONDITIONS ARE SUITABLE.

It is the duty of the Council to see that this fifth condition is never in doubt, enabling maternity hospital beds to be used for cases properly admitted on medical grounds alone.

\* "Report on Confidential enquiries into Maternal Deaths in England and Wales 1958 - 1960". H.M.S.O.





## COMMUNICABLE DISEASE

The following infectious diseases were notified during the year :-

Scarlet Fever .....	29
Measles .....	3
Tuberculosis (Respiratory) .....	2
Tuberculosis (other) .....	1

The cases of Scarlet Fever had no single source, the clinical manifestations were mild, and I suspect the infection was airborne.

During the first quarter of the year, the national Smallpox epidemic provided numerous enquiries all of which needed urgent investigation by telephone. At one stage the pace of the epidemic was so fast that I made a point of listening to the B.B.C. midday news and the regional news for the area in trouble to keep up with afternoon events.

In April I received a telephone message that an adolescent living in the Town was suffering from suspected Diphtheria and had been moved to an Isolation Hospital. It is very unsatisfactory to have possible Diphtheria carriers in our midst, so a small clinic was held in Northgate House the same day, to swab and Schick test the several contacts of the patient, two of whom were members of the nursing staff. The County Medical Officer kindly seconded Miss Portch, the Health Visitor, to my staff which accelerated the work of visiting contacts, all of whom were working adolescents living in Devizes or in the Devizes Rural District. Miss Portch and your Public Health Inspector were occupied most of the day tracing these.

Subsequently the infecting organism proved not to be Diphtheria but the threat was very real at the time, the routine was necessary and the experience valuable.

In May the Mass Radiography service attended the Town Hall when 1,166 persons presented themselves for miniature X-ray. Five abnormalities were detected. While everyone knows that there are vaccination processes for Diphtheria, Whooping Cough and Poliomyelitis, the Public are not so well informed about vaccination against Tuberculosis. The Wiltshire County Council offer this as a routine procedure to 13 year old school children and others who are adolescents.

During our lives, probably before 30 years of age, most of us contract at least one natural infection of tuberculosis - such is the state of the public health. Most of us do not know it. Most of us are symptom free. Parents who allow their children to receive B.C.G. vaccination do so with the certainty that they will face a Tuberculosis infection within a few years, yet we read very little about this wonderful vaccine in the public journals.







### Infected Milk:

Seldom am I more frustrated than in the use of the Milk and Dairies (General) Regulations 1959, in the prevention of human Brucellosis or Undulant Fever. We know that the organism *Brucella abortus* causes contagious abortion in cows. We know that man can contract an unpleasant recurring illness from drinking milk from cows infected with contagious abortion. We know that pasteurisation kills the infection in milk; the administrative difficulty is in proving that raw milk is infected.

Lately S 19 vaccination of cattle prevents for the farmer the unpleasant economic aspect of repeated abortions of cows but it does not seem to prevent infected milk.

In stopping the sale of infected milk I am required to be satisfied that the *Brucella* organism has been grown from two different samples. As the result takes six weeks to come, and the infected cows excrete the organism only intermittently, I am occasionally left with one positive sample, or high titre whey agglutination tests, all of which make me suspicious, but I am in a position to prove nothing.

It is high time that Brucellosis was eradicated from dairy herds and it is also in the public interest that the law is amended to make this type of milk infection easier to deal with.

### Public Lavatories:

Those of us who use the main trunk roads must all have been appalled at times by the filthy state of every lay-by. One only has to pull up for a stretch and a snack, to face in ten minutes, the unpleasant necessity of inspecting children's shoes and clothing before they get back into the car. A question was asked in the House of Commons, 11th March 1963, about this and the Member has my sympathy.

I was pleased therefore, that this new public health menace will be kept at bay in central Wiltshire at least, by the provision of three new public lavatories in Devizes. The largest, on the Green, was open in time for the summer 'through' traffic and there is no doubt that many London drivers make Devizes their first stop, because they know these amenities are provided. Use of W.C.'s is free, hot and cold water is available at wash basins and electric points for shaving are provided.





### Public Lavatories (Contd.)

The Public Lavatory at the Wharf also contains an elsan disposal unit for the benefit of touring caravanners who may park there overnight. Misguidedly this facility is often not provided for caravans on the grounds that use of a pail closet should not be encouraged. This is false reasoning as modern caravans are equipped with toilet compartments, which on arrival, may contain sealed elsans partly full. Nothing is more unpleasant either for the caravanners or other users than to be forced to empty a pail closet in a normal W.C.

The provision of overnight parking for touring caravans in Devizes is a most progressive step. Touring caravans are on the increase and their presence on the road recently received official recognition when the Minister of Transport raised maximum towing speed to 40 m.p.h. The Caravan Manufacturers obviously see an unlimited market, having designed several caravans to be towed by the new B.M.C. Minicars. For a night halt one does not need views, but good sanitation, hardstanding and a shopping centre. In Devizes these are available.

We in Devizes who have spent much thought and money in providing these amenities for others - rarely using them ourselves - hope that by our example others may provide similar amenities for us.

### The Devizes Schools:

No comment upon matters affecting the public health of the district is complete without referring to our schools. The school buildings vary in quality. I am grateful to accept the provision of the new Southbroom Junior School which opened in 1961, and the alterations made to the Secondary Modern and Infants' School in the grounds of Southbroom House.

All Schools which have a detached lavatory block across the playground are a danger to the public health for in cold weather the plumbing freezes and conditions become impossible. There is no virtue in detaching the lavatories, an idea which dates from earth closet days and the sooner St. Peters' School and St. Joseph's School have new lavatory facilities the better.

Although there is much legislation to prevent infectious disease in schools, little has been done to encourage road safety. The Devizes Grammar School, divided into two parts by a main road, stands now our monument to procrastination. This system of schooling, the specialist subjects being taught on one side of the road and the formal class rooms on the other, will shortly lead to a serious multiple accident. When it occurs, it is likely to involve many children and there will be fatalities. The cost of a new school was to be £160,270 or approximately £400 per pupil - a small price to pay to avert much personal tragedy.





### SUMMARY OF DEATHS

				<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>
Infectious Disease:	Influenza	....	....	Nil	1
	Tuberculosis	....	....	1	Nil
	Other	....	....	Nil	Nil
Respiratory Disease:	Pneumonia	....	....	2	5
	Bronchitis	....	....	1	Nil
Heart and Circulation :	Coronary Disease		....	9	12
	Cerebral Haemorrhage		....	6	5
	Hypertension	....	....	2	3
	Other	....	....	8	6
Cancer:	Stomach	....	....	Nil	1
	Breast	....	....	Nil	2
	Lung and Bronchus		....	5	2
	Uterus	....	....	Nil	1
	Other	....	....	7	4
Gastric or Duodenal Ulcer	....	....	....	Nil	1
Gastritis and Enteritis	....	....	....	Nil	1
Congenital Malformations	....	....	....	1	Nil
Motor Vehicle Accidents	....	....	....	3	1
All other Accidents	....	....	....	1	2
Suicide	....	....	....	1	Nil
Other defined and ill-defined diseases		....		4	12
				<hr/> 51	<hr/> 59

### CAUSES OF DEATHS

#### Lung Cancer:

The number of deaths from Lung Cancer continues to rise nationally, and there is much loose thinking about the cause. Half of the Doctors in Great Britain do not now smoke, but only a quarter of the general population are non-smokers. The facts are cut and dried. For a man aged 35 years who is a heavy smoker, the chance of dying from lung cancer in the next 10 years is 1 in 23. The risk for a non-smoker is 1 in 90. You pay 4s. 6d. for twenty cigarettes and take your choice.





## HOUSING

To relate housing demand to the size of a waiting list is not the simple affair it would at first seem. Tenants of "unfit" houses do not always apply for a house, couples where families have grown up do not always wish to have smaller units, others live in an overcrowded fashion because it is cheaper, and faint hearts do not apply for a house because they feel the size of the waiting list precludes them from ever getting one. Notwithstanding these imponderables, the only prudent measure under the Council's control is to check the waiting list by reissuing application forms occasionally, and this was done in February 1963. The result somewhat surprisingly showed a big reduction in the number of applicants, so that the total number of applications at 31st March 1963 from those living or working in Devizes, was 197. For the same date last year it was 277. An analysis of these applications is set out below :-

Single persons or married couples with no children .....	76
Applicants with one child .....	55
"        "        two children .....	28
"        "        three or more children .....	12
Working in the Borough but living elsewhere .....	26
	<hr/>
	197

## SLUM CLEARANCE AND REDEVELOPMENT

During the year many of the houses on the North side of the Nursery were declared a Clearance Area. The redevelopment of this site which is easily seen from the main road needs careful thought, and the land has many owners. Perhaps a lead to the quality of housing desirable in the area is given by the Avon Terrace flats. The contract for forty of these one bedroomed flats was completed in July. This is the second occasion on which a number of small units of accommodation have been built near the town centre, and very popular these have proved to be.

Equally sought after were three more bungalows in Sedgfield Gardens, built from funds bequeathed by the late Mr. S.H. Ward. These were completed in August.

About the same time, work started on the first phase of the Caen Hill housing scheme - fifty-six three bedroomed houses. Later in the year, the Minister gave approval to the second phase - thirty one-bedroomed flats, sixty two-bedroomed flats and eight bungalows.





## Slum Clearance and Redevelopment Contd.

These smaller units are rather far out of the Town to house the elderly and, consequently, I was pleased when land adjacent to St. James' Hospital was considered for this purpose and negotiations proceeded for it.

Small schemes often proceed out of the public eye and are only obvious by the sudden appearance of a new roof here and a window there. The improvement grant schemes bring great convenience to the home and may for example, by the provision of an inside W.C. and bath, enable a person to be nursed at home or be discharged earlier from hospital.

Literally "putting its own house in order" the provision of bathrooms by the Council at Deramore Row was most welcome and I was pleased that a decision to provide modern amenities in our pre-war Council Houses was made during the year.

## WATER SUPPLIES

A description of the water supply is to be found in my Annual Report for 1960. No chemical analyses were made but samples taken during the year were bacteriologically satisfactory. There is still ample water for the Town as long as the sources are used to supply Devizes alone.

In October the North Wilts Water Board took over our functions as a water authority, but did not remove the onus under the 1936 Public Health Act "..... to take from time to time such steps as may be necessary for ascertaining the sufficiency and wholesomeness of the water supplies within the district". The department continues to sample drinking water and works closely with the Water Board.

## THE SWIMMING POOL

A description of the swimming pool was given in my Annual Report of 1960. All water samples continue to be satisfactory. 1962 was the first year in which the learners' pool was in operation. It is twenty-one feet long, ten feet wide and a maximum depth of one foot nine inches. The filtration plant, recharged with fresh sand, the chlorinator and the pumps for the main pool are also used for the learners' pool. A chlorine residual is always present.

In the summer I gave a talk and film display about mouth-to-mouth artificial respiration to an audience which included the Pool Attendants, and the Council kindly provided two Brook Airways to keep there.





## SEWERAGE

Sewerage from the Town is treated at two Sewage Works. The Nursteed area and Roundway Hospital share one and the remainder of the Town, together with Roundway Park and the Barracks, drains to the Bath Road sewage works.

The prime function of a sewage works is to reduce the oxygen demand of sewage and remove solid material but it does not render an effluent sterile. Although a good effluent allows fish and plants to live in the stream into which it discharges, it may still carry the elements of some disease. Children should be discouraged from playing in streams known to contain sewage effluent and swimming in the larger rivers in this country, most of which are streams of sewage with a little water added, is quite ridiculously dangerous.

A good effluent should demand less than 20 parts per million of oxygen.

The Roundway Hospital Works sampled on five occasions by the Avon River Board showed a Biochemical Oxygen Demand ranging from 5.3 to 15 parts per million. The Bath Road Works gives a satisfactory effluent after irrigation, but on occasions the flow is too great for the irrigation main when unsatisfactory samples are returned. Irrigated samples show a Biochemical Oxygen Demand ranging from 3 to 9 parts per million. The B.O.D. of the unsatisfactory sample was 61 parts per million.

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





# APPENDIX

I am indebted to Dr. C.D.L. Lycett, the County Medical Officer of Health, for the following statistics concerning vaccination and immunisation procedures in Devizes Borough during the year.

## DIPHTHERIA, WHOOPING COUGH AND TETANUS IMMUNISATIONS.

Year of Birth		1962	1961	1960	1959	1958	1953-57	1948-52
Primary immunisations completed during 1962	Diphtheria	35	77	10	3	1	14	-
	Whooping Cough	33	77	10	3	-	1	-
	Tetanus	35	77	10	4	1	55	10
Reinforcement injections administered during 1962.	Diphtheria	-	11	25	4	7	88	10
	Whooping Cough	-	11	25	4	2	7	-
	Tetanus	-	11	25	4	8	98	16

## SMALLPOX VACCINATIONS

Age Group	Under 1	1	2 - 4	5 - 14	15 or over
Vaccinations	12	21	20	122	163
Revaccinations	-	3	15	137	468

## POLIOMYELITIS VACCINATIONS

Persons Born	2nd injection	3rd injection	4th injection	3 oral	3rd oral after 2 injections	4th oral
1943 - 1961	50	190	14	66	30	156
1933 - 1942	8	35	1	12	9	-
Babies born in 1962	10	-	-	10	-	-
Others	12	88	-	22	9	-
Totals	80	313	15	110	48	156

# TABLE II

I am indebted to Mr. J. B. H. Jones, the County Medical Officer of Health, for the following statistics concerning vaccination and immunization procedures in Davison Borough during the year 1952.

## TABLE II. A. SHOWING THE YEAR AND MONTH OF VACCINATION

Year of Birth	1952	1951	1950	1949	1948	1947	1946	1945	1944	1943	1942	1941	1940	1939	1938	1937	1936	1935	1934	1933	1932	1931	1930	1929	1928	1927	1926	1925	1924	1923	1922	1921	1920	1919	1918	1917	1916	1915	1914	1913	1912	1911	1910	1909	1908	1907	1906	1905	1904	1903	1902	1901	1900	1899	1898	1897	1896	1895	1894	1893	1892	1891	1890	1889	1888	1887	1886	1885	1884	1883	1882	1881	1880	1879	1878	1877	1876	1875	1874	1873	1872	1871	1870	1869	1868	1867	1866	1865	1864	1863	1862	1861	1860	1859	1858	1857	1856	1855	1854	1853	1852	1851	1850	1849	1848	1847	1846	1845	1844	1843	1842	1841	1840	1839	1838	1837	1836	1835	1834	1833	1832	1831	1830	1829	1828	1827	1826	1825	1824	1823	1822	1821	1820	1819	1818	1817	1816	1815	1814	1813	1812	1811	1810	1809	1808	1807	1806	1805	1804	1803	1802	1801	1800	1799	1798	1797	1796	1795	1794	1793	1792	1791	1790	1789	1788	1787	1786	1785	1784	1783	1782	1781	1780	1779	1778	1777	1776	1775	1774	1773	1772	1771	1770	1769	1768	1767	1766	1765	1764	1763	1762	1761	1760	1759	1758	1757	1756	1755	1754	1753	1752	1751	1750	1749	1748	1747	1746	1745	1744	1743	1742	1741	1740	1739	1738	1737	1736	1735	1734	1733	1732	1731	1730	1729	1728	1727	1726	1725	1724	1723	1722	1721	1720	1719	1718	1717	1716	1715	1714	1713	1712	1711	1710	1709	1708	1707	1706	1705	1704	1703	1702	1701	1700	1699	1698	1697	1696	1695	1694	1693	1692	1691	1690	1689	1688	1687	1686	1685	1684	1683	1682	1681	1680	1679	1678	1677	1676	1675	1674	1673	1672	1671	1670	1669	1668	1667	1666	1665	1664	1663	1662	1661	1660	1659	1658	1657	1656	1655	1654	1653	1652	1651	1650	1649	1648	1647	1646	1645	1644	1643	1642	1641	1640	1639	1638	1637	1636	1635	1634	1633	1632	1631	1630	1629	1628	1627	1626	1625	1624	1623	1622	1621	1620	1619	1618	1617	1616	1615	1614	1613	1612	1611	1610	1609	1608	1607	1606	1605	1604	1603	1602	1601	1600	1599	1598	1597	1596	1595	1594	1593	1592	1591	1590	1589	1588	1587	1586	1585	1584	1583	1582	1581	1580	1579	1578	1577	1576	1575	1574	1573	1572	1571	1570	1569	1568	1567	1566	1565	1564	1563	1562	1561	1560	1559	1558	1557	1556	1555	1554	1553	1552	1551	1550	1549	1548	1547	1546	1545	1544	1543	1542	1541	1540	1539	1538	1537	1536	1535	1534	1533	1532	1531	1530	1529	1528	1527	1526	1525	1524	1523	1522	1521	1520	1519	1518	1517	1516	1515	1514	1513	1512	1511	1510	1509	1508	1507	1506	1505	1504	1503	1502	1501	1500	1499	1498	1497	1496	1495	1494	1493	1492	1491	1490	1489	1488	1487	1486	1485	1484	1483	1482	1481	1480	1479	1478	1477	1476	1475	1474	1473	1472	1471	1470	1469	1468	1467	1466	1465	1464	1463	1462	1461	1460	1459	1458	1457	1456	1455	1454	1453	1452	1451	1450	1449	1448	1447	1446	1445	1444	1443	1442	1441	1440	1439	1438	1437	1436	1435	1434	1433	1432	1431	1430	1429	1428	1427	1426	1425	1424	1423	1422	1421	1420	1419	1418	1417	1416	1415	1414	1413	1412	1411	1410	1409	1408	1407	1406	1405	1404	1403	1402	1401	1400	1399	1398	1397	1396	1395	1394	1393	1392	1391	1390	1389	1388	1387	1386	1385	1384	1383	1382	1381	1380	1379	1378	1377	1376	1375	1374	1373	1372	1371	1370	1369	1368	1367	1366	1365	1364	1363	1362	1361	1360	1359	1358	1357	1356	1355	1354	1353	1352	1351	1350	1349	1348	1347	1346	1345	1344	1343	1342	1341	1340	1339	1338	1337	1336	1335	1334	1333	1332	1331	1330	1329	1328	1327	1326	1325	1324	1323	1322	1321	1320	1319	1318	1317	1316	1315	1314	1313	1312	1311	1310	1309	1308	1307	1306	1305	1304	1303	1302	1301	1300	1299	1298	1297	1296	1295	1294	1293	1292	1291	1290	1289	1288	1287	1286	1285	1284	1283	1282	1281	1280	1279	1278	1277	1276	1275	1274	1273	1272	1271	1270	1269	1268	1267	1266	1265	1264	1263	1262	1261	1260	1259	1258	1257	1256	1255	1254	1253	1252	1251	1250	1249	1248	1247	1246	1245	1244	1243	1242	1241	1240	1239	1238	1237	1236	1235	1234	1233	1232	1231	1230	1229	1228	1227	1226	1225	1224	1223	1222	1221	1220	1219	1218	1217	1216	1215	1214	1213	1212	1211	1210	1209	1208	1207	1206	1205	1204	1203	1202	1201	1200	1199	1198	1197	1196	1195	1194	1193	1192	1191	1190	1189	1188	1187	1186	1185	1184	1183	1182	1181	1180	1179	1178	1177	1176	1175	1174	1173	1172	1171	1170	1169	1168	1167	1166	1165	1164	1163	1162	1161	1160	1159	1158	1157	1156	1155	1154	1153	1152	1151	1150	1149	1148	1147	1146	1145	1144	1143	1142	1141	1140	1139	1138	1137	1136	1135	1134	1133	1132	1131	1130	1129	1128	1127	1126	1125	1124	1123	1122	1121	1120	1119	1118	1117	1116	1115	1114	1113	1112	1111	1110	1109	1108	1107	1106	1105	1104	1103	1102	1101	1100	1099	1098	1097	1096	1095	1094	1093	1092	1091	1090	1089	1088	1087	1086	1085	1084	1083	1082	1081	1080	1079	1078	1077	1076	1075	1074	1073	1072	1071	1070	1069	1068	1067	1066	1065	1064	1063	1062	1061	1060	1059	1058	1057	1056	1055	1054	1053	1052	1051	1050	1049	1048	1047	1046	1045	1044	1043	1042	1041	1040	1039	1038	1037	1036	1035	1034	1033	1032	1031	1030	1029	1028	1027	1026	1025	1024	1023	1022	1021	1020	1019	1018	1017	1016	1015	1014	1013	1012	1011	1010	1009	1008	1007	1006	1005	1004	1003	1002	1001	1000	999	998	997	996	995	994	993	992	991	990	989	988	987	986	985	984	983	982	981	980	979	978	977	976	975	974	973	972	971	970	969	968	967	966	965	964	963	962	961	960	959	958	957	956	955	954	953	952	951	950	949	948	947	946	945	944	943	942	941	940	939	938	937	936	935	934	933	932	931	930	929	928	927	926	925	924	923	922	921	920	919	918	917	916	915	914	913	912	911	910	909	908	907	906	905	904	903	902	901	900	899	898	897	896	895	894	893	892	891	890	889	888	887	886	885	884	883	882	881	880	879	878	877	876	875	874	873	872	871	870	869	868	867	866	865	864	863	862	861	860	859	858	857	856	855	854	853	852	851	850	849	848	847	846	845	844	843	842	841	840	839	838	837	836	835	834	833	832	831	830	829	828	827	826	825	824	823	822	821	820	819	818	817	816	815	814	813	812	811	810	809	808	807	806	805	804	803	802	801	800	799	798	797	796	795	794	793	792	791	790	789	788	787	786	785	784	783	782	781	780	779	778	777	776	775	774	773	772	771	770	769	768	767	766	765	764	763	762	761	760	759	758	757	756	755	754	753	752	751	750	749	748	747	746	745	744	743	742	741	740	739	738	737	736	735	734	733	732	731	730	729	728	727	726	725	724	723	722	721	720	719	718	717	716	715	714	713	712	711	710	709	708	707	706	705	704	703	702	701	700	699	698	697	696	695	694	693	692	691	690	689	688	687	686	685	684	683	682	681	680	679	678	677	676	675	674	673	672	671	670	669	668	667	666	665	664	663	662	661	660	659	658	657	656	655	654	653	652	651	650	649	648	647	646	645	644	643	642	641	640	639	638	637	636	635	634	633	632	631	630	629	628	627	626	625	624	623	622	621	620	619	618	617	616	615	614	613	612	611	610	609	608	607	606	605	604	603	602	601	600	599	598	597	596	595	594	593	592	591	590	589	588	587	586	585	584	583	582	581	580	579	578	577	576	575	574	573	572	571	570	569	568	567	566	565	564	563	562	561	560	559	558	557	556	555	554	553
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## THE PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR'S REPORT

146 complaints were received by the Health Department, in addition to nuisances or deficiencies discovered during routine duties, which were dealt with either formally or informally, particulars of which are given in this Report.

### HOUSING

77 houses were inspected; 22 have been closed and 33 demolished by Orders; 17 houses have been made fit, 10 patched and repairs were outstanding at 12 houses.

During the past eight years, the Council has dealt with 353 unfit houses. Of these, 324 were scheduled for clearance under the Council's 1955 Seven-year Programme, i.e. 413 unfit dwellings. 248 have been demolished, 75 are empty, 11 were occupied and 19 have been rendered fit.

Having regard to Ministry Circular 42/62 - "Improvement of Houses" - it will be necessary to re-survey most of the remaining 91 houses and many more in the Town, to ascertain whether or not they are capable of being made fit and, where possible, modernised with the aid of Improvement Grants, for a further life of fifteen years or more; a start has been made on a few properties and will continue along with my other essential routine duties.





Progress Returns forwarded to the Ministry of Housing and Local Government.

	<u>Displaced Persons.</u>	<u>Displaced Families.</u>
<u>Number of houses DEMOLISHED :-</u>		
<u>In Clearance Areas</u>		
1. Houses unfit for human habitation ..... 21	26	15
2. Houses included by reason of bad arrangement ..... 0	0	0
3. Houses on land acquired under Section 43(2) Housing Act, 1957 ..... 0	0	0
<u>Not in Clearance Areas</u>		
4. As a result of formal or informal procedure under Section 17(1) Housing Act, 1957 ..... 9	11	5
5. Local Authority owned houses certified by the Medical Officer of Health ..... 3	1	1
6. Houses unfit for human habitation where action has been taken under local acts ..... 0	0	0
7. Unfit houses included in Unfitness Orders ..... 0	0	0
Totals 33	38	21
<u>Number of Unfit houses CLOSED :-</u>		
8. Under Sections 16(4), 17(1) and 35(1) Housing Act, 1957 ..... 22	40	20
9. Under Sections 17(3) and 26 Housing Act, 1957 ..... 0	0	0
10. Parts of buildings closed under Section 18 Housing Act, 1957. .... 0	0	0





# 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 .....	2	-
(b) Sections 9 and 16 Housing Act, 1957 .....	1	-
13. Under Section 24, Housing Act, 1957.	-	-

## UNFIT HOUSES IN TEMPORARY USE (Housing Act, 1957)

	Number of Houses	Number of Separate Dwellings contained in Col. (1)
	(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 Section 34 or 53	-	-

## PURCHASE OF HOUSES BY AGREEMENT

	Number of Houses	Number of Occupants of houses in Col.(1)
	(1)	(2)
16. Houses in Clearance Areas other than those included in confirmed Clearance Order or Compulsory Purchase Orders, purchased during the year .....	1	2





## HOUSE PURCHASE AND HOUSING ACT, 1959

### Improvement Grants - Discretionary Grants.

Five applications for discretionary grants were approved by the Council, one scheme was completed at a total cost of £655; the other scheme, now nearing completion, is for four rented dwellings and will cost approximately £2,391. 7s. 4d.

### Standard Grants

Eighteen Standard Grants were approved during the year; 8 of these were for rented dwellings.

No. of applications approved.	Grant up to a maximum of.	No. of schemes completed.	Total Cost.	Amount Paid.	No. of schemes in progress	Total No. of amenities provided when schemes are completed.				
						Baths	HWS	WC's	Larders	WB's
18	£2,460	4*	£1,182	£539.	18	18	22	19	17	20

\* Schemes approved last year.

### DISREPAIR CERTIFICATES.

No applications for disrepair certificates were received during the year.

### COMMON LODGING HOUSES.

There are no Common Lodging Houses in the Borough.

### HOUSING ACT 1961 AND HOUSING (MANAGEMENT OF HOUSES IN MULTIPLE OCCUPATION) REGULATIONS, 1962.

The owner of premises let off in separate units of accommodation to single men was asked to carry out works to conform with the standards laid down under the Housing Act and Regulations for houses in multiple occupation. The work is in progress.





## PUBLIC HEALTH ADMINISTRATION

### Work completed during the Year.

#### Housing

Roofs repaired	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	15
Chimney-stacks repaired	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	4
Chimney-stacks rebuilt	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	1
Gutters repaired or renewed	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	4
Gutters cleansed	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	3
Rain-water pipes repaired or renewed	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	1
External walls repaired or repointed	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	5
Damp walls cured (due to absence of effective damp-proof course)	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	6
Windows repaired	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	8
Windows renewed	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	1
New windows provided (for light and ventilation)	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	1
Window sashes re-corded	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	7
Ceiling plaster repaired	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	2
Wall plaster repaired	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	4
Doors repaired or renewed	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	3
Floors repaired	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	6
Sinks provided	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	10
Food-stores provided	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	3
Yards paved	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	1
Passages paved	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	1
Drains/Sewers repaired or reconstructed	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	25
Inspection chambers provided	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	1
New bins provided	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	5

Deposited plans received in the Borough Surveyor's Department relating to the construction or replanning of food premises, shops, factories and other building with which the Public Health Department is concerned are examined for compliance with relative statutes administered by this Department.





### WATER SUPPLY

All dwelling houses in the Borough except one are supplied with water from the Town's mains. 30 houses are without an internal water supply and sink; water is obtained from stand-pipes outside. 20 of these houses have either Demolition or Closing Orders on them or are ripe for such action. The two Owners of the remaining houses wish to modernise their properties with the aid of improvement grants, but most of the tenants will not co-operate.

13 water samples were submitted for bacterial purity during the year, 11 of which were reported as being satisfactory, and 2 were very slightly polluted with non-faecal type coliform organisms only.

### CANAL POLLUTION

One Owner/Occupier diverted the discharge of sewage from the canal to the Borough sewer to comply with a Statutory Notice.

### FOOD SUPPLIES

The number of food premises in the Borough is 162, excluding food traders in the open and covered markets.

Food premises registered under the Food and Drugs Act, 1955 and the Milk (Special Designation) Regulations, 1960 are -

<u>Fried Fish Shops</u>	<u>Meat Preparation Premises.</u>	<u>Ice-cream Premises</u> *	<u>Dairies</u>
4	7	42	5

\* Premises that deal in pre-wrapped ices.





319 visits were made to food premises under the Food Hygiene (General) Regulations, 1960. The number of deficiencies found and dealt with at shops, cafes, restaurants, kitchens, stalls etc. were -

				<u>Premises</u>
Dirty and untidy conditions	....	....	....	8
Dirty kitchen and equipment	....	....	....	2
Structural disrepair	....	....	....	9
Defective ceilings	....	....	....	4
Defective wall plaster	....	....	....	3
Defective windows	....	....	....	3
Defective floors	....	....	....	5
Defective and insanitary sink drainer boards	....			2
Absence of wash-hand basin	....	....	....	1
Broken wash-hand basin	....	....	....	1
Absence of hot water over wash-hand basin			....	1
No nail-brush provided	....	....	....	1
Dirty towels	....	....	....	1
Soap shortage	....	....	....	1
Defaced hand-washing notices	....	....	....	1
Dirty clothes	....	....	....	1
Without first-aid equipment	....	....	....	2
Clothing and footwear accommodation provided	....			1
Food preparation table-top resurfaced with formica				3
Food cupboards repaired	....	....	....	1
Kitchen utensils not properly stored - cupboards provided	....	....	....	2
Lighting of Food preparation room improved			....	1
Ventilation of Food preparation room improved			....	1
W.C.'s disconnected from shop or food-room			....	1
Defective W.C.'s	....	....	....	1
Dirty sanitary conveniences	....	....	....	1
Food rooms redecorated	....	....	....	1
Choked sink waste pipe cleansed			....	1
Accumulation of refuse removed			....	1
Defective fridge repaired	....	....	....	1
Unsatisfactory method of storage of wrapping papers				3
Protection for open food on display (i.e. glass and screens)...				1
Unsuitable wall surfaces in food preparation rooms				1

THE UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT  
WASHINGTON, D. C. 20250

10-10-60

TO: DIRECTOR, BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT  
FROM: SAC, DENVER  
SUBJECT: [Illegible]  
[The following text is extremely faint and largely illegible due to the quality of the scan. It appears to be a memorandum or letter containing several paragraphs of text, possibly discussing land management issues. Key words that are faintly visible include "Bureau of Land Management", "Denver", "subject", and "information".]



In addition to the aforementioned, premises where recreational activities are carried out, such as Churches and Clubs etc. were visited and the following defects were found, many of which have been or are being rectified :-

	Premises.
Requiring re-decoration .....	11
Disrepair .....	12
Dry-rot .....	2
Dampness .....	5
Absence of towels, soap and nail-brushes .....	4
Absence of sinks .....	3
No hot water for washing .....	7
Wash-basins inconveniently placed .....	4
No hot water supply over wash-basins .....	9
Absence of wash-basins .....	9
Unsuitable or insufficient W.C. accommodation .....	9
Absence of refuse-bins .....	4
Food rooms inadequately ventilated .....	2
Drainage unsatisfactory .....	5
Dirtiness .....	9
Unsatisfactory storage of crockery .....	7
W.C. compartments ventilated direct to the Kitchen .....	2
No first-aid equipment .....	4
No clothing accommodation .....	2
Defective furniture or food benches .....	9

#### FOOD AND DRUGS ACT, 1955.

Complaints were received and reported to the Health Committee concerning unsound food, and action taken -

<u>Article</u>	<u>How Discovered.</u>	<u>Nature of Complaint.</u>	<u>Action</u>
Steak and kidney pie	Complaint after sale.	Contained piece of wire $1\frac{5}{8}$ " long (price tag wire)	Advised to exercise more care in future.
Chopped pork luncheon meat.	Complaint after sale	Contained piece of glass $\frac{3}{8}$ " long.	Warning letter indicating proceedings for future offence.





Food and Drugs Act, 1955 (contd.)

<u>Article.</u>	<u>How Discovered.</u>	<u>Nature of Complaint.</u>	<u>Action</u>
Pre-wrapped steak and kidney pie.	Complaint after sale.	Found to be mouldy.	Warning letter indicating proceedings for future offence.
Bottle of Milk.	Complaint from School.	Sale of milk in dirty bottle.	Matter taken up directly with the Management.

FOOD POISONING

There was no case of food poisoning reported during the year.

FOOD INSPECTION

Food examined and voluntarily surrendered by shop-keepers, canteens and Institutions as unfit for human consumption were :-

	<u>Tins.</u>	<u>lbs.</u>	<u>ozs.</u>
Corned beef or pork luncheon meat .....	18	84.	13.
Stewed steak .....	7	7.	0.
Ham .....	5	36.	1.
Vegetables .....	15	17.	8.
Fruit .....	32	29.	0.
Cream .....	1	-	10.
Butcher's meat .....	-	16.	0.
Poultry .....	-	27.	0.
Prawns .....	-	28.	0.

DISEASES OF ANIMALS (WASTE FOOD) ORDER, 1957.

There are two pig and poultry breeders in the Borough, who collect small amounts of swill and boil it on the farm. The premises and boiling equipment were inspected every three months in both cases.

Food and Drug Act, 1938 (Contd.)

Section	Description	Amount	Date
Section 301	Prohibited substances		
Section 302	Misbranding		
Section 303	Adulteration		
Section 304	New drugs		
Section 305	Food additives		
Section 306	Cosmetics		

There are no cases of this substance reported during the year.

Food Inspection

Food inspection and control is a very important part of the food and drug act. It is the duty of the food and drug administration to inspect and control the food and drug supply.

Section	Description	Amount	Date
Section 301	Prohibited substances		
Section 302	Misbranding		
Section 303	Adulteration		
Section 304	New drugs		
Section 305	Food additives		
Section 306	Cosmetics		

Inspection of Food and Drug Administration, 1938

The food and drug administration is the agency responsible for the enforcement of the food and drug act. It is the duty of the food and drug administration to inspect and control the food and drug supply.



### INSPECTION OF DAIRIES AND MILK SAMPLING.

There are seven distributors of milk on the register, including one retail shop, two vending machines and three dairies. The dairies were inspected regularly. Twenty-six inspections were made and 301 samples of milk were submitted for cleanliness and pasteurising efficiency; 9 sets of washed bottles were submitted for examination.

#### Milk Samples.

<u>No. taken.</u>	<u>Examination.</u>	<u>Satisfactory.</u>	<u>Failures.</u>
140	For cleanliness.	130	10
57	Heat treatment efficiency.	57	0
52	Presence of tubercule baccillii.	52	0
9 sets	Cleanliness of washed bottles.	9	0

### PEST AND INSECT CONTROL

Your Rodent Operator has dealt with 31 complaints in respect of - wasps (15), the nests were removed afterwards in each case; wood-worm (7) and ants (9).

### PREVENTION OF DAMAGE BY PESTS ACT, 1949.

Fifty-one complaints of rats and mice infestation were received, which necessitated surveys of adjoining properties. 145 treatments and 2,637 visits to dwellings, business premises, Institutions, garden-sheds, poultry runs, pig-sties, Sewage Works and the Borough Refuse Tip were carried out. The Borough sewers were treated twice, covering 72 manholes on each occasion.

The core of the infestations were found in the sewers in Gains Lane, Castle Lane and Station Road, with light infestations in New Park Street, The Repository and Northgate Street.





# SUMMARY OF INSPECTIONS

Food Hygiene (General) Regulations 1960	....	....	....	319
Food Inspections	....	....	....	62
Food and Drugs Act	....	....	....	31
Works in progress at food premises	....	....	....	21
School kitchens inspections	....	....	....	15
Meat Staining Regulations	....	....	....	1
Disease of Animals (Waste Food) Order, 1957	....	....	....	8
Housing Inspections	....	....	....	77
Housing - Revisits	....	....	....	30
Rent Act	....	....	....	Nil
Improvement Grants	....	....	....	49
Overcrowding complaints	....	....	....	2
Caravan Sites - Control of Development Act 1960	....	....	....	13
Shops Act	....	....	....	13
Pet Shop	....	....	....	1
Office Inspections	....	....	....	3
Factory Inspections	....	....	....	16
Outworkers	....	....	....	Nil
Rodent Control	....	....	....	33
Pest Complaints	....	....	....	22
Petroleum Acts	....	....	....	20
Air pressure tests applied to petroleum tanks	....	....	....	4
Domestic water supply sampling	....	....	....	13
Drains: smoke tested	....	....	....	15
colour tested	....	....	....	24
water tested	....	....	....	57
Public Health nuisances	....	....	....	31
Public Health nuisances abated	....	....	....	25
Visits in connection with Infectious Disease	....	....	....	17
Food Poisoning (Suspected)	....	....	....	Nil
Works in progress	....	....	....	173
Interviews with Builders/Owners/Representatives	....	....	....	181
General Complaints	....	....	....	146
Statutory Notices served	....	....	....	3
Miscellaneous visits	....	....	....	180
Visits regarding milk sampling	....	....	....	89
Visits regarding water samples	....	....	....	8

Summary of Activities

for

Food Systems (General) - 1962  
Food Production  
Food and Income  
Food in relation to food production  
Food and income distribution

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Food Production (General) - 1962  
Food Production  
Food and Income  
Food in relation to food production  
Food and income distribution



FACTORIES ACT, 1961.

Part 1 of the Act.

1 - Inspections for purposes of provisions as to health (including inspections made by Public Health Inspector.)

Premises	Number on Register	Number of		
		Inspections	Written Notices	Occupiers Prosecuted.
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)
(i) Factories in which Sections 1,2,3,4, and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities	34	6	2	Nil.
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority	62	10	3	Nil.
(iii) Other premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding out-workers' premises)	1	Nil.	Nil.	Nil.
TOTALS	97	16	5	Nil.

2 - 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) .....	2	2	-	-	-
Overcrowding (S.2)	-	-	-	-	-
Unreasonable temperature (S.3) ..	-	-	-	-	-
Inadequate ventilation (S.4) ..	-	-	-	-	-
Ineffective drainage of floors (S.6).	-	-	-	-	-
Sanitary conveniences (S.7).	-	-	-	-	-
(a) Insufficient	-	-	-	-	-
(b) Unsuitable or defective	3	3	-	-	-
(c) Not separate for sexes. ....	-	-	-	-	-
Other offences against the Act (not including offences relating to Outwork) .....	-	-	-	-	-
TOTALS	5	5	-	-	-







