BOROUGH OF DEVIZES

ANNUAL REPORT

of the

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

and of the

PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR

1962.

TELEPHONE: DEVIZES 24

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.

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.

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)

	Birth Rate.	Death Rate.
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.

	Legitimate		Illegitimate		Total
	Male	Female	Male	Female	
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,yetwe 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

		Male	Female
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
		51	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
	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 Sedgefield 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.

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

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.

		Displaced Persons.	Displaced Families.
Number of houses DEMOLISHED :-			
In Clearance Areas			
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
Not in Clearance Areas			
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
Number of Unfit houses CLOSED :-			
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 (1)	Number of Separate Dwellings contained in Col. (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 (1)	Number of Occupants of houses in Col.(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

UNFIT HOUSES MADE FIT AND HOUSES IN WHICH DEFECTS WERE REMEDIED.

	By Owner	By Local Authority
11. After informal action by local authority	12	-
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 (1)	Number of Separate Dwelling units contained in col. (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 24 or 25	-	-

PURCHASE OF HOUSES BY AGREEMENT

	Number of Houses (1)	Number of Compartments or Rooms in Col. (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 -

Fried Fish Shops	Meat Preparation Premises.	Ice-cream Premises *	Dairies
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 -

	Premises
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

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 -

Article	How Discovered.	Nature of Complaint.	Action
Steak and kidney pie	Complaint after sale.	Contained piece of wire $1\frac{5}{8}$" long (price tage 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.)

Article.	How Discovered.	Nature of Complaint.	Action
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 :-

	Tins.	lbs.	ozs.
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.

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.

No.taken.	Examination.	Satisfactory.	Failures.
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

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	Referred 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	-	-	-