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#### **Contributors**

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### DEVIZES RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL



# ANNUAL REPORT

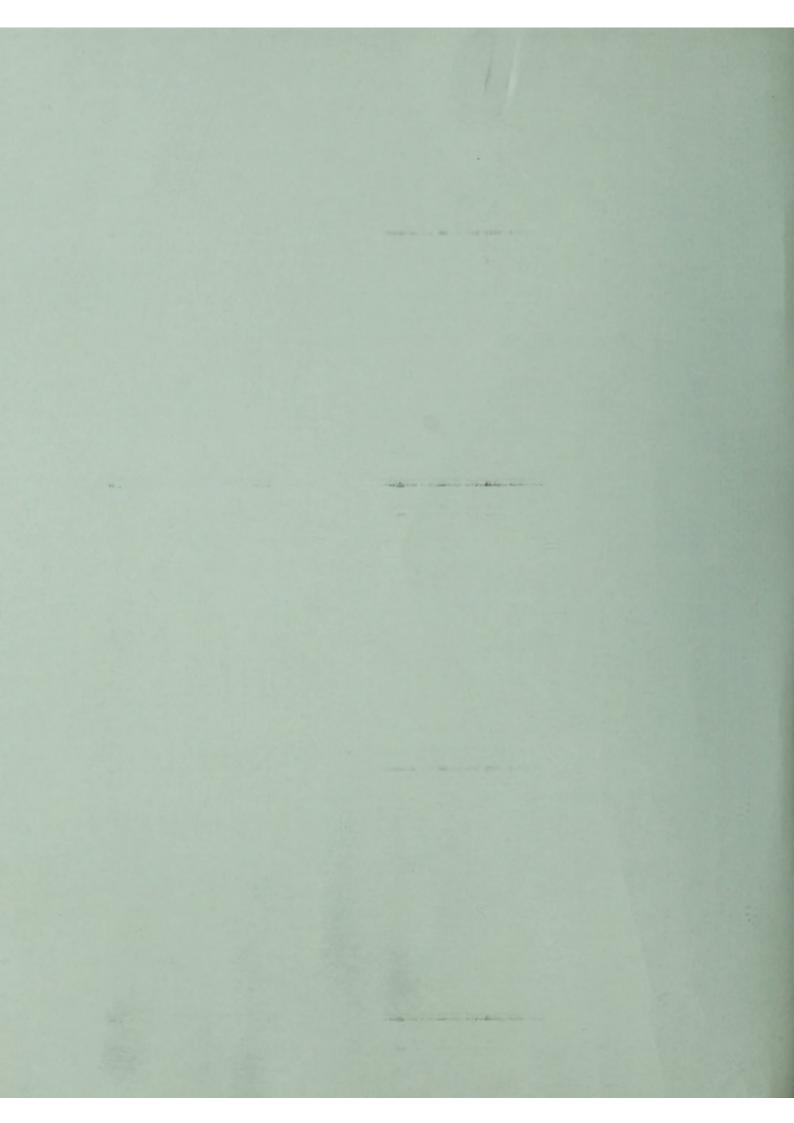
of the

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

and of the

SENIOR PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR

for the year



#### DEVIZES RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL

The Public Health Department,
Browfort,
DEVIZES,

Telephone No. : Devizes 701.

Wiltshire.

To the Chairman and Members of the Devizes Rural District Council :-

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to present my Annual Report on the state of the Public Health of the District during the year 1962.

I wish to thank the Chairman and Members of the Council for their help and understanding of public health problems, and the other senior officials of the Council for their cooperation.

I also wish to draw attention to the help given me by the County Council and voluntary officials in the Council's area who have readily come forward to help families in social difficulties.

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.).

Senior Public Health Inspector :

G.E. WILLIAMS, M.R.S.H., M.A.P.H.I., (also Surveyor and Water Engineer).

Additional Public Health Inspectors :

A.A. WHITING, A.I.A.S., A.M.I.P.H.E., M.R.S.H., M.A.P.H.I., M.R.I.P.H.H. (also Deputy Surveyor and Deputy Water Engineer).

D.W.E. JESSETT, M.A.P.H.I.

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#### GENERAL STATISTICS

Area in Acres	 63,520
Population (Registrar General's Estimate)	 14,230
Number of Inhabited Houses	 3,948
Rateable Value as at 1st April, 1962	 £120,294
Estimated Product of 1d rate	 £455

#### VITAL STATISTICS

## Birth and Death Rates compared with other Areas (Births and Deaths per 1,000 population)

		Birth Rate	Death Rate
Devizes Rural Dis	trict	 19.31	9.89
England Wales		 18.0	11.90
Wiltshire		 19.57	10.82
Devizes Borough		 18.09	9.12

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		Illegi	Total	
	Male	Female	Male	Female	
Live Births	114	112	10	3	239
Still Births	4	1	-	-	5
Deaths under 1 year	2	5	-	-	7
Deaths under 4 weeks	1 1	4	-	-	5
Deaths under 1 week	1 1	4	-	-	5

. . .

#### Infantile Mortality Rate

The infantile mortality rate is the number of deaths among infants under one year of age per 1,000 live births. There were seven deaths among infants under one year of age to 239 births in the area. These figures are too small to calculate an infantile mortality rate but the number of deaths is higher than in previous years. Five of the infants died within a matter of hours after birth and all deaths were either due to prematurity or congenital deformity. The national infantile mortality 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 fulfil 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. Digitized by the Internet Archive in 2017 with funding from Wellcome Library

#### COMMUNICABLE DISEASE

The following infectious diseases were notified during the year :-

Measles ... 17
Scarlet Fever ... 11
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 from possible contacts, the circumstances of all of whom it was necessary to investigate 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. One family in the area were remote contacts being subjected by the Department to a home and garden quarantine, and because of this I decided to vaccinate the Public Health Inspectors. Later in the year it was necessary to trace contacts from the S.S. "Oronsay" for the same reason.

In May the Mass Radiography Service attended Market Lavington, West Lavington, Potterne, Bromham, and the Roundway Park area. 839 persons presented themselves for minature X-ray. Eight 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 to 13 year old school children and others who are adolescent as a routine procedure.

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.

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

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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 intermittently only, 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 making it easier to deal with this type of milk infection.

#### SUMMARY OF DEFINE

			Male	Female
Infectious Disease:	Influenza Tuberculosis		 1 2	1
Respiratory Disease	:Pneumonia Bronchitis		 17 3	19 1
Cancer:	Stomach Lung Breast Uterus Blood Other		 2 2 0 0 0 6	4 1 5 1 2 13
Heart and Circulation:	Coronary Dise Brain Haemorr High Blood Pr Other	hage	 29 8 1 25	17 12 2 28
Gastric and Duodena: Gastritis and Enter: Hyperplasia of Prost Congenital Malforma: Motor Vehicle Accide All other Accidents	itis tate tion ents	ases	 1 1 0 4 0 3 0 2 10	2 0 1 0 2 0 5 0
			117	130

#### CAUSES OF DEATH

#### LUNG CANCER

The number of deaths from Lung Cancer continues to rise nationally, and there is much loose thinking about the cause. Half 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. To those who would like to weigh up the facts I commend a Penguin Special entitled "Common Sense about Smoking".

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#### DRAINAGE

Complaints about drainage were received mostly from low lying areas such as Poulshot, which are difficult to drain. Except for these well-known areas, arrangements for sewage disposal in the district are now very good. A table of priorities was approved by the Public Health Committee in December and confirmed by Council in January 1963.

Priority	Area	Estimated Cost £.	Year
1	Poulshot, Worton and Marston	94,000	1963/64
2	Sells Green	7,500	1964/65
3	Chirton, Conock and Patney	44,000	1964/65
4	Coate and Little Horton	10,000	1964/65
5	Horton	10,000	1964/65
6	All Cannings	23,500	1964/65
7	Bishops Cannings	50,000	1965/66
8	Marden	10,000	1965/66
9	Marsh Lane, Rowde (may be included in the Poulshot Scheme)		
10	Allington	11,300	1965/66
11	The Sands, Drove Lane, Market Lavington	11,300	1965/66
12	Chittoe	8,300	1965/66
13	Stert	8,300	1965/66
14	Beechingstoke	24,400	1966/67
15	Eastcott	7,000	1966/67
16	Roundway Village	7,000	1966/67
17	Seend Cleeve and Seend Row	23,200	1966/67

This table indicates that the Council tackles the sewerage problems boldly and is a great help to persons building or improving houses in these villages who now know exactly where they stand.

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#### HOUSING

It is interesting to lock back on a change of policy which has come about in that part of my work concerned with rehousing. In the first few years I visited those persons who tried to obtain my support for rehousing. In doing so it appeared that many others who had not even applied for rehousing really needed new or improved homes. Latterly in connection with Hedges House many visits have been made to applicants whether they have asked to see me or not and indeed, several old persons were visited with rehousing in mind, who were not applicants at all.

In making these visits to some fifty persons over the age of sixty years I have been impressed by the need for a rural meals on wheels service, and by the importance of amenities in rural areas so that when older, persons can continue to care for themselves. Private enterprise delivers most commodities now to the back door, it is up to us to deliver "welfare" services to the back door also.

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#### 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 Rural District during the year.

#### DIPHTHERIA, WHOOPING COUGH AND TETANUS IMMUNISATIONS

Year of Birth	1962	1961	1960	1959	1958	1953-57	1948-52	
Primary immunisations	Diphtheria	43	95	9	2	2	31	5
completed during 1962	Whooping Cough	43	94	9	1	2	.4	1
	Tetanus	43	95	9	2	4	121	14
Reinforcement	Diphtheria	-	11	20	4	7	111	6
injections administered during 1962.	Whooping Cough	-	11	17	3	3	6	-
.,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,	Tetanus	-	11	20	4	7	120	8

#### SMALLPOX VACCINATIONS

Age Group	Under 1	1	2 - 4	5 - 14	15 or over
Vaccinations	125	30	35	152	199
Revaccinations	-	-	18	120	472

#### POLIOMYELITIS VACCINATIONS

Persons Born	2nd injection	3rd injection	4th injection		3rd oral after 2 injections	4th oral
1943 - 1961	48	168	16	57	28	113
1933 - 1942	9	41	-	8	8	-
Babies born in 1962	1	-	-	3	-	-
Others	12	127	-	24	1'6	-
Totals	70	336	16	92	52	113

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#### REPORT OF THE SENIOR PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR.

To the Chairman & Members of the Devizes Rural District Council.

Mr. Chairman, Ladies & Gentlemen,

I have the honour to submit my annual report for the year, 1962.

I would like to take the opportunity of thanking the Council for the appreciation and support.

My thanks also to the Clerk, Treasurer and, particularly, your Medical Officer of Health, for information, advice and help always readily given.

A competent, conscientious and loyal staff is a sine qua non to efficient Public Service. I cordially acknowledge my gratitude to them.

I have the honour to remain,

Your obedient servant,

G.E. WILLIAMS.

Surveyor & Senior Public Health Inspector.

To the Chairman & Manbers of the Dowloos Rural District Council. ours a st Tids Lovel Die moltmokesmon , deed open A que non to officient Public Service. I cordisally coknowledge

#### WATER SUPPLY.

After a series of false starts the North Wilts Water Board began its legal existence during the year and took over the Council's water undertaking as from 1st October, 1962.

Of the seven waterworks absorbed by the new Authority it would not be unfair to say that there was no more comprehensive system or now in better order than that handed over by the Council. Every dwelling within the rural area with the exception of a few outlying farms and cottages has available an adequate and pure supply of water. The system could have been run efficiently and cheaply by the R.D.C., for the foreseeable future without any major capital works or reorganisation. Income was steadily increasing, operational costs were held and the need for large increases in the water tariff would have been unecessary.

The assets transferred included three pumping stations, seven reservoirs, ninety-two miles of water mains, having a total value of over a third of a million pounds. Good human assets in the shape of an excellent general foreman and reliable workmen were also handed over to the Board where they will no doubt give invaluable service in sustaining supplies in the Devizes area.

To make certain that the Council's system had no weaknesses, and to assure supplies for many years to come, the Council embarked on two schemes immediately prior to transfer viz., the Crookwood link - at a cost of £12,250, and the sinking of a third borehole at Erlestoke, approximate cost £4,500. They might well have avoided the trouble of carrying out these schemes if so minded but on the contrary they did not hesitate to take the broader view and proceed with the work, some of which will not be completed until 1963 or 1964.

Much of the statistical information usually included in this section of the report is omitted on this occasion because the period covered, i.e., from 1st January to 30th September, is less than a whole year and they could be misleading and not give accurate comparisons with previous years. Moreover, the Water Board will no doubt present them in different form and context.

The table showing water consumption from January to September is included and the results of bacteriological examinations.

The Council will of course, continue to have an interest in ensuring that the people within its area receive at all times an adequate and wholesome supply of water and to exert pressure on the Water Board should they fail in that respect. Samples of water will be taken from time to time as a check on the maintenance of purity and arrangements have been made with the Board's Engineer to exchange information on this score.

None of the water supplied is plumbo-solvent.

pr the deven enturaces absorbed by the new Authority it rould not be united to say that there was no more constrainments ayotem or The state of the s balton wit necessarion/tacon atol on halling al froque self to notions staugets no west? Its to authors again all mintle along and their authoras trans and the state of the same of the same of the telest of the telest from the telest of the same of 3

Table No.1.
The amount of water supplied in the months January - September, 1962, from Great Cheverell, Chirton, Erlestoke, Devizes Borough, Calne & Chippenham R.D.C., etc., sources. Expressed in thousands of gallons per month.

1901 1008 14 29	2303 1116 15 27 213	1881 61 16 40	612 70 13 36	315 98 36 50	1339 100 29 45	1005 73 12 35	1641 54 7 32	126 <b>9</b> 2 3697 161 329
14	15 27	16 40	13	36	29	12	7	161
29	27	40	36					
				50	45	35	32	329
186	213	203	0.0					
			212	267	313	287	175	2052
304	350	349	388	376	392	377	290	3168
1040	1230	1117	1008	1208	1300	1033	816	10001
3356	3944	3604	3295	4280	4749	3958	3100	32555
2482	2830	2381	2096	2694	2819	2058	2002	22665
1350	2793	3032	51 79	6390	5427	4625	3573	35287
	1040 3356 2482 1350	1040 1230 3356 3944 2482 2830 1350 2793	1040 1230 1117 3356 3944 3604 2482 2830 2381 1350 2793 3032	1040 1230 1117 1008 3356 3944 3604 3295 2482 2830 2381 2096 1350 2793 3032 5179	1040     1230     1117     1008     1208       3356     3944     3604     3295     4280       2482     2830     2381     2096     2694       1350     2793     3032     5179     6390	1040     1230     1117     1008     1208     1300       3356     3944     3604     3295     4280     4749       2482     2830     2381     2096     2694     2819       1350     2793     3032     5179     6390     5427	1040     1230     1117     1008     1208     1300     1033       3356     3944     3604     3295     4280     4749     3958       2482     2830     2381     2096     2694     2819     2058       1350     2793     3032     5179     6390     5427     4625	1040 1230 1117 1008 1208 1300 1033 816 3356 3944 3604 3295 4280 4749 3958 3100

No water is supplied from public standpipes. Number of dwellinghouses supplied: 3804 Estimated population supplied:

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#### Results of bacteriological examinations after treatment:

South Eastern scheme.				North Eastern scheme.	
1. 5.62	Satis	factory		9. 1.62 Satisfactory.	
22. 5.62	"			6. 3.62 " (2)	
19. 7.62				26. 3.62 "	
23.10.62.	11			24. 4.62 "	
30.10.62	"		(2)	23. 5.62 "	
30.10.62	11	str.	,	2. 7.62 "	
13.11.62	11	*		28. 8.62 "	
13.11.62	tt		(2)	27. 9.62 "	
20.11.62	11	*	, ,	30.10.62 "	
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27.11.62	***	1/1	, ,		
4.12.62	11	*			
4.12.62	11				
11.12.62	***		(3)		
18.12.62	11	ηk			

#### North Western scheme,

#### 16. 1.62 Satisfactory. 30. 1.62 14. 2.62 Slight degree of pollution. 6. 3.62 (non-faecal) 20. 3.62 Satisfactory. 17. 5.62 22, 5.62 11. 7.62 17. 7.62 28. 8.62 11 11 tt 24. 9.62 (2) 2 6.11.62 20.11.62 18.12.62

#### South Western scheme.

000011 1100	DOLLI DOLLONO.	
14. 3.62	Satisfactory.	
21. 5.62	n n	
4. 7.62	"	
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	H sk	101
23.10.62	11 sk	(2) (3) (2)
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	11 st	131
11.12.62	11	12
18.12.62		(3)
18.12.62	** **	

<sup>\*</sup> Samples taken by the Water Board.

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#### HOUSING.

The attack on the housing problem is conducted on three main fronts, viz: the provision of new duellings by the Council and private enterprise, the repair and improvement of private and municipally owned property and, thirdly, slum clearance. The record of the year's work is discussed under these three and other subsidiary headings.

#### New Dwellings.

There were no dwellings erected by the Council during the year. Nineteen houses were erected by private enterprise. The corresponding figures for 1961 were 14 and 26 and for 1960 27 and 47.

#### Housing for the Elderly.

Practically the whole of the Council's efforts on new housing were concentrated on the provision of a group of 19 self contained dwellings with certain shared communal facilities. The object is to cater for those no longer active and for the more infirm who may need attendance from time to time, such assistance being obtained from a resident warden.

A well chosen site had been secured in West Lavington and by the end of the year building was almost completed.

This well conceived, cleverly designed and generously appointed project will provide for about 30 people a standard of accommodation which they must imagine to exist only in their dreams. They will enjoy central heating, communal lounge, reading and writing room, television, laundry, drying accommodation, guest rooms for visiting relatives, together with a garden set in a peaceful, beautiful country. It is a worthy ideal well executed and an acknowledgement of our indebtedness to generations who are past active work.

### (a) Privately owned property.

During the year 61 Standard Grants were approved. The cost of the works was approximately £21,580 and the total paid in grants was £8,312.

The suspension of the Discretionary Grant scheme following a Council decision in August, 1961, persisted until October, 1962. From that date until the 31st December, 1962, 4 Discretionary Grants were approved. The cost of the works was £4,688 and the total paid in grants was £1,555.

#### Common Lodging Houses.

There are no common lodging houses in the district.

fronts, vin the provision of our Collins by No Cornell and Indexed a private Los Los Cornell and Indexed to Collins and Collins of States and Collins a most contains paint constained deta test or end mill omitted the wall observed that been secured in Frat lavingum and ey the Canada and a contract of the c occupies the more my limit home and the value of the property of the contract until aboundary to brancett a signey Of those gat thereby like footong which they good investiga to exist only in their drusse. They will end or the fley firstly constitution, great rooms for weathing cointives, but all without a at it . wetness that the state a more than one offered at the Later and the fire the viole tree and attended a galactic's action describ macol remodel and to solutions add Council decision in August, 1981, persistent intil Colonor, 1962, Proc. Rest Cate until Decision when the Colonor Council Colonor Decision (Colonor Colonor Colono C

From the date of the first Improvement Grant approval - 16th December, 1951 - the total cost of improving 424 houses was £270,268 and of this sum the Council have paid the owners thereof a total of £102,367.

What is the Council's record in achieving improvements and repairs of privately owned property by means of the Improvement Grant schemes? Outstandingly good. So good in fact that during 1961 (the latest year for which figures are available) the number of Standard Grants approved was approximately three times more than any other Rural Authority in Wiltshire. The Council is by no means the largest Rural Authority in Wiltshire. The record in regard to Discretionary Grants is also very favourable although the Council suspended this form of grant for fourteen months, had they not done so we should have been easy leaders on this score also.

What is the explanation for this remarkable result ? Firstly, getting priorities right; viz, water supply, severage, then housing. Secondly, a willingness by the Council to spend large sums to implement the schemes. Lastly, diligent, persuasive and helpful application by the staff who never miss an opportunity to secure improvement of poor and deficient houses.

#### (b) Council owned property.

Thirty-nine pre-war Council houses were provided with a bathroom and hot water supply.

The Old School, Marden, was converted to a bungalow with modern conveniences and work was also commenced on modernising two ex-police houses in Bishops Cannings.

#### Caravans.

This form of housing is used only on a small scale in this district. The number of caravan site licences is 38. Of these, 29 are for single caravans, 6 are for 2 caravans, 1 is for 4 permanent caravans and 2 holiday caravans and 2 are for 8 caravans. Thus the total number of caravans would not exceed 63. This equals 1 caravan to every 63 houses.

A holiday site for 15 caravans was under construction.

An unusual and interesting application for the establishment of a site comprising 50 mobile homes and a residential club in the grounds of a Country house was received. Following disagreement between the Council and the Wiltshire County Council the application was withdrawn and eventually refused by the Planning Authority.

The caravan, even the modern extra-large well insulated type fitted with bathroom, w.c., hot water supply and electricity, can never be as convenient, suitable or healthy to live in as a good permanent building.

Price the date of the Alext Inprovent Space and add add and active the state of the pertion providing right view outs varied rapid severage, the hersing to improve the temperature of the council to appeal the same to improve the council to appeal to A CONTRACTOR OF THE PROPERTY O This form of boundary to west will need to see a lift of the control of the contr The inherent limitations of space, heating, ventilation, cooking and storage must eventually be irksome and a strain, particularly if there are children. Nevertheless, it suits the mode of life of a small section of the community and, provided they can conform to certain basic essentials and are located in suitable places, the Council are not opposed to them.

#### Repair of Council houses.

The Council decided during the year to start a direct labour section for the repair and maintenance of all their property. Hitherto most repairs have been done by several small builders. It is hoped thereby to give tenants quicker attention to repairs and to effect a saving in cost and a better standard of work. The organisation will start to function in 1963.

#### Slum Clearance.

Sixteen houses were demolished during the year. Demolition Orders were made on two properties and Closing Orders were made on three properties. One Demolition Order was revoked during the year.

The total number of properties which are the subject of Closing, Demolition and Clearance Orders and which are still standing at the end of the year are

#### Some general considerations.

The pressing general housing need of the area has, as a result mainly of the Council's effort and, to a lesser extent, private building, been fullfilled. It is true that at the end of the year the number of applicants for Council houses was 387 but this figure is and always has been a very unreliable indication of the housing need and any Authority which plans its future building programme on such data is asking for trouble in the future.

It costs nothing to fill in an application form and there is no penalty if the applicant changes his mind about housing needs, nor is he obliged to inform the Authority if his needs have been met by some other means. He may move out of the district within a few days of making his application and only exceptionally will he ask for his name to be deleted. It is all much too easy for the applicant. Why not charge a fee for entering an application - the fee could be remitted when the Council offered a house and it was accepted or when a bona-fide application was withdrawn. Such a fee would be a strong inducement to a sense of responsibility and help to ensure that the list of applicants was a more accurate index to housing need. The need to incur heavy capital commitments requires additional proof to that afforded by the waiting list.

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#### TOWN & COUNTRY PLANNING ACTS.

The number of applications submitted under the Town & Country Planning Acts and Building Acts were as follows:

Total number of applications: 362.

Building Byelaws: 203 approved.

Town & Country Planning Acts: 179 approved.

24 refused.

6 withdrawn after negotiations.

There were five appeals to the Minister all of which were refused.

The scarcity and high cost of building land in Urban areas leads developers to seek sites in Rural areas. Several applications for sizeable housing estates were considered. These mean protracted negotiations with applicants and prospective purchasers concerning the type of development, lam-out, road pattern, density, access, provision of services etc., long before formal application is lodged.

It seems doubtful whether some of the approved estates will materialise in the foreseeable future. To that extent some of this work may be abortive.

Building activity, much of it in improvement and reconstruction work, continues as a high level.

All builders are heavily committed and inspections and tests of work proceeding over the whole area take up much of your officer's time.

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#### SHWERAGE.

A very good progress was made in the construction of sewerage schemes. The West Lavington system was completed, likewise Great and Little Cheverell. A tender was accepted for the Potterne stage 3 and the preparation of the Poulshot, Worton and Marston scheme reached an advanced stage.

Modern sewerage systems are now in operation for the following Parishes:-

Erlestoke.
Market Lavington.
Urchfont (including
Wedhampton).
Seend.
Potterne.

Great Cheverell.

Easterton.
Bromham.
Rowde.
Stanton St. Bernard.
Etchilhampton.
West Lavington.
Little Cheverell.

The Erlestoke village sewage works owned by the War Department, was after long and tedious negotiation over many years, purchased from them at a favourable price and taken over in March. Work on the renewal of fencing, pumps and sprinklers was put in hand and considerable further expenditure will have to be incurred. Sludge removal at Cock road and Woodbridge sewage works was mechanised.

Nine sewage works, nine pumping stations and approximately 30 miles of sewers have been constructed at a total cost in the region of £400,000 over the last few years. The overall cost per mile of sewer averages about £13,500. The annual cost of operating the schemes is around £6,500.

A modern sewerage system is now available to approximately 70% of the population of the district. This surely is a remarkable progress when one considers that ten years ago the Council did not possess a single village sewerage scheme.

Not many Rural of comparable population density have achieved so much.

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#### SHOPS.

The village shop is following the pattern of its town counterpart in becoming part self-service. Legal requirements are being maintained.

#### FOOD PREMISES.

Food premises in the district have now attained a reasonably high standard of hygiene and during the year your Officers have concentrated on advising food handlers on improving their techniques with open foods and food storage generally.

#### NUMBER AND TYPE OF FOOD PREMISES.

General Retail food shops.	Licenced premises.	Butcher's shops.		Fish	schools & Institutes.	PERSONAL PROPERTY OF THE PROPE
48	46	7	6	2	24	3

# DISEASES OF ANIMALS (WASTE FOODS) ORDER, 1957.

The number of premises licenced for the boiling of waste foods is 5.

The provisions of the Order which requires the sterilisation of all waste food before feeding livestock has without doubt borne fruit. This is shown in the lower incidence of certain disease in pigs.

#### PETROLEUM ACTS.

During the year your Officers have concentrated on installations which still fell short of the Council's new licencing requirements and by December, 1962 most premises were right up to the required standard.

#### \* 6 INKS

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#### COOR MEET WASHING.

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# PUBLIC HEALTH COMPLAINTS.

Type of Complaint.	Number.	Remedied.	Outstan- ding.	No action necessary.
Housing (excluding Council housing).	3	1	2	-
Overcrowding.	-	-	-	-
Insanitary houses.	6	2	2	2
Sewerage.	7	1	1	5
Drainage.	7	3	2	2
River pollution.	3	2	1	-
Water.	4	2	1	1
Refuse.	7	5	-	2
Keeping of animals.	3	2	-	1
Fly infestation.	1	1	-	-
Rodent infestation.	-	-	-	-
Footpaths.	2	1	-	1
Smoke.	-	-	- 10	-
Offensive accumulations.	2	2	-	-
Miscellaneous.	7	4	-	3
Total.	52	26	9	17

# SULMARY OF INSPECTIONS.

			-			
	aneous					51
Housing.						328
	es					84
Drainage						288
Sewerage						184
	apply					81
		•••		• • • •	• • • •	
	amples	• • •		• • •	• • • •	62
Dairies.						6
	mpling					41
Food ins	spection.					212
Food she	ps					133
	ses					9
						22
	ps & Factor		10000	707.7	1000000	31
						-
	m regulati			• • •		103
	control				• • •	6
						1536
Town & C	country plan	ming.				84
Building	inspection	n				703
	ous disease					25
	in animal					19
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## MILK SUPPLIES.

The Wiltshire County Council delegated to this Council their powers of licencing and sampling under the Milk (Special Designations) Regulations, 1960. The frequency of sampling was stepped up.

The number of Producer/Retailers and Distributors of raw milk was four. The number of Distributors selling heat treated milk was 5.

### Sampling results:

	Passed.	Failed.	Total.
Methylene Blue test (for keeping quality. Tuberculin tested milk).	52	22	74
Phosphatase test (for efficient pasteurisation).	52	1	53
Biological test (for presence of tubercule bacillus and brucella abortus).	87	9	96

In addition to the above, six bottle washings were taken 4 were satisfactory and 2 failed. Eleven churn washings were taken which all failed. These failures were due to inexpert cleaning and after instruction by your officer further samples were satisfactory.

## ICE CREAM.

The number of premises registered for the sale of ice cream is 43. Every premise was found to comply with the relevant regulations.

# Sampling results:

	Provi	sional g	grades of Cleanlines				
	I.	II.	III.	IV.	Total.		
Manufacturer A	5	9	1	-	15		
В	10	1	-	-	11		
C	4	-	-	-	4		
	19	10	1	_	30		

The Public Health Laboratory service suggests that 50% of a vendor's samples should fall into Grade I, 80% into grades I or II, not more than 20% into grade III and none into Grade IV. These samples are well within these limits.

BELIEVE MILE

The Thitadate country Country to Country to this Country off of the Country and animaling under the 1911 (Sweetal Conferences) Regulations to 1960. The frequency of sampling was accepted up.

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#### MEAT INSPECTION.

Two slaughterhouses, one solely for the requirements of a single butcher and the other serving four or five butchers in the district; have been extremely well maintained and operated. The standard of slaughtering and dressing is high resulting in first class presentation of meat.

The number of carcasses inspected and condemned was as follows: -

	Cattle excluding cows.	Cows.	Calves.	Sheep and lambs.	Pigs.
Number killed and inspected.	574	145	34	536	1 540
ALL DISEASES EXCEPT TUBERCUL	OSIS AND CY	STICERC	osis.		
Whole carcasses condemned.	-	-	1	-	-
Carcasses of which some or organ was condemned.	6	3	- (0	-	11
Percentage of the number inspected affected with disease.	1.045%	2.07%	2.94%	-	-714%
TUBERCULOSIS ONLY. Whole carcasses condemned.	-	-	-	-	-
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned.	du-	-	-	-	2
Percentage of the number inspected affected with tuberculosis.	-	-	- 5	-	.13%
CYSTICERCOSIS.					
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned.	-	-	-	-	-
Carcasses submitted to treatment by refrigeration.	-	-	-	-	-
Generally and totally condemned.	-	-	-	-	-
Percentage of the number inspected affected with cysticercosis.	-	-	-	-	-

### MODE DESIGNATION.

Two elementarioscot, one solely for the requirements of a single butcher and the other serving from the five butchers in the district; have been extracely sell estatained and openated. The stunders of alementarios and discount is high resulting to first class presentation of mont.

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			1		
Constant and totally contends.					
Percentage of the number improved affected of th				-	
					1
		-	1	1310	1 13

# FACTORIES ACT, 1937 and 1959.

The majority of Parishes have at least one factory in the form of village garage, builder's workshop or bakery. It is usual to carry out inspections under the Factories Act in conjunction with visits under the Petroleum Acts or Food & Drugs Act.

Minor contraventions of the Act have been remedied by informal action. The Wiltshire Fire Brigade have now assumed responsibility for issuing "Means of Escape" Certificates.

Details of visits are as follows:

Part I of the Act.

#### 1. INSPECTIONS FOR PURPOSES OF PROVISION AS TO HEALTH.

Premises.	Number on Register.		Number of written notices.  (4)	Occup- iers prosecu- ted. (5)
(i) Factories in which sections 1,2,3,4 (Not usi and 6 are to be mechanic enforced by Local power). Authority.		1	-	-
(ii) Factories not included in (i) (Using in which section mechanic 7 is enforced by power).  Local Authority.	al 52	33	5	-
(iii)Other premises in which section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority. (Excluding out- worker's premises).	-	-	-	-
TOTAL	53	34	5	-

# Part VIII of the Act - OUTWORK (Sections 110 and 111).

Eight premises are registered for outworkers for the making of wearing apparel. No premises required any action being taken.

#### MACTORIES ACT. 1977 and 1979.

The najority of Parishes have at least one factory in the form of village grange, builder's workshop on beharf, it is east, to carry out interpositions under the grander for the conjunction with visits under the Potrology int.

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# 2. CASES IN WHICH DEFECTS WERE FOUND.

	Number of cases in which defects were found.					
Particulars.	Found.	Remedied.		ed by H.M. Inspector	Number of cases in which prosecu- tions were in- stituted	
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	
Want of cleanliness. (S1)	-	-	-	-	-	
Overcrowding. (S2)	-	-	-	-	-	
Unreasonable temperature. (S3)	-	-	-	-	-	
Inadequate ventilation. (S4)	-	-	-	-	-	
Ineffective drainage of floors. (S6)	-	-	-	-	-	
Sanitary conveniences.(S7) (a) Insufficient.	-	-	-	-	-	
(b) Unsuitable or defective.	5	5	-	-	-	
(c) Not separate for sexes.		-	-	-	-	
Other offences against the Act (Not including offenced relating to Outwork.	_	-	-	-	-	
TOTAL.	5	5		-		

OFFICE IN WHICH DEPENTS VALUE FORMS

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Upant of Stonilliness.	en en en				
Organization (SE)			5		
Unreasebale Desparature, (83)					
(se) moderatermy					
Institution designation of the contract (35)					
Smiltery compenses, (87)	7		1. 400	-	
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October ofference eccuses the Act (Not Lec) with act ofference relating to					
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## REFUSE COLLECTION & DISPOSAL.

The fortnightly kerbside system of refuse collection worked smoothly and within its limitations, efficiently. I say within its limitations advisedly for there are many who think that a fortnightly collection and, for that matter, a kerbside collection, is not good enough. The service can be improved quite easily. It is all a question of whether the ratepayers are willing to pay the cost. At double the present cost, which is a very low one, it would be possible to give a weekly and a rear of premises collection. Twelve shillings and six pence per person per annum is surely good value for a weekly back door collection. Are there many better bargains at the price of a box of matches per week.?

The total cost of collection and disposal for the year ended 31st March, 1962 was £5,850, from which has to be deducted £2,005 for income received, giving a nett cost of £3,745. The approximate cost of the service per head of population served was  $5/2\frac{1}{4}d$ .

The total quantity of salvage collected was :

Scrap metal: 244.18.6. Rags.: 58:10.0.

Twenty five per cent of this sum - £75.17. 2d., was paid in bonus to the workmen engaged on this service.

To safeguard the problem of refuse disposal in future years, the opportunity was taken of purchasing 4 acres of suitable land at Dewey's Water, about a quarter of a mile south of the present tip. The tip is central to the most populous part of the area and should not present any special difficulties or expense when the time comes to operate it.

# RODENT CONTROL.

Regular and systematic inspection and treatment of premises has been maintained during the year. Details of visits made and the treatment carried out are shown in the following table.

Sewers in most of the larger villages were test baited and results showed that there was no infestation.

The Council continues to share the services of the Rodent Operator with the Devizes Borough and with co-operation on both sides the arrangement works satisfactorily.

equoting and virbancian limitations, any including the pay within its The tetal one of collection and chapters for the your cold I am hereeling sparies to wilmany Laret out . W . B . E059 the fire our period of this can will be all the our wall thank To seregular the cropies of rottes of the former tears, the control of the former tears, the control of the con .ab-elemoge adionor has been and such acommongs by the control of the such and a such borods

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	-	PE OF PRO			
	(1) Local Auth-	houses (inc.	(3) All other (inc.	(4) Total of cols. (1) (2) & (3)	(5) Agri- cult- ural.
(1) Number of properties in Local Authorities district.	9	3999	244	4252	845
(2) Total number of properties inspected as a result of notification.	-	39	-	39	-
Number of such properties found to be infested by:-					
Common ) Major. Rat ) Minor.	-	- 25	2	27	
Ship ) Major. Rat ) Minor.	I	-	=	-	
House ) Major. mouse ) Minor.	_	9	3	- 12	-
(3) Total number of properties inspected in the course of survey under the Act.	9	2830	28	2867	97
Number of such properties found to be infested by:					
Common ) Major. Rat ) Minor.	2 4	43 162	2 2	47 168	
Ship ) Major. Rat ) Minor.	-	-	-	-	-
House ) Mouse )	-	8	-	8	-

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	TYPE OF PROPERTY.						
	Non-	Agricultu			I		
	(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)		
(4) Total number of properties other-wise inspected e.g. when visited primarily for some other purpose	-	-					
(5) Total inspections carriedout incl. re-inspections.	36	<b>3</b> 666	4	3706	97		
(6) Number of infest- ed properties (in secs 2,3 & 4) treated by L.A.	6	247	9	262	29		
(7) Total treatments carried out inc. re-treatments.	-	-	-	-	-		
(8) Number of notices served under sec. 4 of the Act. (a) T eatment. (b) Structural work i.e. proofing.	-	-		-	-		
(9) Number of cases in which default actn. was taken following issue of a notice under sec.4 of the Act.	-	-	1	-	-		
(10)Legal proceedings.	-	-	-	-	-		
(11)Number of block sontrol schemes carried out.	26						

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# Appendix i.

# HOUSING GENERAL. ANNUAL RETURN.

The following is a copy of the return made to the County Medical Officer of Health which is reproduced herewith giving detailed information on certain aspects of housing:-

1.	Number of permanent dwellings in the district at the end of the year:	4137
2.	Number of permanent dwellings in the district owned by the Local Authority:	929
3.	Number of temporary dwellings in the district owned by the Local Authority:	Nil
4.	Number of applications for Council houses at the end of the year:	387
5.	Inspections of dwellings during the year:  (i) Inspected for housing defects under the Public Health Acts:  (ii) Inspected for housing defects under the Housing Acts:  (iii) Number of dwellings so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation:  (iv) Number of dwellings found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for habitation:	32 30 4 12
6.	Number of dwellings rendered fit in consequence of informal action:	10
7.	Action under Statutory powers:	
	(i) Number of dwellings where notices served requiring defects to be remedied:  (ii) Number of dwellings rendered fit after service of formal notices (a) by owners:  (b) by Local Authoroty in default:	Nil Nil
	3. Proceedings under the Public Health Acts:  (i) Number of dwellings where formal notices were served:  (ii) Number of dwellings made fit as a result of formal notices  (a) by owners:  (b) by Local Authority in default:	2 2 Nil

A stronger PURE PROPERTY AND STREET rious out authors as all love to another all a

# Annual return continued:

c.	Pruce	edings under section 16, Housing Act, 1957.	
	(i)	Number of Demolition orders made:	2
	(ii)	Number of houses demolished as a result of Demolition orders:	10
	(iii)	Number of Undertakings accepted:	Nil
	(iv)	Number of Under takings completed:	Nil
	(v)	Demolished as a result of Undertakings not to use for Human Habitation:	2
D.	Proce	edings under secs. 42.43.46 & 18, Housing Act, 1957	
	(i)	Number of houses in Clearance Areas upon which Demolition orders were made:	Nil
	(ii)	Number of houses demolished as a result of Demolition orders:	Nil
	(iii)	Number of houses in Clearance Areas which have been retained as temporary accommodation:	Dil.
E.	Proce	edings under secs. 17,18 & 27, Housing, 1957.	
	(i)	Number of dwellings where Closing orders were made	: 4
	(ii)	Number of dwellings closed as a result of Closing orders or Undertakings by owners:	2
	(iii)	Number of dwellings where Closing orders were cancelled in consequence of premises being made fit:	Nil
	(iv)	Number of houses Demolished with Closing Orders:	3
F.	Proce	edings under sec. 76 Housing Act, 1957.	
	(i)	Number of cases of overcrowding at end of year:	Nil
	(ii)	Number of cases of overcrowding discovered during the year:	Nil
	(iii)	Number of cases of overcrowding abated during the year:	Nil

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