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BOROUGH OF DEVIZES



ANNUAL REPORT

of the
MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

and of the
PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR

1968

BOROUGH OF DEVIZES

ANNUAL REPORT

OF

THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

AND


THE PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR

FOR THE YEAR

1968

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PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT

Staff as at 31st December, 1968.

Medical Officer of Health

P.C. BARRY, L.R.C.P. & S.I., D.P.H.

Public Health Inspector

K. WILDEY, M.P.H.I.A., C.R.S.I., C.G.L.I. (San. Eng.)

Technical Assistant

D.A.J. DARK

Rodent Operative

F.W. BARRETT

Clerical Staff

MRS. E.E. NOAKES

MISS L.J. SAYER

PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT
Staff as of 31st December, 1958.

Medical Officer
Public Health Laboratory, 1958.

F. C. BARNY, I.R.C.P. & S.I., D.P.H.

Public Health Inspector

K. WINDY, M.A., A.C.P.S., C.O.I.I. (Gen. Eng.)

Technical Assistant

S. A. J. PARK, B.Sc., A.C.P.S., C.O.I.I. (Gen. Eng.)

Robert Owen

E. W. BARNETT

General Staff

MRS. E. E. WOODS

MRS. L. J. BAKER

General Staff

MRS. L. J. BAKER

DEVIZES BOROUGH COUNCIL
(As at 31st December 1968)

THE MAYOR

Michael Rendell

THE DEPUTY MAYOR

Councillor Harold Wiltshire

HEALTH AND HOUSING COMMITTEE

Chairman Councillor A.P.J. Duck

The Mayor Councillor M. Rendell

Vice-Chairman Councillor D.L. Cockram

Alderman Mrs. Payne

Alderman Wilson

Councillor Dight

Councillor Kirby

Councillor Porter

Councillor Rugg

Councillor Somerville D.F.C.

Councillor Whitbread



BOROUGH OF DEVIZES

MUNICIPAL OFFICES,
NORTHGATE HOUSE,
DEVIZES,
WILTSHIRE.

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

Once again I present my annual report on the health of the Borough, this time for the year 1968.

There is nothing startling to report concerning mortality or morbidity during the year. This is, in itself, desirable as the report of a sensational death or a sickness rate from whatever cause, would be no reason for satisfaction if it were to occur.

There was a sharp rise in the population of the Borough. This was largely attributable to the influx of military families who came to occupy houses purpose-built for their use. For this development our thanks are due to the Ministry of Defence and it more than compensated for the "loss" of habitations due to demolition.

To the Public Health Inspector and the other members of the staff of the Health Department my thanks are due and I record with pleasure my appreciation of their efforts in the cause of environmental health. A special word of thanks is due to Mr. Wildey for his useful contribution to this report.

I attach much importance to the good relations that continue to exist between the Health Department and the Health and Housing Committee. Good team work between Councillors and Officers is in the better interests of the public whose needs we are all here to serve. That it has existed warrants my thanks, that it may continue must be my fervent hope.

P.C. BARRY.

Medical Officer of Health



BOROUGH OF DEVIZES

BOROUGH OF DEVIZES

MUNICIPAL OFFICE

MUNICIPAL OFFICE

NORTHGATE HOUSE

DEVIZES

WILTSHIRE

Report, Aldermen and Councillors of the Borough of Devizes

Once again I present my annual report on the health of the Borough, this time for the year 1958.

There is nothing startling to report concerning mortality or morbidity during the year. This is, in itself, desirable as the report of a non-fatal death or a sickness rate from whatever cause, would be no reason for celebration if it were to occur.

There was a sharp rise in the population of the Borough. This was largely attributable to the influx of military families who came to occupy houses put up for their use. For this development our thanks are due to the Ministry of Defence and is more than compensated for the "loss" of habitation due to demolition.

To the Public Health Inspector and the other members of the staff of the Health Department my thanks are due and I repeat with pleasure my appreciation of their efforts in the cause of environmental health. A special word of thanks is due to Mr. Wilby for his useful contribution to this report.

I attach much importance to the good relations that continue to exist between the Health Department and the Social and Housing Committee. Good work is being done in the better interests of the public. That is an excellent example to follow. That is how we should all have to work. That is my constant aim and my fervent hope.

P. G. BARRY

Medical Officer of Health

GENERAL STATISTICS

Area in Acres	....	....	....	1,420
Population (Registrar General's Estimate)				9,410
Number of inhabited houses at 1.4.68.				3,086
Rateable Value at 1.4.68.		....		£414,527
Estimated Product of 1d rate at 1.4.68.				£1,641

VITAL STATISTICS

Birth and Death Rates per 1,000 population

*Standardised

	<u>Birth Rate</u>		<u>Death Rate</u>	
	<u>1967</u>	<u>1968</u>	<u>1967</u>	<u>1968</u>
Devizes Borough	15.3	18.5	8.7	10.8
England and Wales	17.2	16.9	11.2	11.9
Wiltshire	17.8	17.5	10.2	10.9

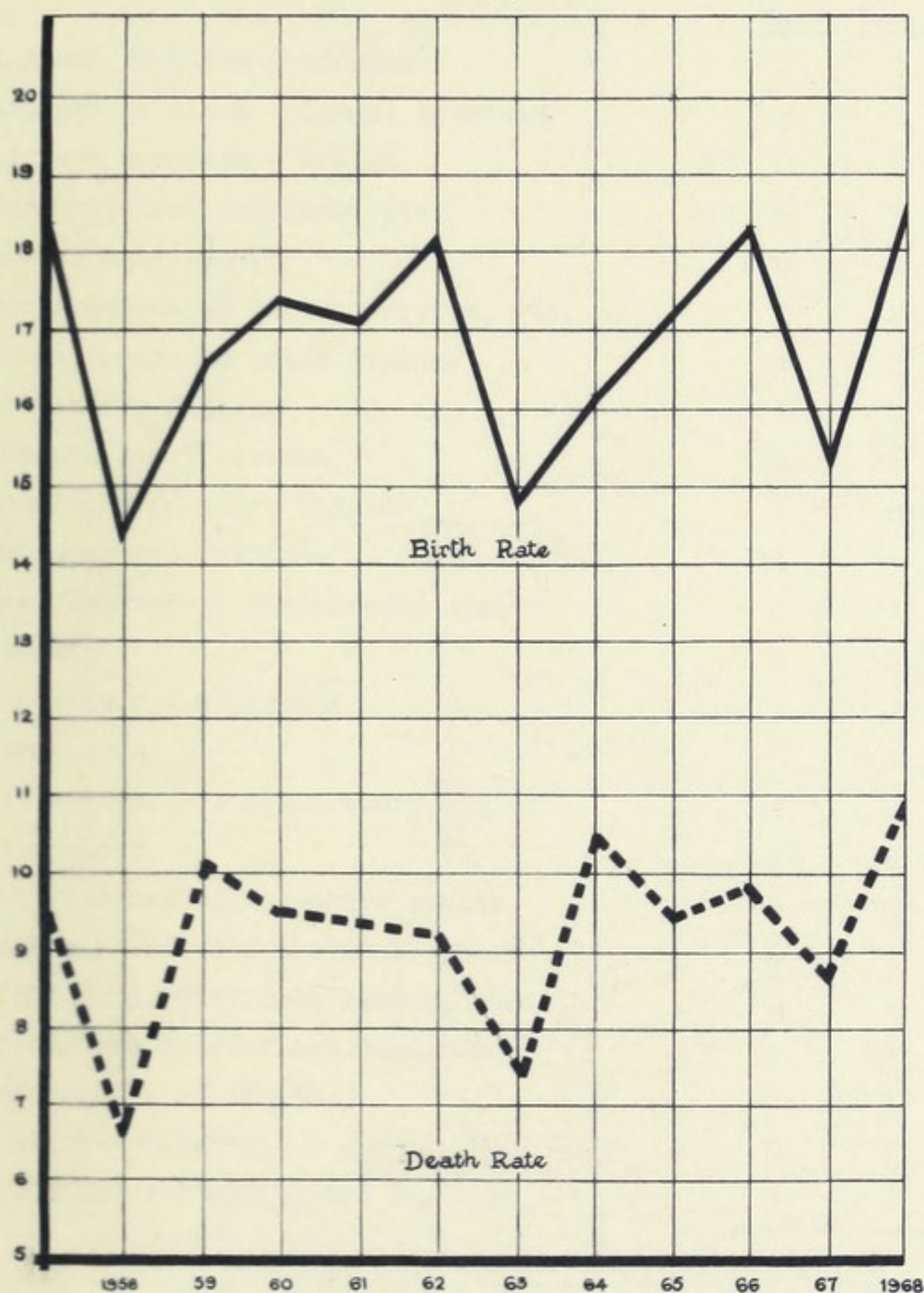
* Comparability figures are supplied to each District by the Registrar General. These take into account the varying age/sex distribution of the population in different parts of the country. When applied to the local rates they allow a more accurate comparison to be made between different areas.

Vital Statistics (Contd.)MOTHERS AND INFANTS

	<u>1968</u>	<u>1967</u>	<u>1966</u>
<u>Live Births</u>			
Number	174	138	164
Rate per 1000 population	18.5	15.3	18.4
<u>Illegitimate Live Births</u>			
(per cent of total live births)	7.5	10.1	10.4
<u>Stillbirths</u>			
Number	3	-	4
Rate per 1000 total live and still births	16.9	-	23.8
<u>Total Live and Still Births</u>	177	138	168
Infant Deaths (deaths under one year)	2	1	3
<u>Infant Mortality Rates</u>			
Total Infant Deaths per 1000 total live births	11.5	7	18.3
Legitimate infant deaths per 1000 legitimate live births	12.4	8	20.4
*Illegitimate infant deaths per 1000 illegitimate live births	-	-	-
<u>Neo-natal Mortality Rate</u> (deaths under four weeks per 1000 total live births)	11.5	7	18.3
<u>Early Neo-natal Mortality Rate</u> (deaths under one week per 1000 total live births)	5.7	7	18.3
<u>Perinatal Mortality Rate</u> (stillbirths and deaths under one week combined per 1000 total live and still births)	22.6	7	41.6
<u>*Maternal Mortality</u> (including abortion)			
Number of deaths	-	-	-
Rate per 1000 total live and still births	-	-	-

*Information not available.

Birth and Death Rates, Devizes Borough, 1958-68.
(per 1,000 population.)



From the accompanying figures & graph, it can be seen that, compared to 1967, there is an increase in both the number of births recorded as well as in the birth rate. The same applies to deaths and the death rate.

CAUSES OF DEATH DURING 1968

The figures given below are taken from the Registrar General's Annual Report :-

	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>	<u>Total</u>
Malignant neoplasm - stomach	2	0	2
Malignant neoplasm - lungs, bronchus	10	2	12
Malignant neoplasm - breast	0	2	2
Other malignant neoplasms etc.	6	5	11
Diabetes mellitus	0	1	1
Other diseases of nervous system, etc.	1	2	3
Chronic rheumatic heart disease	1	2	3
Hypertensive disease	1	0	1
Ischaemic heart disease	18	21	39
Other forms of heart disease	1	0	1
Cerebrovascular disease	11	11	22
Other diseases of circulatory system	3	1	4
Pneumonia	2	16	18
Bronchitis and emphysema	1	0	1
Asthma	0	1	1
Other diseases of respiratory system	1	0	1
Peptic ulcer	2	0	2
Other diseases of digestive system	1	2	3
Diseases of musculo-skeletal system	0	1	1
Birth injury, difficult labour, etc.	0	1	1
Symptoms and ill-defined conditions	9	15	24
Motor vehicle accidents	1	1	2
All other accidents	0	3	3
Suicide and self-inflicted injuries	1	0	1
Total all causes	72	87	159

It is observed that in the year under review 66.6% of deaths occurring were attributed to four major causes i.e. malignancy, pneumonia, coronary diseases and vascular diseases of the nervous system. Whilst in 1967 the same diseases accounted for 71%. This variation is not considered appreciable in view of the actual numbers involved.

The high figure for female deaths due to pneumonia is of interest when compared to the figure for males.

COMMUNICABLE DISEASE

Table A below gives details of cases notified by general practitioners during the past six years and Table B gives details of the age incidence of cases notified in 1968.

TABLE A

Disease	1963	1964	1965	1966	1967	1968
Measles	26	155	147	88	92	10
Whooping Cough	1	3	-	-	6	-
Scarlet Fever	20	6	11	11	11	8
Tuberculosis	2	2	3	3	1	1
Food Poisoning	-	-	-	-	2	-
Erysipelas	-	1	-	5	2	1
Meningococcal Infection	-	-	-	1	-	-
Dysentery	-	-	-	-	-	1

TABLE B

Disease	Age Groups					Age not known	All Ages
	0-4	5-14	15-44	45-64	65-74		
Scarlet Fever	2	5	1	-	-	-	8
Measles	8	2	-	-	-	-	10
Whooping Cough	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Erysipelas	-	-	1	-	-	-	1
Food Poisoning	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Tuberculosis	-	-	-	1	-	-	1
Dysentery	-	-	1	-	-	-	1

It will be seen that in so far as measles is concerned, a sharp drop is apparent by comparison with recent years. In this connection it is worthy of mention that the immunisation programme against measles was commenced locally during the year. To this might be attributed the low incidence of the disease. If this was in fact so, the argument in favour of protective inoculation against measles would be most convincing. Whilst I would be happy to be convinced, I cannot help feeling that the reason for the low "incidence" as shown in the tables is due to a combination of factors.

PRIMARY DIPHTHERIA IMMUNISATIONS BY DISTRICTS

The figures published by the Wiltshire County Medical Officer of Health for primary diphtheria immunisation by districts reveal that in respect of the Borough 100% of the 138 babies born in 1967 had been immunised by the end of December, 1968. This percentage is, naturally enough, not exceeded throughout the County and convincingly outstrips the figure for all but few of the other districts.

This point has been noted with pleasure and is reported with enthusiasm. In my view it can be attributed to no factor more than to the zeal of the Health Visitors working in the Borough.

IMMUNISATION AND VACCINATION

For providing the figures for immunisations and vaccinations carried out in the district during the year, my thanks are due to the County Medical Officer of Health, Dr. C.D.L. Lycett.

Diphtheria, Whooping Cough and Tetanus Immunisations

Year of Birth		1968	1967	1966	1965	1964	1959-63	1953-58	Others Under 16
Primary Imms. completed during 1968	Diph.	61	77	2	-	1	2	-	-
	Wh/c	61	73	2	-	-	-	-	-
	Tet.	61	77	2	-	1	3	1	-
	Measles	-	14	25	16	33	112	69	-
Reinf. injects. administered during 1968	Diph.	-	37	61	1	7	83	3	-
	Wh/c	-	22	42	-	-	30	-	-
	Tet.	-	37	61	1	7	86	4	-

Smallpox Vaccinations

Age Group	<u>Months</u>				<u>Years</u>		
	0-3	3-6	6-9	9-12	1	2-4	5-15
Vaccinations	-	-	-	-	-	6	7
Re-vaccinations	-	-	-	-	-	-	4

Poliomyelitis Vaccinations

AGE GROUP	2nd inj.	3rd inj.	4th inj.	3 oral doses	2 orals after 2 inj.	4th oral after 3 inj. or 3 oral
1968	-	-	-	59	-	-
1967	-	-	-	63	-	32
1966	-	-	-	-	-	58
1965	-	-	-	1	-	-
1964	-	-	-	-	-	1
1959 - 1963	-	-	-	16	-	59
1953 - 1958	-	-	-	-	-	-
Others under 16	-	-	-	-	-	-
Others over 16	-	-	-	-	-	-
TOTALS	-	-	-	139	-	150

Progress Returns forwarded to the Ministry of Housing and Local Government

A.	Houses adjoining Clearance areas	....	10
	Not in or adjoining Clearance areas	....	39
B.	<u>Unfit Houses Closed During the year</u>	....	5
C.	<u>Persons displaced</u>		
	From houses to be demolished	....	6
	From houses to be closed	....	3
D.	<u>Families Displaced during the year</u>		
	From houses to be demolished	....	1
	From houses to be closed	....	4
E.	<u>Unfit Houses made Fit</u>		
	By Owner	....	6
	By Local Authority	....	0
F.	<u>Houses in which defects were remedied</u>		
	After formal notice under the Public Health Acts	....	1
G.	<u>Unfit Houses in Temporary Use</u>	....	0
H.	<u>Purchase of Houses by Agreement</u>	....	19
	(Houses in Clearance areas other than those included in Confirmed Orders or Compulsory Purchase Orders)		

The figures relating to demolished houses are made up as follows :-

- 17 unfit houses demolished in Church Walk (Site to be used for proposed Group Dwelling)
- 8 " " demolished in Belle Vue Terrace (Site required for road)
- 13 " " demolished in Rotherstone (Purchased by local authority for redevelopment purposes)
- 6 " " demolished adjoining car park in New Park Street
- 5 " " demolished which includes 14 The Island, 3 and 4 Mead's Place (dangerous buildings) 16 Southend and 28 Hare and Hounds Street (extreme dilapidation)
- 5 " " Closed due either to the impracticability of demolition or the refusal by the existing owners to repair them at unreasonable expense. However, it is likely that a prospective purchaser will make these houses fit for habitation in the not too distant future.
- 19 houses purchased by agreement are 13 demolished in Rotherstone and 6 individual houses in Hare and Hounds Street redevelopment area.

IMPROVEMENT GRANTS

Standard Grants

Applications received during the year				13
Applications approved	"	"	"	
	{	Owner-occupied		6
	{	Other		6
Grants paid -	{	Number of dwell-		
	{	ings		3
	{	Amount paid	£542.0s. 1d.	
Amenities provided -		Fixed baths		3
		Wash basins		3
		Hot water supplies) at 3 points		3
		Water Closets		3
		Food Storage facilities		3
		Additional Grant-aided work -		
		Number of bathrooms added		2

Discretionary Grants

(a) Conversions

Applications received during the year				0
Applications approved	"	"	"	0
Grants paid -	{	Number of dwell-		
	{	ings		2
	{	Amount paid	£800	

(b) Improvements

Applications received during the year				2
Applications approved	"	"	"	1
Grants paid -	{	Number of dwell-		
	{	ings		3
	{	Amount paid	£1150	

HOUSING SURVEY

During the Year inspections have been made on 149 units of accommodation (approximately 50% of these are owner/occupied) with the object of ascertaining how many houses are lacking modern amenities and their state of disrepair. Areas that have been surveyed are :-

Avon Terrace	Lansdown Terrace
Cyprus Terrace	London Road
Farleigh Place	Southbroom
Melbourne Place	Southgate
Trafalgar Place	Estcourt Street (part)
Bath Road (part)	

The survey has revealed that there are 93 properties which do not possess all modern amenities in respect of one or more of the following :-

Hot water supply	29
Sink and internal water supply (Two houses were unoccupied and two tenants refused to have them installed)	5
Fixed bath	45
Wash-hand basin	47
Hot water supply to existing sink	12
Hot water supply to existing basin	12
Properly ventilated food store	79
Internal W.C.s (17 of these are common to 35 houses)	23
Shared W.C.s and repairs of a minor character are needed at 52 houses.	18

48 owners were approached after inspection either by letter or interview with a result that 16 properties have now been modernised and works are in progress on a further 5.

At the time of inspection owner/occupiers were given a Ministry booklet on improvement grants to encourage them to modernise their homes. So far the response by owners has been slow but this could be due, no doubt, to the Ministry's recent announcement of their proposals to increase improvement grants for modernisation schemes.

Common Lodging Houses

There are no common lodging houses in the Borough.

WATER SUPPLY

The water supply has remained satisfactory in quantity and quality. Raw samples of water continue to be taken regularly from sources at Shepherds Shore and Bourton by the North Wilts Water Board, for bacteriological testing at the Pathological Laboratory. All reports have been satisfactory.

Samples of water from the Town's mains have been taken from taps both by the Water Board and Public Health Inspector. The unsatisfactory samples were reported to be polluted to a very small degree with non-faecal type coliform organisms only, requiring no investigation :-

	<u>Satisfactory</u>	<u>Unsatisfactory</u>
Results of samples taken by North Wilts Water Board	20	1
Results of samples taken by Public Health Inspector	11	1
Number of dwelling houses supplied from public water mains		3,082
Number of population supplied from public water mains		9,405
Number of dwelling houses supplied by means of standpipes		4
Number of population supplied by means of standpipes		5
Fluoride content of water supplied from Bourton and Shepherds Shore to Borough	less than ...	0.1

There are repeated complaints of tap water being cloudy and/or tasting strongly of chlorine. Whilst water cloudiness may have shortcomings aesthetically, excessive chlorine will add to or alter the taste of commodities with which the water is mixed thereby provoking sympathy for the complainants. It is nevertheless felt that where deviations from the reasonable chlorine content of water are concerned, it is better that they be towards too much than too little.

It is again reported, with regret, that despite the efforts of the Borough Council towards that end no progress by the North Wilts Water Board who are the Water Authority, for the fluoridation of the supply can be seen to have been made. In this respect the members of the Borough Council can console themselves in the certain knowledge that they have not provided official opposition to this long overdue and worthwhile measure in the prevention of dental caries amongst the children of the Borough as well as those as yet not born.

SEWERAGE

The sewage from the Borough is dealt with by two plants. One of these, in the Parish of St. John the Baptist, is maintained by the Borough Surveyor, the other situated outside the Borough boundary, is in the grounds of Roundway Hospital and its supervision comes within the sphere of activities of the Engineer to the Roundway Hospital Management Committee.

Satisfactory results are obtained from the tests carried out on effluents from both plants.

It is worthy of consideration, however, that both plants may now be approaching, if they have not already exceeded the total throughput for which they were originally intended. In this connection it is pointed out that over the past two decades there has been a 27% rise in the Borough's population. When this is considered in conjunction with the extensive housing development that has occurred, added to the modernisation of older habitations, and the alterations in legislation in connection with industry and retailing, it can be seen that the demands made on the sewage plants have risen to a degree which could not have been foreseen, even in the immediate post-war period. It may well be that if the problem is not grappled with as a matter of some urgency, the limiting factor in the Borough's development will prove to be its incapacity to adequately dispose of its waste.

MILK

There are eight licensed milk dealers in the Borough; these operate four dairies, three shops and two vending-machines.

The Table below gives details of the results of cleanliness tests carried out on samples of milk taken throughout the year.

	<u>Pass</u>	<u>Fail</u>
Raw Milk	12	7
Pasteurised	36	0
	<u>48</u>	<u>7</u>

Seven samples of raw milk were examined for brucellosis and tuberculosis with negative results.

Bacteriological examination of bottles prepared for filling with milk were carried out with satisfactory results in all cases.

In my report for 1967 I commented on the fact that all samples failing the cleanliness tests were of raw milk. I make no apology for again drawing the reader's attention to the fact that in the year under review, the same situation prevails. Whilst the law still permits raw milk to be offered for sale, I cannot anticipate any tremendous improvement in the situation. It is to be hoped that before long the law will be such as to prohibit the sale of unpasteurised milk through any medium in the Borough of Devizes.

POULTRY INSPECTION

There are no poultry processing premises within the District.

PET MEAT

It is a cause for regret that the year should have come and gone without changes occurring in the Meat (Staining and Sterilisation) Regulations 1960. It is hoped that the year 1969 will not pass without alterations occurring to seal the loopholes in the legislation. Alterations are most definitely called for to safeguard the public against infections to their digestive systems where the organisms causing the infection can be spread by meat even though such meat is sold, at least in theory, intended to be for consumption only by cats and dogs.

UNSOUND FOOD

During the year a great deal of food was certified as being unfit for human consumption. This consisted mainly of food in tins which had either blown, become rusted or damaged in some way; the amount and kinds of food being too numerous to list here. Also, there were three instances where refrigerators in food premises had broken down making it necessary to confiscate the food and issue a certificate accordingly, so that the retailer could be reimbursed.

In the case of butchers' shops it is reported with pleasure that throughout the year no more than 6 lbs. of pork tenderloins and $3\frac{1}{2}$ lbs. of broiler chicken were found unfit for human consumption. These commodities were, of course, surrendered.

Food Hygiene (General) Regulations 1960

The following premises are subject to these Regulations :-

	No. of Premises	Number of Premises -		
		Fitted to Comply with Regn. 16	To which Regn. 19 applies	Fitted to Comply with Regn. 19
Dairies	4	4	4	4
Fish Shops (Wet)	1	1	1	1
Fish Shops (Fried)	5	5	5	5
Restaurants, Cafes, etc.	12	12	12	12
Hospitals, Institutions	6	6	6	6
School Canteens	8	8	8	8
Factory and Works Canteens	5	5	5	5
Licensed Premises	25	25	25	25
Mobile Vans	2	2	-	-
Sweet Shops	9	9	-	-
Bread & Confectionery	5	5	5	5
Covered Market (Stalls)	14	14	5	5
Public Buildings	2	2	2	2
Guest Houses	1	1	1	1
Grocers	18	18	18	18
Butchers	5	5	5	5
Greengrocers	6	6	-	-
Multiple Stores	3	3	3	3
Clubs etc.	9	9	9	9
TOTAL	140	140	114	114

These figures do not include food-rooms which are used in social activities in connection with Places of Worship. There are ten such places in the Borough - all have been visited. It was found that 7 have social rooms where food is dispensed occasionally and each conforms to Food Hygiene (General) Regulations.

Food Hygiene (General) Regulations 1960

Food premises were inspected at regular intervals and informal notices sent after which follow-up visits were necessary. Remedial action was taken in respect of the following deficiencies found :-

Market Stalls

Food exposed to contamination risk	7
Absence of towel, soap and nail-brush	1
Names not displayed at stalls	5
Absence of first-aid kit	1

Food Premises

Faulty staircase	1
Inadequate ventilation	3
Inadequate lighting	13
Improper handling of food	2
Unsatisfactory food benches and equipment	6
Yard in disrepair	1
Dirty overclothing	2
Food exposed to possible risk of contamination	3
Clothing or footwear found in food rooms	4
Unsanitary beer cellars	2
Improper storage of refuse	3
No first-aid materials available	3
Wrapping paper exposed to contamination	2

Washing facilities -

(a) No hot water at wash-hand basin	5
(b) No soap	1
(c) No towel	1
(d) No nail-brush	10
(e) No hand-washing notices	4
(f) Mis-use of wash-hand basin	2

Disrepair -

Floor coverings	9
Disrepair generally	24
In need of redecoration	6

Unsatisfactory Sanitary Accommodation

W.C. not ventilated	3
W.C. opening direct to food room	1
Insufficient sanitary accommodation	2
Inadequately lighted	2
In need of repair or redecoration	11

OFFICES, SHOPS AND RAILWAY PREMISES ACT 1963

Registration and General Inspections

Class of Premises	Number of Premises registered during the year	Number of Registered Premises at end of year	Number of Registered Premises receiving a general inspection during the year
Offices	1	41	9
Retail Shops	9	116	7
Wholesale Shops, Warehouses	0	3	1
Catering Establishments open to the Public, Canteens etc.	1	12	21
Fuel Storage Depots	0	2	3
Totals	7	174	41

Number of visits of all kinds (including General Inspections)
to Registered Premises 164

Number of persons employed in registered premises 980
(494 males and 486 females)

All premises registered under the above-mentioned Act have now received an inspection.

Analysis of Contraventions

Section	Number of Contraventions Found	Section	Number of Contraventions Found
4	Cleanliness 6	14	Seats (sedentary workers) 0
5	Overcrowding 0	15	Eating facilities 0
6	Temperature 8	16	Floors, passages & stairs 8
7	Ventilation 10	17	Fencing exposed parts of machinery etc. 0
9	Sanitary Conveniences 0	18	Protection of younger persons from dangerous machinery 0
10	Washing facilities 2		
11	Supply of drinking water 0	23	Prohibition of heavy work 0
12	Clothing accommodation 2	24	First-aid general provisions 9
13	Sitting facilities 2		
			Total 47

SUMMARY OF DUTIES

Environmental Hygiene

Visits made during the Year :-

Housing inspections and re-visits	258	Swimming Pool	3
Houses in multiple occupation	20	Infectious disease	24
Improvement grants	31	Complaints	83
Assessing sub-standard points	12	Factories	8
Overcrowding complaints	1	Offices, Shops and Railway Premises	164
Dirty houses	3	Nuisances abated	35
Food Hygiene (General) Regulations	205	<u>Drain complaints</u>	
Licensed premises	28	Choked or defective	7
Food and Drugs Act	51	Defects remedied	7
School kitchens	4	Drains smoke tested	2
Milk sampling	52	Drains colour tested	1
Water sampling	9	Drains water tested	7
Food poisoning investigations	1	<u>Nuisance complaints</u>	
Meetings with owners/builders/ representatives	105	Gas Leaks	8
Visits to works in progress	114	Pests	14
Miscellaneous visits	312	Pests - premises sprayed	8
Caravan sites	4	Rodent control	58
Petroleum Acts	79	Noise	4
Dangerous buildings	9		

RODENT CONTROL

The Devizes Borough Council continue to share on a half-time basis, the services of the Rodent Operative with the Devizes Rural District Council satisfactorily.

Sewer treatments have been carried out periodically. Heavy infestations were recorded at The Brittox and New Park Street in April but later in the year the infestation in New Park Street was considerably reduced. The Refuse Tip and Sewage Works are kept under surveillance to keep infestations to a minimum.

Below is a Table extracted from the annual report as supplied to the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food for the year under review :-

	TYPE OF PROPERTY	
	Non Agricultural	Agricultural
<u>PROPERTIES OTHER THAN SEWERS</u>		
1. Number of properties in district	3961	12
2 (a) Total number of properties (including nearby premises) inspected following notification	67	0
(b) Number infested by		
(i) Rats	58	
(ii) Mice	9	
3. Total number of properties inspected for rats and/or mice for reasons other than notification	1785	5
Number infested by (i) Rats	48	
(ii) Mice	5	

The Rodent Operative also dealt promptly with complaints arising from infestations of wasps, woodworm, moles, ants, cockroaches, woodlice and flies.

APPENDIX

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH IN RESPECT OF THE
YEAR 1968 FOR THE BOROUGH OF DEVIZES IN THE COUNTY OF WILTSHIRE

Prescribed Particulars on the Administration of the

Factories Act 1961

PART 1 OF THE ACT

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

Premises	Number on Register	Number of		
		Inspections	Written Notices	Occupiers Prosecuted.
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)
(i) Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities	1	-	-	-
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority	45	3	3	-
(iii) Other premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding out- workers premises)	5	5	1	-
TOTAL	51	8	4	Nil

2. Cases in which DEFECTS were found

Particulars	Found	Remedied	Referred		Number of case in which prosecutions were instituted.
			to H.M. Inspector	by H.M. Inspector	
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)
Want of Cleanliness (S.1)	-	-	-	-	-
Overcrowding (S.2)	-	-	-	-	-
Unreasonable temperature (S.3)	-	-	-	-	-
Inadequate ventilation (S.4)	-	-	-	-	-
Ineffective drainage of floors (S.6)	-	-	-	-	-
Sanitary Conveniences (S.7)					
(a) Insufficient	2	2	-	-	-
(b) Unsuitable or defective	3	3	-	2	-
(c) Not separate for sexes	-	-	-	-	-
Other offences against the Act (not including offences relating to outwork)	-	-	-	-	-
TOTAL	5	5	-	2	-

PART VIII OF THE ACT

Outwork (Sections 133 and 134)

Nature of Work	No. of Outworkers in August list required by Section 133(1)(c)	No. of cases of default in sending lists to the Council	No. of prosecutions for failure to supply lists	No. of instances of work in unwholesome premises	Notices Served	Prosecutions
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)
Wearing) Making Apparel) etc.,) Cleaning) and) Washing	-	-	-	-	-	-

