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BOROUGH OF EAST RETEORD

1968 annual report

OF THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

G. TATTERSALL, M.A, M.B, B.Ch, D.P.H.

and the Chief Public Health Inspector

H. BROOKS, M.A.P.H.I., CERT.R.S.H. (Meat and Other Foods)





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OF THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

G. TATTERSALL, M.A, M.B, B.Ch, D.P.H.

and the Chief Public Health Inspector

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PUBLIC HEALTH COMMITTEE
[from May 1968]

Chairman: COUNCILLOR H. E. COOPER

Vice-Chairman: ALDERMAN MISS N. BRADSHAW

Alderman J. R. Waterfield, J.P.

Alderman Mrs M. E. Williamson

Councillor H. Gomersall

Councillor R. Grimes

Councillor Mrs E. Harrison

Councillor G. McNeill

Councillor B. Pollard, C.C.

Councillor E. D. Wilson

PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT STAFF

Medical Officer of Health: Dr. G. Tattersall

Deputy Medical Officer of Health: Dr. H. Birks

Chief Public Health Inspector: H. Brooks

Additional Public Health Inspector: D. Fothergill

Pupil Public Health Inspector: D. Mosley (*commenced* 26.8.68)

Clerical — Chief Clerk: Mrs. J. Thorlby (*resigned* 31.3.68)
Mrs. P. Mabbott (*nee* Parsons)
Miss S. Hesslewood (*commenced* 8.4.68, *resigned* 23.8.68)

PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT
CHANCERY LANE
RETFORD
TELEPHONE RETFORD 2561

July 1969

TO THE MAYOR, AND TO THE
ALDERMEN & COUNCILLORS OF THE BOROUGH OF EAST RETFORD

My Mayor, Ladies and Gentlemen,

The population in 1968 has increased by 100 compared with 1967.

The estimated mid-year population is 18,870. Ten years ago the population was 17,050.

The natural increase in 1968 of births over deaths was 60 compared with 74 the previous year.

By coincidence, the total live births for the years 1967 and 1968 were 298.

The deaths from all causes is 238 – 14 more than last year.

In 1968, I am happy to say, there was only one infant death, compared with six in 1967. There have been no maternal deaths since 1963, and before that since 1943, which is a very good record.

The illegitimate births have been increasing over the years. The five-yearly average 1954-58 was 9.8, compared with 15.2 for 1959-63 and 19.2 for 1964-68.

The number of deaths from cancer of the lung has increased remarkably. The five-yearly average deaths 1958-62 are 4, and the five-yearly average deaths 1963-67 are 9, which is more than double. In 1968 there were five such deaths and they were all men. This compares with ten such deaths in 1967, similarly, all men.

There were 186 cases of measles in 1968 compared with 20 in 1967. A campaign of vaccination of children with an attenuated measles virus was begun in the spring of the year which may well have been too late to stop the biennial epidemic. Apart from measles, there has been very little infectious disease notified.

There were 4 new cases and one death from tuberculosis.

The vaccination with BCG to raise the immunity against tuberculosis of secondary school children continued as usual, the acceptance rate being 83 per cent.

In conclusion, I wish to thank you for your support during the year, my colleague Dr Birks for her help, Mr Brooks and the staff of the health department, and the other departments of the Borough for their help and support.

I am,

Your obedient servant,

G. TATTERSALL

Medical Officer of Health

SOCIAL CONDITIONS AND VITAL STATISTICS OF THE AREA

Area	4,657 acres
Public Open Spaces	32.9 acres
Registrar General's estimated population, mid-year 1968	18,870
Number of hereditaments at 1st April 1969 ..	7,771
Rateable Value, 1st April 1969	£560,268
Sum represented by penny rate at 1st April 1969 ..	£2,239

Vital Statistics are calculated on estimated mid-year population given by the Registrar General, i.e. 18,870.

	<i>England & Wales</i>	
Live Births T298 M145 F153		
Live Birth Rate per 1,000 population	15.8	16.9
Illegitimate live births per cent of total live births	7.05	
Stillbirths T7 M5 F2		
Stillbirth rate per 1,000 live and still births ..	23.0	14.0
Total live and still births T305		
Infant deaths (under 1 year) T3 M3 F Nil		
Infant mortality rate per 1,000 live births	3.0	18.0
Legitimate mortality rate per 1,000 legitimate live births	10.07	
Illegitimate mortality rate per 1,000 illegitimate live births	Nil	
Neo-natal mortality rate (deaths under 4 weeks per 1,000 total live births)	3.35	12.3
Early neo-natal mortality rate (deaths under 1 week per 1,000 total live births)	3.35	10.5
Perinatal mortality rate (still births and deaths under 1 week combined per 1,000 total live and still births)	26.0	25.0
Maternal deaths (including abortion) — T Nil		
Maternal mortality rate per 1,000 live and still births	Nil	
Deaths from all causes T238 M126 F112		
Death rate per 1,000 population	12.6	11.9

CAUSES OF DEATH 1968

Tuberculosis, respiratory	1
Other Infective and Parasitic Diseases	1
Malignant Neoplasm – Stomach	4
Malignant Neoplasm – Lung, Bronchus	5
Malignant Neoplasm – Breast	10
Malignant Neoplasm – Uterus	2
Leukaemia	3
Other Malignant Neoplasms	13
Diabetes Mellitus	1
Anaemias	2
Mental Disorders	1
Other Diseases of Nervous System	2
Chronic Rheumatic Heart Disease	4
Hypertensive Disease	4
Ischaemic Heart Disease	49
Other Forms of Heart Disease	11
Cerebrovascular Disease	37
Other Diseases of Circulatory System	18
Influenza	2
Pneumona	15
Bronchitis and Emphysema	18
Asthma	1
Other Diseases of Respiratory System	4
Peptic Ulcer	2
Intestinal Obstruction and Hernia	1
Cirrhosis of Liver	3
Other Diseases of Digestive System	3
Nephritis and Nephrosis	2
Hyperplasia of Prostate	2
Congenital Anomalies	2
Other Defined and ill-defined diseases	5
Motor Vehicle Accidents	2
All Other Accidents	6
Suicide and Self-inflicted Injuries	2
Total	238

Causes of Death in Children under 1 year

Cause	Under 24 hrs.	Under 1week	Under 1 mnth	1-3 mths.	3-6 mths.	6-9 mths.	9-12 mths.	Total
Congenital malformation	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
TOTAL	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	1

Causes of Death in children aged 1-15 years

Cause	Pre-school	School-children	Total
Acute Myeloid Leukaemia	-	1	1
Bronchopneumonia	1	-	1
Congenital Heart Disease	-	1	1
Septicaemia: burns	-	1	1
Total	1	3	4

**Table showing deaths of children under 1 year
over the last five years**

	1968	1967	1966	1965	1964
No. of deaths	1	6	2	4	8

Table showing Vital Statistics 1964-1968 (inclusive)

	1968	1967	1966	1965	1964
Population (mid-year population as estimated by the Registrar General)	18,870	18,770	18,700	18,530	18,290
BIRTHS:					
Live Births — legitimate	277	279	299	317	326
— illegitimate	21	19	17	21	18
Still Births — legitimate	6	3	5	1	8
— illegitimate	1	—	—	—	1
DEATHS:					
All causes	238	224	245	239	223
Maternal Deaths	—	—	—	—	—
Infantile deaths (i.e. under 1 year) ..	1	6	2	4	8
Neonatal deaths (i.e. under 4 weeks)	1	4	1	3	7
Early neonatal deaths (i.e. under 1 week)	1	4	1	2	6
Perinatal deaths (i.e. still-births and deaths under 1 week combined)	8	7	6	3	15

**DEATHS FROM CANCER OF THE LUNG AND BRONCHUS
COMPARED WITH ALL OTHER DEATHS FROM CANCER
[EXCEPT LEUKAEMIA]**

	Cancer of Lung and Bronchus	All other Cancer deaths (except Leukaemia)
Number	5	29
Average Age	58 years	64 years

PREVALENCE & CONTROL OF INFECTIOUS DISEASES

The following diseases are notifiable to the Medical Officer of Health:

Acute Encephalitis	Measles
Acute Meningitis	Ophthalmia Neonatorum
Acute Poliomyelitis	Paratyphoid Fever
Anthrax	Plague
Cholera	Relapsing Fever
Diphtheria	Scarlet Fever
Dysentery	Smallpox
Food Poisoning or suspected	Tetanus
Food Poisoning	Tuberculosis
Infective Jaundice	Typhoid Fever
Leprosy	Typhus
Leptospirosis	Whooping Cough
Malaria	Yellow Fever

The number of infectious diseases (excluding Tuberculosis) notified during 1968 was 195. Details of these are as follows:

<i>Diseases</i>	<i>No. of Cases</i>
Dysentery	2
Infective Jaundice	1
Measles	186
Scarlet Fever	6

Tables showing various details about infectious diseases during 1968 are given on pages 9 and 10.

Tuberculosis

Five cases of Tuberculosis were notified during the year, four of which were cases which had not been notified previously in any other area, and one was a transfer from another area.

A table giving details of new cases and deaths from Tuberculosis is given on page 14.

Laboratory Facilities

Bacteriological examinations were carried out by the Public Health Laboratories at Lincoln and Sheffield. Nine medical specimens and 226 food and water samples were submitted for examination.

Infectious Diseases (Excluding Tuberculosis) Notified in Age Groups — Admitted to Hospital, and Deaths, 1968

DISEASES	At all ages	Under 1 year	1-2 years	2-3 years	3-4 years	4-5 years	5-10 years	10-15 years	15-20 years	20-35 years	35-45 years	45-65 years	65 & over	Age un-known	Admitted to Hospital	Deaths
Diphtheria	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Dysentery	2	1	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Encephalitis	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Erysipelas	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Food Poisoning	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Infective Jaundice	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Suspected Food Poisoning..	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Malaria	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Measles	186	5	12	19	23	30	92	-	2	-	-	-	-	3	-	-
Meningococcal Infection ..	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Paratyphoid Fever	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Typhoid Fever.....	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Pneumonia	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Puerperal Pyrexia	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Paralytic Poliomyelitis	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Non-paralytic Poliomyelitis	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Scarlet Fever	6	-	-	-	-	1	5	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Whooping Cough	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
TOTALS	195	6	12	19	24	31	97	1	2	-	-	-	-	3	-	-

Infectious Diseases (Excluding Tuberculosis) Notified Month by Month — 1968

DISEASES	Total	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.
Diphtheria	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Dysentery	2	1	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-
Encephalitis	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Erysipelas	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Food Poisoning	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-
Infective Jaundice.....	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Suspected Food Poisoning	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Malaria	-	-	-	13	25	23	40	59	6	-	-	-	-
Measles	186	16	4	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Meningococcal Infection	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Paratyphoid Fever	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Typhoid Fever	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Pneumonia	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Puerperal Pyrexia	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Paralytic Poliomyelitis	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Non-paralytic Poliomyelitis	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Scarlet Fever	6	1	-	1	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	1	2
Whooping Cough	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
TOTALS ..	195	18	4	14	25	23	42	60	6	-	-	1	2

Vaccination and Immunisation

This is a Personal Health Service and is the responsibility of the County Council. This work is organised by the District Medical Officer of Health for the County Council. Protective injections are given against Smallpox, Diphtheria, Whooping Cough, Tetanus, Poliomyelitis and Measles.

Prophylactic Measure

By P.H. Dept. By P.P.

Diphtheria Immunisation

Primary Immunisation	..	..	103	187
Reinforcing dose	..	..	220	91

Whooping Cough Immunisation

Primary Immunisation	..	..	90	187
Reinforcing dose	..	..	79	82

Tetanus Immunisation

Primary Immunisation	..	..	101	188
Reinforcing dose	..	..	212	96

Vaccination against Smallpox

Primary Vaccination	..	..	68	84
Re-vaccination	..	..	89	8

Vaccination against Poliomyelitis

Oral (three doses)	..	..	105	192
Reinforcing doses	..	..	217	89

Vaccination against Measles	..	215	92
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P.H. Dept — Public Health Department

P.P. — Private Medical Practitioner

Vaccination against Anthrax

Vaccination against Anthrax is now available in those factories where there is an occupational risk of employees contracting the disease. The vaccination is carried out by the Appointed Factory Doctor, or the employees' General Practitioners.

Protection against Tuberculosis

A scheme for the protection of adolescents against Tuberculosis has been in progress since 1957.

This scheme involves the skin testing and B.C.G. Vaccination of all children of secondary school age, and of students.

The work is organised by the District Medical Officer of Health as agent for the County Council.

The figures for 1968 are given below.

No. of children offered vaccination	523
No. of children whose parents accepted	415
Rate of acceptance	79.34
No. of children skin-tested	391
No. found to be positive and referred for X-ray	32
No. found to be negative	356
No. of children vaccinated	347
No. re-tested after previous vaccination	4
No. re-vaccinated	3

TUBERCULOSIS

New Cases and Deaths — 1958-67 inclusive

	1967	1966	1965	1964	1963	1962	1961	1960	1959	1958
New Cases	0	4	6	4	2	4	11	3	10	14
Deaths	1	0	3	0	0	2	0	1	2	0

NEW CASES

1968	Annual Average over previous ten years
4	4.8

DEATHS

1968	Annual Average over previous ten years
1	1.0

TUBERCULOSIS 1967

New Cases and Deaths

Age Periods	New Cases				Deaths			
	Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary		Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary	
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
Under 1 year	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
1-2 years	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
2-3 years	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
3-4 years	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
4-5 years	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
5-10 years	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
10-15 years	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
15-20 years	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
20-35 years	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
35-45 years	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—
45-65 years	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
65 and over	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Totals	2	2	—	—	1	—	—	—

SERVICES PROVIDED BY OTHER AUTHORITIES

[a] Hospital and Specialist Services [Part II National Health Service Act, 1946]

The Sheffield Regional Hospital Board is responsible for the hospitals serving East Retford Borough and Rural Districts through a Hospital Management Committee. There are four hospitals:

Victoria Hospital, Worksop
Kilton Hospital, Worksop
Carlton Hospital, near Worksop
Retford and District Hospital, Retford

The Worksop and Retford Hospital Management Committee carries out the day-to-day administration of these hospitals.

[b] Health Services provided by Local Health Authorities

The Nottinghamshire County Council provides the following services under Part III of the National Health Service Act 1946 (Dr H.I. Lockett, County Medical Officer and Principal School Medical Officer).

- 1 Care of mothers and young children.
- 2 Domiciliary Midwifery.
- 3 Home Nursing.
- 4 Health Visiting.
- 5 Vaccination and Immunisation.
- 6 Ambulance Service.
- 7 Prevention of illness, care and after-care of persons suffering from illness.
- 8 Home Help.
- 9 Mental Health.

Care of Mothers and Young Children

(a) Infant Welfare Clinics are held at the Notts County Council Health Clinic, Chancery Lane, Retford, at the following times:

Mondays: 2.0 p.m. to 4.30 p.m.

Thursdays: 2.0 p.m. to 4.30 p.m.

A Medical Officer is in attendance fortnightly on Monday. Infant Welfare Clinics are also held at the Clinic, Welbeck Road, Ordsall, Retford.

Tuesdays: 2.0 p.m. to 4.30 p.m.

A Medical Officer is in attendance monthly on a Tuesday.

(b) Relaxation Clinics are also held at the County Health Clinic, Chancery Lane, Retford, every Friday from 10.0 to 11.0 a.m., 2.0 to 3.0 p.m., and from 3.0 to 4.0 p.m.

(c) *Cervical Cytology*

A cervical cytology clinic is held at the Retford County Health Centre, Chancery Lane, Retford.

All women are invited to attend. This clinic, which takes place every other Wednesday afternoon from 2.0 to 4.0 p.m., is intended to provide early diagnosis of cervical cancer, and is therefore a most important preventive measure.

I give below number of attendances for 1968:

Borough	Rural	Other Parts	Total
483	350	122	955

The Doctor in attendance at this Clinic is also available for Ante-Natal purposes.

Domiciliary Midwifery

Mothers who can, and wish, to be confined at home, are attended by one of the County Midwives, of whom there are three in the Borough:

Mrs Parkhurst,
77 Northfield Way, Retford,
Tel: Retford 4210.

Mrs Bailey,
3 Brickenhole Lane, Walkeringham,
Tel: Misterton 358.

Mrs Hall,
3 Priory Close, Mattersey,
Tel: Wiseton 257.

Home Nursing

This is a service which provides for the nursing of the chronically sick patients and of the less serious forms of acute illness where the doctor requests it. This service is provided by the Retford and District Nursing Association and the work is carried out on its behalf by:

Mrs R. M. Daly,
16 Osberton Road, Retford,
Tel: Retford 2457.

Mrs B. Marmont,
6 Cornwall Road, Retford,
Tel: Retford 3224.

Mrs J. M. Wylie,
5 Millfield Close, Ordsall, Retford,
Tel: Retford 2959.

Mrs N. Anderson,
'Norwood', Bramble Road, Retford,
Tel: Retford 2595.

Health Visiting

Health Visitors are State Registered Nurses with the knowledge of midwifery, who have attended a whole-time course in Public Health work and received the Health Visitor's Certificate. Their duties are in respect of the Personal Health Services. They work in the Maternity and Child Welfare Clinics and do routine visiting in their districts, advising on prevention of illness and maintenance of health.

Vaccination and Immunisation

The vaccination and immunisation service is organised for the County Council by the District Medical Officer of Health, acting as agent for the County Council.

Ambulance Service.

The main ambulance service is situated at North Road, Retford, and the vehicles comprise four ambulances and three dual-purpose vehicles, which will carry either sitting cases or stretcher cases; telephone Retford 2303.

Home Help

The Office is in Chancery Lane, Retford. This most useful service provides domestic help where, on account of illness, age, or other domestic reasons, it is required. Home Help Supervisor is Miss Turner, telephone Retford 2681.

[c] Provision of General Medical and Dental Services, Pharmaceutical Services, and Supplementary Ophthalmic Services [Part IV National Health Service Act 1946]

THE SCHOOL HEALTH SERVICE

The School Health Service (known as the School Medical Service until 1945) started officially in 1908, but its growth was greatly increased by the Education Act of 1944 and the National Health Service Act 1946.

The County Council as the Local Education Authority is responsible for the School Health Service.

NATIONAL ASSISTANCE ACT 1948

The County Council provides a welfare service for the aged and handicapped persons. The District Officer is Miss Millband, 3 Overend Road, Worksop, telephone Worksop 2600.

MENTAL HEALTH ACT 1959

The County Council provides a welfare service for the mentally handicapped. The District Officer for this purpose is Mr Wynne, who has a call-office at the Retford County Health Centre, Chancery Lane, Retford, by appointment. The Mental Health Office is at the County Health Clinic, Carlton Road, Worksop; telephone Worksop 4337.

Details of Attendances at the Maternity & Child Welfare Centres during 1968

Centre	Children	Expectant Mothers	Post-Natal Cases	Medical Consultations
Chancery Lane RETFORD	4,377	Nil	Nil	272
Ordsall	1,184	Nil	Nil	195

Sanitary Circumstances of the Borough

Sewerage, Sewage Disposal and Refuse Disposal are under the control of the Borough Engineer and Surveyor, who has given me the following information.

Sewerage and Drainage

The older part of the Borough is on the combined system, that is to say the surface water and sewage discharge into the same drain, and the majority of houses have this service.

Conservancy System – a small number of houses are not connected to the sewers. Of these, three houses have pail closets. The emptying of these closets is carried out by the Corporation.

A few houses have cesspools, and the emptying of these is the responsibility of the owner.

Sewage Disposal

The sewage disposal works at Hallcroft, commissioned in 1965, is treating the whole of the sewage from the Borough.

Treatment at the Hallcroft Works is grit channels, sedimentation tanks, biological filters, humus tanks, cold sludge digestion and open drying beds. Recirculation of a portion of the effluent is in operation. A heated sludge digestion unit was commissioned during the year.

Work is still in progress on the construction of a further biological filter.

Refuse Collection and Disposal

Collection is by means of compression vehicles, and a bonus incentive scheme is in operation.

During 1968 approximately 7,200 tons of refuse was collected. Disposal is by tipping into disused gravel workings. This is not an entirely controlled method, but is carefully watched and no nuisance has arisen.

Heavy tip-levelling equipment is used to ensure that the tip is kept tidy and free from vermin.

Public Baths

The Public Baths, situated in Albert Road, are owned by the Corporation. The swimming pool, 70 feet long by 30 feet wide, is covered and heated. Seven slipper baths are also provided.

Water is drawn from the public water supply, the pool being filled at the end of March and emptied at the end of October in each year.

"Topping-off" water is added as required.

Pressure filters, break-point chlorination and chemical dosing plant have been provided, the turnover period of the water in the swimming pool is once every three hours.

Water heating is by means of oil-fired boilers and calorifier.

Bacteriological examinations have been satisfactory.

Water Supply

The Lincoln and District Water Board, of which the East Retford Borough Council is a constituent authority, supplies water within the Borough.

I am indebted to the Western District Manager, Mr J. Hunt, of the Lincoln and District Water Board for the information given below.

All new houses constructed in the Retford Borough, have where required, been supplied by water mains.

The water supply of the area and of its several parts has been satisfactory in quality and quantity.

Bacteriological Examinations undertaken by the District Water Board

Number of samples taken	98
Satisfactory	95
Doubtful	1
Unsatisfactory	2

Bacteriological Examinations undertaken by the Public Health Department

Number of samples taken	22
Satisfactory	20
Doubtful	1
Unsatisfactory	1

All dwelling houses within the Borough are supplied from the public water mains.

FOOD AND DRUGS ACT 1955

Details of the work carried out by the Public Health Department during the year are given in the report of the Chief Public Health Inspector.

The Food and Drugs Act 1955 provides for the sampling of food and drugs for analysis or for bacteriological or other examination. The Notts County Council is the authority responsible for these duties, and I am grateful to Mr Gregory, Chief Inspector, Food and Drugs, for a report of the Public Analyst upon articles analysed during the year.

NATIONAL ASSISTANCE ACT (1948)

AND

NATIONAL ASSISTANCE (AMENDMENT) ACT 1951

These Acts provide for the removal to suitable premises of persons in need of care and attention. No action was necessary under the Acts during the year, though assistance was given in getting persons into hospital on a voluntary basis.

FOOD AND DRUGS ACT 1955

Particulars of samples examined and/or analysed during the year ended
31st December 1968

Article	Number of Samples			Adulterated and Sub-standard Samples	
	Obtained	Genuine	Adult'd or Sub-Standard	Result of Examination and/or Analysis	Remarks
Analgesic tablets	1	1			
Apples	1	1			
Apricots, canned	1	1			
Biscuits	3	3			
Cake-mix	1	1			
Cereal	2	2			
Coffee	1	1			
Corn, canned	1	1			
Cordial	1	1			
Cough syrup	1	1			
Dessert	1	1			
Gin	1	1			
Gravy	1	1			
Ice-cream	1	1			
Jelly	2	1	1	1 sample did not set to a firm jelly when prepared according to instructions on label.	Taken up with manufacturers
Lettuce	1	1			
Loganberries, canned ..	1	1			
Margarine	2	2			
Milks	46	46			
Mushrooms, canned ..	1	1			
Pastries	1	1			
Pears, canned	1	1			
Peel, cut mixed	1	1			
Pickle	1	1			
Pork, minced, canned ..	1	1			
Rhubarb	1	1			
Salad dressing	2	2			
Sausage, pork	2	2			
Snack meal	2	2			
Soft drink	1	—	1	Slightly deficient in sugar.	Manufacturers cautioned.
Spread	1	1			
Steak, minced, canned ..	1	1			
Steak and vegetables, .. canned	2	—	2	1 sample deficient in meat to extent of 14.2%. 1 sample deficient in meat to extent of 11.4%.	Taken up with manufacturers. Taken up with manufacturers.
Throat lozenges	1	1			
Tomatoes	1	1			
Tongue, canned	1	1			
Whisky	1	1			
Totals	91	87	4		

THE MILK [SPECIAL DESIGNATIONS] [PASTEURISED AND STERILISED] MILK REGULATIONS

	Pasteurised	Sterilised
Samples obtained and submitted to prescribed tests	112	7
Samples unsatisfactory	—	—

UNTREATED MILK — Six samples were obtained and submitted to prescribed tests.

One sample failed the Methylene Blue Test.

Appropriate action was taken in respect of this failure.

Bacteriological Examination of Milk Bottles:

Examined	36
Satisfactory	36
Unsatisfactory	—

Miscellaneous Food and Drugs Investigations

Selling a can of Irish stew containing a piece of twine. Manufacturers cautioned.

Twenty Years Ago

EXTRACTS FROM THE ANNUAL REPORT OF 1948

by Dr John Tolland and Mr F. R. Smith

N.B. Comparative figures for 1968 are given in parentheses.

Registrar General's estimate of resident population	16,080	(18,870)
Number of inhabited houses mid-year 1948	4,641	(7,771)
Rateable Value August 1948	£101,910	(£560,268)
Sum represented by penny rate at 1st April 1948	£397.13s.3d.	(£2,239)

Medical Health

Birth rate (per 1,000 estimated population)	18.78	(15.8)
Stillbirth rate (per 1,000 total births)	25.80	(23.0)
Infant mortality rate (per 1,000 live births)	49.66	(3.0)
Death rate (per 1,000 estimated resident population)	12.62	(12.6)

Causes of death included:

Tuberculosis	8	(1)	Diseases of respiratory system	22	(37)
Malignant Neoplasms	35	(34)	Diseases of digestive system	6	(9)
Vascular lesions of nervous system	19	(3)	Prematurity, congenital malformation, birth injuries, etc.	10	(2)
Diseases of circulatory system	59	(55)	Road traffic accidents, suicides and other violent causes	11	(10)

"... It is most gratifying to note that again there were no maternal deaths during the year... deaths from pulmonary tuberculosis remain the same as in 1947 (i.e. 6) and deaths from other forms of tuberculosis show a decrease from 4 to 2. Deaths from cancer show an increase from 29 to 35, and from heart disease from 32 to 44.

There were no cases of diphtheria during the year, but one carrier was discovered and treated... The percentage of those immunised under the age of 5 shows a considerable drop on last year (73.51% to 47.56%). This may be due in part to busy practitioners failing to forward completed record cards to me, but the response of mothers to the continuing campaign for immunisation is poor and disquieting.

. . . . An outbreak of food poisoning (27 cases) due to Salmonella Typhimurium occurred in June-July. This was caused by the consumption of infected potted meat supplied by a manufacturing butcher. The meat was infected by an employee who had himself suffered from diarrhoea for some days . . . had not reported this to his employer and had continued at work.

The Scabies Order of 1941 ceased to operate from the 31st December 1947, but treatment has, however, been requested and carried out on forty patients during 1948.

The Borough continued to act as the Welfare Authority until 5th July 1948, when the Maternity and Child Welfare Services were transferred to the Notts County Council – the Clinic being then transferred from the Wharf Road Centre to the old Day Nursery, Market Square.”

Environmental Health

“ . . . 79 houses in the Borough were disinfected with insecticides, after being found to be infested with various types of insects, principally beetles and ants. In seven cases only were bed-bugs found, and a thorough treatment with DDT cleared up the trouble in every case . . . If the public will co-operate in reporting insect pests to the department, I see no reason why certain household pests should not be exterminated entirely.

. . . 41 visits were made to the common lodging house in Moorgate, and two notices served for defects . . . The keeper reports to me when any inmate is found to be verminous and he or she is deloused at our cleansing station.

During the year the Ministry of Food was still responsible for the slaughter of all animals for human consumption . . . two slaughterhouses in regular use . . . Grove Lane and the other at the Cattle Market, Ordsall.

Animals slaughtered: Cattle 2,738, Calves 1,333, Sheep 6,938, and Pigs 182. The percentage of animals in which visible tuberculous lesions were found remains very much the same as in the past . . . Cattle 29.15% Calves 2.34%, Pigs 13.2% . . . the total weight of meat condemned at slaughterhouses being 120,719 lb.

59 samples of pasteurised milk, 46 of T.T. pasteurised milk, and 33 of non-graded milk were taken during the year. The percentage of milk which is sold loose from cans is now very small, and it is hoped that this unsatisfactory method of milk delivery will soon be a thing of the past.

Of the 319 dwelling houses inspected for housing defects, 180 were found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation . . . 169 were subsequently rendered fit in consequence of informal action . . . Unfortunately, the cost of repairs shows no sign of becoming less and, owing to the fixed rents, owners of properties which require considerable repair had difficulty in making their property a paying proposition . . . There is still some overcrowding in the town of which 10 cases involving 77 persons were relieved during the year.”

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE CHIEF PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR 1968

To the MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH in accordance with the requirements of the Ministry of Health as set out in the Public Health Officers Regulations 1959.

Sir,

I have pleasure in presenting to you my ninth report on the work of the Public Health Department during the year 1968.

New Legislation

The CLEAN AIR ACT 1968 provides powers to deal with dark smoke emitted (other than from a chimney) from any industrial or trade premises; improves power to deal with grit and dust emissions and, most particularly, provides for control on chimney heights in premises where furnaces are replaced or enlarged. Residences, offices and shops, previously exempted are now included in the control of chimney heights.

General

The following analysis gives a general indication of the variety of duties performed and the visits which have been made during the year:

	<i>Subject</i>	<i>No. of visits made</i>
Clean Air	Investigations	41
Factories	Inspections	1
Food Preparation, Storage and Sale	Inspection of premises	466
	Markets and Fairs	43
	Food Inspection	36
	Food Sampling	227
Slaughterhouse	Meat Inspection	731
	Other Purposes	22
Animal Boarding Establishments	Inspections	1
Housing	Defects	163
	Demolition or closure	46
	Improvement and repair	874
	Overcrowding	2
Noise	Investigations	8
Offices, Shops & Railway Premises	General Inspections	38
	Re-visits	44
	Accidents	4
	Registration of premises	16

	<i>Subject</i>				<i>No. of visits made</i>
Pet Animals	Inspections	..	..	..	3
Petroleum	Inspections and testing	..	..	..	111
Public Health	Drainage	..	..	..	95
	Dirty/verminous premises ..	..	..	..	15
	Infectious diseases	..	..	..	10
	Lodging house	..	..	..	2
	Offensive trades	..	..	..	35
	Knackers yards	..	..	..	3
	Places of public entertainment ..	..	..	..	1
	Statutory nuisances	..	..	..	85
Rodent Control	Inspections	..	..	..	15
	Treatments	..	..	..	4
Refuse	Accumulations	..	..	..	13
	Provision of bins	..	..	..	6
	Refuse tips	..	..	..	1
Interviews and appointments		..	..	..	244
Other miscellaneous		..	..	..	158

SUPERVISION OF FOOD SUPPLIES & FOOD PREMISES SLAUGHTERHOUSES AND MEAT INSPECTION

[a] Slaughtering Facilities

(i) The Public Abattoir is maintained and supervised by the Corporation but the employment of slaughtermen and general administration is the responsibility of the Retford Meat Co Ltd.

This company serves the principal requirements of the private butchers in the Borough and Rural District and, as the majority of animals slaughtered are from local farms and markets, the meat produced is generally of a high quality.

(ii) A private wholesale slaughterhouse specialises in the collection of diseased and casualty animals for emergency slaughtering, and operates a 24-hour service. As most slaughterhouses are now very hesitant to accept this type of animal, particularly at short notice, the area covered around Retford is very large. The serious physical state and neglected condition of some of these animals accounts for the high percentage of carcasses totally condemned.

(iii) A local butcher operates a small private slaughterhouse at the rear of his premises in which only clean pigs and lambs are slaughtered on two afternoons per week.

[b] Slaughterhouse Hygiene and the Prevention of Cruelty

The use of high-pressure sprays and/or paper towels is now wholly acceptable to the slaughtermen and butchers, the changeover from wiping cloths having been effected without any serious difficulty. Although some objections had been expected from the older butchers, no spoilage has occurred and, in fact, favourable comments have even been made on the general improvement in the appearance of carcasses.

Systematic hosing down of floors and walls during slaughtering, complete clearance and cleansing of lairages at weekends, and routine daily cleansing of all working areas not only encourages slaughtermen to carry out their work in a more hygienic manner and in better conditions but also has a direct effect in reducing fly and smell nuisance to minimal proportions. I very much appreciate the active co-operation by managements and staffs of the Retford slaughterhouses in maintaining good standards, and this has been endorsed on the routine visits by the Ministry's Veterinary Officers.

I am satisfied that any cases of cruelty or neglect found among animals slaughtered in Retford have not occurred on the slaughterhouse premises.

[c] Issue of Licences – Slaughter of Animals Act 1958

During the year 17 annual licences were issued to practising slaughtermen, valid within the Borough area, and a further two 'trainee' licences issued to persons requiring them to slaughter under supervision for short periods prior to the approval of full licences.

[d] Meat Inspection

Meat inspection was again 100 per cent at the three slaughterhouses which again emphasises the co-operation which is essential between slaughterhouse operators and the meat inspectors in ensuring that all meat can be inspected during normal working hours without any inconvenience to the trade.

On no occasion was Sunday or Bank Holiday work found to be necessary, even during periods of peak demands (e.g. Easter and Christmas) and all slaughterhouses kept within the slaughtering times agreed informally in 1963. Monday evening work at the Public Abattoir is still found to be necessary, despite the gradual reduction in the number of animals slaughtered, and even this could be obviated by minor modifications within the Company.

Two meat specimens from slaughterhouses were submitted to laboratories for examination during the year.

The number of animals slaughtered and inspected at the respective slaughterhouses, together with the incidence of disease and other affections which justified condemnation of all or part of carcasses or offal, was as follows:

	<i>Steers and Heifers</i>	<i>Cows and Bulls</i>	<i>Calves</i>	<i>Sheep and Lambs</i>	<i>Pigs</i>	<i>Total</i>
PUBLIC ABATTOIR						
Slaughtered/inspected	2,037	26	8	4,302	4,388	10,761
Whole carcasses condemned	1	—	1	2	6	10
Other animals affected	471	17	1	125	316	930
% age of animals affected	23.17	65.38	25.0	2.95	7.34	8.74
PRIVATE (CASUALTY)						
Slaughtered/inspected	107	170	136	363	634	1,410
Whole carcasses condemned	13	14	29	24	83	163
Other animals affected	53	93	12	52	230	440
% age of animals affected	61.68	62.94	30.15	20.94	49.37	42.77
PRIVATE						
Slaughtered/inspected	—	—	—	227	620	847
Whole carcasses condemned	—	—	—	—	—	—
Other animals affected	—	—	—	1	53	54
% age of animals affected	—	—	—	0.44	8.55	8.38

A comparison of the number of animals slaughtered in Retford Borough, together with the weight of meat and offal condemned over the last ten years is as follows:

	<i>Cattle</i>	<i>Calves</i>	<i>Sheep</i>	<i>Pigs</i>	<i>Weight condemned (lb)</i>
1958	3,118	148	4,887	7,010	96,878
1959	2,854	134	6,299	6,595	102,908
1960	2,765	129	5,349	6,301	68,133
1961	2,868	146	6,614	6,016	77,269
1962	2,906	142	6,189	5,891	70,853
1963	2,692	202	5,020	5,561	69,417
1964	2,503	78	5,607	6,336	40,784
1965	2,263	85	6,820	5,148	31,442
1966	2,367	118	5,956	6,600	42,616
1967	2,387	161	5,682	5,770	47,486
1968	2,340	144	4,892	5,642	42,830

The following table, produced in the form prescribed by the Ministry, shows the number of animals slaughtered, inspected and affected with disease.

	<i>Heifers and Bullocks</i>	<i>Cows and Bulls</i>	<i>Calves</i>	<i>Sheep and Lambs</i>	<i>Pigs</i>	<i>Total</i>
Number slaughtered	2,144	196	144	4,892	5,642	13,018
Number inspected	2,144	196	144	4,892	5,642	13,018
All Diseases except Tuberculosis and Cysticerci:						
Whole carcasses condemned	14	14	30	26	89	173
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned . .	509	107	13	178	598	1,405
Percentage of the number in- spected affected with disease	24.4	61.7	29.8	4.5	12.1	12.1
Tuberculosis Only:						
Whole carcasses condemned	—	—	—	—	—	—
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	2	—	—	—	1	3
Percentage of the number in- spected affected with disease	0.09	—	—	—	0.02	0.02
Cysticerci:						
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	13	3	—	—	—	16
Carcasses submitted to treat- ment by refrigeration	13	3	—	—	—	16
Generalised and totally condemned	—	—	—	—	—	—

WHOLE CARCASSES AND OFFAL CONDEMNED

	<i>Steers and Heifers</i>	<i>Cows and Bulls</i>	<i>Calves</i>	<i>Sheep</i>	<i>Pigs</i>	<i>Total</i>	<i>1967</i>
Abnormal odour	—	—	—	—	1	1	4
Anaemia	—	1	—	1	1	3	4
Actinobacillosis generalised	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Actinomycosis generalised	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Arthritis (with emaciation)	—	—	1	—	1	2	1
Blackleg	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Brusing, extensive and severe	—	1	—	—	1	2	8
Congestion	1	2	—	3	1	7	8
Emaciation and/or oedaema	1	4	11	11	3	30	16
Fever	—	—	—	—	1	1	6
Gangrene	2	—	—	—	4	6	8
Immaturity	—	—	6	—	—	6	16
Injury, multiple	—	1	—	—	—	1	1
Jaundice	—	—	—	—	1	1	2
Leukaemia	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Moribund*	2	—	—	3	5	10	2
Multiple abscesses	—	—	—	—	12	12	23
Nephritis	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Pyæmia	1	1	6	—	30	38	29
Pyelonephritis Bilateral	—	—	—	—	1	1	1
Rickets	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Acute Septic Arthritis . .	1	—	—	—	3	4	7
Acute Septic Mastitis . .	—	1	—	—	—	1	1
Acute Septic Metritis . .	—	1	—	—	—	1	2
Acute Septic Pericarditis	—	—	—	1	2	3	5
Acute Septic Peritonitis	3	1	5	3	5	17	5
Acute Septic Pneumonia	—	—	2	4	4	10	13
Other Acute Septic conditions	—	1	—	—	9	10	6
Swine Erysipelas, Acute	—	—	—	—	5	5	3
Tetanus	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Toxaemia	—	—	—	—	—	—	2
Tumours, multiple and/or malignant	1	—	—	—	—	1	—
Uraemia	—	—	—	—	—	—	3
Tuberculosis	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
	12 (10)	14 (16)	31 (26)	26 (33)	90 (91)	173 (176)	176

**Alive on arrival at slaughterhouse but subsequently found to be unsuitable for human consumption. Shot but not eviscerated.*

In addition, the following parts of carcasses and offal were condemned as unfit for food, and were directed to sterilising plants within the Borough or at Bolsover. Certain cirrhotic livers are collected by the owner of a mink farm in the Rural District under approved conditions.

Part Carcasses and Offal Condemned

Heads	39 (48)	Legs	166 (148)
Tongues	40 (47)	Loins/Backs	16 (16)
Lungs	462 (568)	Flanks/Bellies	23 (28)
Hearts	121 (220)	Breasts/Briskets ..	1 (3)
Livers	535 (645)	Shoulders	1 (4)
Part Livers	234 (247)	Oysters	10 (13)
Spleens.....	19 (17)	Diaphragms	21 (13)
Kidneys	45 (72)	Skin	5 (5)
Stomachs	4 (6)	Necks	1 (4)
Intestines	21 (63)	Hindquarters	24 (14)
Udders	18 (37)	Forequarters.....	18 (9)
Feet	116 (85)	Whole Sides	1 (1)

and miscellaneous trimmings, making an estimated total weight of all meat condemned as unfit for human consumption – 19 tons 2cwt 46lb.

Inspection and Sampling of Other Foods

[a] The following samples were submitted for bacteriological examination by the Public Health Laboratory Service at Lincoln, and I am indebted to Dr Croll and his staff for their co-operation and advice.

(i) Liquid Egg

Limited production at the egg-cracking and pasteurising plant in Union Street meant that only two routine samples were taken during the year, both of which proved to be free of pathogenic organisms.

During the latter part of the year, large consignments of Chinese frozen egg, which, on examination at the port of entry had failed the prescribed tests, were repasteurised under our general surveillance. Daily samples (18) were submitted to the Public Health Laboratory for A-amylase test in addition to the twice-daily tests carried out by the firm's laboratory technician. Copies of all sample results were obtained and all proved satisfactory.

Preparations are being made for transfer of this plant to new premises in Portland Road.

[ii] Ice Cream

Forty-three samples were taken from retail shops, manufacturers' premises and mobile vans, as follows:

<i>Pre-packed</i>		<i>Loose</i>	
Grade 1 (Excellent)	24	Grade 1	4
Grade 2 (Fair).....	4	Grade 2	3
Grade 3 (Unsatisfactory)	7	Grade 3	–
Grade 4 (Very unsatisfactory)	–	Grade 4	1

[iii] Water

Nineteen samples of drinking water were taken from domestic and other main supplies within the Borough, 18 of which were satisfactory and one unsatisfactory.

Copies of all results are sent to the Lincoln and District Water Board.

[iv] Animal Casings

Seventeen samples of consignments of prepared sheep and hog casings were taken from a local factory, of which 14 were intended for export and 3 for home consumption.

All samples were found to be satisfactory.

All samples are examined for pathogens with particular reference to *Clostridium Welchii* (heat-resistant) organisms.

These results supplemented all export certificates which are issued by this Department and which are required by the importing authorities.

[v] Cooked Meats

One hundred and twenty-two samples of cooked meats and meat products were taken of which 66 proved to be wholly satisfactory.

This is the first full year in which regular monthly samples have been taken from all local producers and from two large nation-wide distributors. There are no legal standards for cooked meats and our opinion of satisfactory and unsatisfactory results are based on those quoted by Dr Betty Hobbs of the Ministry of Health, i.e.:

Colony count at 22°C — less than 500,000 but never more than 2,000,000

Colony count at 37°C — less than 100,000 but never more than 1,000,000

No faecal coli.

No other pathogens.

The reason for introducing the routine sampling of cooked meats was to build up a picture of the bacteriological standards of the local producers and to see whether they could match the above figures and, if not, to encourage them to improve their standards in order to do so.

The picture which has emerged is a fairly satisfactory one, and several producers have shown that it is feasible to consistently produce a better standard than the above. From this one may draw the conclusion that the informal standard is not too rigid.

One pleasing aspect that has also emerged is that the local producers have generally done better than the two large companies, as the following figures show:

	<i>Local Producers</i>	<i>National Producers</i>
Number of samples taken	104	18
Totally satisfactory	60	6

[b] The following foodstuffs were submitted for inspection from local traders, and voluntarily surrendered for destruction on being found unfit for human consumption:

Tins of:	Fruit	579)	
	Vegetables	308)	
	Fish	60)	
	Soup	12)	
	Milk Products	87)	
	Coffee	5)	Generally blown, damaged, leaking or open and found to be decomposed
	Meat Products	107)	
	Cream	1)	
	Puddings	1)	
	Baby Food	4)	
	Custard Powder	1)	
	Miscellaneous	20)	Unlabelled
Packets of:	Flour	109)	
	Cereals	22)	
	Sugar	25)	
	Lard	6)	
	Dried Fruit	9)	
	Coconut	4)	
	Cheese	41)	
	Biscuits	9)	
	Meat Products	238)	Damaged, damp, mould growth or decomposed
	Stuffing Mix	3)	
	Butter	22)	
	Vegetables	11)	
	Nuts	4)	
	Mixed Peel	1)	
	Cake Mix	1)	
	Oxo Cubes	12)	
	Salt	10)	
	Dream Topping	1)	
	Pearl Barley	1)	
	Ground Rice	1)	
	Tea	1)	
	Jellies	58)	Prohibited use of colouring matter as ingredient
		)	
Bottles of:	Sauce	1)	Broken
Jars of:	Marmalade	1)	
	Lemon Curd	1)	
	Jam	8)	
	Beetroot	2)	Broken
	Fish Paste	1)	
	Meat	1)	
	Pickles	1)	

Frozen	Fruit	23)	
Foods:	Cakes	15)	
	Meat	5)	Breakdown in refrigeration
	Fish	43)	
	Mousse	16)	
	Pastry	10)	
Cartons of:	Cherries	1)	Damaged
	Cornflour	2)	Damp
	Cress	14)	Bacterial spoilage
	Cream	47)	Time expired
	Prunes	2)	Contaminated – discoloured
	Yogurt	1)	Decomposed
Loose	Turkey	1)	Abscess in leg
quantities of:	Jam Sponge	1)	Abnormal taste and odour
	Eggs	184)	Cracked, broken
	Cheese	4 pieces)	Mould growth
	Meat	546½lb)	Decomposed
	Cherries	53lb)	Over-ripe
	Bread Loaves	2)	Stale
	Meat Pies	25)	Stale, mould growth

Total weight of food condemned

1 ton 3 cwt 6 lb.

[c] During the year, 456 visits were made to food premises to secure compliance with the Food Hygiene (General) Regulations 1960, and a further 263 visits made for the purposes of sampling and inspection of unsound food.

The following table shows the number and type of food-handling premises in the Borough at the end of the year, together with the number of visits made to each type of premises:

Bakehouses	6 (12)	Fresh Fish & Game . .	4 (7)
Bakers' Confectionery	6 (9)	Fried Fish & Chips . .	9 (12)
Butchers' & Cooked Meats	20 (78)	Fruit & Vegetables . .	9 (12)
Catering Establishments . .	12 (50)	Grocers/General Dealers	60 (168)
Clubs & Canteens	23 (6)	Hotels & Licensed	
		Premises	38 (74)
Dairies	2 (-)	Sweets	14 (19)
Food Factories	5 (2)	Warehouses	7 (2)

Contraventions — Details of Notices Served

<i>Reg.</i>	<i>Contraventions</i>	<i>Out- standing 1.1.68</i>	<i>Served in 1968</i>	<i>Notices complied with</i>	<i>Out- standing 1.1.69</i>
6	Cleanliness/repair of equipment.....	7	3	6	4
8	Protection against contamination	1	2	3	—
9	Personal hygiene	3	1	2	2
14	WC accommodation	9	1	4	6
16	Hand-washing facilities ..	22	10	20	12
17	First-aid materials	1	—	—	1
19	Food/equipment washing facilities.....	10	1	8	3
20	Lighting of food rooms ..	2	1	1	2
21	Ventilation of food rooms	1	—	—	1
23	Cleanliness/repair of food rooms.....	10	4	11	3
24	Accumulation of refuse ..	—	1	1	—
26	Cleanliness of stalls/vehicles	—	1	—	1
Informal notices — fully complied with			30		
— partly complied with			1		
— no action yet taken			8		

The administration of the Food Hygiene and other associated Regulations continues to be one of the more important and time-consuming duties carried out by this Department. Following the introduction last year of the programmed visits, each food premises in the town has received its quota of inspections, according to the foods at risk and any outstanding requirements. Thus all occupiers and their premises are well known to the inspectors.

Quality of recruitment, wages and conditions, proper training and knowledge of the relevant legislation covering the food trades still leaves much to be desired but it is hoped that, through these frequent visits and informal discussions at the premises, all food handlers will become more aware of their responsibilities to the public for the correct preparation and handling of food. The Food Hygiene Regulations were first introduced 14 years ago and should now be familiar in detail to the majority of food traders. It is essential that such information be made known to and acted upon by their staffs.

One of the most difficult aspects of health education is getting food handlers to appreciate that a visually clean surface may not necessarily be bacteriologically clean. To demonstrate this and give visible evidence of contamination where it existed it was decided during the latter part of the year to set up the necessary simple equipment to produce bacteriological cultures. Thus on a visit to a food premises any number of samples (up to 30) can be taken of knives, machine parts, working

surfaces, trays, clothing, fingers, money coins, etc. After 24 hours incubation, any bacteria transferred from the object to the culture have multiplied so rapidly that the resulting colonies can be readily seen with the naked eye. With these cultures it is easy to demonstrate to the occupier and employees the difficulties of cleaning wooden surfaces and badly-worn or defective equipment and the need for regular thorough cleaning and attention to personal hygiene.

During the last two months of the year 60 cultures were taken from food-preparation premises.

Once again, during the early part of the year, all licensed premises were inspected and a report made to the Licensing Justices emphasising the poor standard of facilities provided at many public houses. Little progress was, however, made during the year in obtaining better sanitary accommodation and public washing facilities.

The Public Health Act 1936 (Section 89) whilst requiring the provision of sanitary accommodation, gives no guidance on suitability but it may reasonably be assumed that the minimum standards provided for in 1936, often of a most primitive nature, are no longer acceptable to the average patron. This opinion is confirmed in the comments made to us personally by residents and visitors to the town complaining about the poor facilities in many of the houses. Only a small minority are well managed and with good facilities.

This Department continues to try to persuade the Brewery Companies to improve conditions, but the local authority would have great difficulty in improving on the 1936 standards if the Justices are satisfied that such facilities are adequate for the needs of patrons. Little difficulty is now experienced in achieving the legal standards of hygiene, but only the more conscientious licensee will act on recommendations made to improve on basic conditions and these are obviously confined to minor structural works.

In many of the houses the trade is so poor that the tenant is obliged to have other day-time employment to supplement his income. These houses do not attract the professional keeper who is prepared to invest capital on improving the premises and who is also aware of his responsibilities in hygiene and good management.

The Food Hygiene (Stalls and Vehicles) Regulations have now been in force for two years. The majority of retailing vans quickly adapted to the new requirements but the Saturday Market still continues to provide problems. Criticisms made of the stall-holders are usually associated with the adequate protection of food, provision of back and side coverings, personal cleanliness and lighting. These contraventions are by no means peculiar to Retford but if the traditions of the open Saturday market are to continue to encourage trade and visitors to the town much could be done to make the stalls more serviceable and attractive.

It would be pleasant to see the market progressively brightened with the provision of light striped awnings, improved food stalls and some method of providing electric lighting to the individual stalls during the dull winter days. All artificial lighting required to be provided at present is, of necessity, portable and limited in its effectiveness. I am sure that such measures would also encourage stall-holders to make their stalls more attractive.

Registration of Premises – Section 16 Food and Drugs Act 1955

Certificates of registration issued during 1968 .. 1

Total number of registered premises at 31.12.68:

Manufacture of pickles, pressed or preserved foods 14

Manufacture of ice-cream 1

Retail of pre-packed ice-cream 52

HOUSING MATTERS

[i] Rent Act 1957

No applications have been received for certificates of disrepair since 1960.

[ii] Public Health and Housing Acts 1936-64

(a) Inspection of Dwelling Houses during the year:

Total number of houses inspected for housing defects
(under Public Health and Housing Acts) 287

includes (i) number of houses found to be unfit for human habitation 79

(ii) number of houses found not to be in all respects fit for human habitation 195

Total number of inspections made for these purposes and for compliance with informal or formal notices 611

Total number of houses surveyed to ascertain general conditions and degree of improvement (not included above) .. 499

[b] Informal Action Taken

Informal notices served in respect of complaints of disrepair	40
Informal notices complied with	19
Informal notices served on request by owners for details of repairs required to comply with improvement grant requirements:	
Tenanted Properties	54
Owner-Occupied Properties ..	53
Number of houses made fit (and improved):	
Tenanted Properties	26
Owner-occupied Properties ..	23

No statutory proceedings were found to be necessary to secure compliance with informal notices served during the year.

Works carried out under notice included the following:

<i>Repair/Renewal of</i>		<i>Repair/Renewal of</i>	
Roofs and weatherings	32	Doors	4
Chimney-stacks	23	Staircases	6
Gutters and downspouts	19	Sinks/draining boards	6
Windows	61	Fireplaces/grates, etc.	5
Ext. pointing/brickwork	16	Alleviation of dampness	37
W.C. cisterns, basins, etc.	5	External redecoration	9
Yard surfaces	7	Improvement of kitchen areas	19
Ceilings	12	Drains cleared	23
Walls	9	Drainage improved	1
Floors	35		

By the end of 1968 a large proportion of the older houses, other than those scheduled for inspection with a view to clearance, had been surveyed for details of:

- (a) nature of occupancy, i.e. tenant or owner-occupier;
- (b) amenities available;
- (c) reaction of occupant towards the provision of modern amenities;
- (d) general state of external repair and other circumstances within the area.

An explanatory leaflet is sent to every owner of property which is deficient in one or more of the five 'standard' amenities drawing his attention to the improvement grant scheme and the reasonable standard of fitness which is to be expected in such property. The owner is invited to request details of specified works required to 'make fit' without obligation and discuss such matters with his tenant and with this Department.

Exception is made in all cases of elderly or infirm tenants and owner-occupiers if it is considered that the physical disturbance or financial burden which the installation of amenities entails would be detrimental to their welfare. Any informal action is deferred for some two years and it has been found, in many instances, that within that period the houses become vacant and the property sold to persons desirous of improvements.

Although there has been a steady response to such informal action it was obvious from the beginning that the compulsory repair and improvement of tenanted properties would be necessary to effect the overall improvement of areas within a reasonable period of time. It was hoped that formal procedures would be simplified but, instead, it is proposed that these powers be repealed.

The proposed 'general improvement areas', in which not only the houses but also the environment are improved, are heartily endorsed, but it is essential that internal house improvement should remain the prime consideration.

It is interesting to note that, of all plans submitted to the Council showing provision of modern amenities, there has been a steady increase within surveyed areas and particularly among tenanted properties:

	<i>Within surveyed areas</i>		<i>Outside surveyed areas</i>	
	<i>Tenanted</i>	<i>Owner-occupied</i>	<i>Tenanted</i>	<i>Owner-occupied</i>
1966	9	4	4	31
1967	18	13	8	29
1968	55	35	5	24

There is close co-operation with the Borough Surveyor with regard to improvement grant applications and no application is submitted for approval unless the property is considered fit or a written undertaking has been received from the owner that essential works specified by this Department will be carried out either before or concurrently with improvements. Emphasis is particularly placed on improving the working area, natural lighting and ventilation in the many small rear addition kitchens prevalent in the town.

Standard Grants

Applications —	<i>Owner-occupied</i>		<i>Tenanted</i>	
received	54	(39)	36	(13)
approved	52	(37)	35	(13)
refused (work commenced)	1	(1)	—	(—)
withdrawn	1	(1)	1	(—)
No. of dwellings improved during 1968	34	(30)	16	(14)
Amount paid in grants (to nearest £)	£2,848 (£2,675)		£2,385 (£1,414)	
Average grant per house (to nearest £)	£84 (£89)		£149 (£101)	

Amenities provided —	<i>Owner-occupied</i>		<i>Tenanted</i>	
(a) fixed baths	16	(16)	14	(9)
(b) showers	—	(—)	—	(—)
(c) wash-hand basins	19	(17)	15	(9)
(d) hot-water systems	19	(18)	15	(9)
(e) internal WCs.	33	(30)	17	(14)
(f) ventilated food stores	20	(12)	13	(5)
(g) structural alterations	2	(3)	6	(3)

Discretionary Grants	<i>Owner-occupied</i>		<i>Tenanted</i>	
Applications —				
received	1	(3)	—	(2)
approved	1	(2)	—	(2)
refused	—	(1)	—	(—)
No. of dwellings improved during 1968	2	(—)	6	(1)
Amount paid in grants	£531	(—)	£2,494	(£320)
Average grant per house	£265	(—)	£416	(£320)

(figures in parentheses indicate figures for 1967)

[iii] Unfit Housing

The following action was taken:

Demolition Orders Made:

4, 6, 8, 10 Wright Wilson Street	4)	
Lock House, Wharf Road	1)	
2, 4, 6 Westfield Road	3)	14
King & Miller Cottages, 116, 118 North Road	2)	
1, 2, 3, 4 Cook's Cottages, North Rd.	4)	

Closing Orders Made:

The Laurels, Leverton Road	1)	1
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Informal Demolition

27, 29 Chancery Lane (E.R.C. property)	2)	2
--	----	---

Represented to Committee in Consideration of Clearance Procedure

58-62, 66-76, 82 Grove Street	10)	
2-26 Bescoby Street	13)	
3, 4 Spa Common	2)	54
1-29, 2-22 Kirke Street	26)	
1-5 Common Road	3)	

Position at 31.12.68:

	<i>Demolition Orders</i>	<i>Closing Orders</i>	<i>Under- takings</i>	<i>Clear- ance Orders</i>	<i>Totals</i>	<i>1967</i>
Houses demolished in 1968	9	1	4	16	32*	26
Houses closed in 1968	N/A	—	1	N/A	1	4
Houses made fit and orders revoked	—	—	1	N/A	1	—
Houses vacant pending demolition	10	N/A	N/A	11	21	31
Houses still occupied	36	2	1	14	53	58
Houses awaiting confirmation of orders	—	—	—	—	—	—

N/A — *not applicable* * *includes 2 demolitions by informal agreement*

During the year 17 houses under order became vacant, 12 families (38 persons) being rehoused by the Council, 4 families (10 persons) finding private alternative accommodation, and one elderly tenant removed for care and attention.

In 1968 only 12 units of accommodation (flats) were built by the Council, and their future house-building programme is still being severely curtailed. In the same period private enterprise completed 101 dwellings for owner-occupation.

Post-war totals (1946-68 inclusive): Council 1,335; Private Enterprise 1,006.

We are now in the ludicrous position of being encouraged to press forward with our clearance of unfit houses without being able to offer suitable alternative accommodation within a reasonable period. At the present rate of building it is most unlikely that rehousing from any new clearance areas can be carried out within some three to four years! It is therefore essential that better consideration be given to our needs at Ministry level.

[iv] Caravans

There is no caravan problem within the Borough.

[v] Overcrowding

One case of overcrowding was relieved during the year, involving an owner-occupied house in which 14 persons (13 adults and 2 children under ten years) had been living in six rooms (permitted number: 11).

PUBLIC HEALTH AND OTHER MATTERS

PUBLIC HEALTH ACT 1936

[1] **Statutory Nuisances.** Complaints concerning dirty/verminous premises, refuse accumulations, choked or insanitary drains or water-courses, noise and dust nuisance, etc, were investigated, involving a total of 222 visits. Of the 22 informal notices which needed to be served, only two were outstanding at the end of the year.

[2] **Infectious Diseases.** Six cases of scarlet fever, two cases of sonnei dysentery, and one case of infective jaundice were investigated during the year. These visits provide an excellent opportunity for advising householders on the need for care in the purchasing, handling and storage of open foodstuffs.

[3] **Vermin Control.** The eradication of vermin and insect pests is carried out principally by an employee of the Highways Department, who also acts as part-time Rodent Operator.

Treatment included:

Ants	19	Flies	1
Beetles	8	Red Mites	1
Cockroaches	3	Wasps	24
Fleas	2	Woodworm	7

Sample packets of insecticides are available free on request at the Public Health Department for the treatment of ants, and disinfectant is available for cases of infectious disease and other special circumstances.

[4] **Common Lodging House.** This house in Moorgate, which has licensed accommodation for 40 persons (male and female), is kept under surveillance. The female dormitories have not been in use for some years as there is no longer a demand for this accommodation.

I am pleased to report that some efforts have been made to bring the premises up to a reasonable standard by the provision of an internal W.C., washbasin and shower situated in the main dormitory. This should have a direct influence on the general cleanliness of the premises and is already appreciated by the permanent residents. For the fourth consecutive year no reports of verminous persons have been made which would require treatment by this Department.

[5] **Mortuary.** Thirteen bodies were admitted to the Mortuary, of which 6 were former residents of the Borough, 4 from the Rural District and 3 from other districts.

Post-mortems are no longer carried out here, principally because of the absence of assistance and adequate facilities, and the mortuary is now used solely as a depository for bodies awaiting identification and/or delivery to Victoria Hospital, Worksop, for post-mortems ordered by the Coroner.

With the improved ambulance transport facilities now available, I believe that this mortuary could be dispensed with without prejudice to the interests of the populace.

[6] Provision of Refuse Bins. Under the Council's scheme for the provision of refuse bins to premises at a basic rate of 7/6d per annum, 256 bins were issued during the year. Of these, 107 were new applications, and 149 were replacement of worn-out bins.

There are 2,147 bins on hire within the Borough.

This is the only section of the Council's refuse collection and disposal service which is administered from this Department.

[7] Offensive Trades and Knackers Yards

(a) The trades of fellmongery, gut scraping and fat extraction are carried out in a factory within a quarter of a mile to the north of the town centre.

The fat-extractor plant, being the prime source of nuisance, is kept under regular surveillance, particularly during the summer months, and all complaints receive immediate attention. The deodorising equipment, which was installed in 1960, having proved insufficient to cope with nuisance, was further reinforced with a shell and tube condenser and after-burner installed in November. By this method some 97% of the steam and gases given off during cooking is condensed into a liquor which can be passed into the sewer, and the remaining 3% of gases, incapable of being condensed and deodorised satisfactorily, is passed through an oil-fired burner and thence into the atmosphere. The water scrubbing apparatus and deodorising equipment is used to treat the air changes within the shed, and the fumes given off during on and off loading of cookers.

There are various methods of treating foul gases, all of which are only as efficient as the operating staffs, and incidents of nuisance can often be due to some careless act or minor mechanical defect. The management are very conscious of their responsibilities in eliminating nuisance, but only constant supervision, regular maintenance and immediate attention to defects can avoid widespread nuisance particularly during the warmer weather.

Thirty-five visits were made to the factory during the year. Only 14 formal complaints were received of which 11 were made during the latter six months.

The other processes within the factory present no serious nuisance problems, but, nevertheless, require surveillance.

(b) The two licensed knackers' yards within the Borough are inspected at regular intervals by the Ministry's Veterinary Officers and your Inspectors. One operates within the offensive trades factory mentioned above, the other being inactive and used solely for the reception of the occasional dead animal awaiting transport to the main premises at Doncaster.

PET ANIMALS ACT 1951

Only one licence, relating to a market stall, was renewed during the year.

ANIMAL BOARDING ESTABLISHMENTS ACT 1963

One application was received and approved during the year.

CLEAN AIR ACT 1956

Number of contraventions recorded of dark or black smoke 9

Forty-one visits were made in connection with smoke nuisances and/or non-compliance with the provisions of the Act relating to the production of dark or black smoke.

Informal notices served included:

Smoke and dust from school chimney	1
Smoke from industrial incinerator	1
Burning of refuse and tyres	3

All notices were complied with during the year with the exception of dark smoke and nuisance from the school chimney. The N.C.B. Advisory Service should be able to assist in reducing dark smoke, but the down-draughting of smoke, grit and dust onto adjacent dwelling houses from a chimney discharging only 33 feet above ground level endorses the need for the recent legislation to control chimney heights in non-industrial premises.

Three 'notices of intention' to install furnace plants were received during the year, only one of which required approval of chimney height.

The smoke and sulphur dioxide volumetric recording apparatus sited at the Public Health Department, Chancery Lane, continued to operate satisfactorily during the year. Monthly reports are also received from the Central Electricity Generating Board automatic recording stations sited at Carr Hill School, Tilm Road, and at Goosemoor Lane, Ordsall. Results for the three stations are tabulated on page 47.

It is particularly interesting to note the gradual reduction in the yearly average concentration of smoke in the town centre:

	<i>Smoke</i>	<i>Sulphur Dioxide</i>
1965	122	97
1966	102	86
1967	95	75
1968	83	86

These figures follow the national trend towards clean air and are largely contributed to by the increasingly popular 'package deals' in hot water and central heating installations. The old adage, 'There's no fuel like an old fuel', is being slowly replaced by 'Comfort at the flick of a switch'. The average individual is still indifferent to, or unaware of, the

smoke which is discharged at low level from his house chimney, the prime consideration being personal comfort within the home. If the modern smokeless fuels can supply this comfort and convenience at reasonable expense, no objection can reasonably be made against smoke control areas. In fact, many of the younger generation and newcomers to Retford would welcome such control, knowing the benefits derived in such areas in other towns and cities.

It is reasonable to suggest, however, under the immediate financial restrictions on Council spending, that smoke control, whilst highly desirable, should be secondary to the provision of new homes and the improvement of the many sub-standard dwellings in the town with modern amenities.

It should be possible for a recommended programme to be laid before the Council in 1969-70 for the systematic control of smoke-producing domestic appliances within the Borough.

MONTHLY AVERAGES OF SMOKE AND SULPHUR DIOXIDE (in micrograms per cu. metre)

N.B. Figures in parentheses are highest daily concentrations

* - source of highest concentration

F & M: Foot and Mouth Disease restrictions - no readings taken

	Sulphur Dioxide			Smoke			Recorded Wind Directions (No. of days)							Rainfall		
	Ordsall	Town Centre	Tiln Road	Ordsall	Town Centre	Tiln Road	N	NE	E	SE	S	SW	W	NW	ins.	
JAN	F. & M.	123 * (239)*	95 (206)	F. & M.	159 * (292)*	87 (238)	2	1	-	-	1	6	6	8	1.33	
FEB	F. & M.	126* (420)*	100 (418)	F. & M.	168 * (405)*	93 (346)	7	-	2	1	1	5	1	7	0.85	
MAR	72 (108)	101* (290)*	78 (161)	52 (88)	86 * (205)*	46 (200)	4	1	-	1	-	5	7	6	1.06	
APR	51 (86)	80 * (164)*	63 (140)	31 (109)	72 * (180)*	40 (135)	3	4	2	1	2	10	3	5	1.99	
MAY	52 (173)*	54 (91)	66 * (170)	29 (67)	54 * (92)*	18 (41)	10	2	2	1	1	2	2	4	1.55	
JUNE	42 (77)	49 (119)*	64 * (112)	19 (52)	30 * (65)*	15 (40)	7	3	1	-	2	8	2	5	1.99	
JULY	47 (77)	32 (66)	60 * (97)*	19 (36)	36 * (65)*	15 (35)	11	3	-	1	-	2	1	5	5.75	
AUG	49 (66)	40 (99)	59 * (129)*	19 (47)	28 * (58)*	14 (41)	11	2	1	-	1	4	2	3	1.86	
SEPT	40 (53)	79* (108)*	56 (106)	36 (82)	52 * (127)*	36 (81)	8	5	2	1	1	5	4	4	3.60	
OCT	43 (167)	86* (202)*	75 (169)	47 (122)	84 * (261)*	65 (151)	6	1	-	1	1	8	3	4	2.07	
NOV	37 (121)	120* (253)*	71 (213)	70 (169)	100 * (252)*	72 (188)	5	1	1	2	2	7	1	5	2.94	
DEC	67 (138)	143* (231)	100 (253)*	92 (220)	128 * (283)*	101 (264)	8	3	1	3	5	1	1	5	1.31	
Annual Average	50	86*	74	41	83*	50	Totals	82	26	12	12	17	63	33	61	26.30

OIL HEATERS REGULATIONS 1962-66

Regular inspections are made of all goods offered for sale by auction in the Corn Exchange and Town Hall Yard to trace oil heaters likely to be defective or dangerous. By informal arrangement with the local auctioneers, all such heaters (together with any unguarded or dangerous open-element electric radiators) are withdrawn from sale and destroyed.

PREVENTION OF DAMAGE BY PESTS ACT 1949

This work is carried out on a part-time basis by Mr P. Maud, an employee of the Highways Department staff. He continues to do this work satisfactorily and carries out routine surveys as and when necessary. The continuation of the free service for all classes of premises other than agricultural holdings has proved very effective and more complaints of infestation are being investigated.

	Type of Property	
	Non-Agricultural	Agricultural
1 Number of properties in district	6,253	38
2 (a) Total number of properties (including nearby premises) inspected following notification	253	—
(b) Number infested by: (i) Rats	246	—
(ii) Mice	7	—
3 (a) Total number of properties inspected for rats and/or mice for reasons other than notification	8	—
(b) Number infested by: (i) Rats	8	—
(ii) Mice	—	—

The treatment of sewer manholes with fluoracetamide is carried out with the co-operation of the local Ministry Officer.

FACTORIES ACT 1961

No cases of sanitary deficiencies in factories were reported by H.M. Inspectors of Factories or by factory employees.

The visits to factories in the town by your inspectors are basically in connection with other aspects of our duties, i.e. food hygiene, clean air, petroleum, noise, etc, and any obvious contravention of the Factories Act would have been noted and acted upon.

I am satisfied that the welfare of factory workers receives adequate supervision by H.M. Inspector of Factories, with whom we are in close liaison, and any duplication of visits would, therefore, be both unnecessary and time-wasting.

Number of non-mechanical factories on register ..	6
Number of mechanical factories on register	83
Number of notices served	Nil

OFFICES, SHOPS AND RAILWAY PREMISES ACT, 1963

The following tables are in the form prescribed by the Ministry of Labour

TABLE A — REGISTRATIONS AND GENERAL INSPECTIONS

<i>Class of Premises</i>	<i>No. of premises registered during the year</i>	<i>Total No. of Registered premises at the end of year</i>	<i>No. of registered premises receiving a general inspection during the year</i>
Offices	5	61	4
Retail shops	12	150	14
Wholesale shops, warehouses	1	9	—
Catering establishments open to the public, canteens	1	20	3
Fuel storage depots	—	2	3
TOTALS	19	242	24

TABLE B — NUMBER OF VISITS OF ALL KINDS BY INSPECTORS TO REGISTERED PREMISES

TABLE C — ANALYSIS OF PERSONS EMPLOYED IN REGISTERED PREMISES
BY WORKPLACE

<i>Class of Workplace</i>	<i>No. of persons employed</i>
Offices	487
Retail shops	701
Wholesale department, warehouses	95
Catering establishments open to the public	95
Canteens	5
Fuel storage depots	25
Total	1,408
Total males	588
Total females	820

TABLE D — EXEMPTIONS

There was one exemption.

TABLE E — PROSECUTIONS

There were no prosecutions.

TABLE F — INSPECTORS

No. of inspectors appointed under Section 52 (1) or (5) of the Act	2
No. of other staff employed for most of this time on work in connection with the Act	NIL
No. of Accidents reported under Section 48 of the Act ..	4
No. of Accidents investigated as to causation	4

GENERAL REPORT

Details of notices served and action taken:

Informal Notices	Offices	Shops	W/houses	Canteens etc.	Fuel Depots	Totals
Outstanding 1.1.68	12	12	1	1	—	26
Served 1968	1	10	—	2	1	14
Totals	13	22	1	3	1	40
Fully complied with	7	15	1	2	—	25
Outstanding 1.1.69	6	7	—	1	1	15

Contraventions found:

Section of Act	Subject	Outstanding 1.1.68	Contraventions noted during 1968	Complied with (or no further action taken)*	Outstanding 1.1.69
4	CLEANLINESS				
	Premises ..	—	1	—	1
	Furn/Fittings	—	—	—	—
5	OVERCROWDING				
	Injurious ..	—	—	—	—
	Statutory ..	1	—	1	—
6	TEMPERATURE				
	Adequate ..	2	1	1	2
	Thermometers	4	—	2	2
7	VENTILATION				
		1	1	2	—
8	LIGHTING ..				
		5	4	5	4
9	SANITARY				
	Adequate ..	3	2	2	3
	ACCOMM.				
	Clean & Repair	5	1	5	1
	Art. Lighting	3	1	3	1
	S. T. Disposal	—	—	—	—
10	WASHING				
	Adequate	12	2	5	9
	FACILITIES				
	Clean & Repair	3	2	4	1
11	DRINKING				
	Water	7	2	3	6
	WATER				
	Drink. Vessels	1	—	1	—
12	CLOTHING				
	Provision	1	—	1	—
	ACCOMM.				
	Drying Facs.	1	—	1	—
13	SEATING FACs.				
	General 1: 3	1	—	—	1
14					
	Sedentary	—	—	—	—
15	EATING FACs.				
	SHOPS	1	—	1	—
16	FLOORS, PASSAGES				
	Repair &				
	Maintenance	3	4	4	3
17	DANGEROUS				
	Fencing ..	3	3	2	4
18	MACHINERY				
	Protect Y.Ps.	—	—	—	—
19					
	Training use	—	—	—	—
23	HEAVY WORK				
	Prohibition	—	—	—	—
24	FIRST AID				
	Provision	16	2	8	10
27	DANGEROUS ACTS				
	Prohibitions	—	—	—	—
50	ABSTRACT OF ACT				
	Provision ..	11	4	8	7
Totals		84	30	59	55

*Premises closed or occupiers became self-employed

PETROLEUM [REGULATION] ACTS 1928 and 1936

The following licences were approved during the year:

Licences to store petroleum spirit in underground tanks:

(a) for private use 26 (22,150 gals)

(b) for retail sale 16 (54,600 gals)

Licences to store petroleum spirit in cans or

containers..... 1 (10 gals)

Licences to store petroleum mixtures 8 (457 gals)

One hundred and eleven visits were carried out during 1968, including 44 visits in connection with the testing of tanks and pipelines and at least one visit to every licensed premises with regard to fire protection and the display of warning notices.

In November 1968 the main recommendations of the Model Code of Principles of Construction and Licensing Conditions (Part I) for can stores and petrol-filling stations, issued by the Home Office, were accepted by the Council and steps were taken to ensure that, as far as reasonably practicable, all installations conformed to requirements.

Annual certificates of electrical compliance are now required as a condition of licence.

Of the 80 underground tanks in use at the end of the year, 8 are over twenty years old, and 22 are over thirty years old. These are re-tested as necessary as part of the licensing conditions. During the year two old tanks were converted for use with diesel oil or paraffin and the licences amended or cancelled accordingly.

NOISE ABATEMENT ACT 1960

During the early part of the year local authorities were requested to take all reasonable steps to reduce noise nuisance from road breakers and other equipment operating within their districts.

Arrangements were subsequently made with the Borough Surveyor for a stencilled letter to be enclosed with all approvals of applications for street works, requesting contractors to use mufflers on road drills and baffles on compressors, etc.

The Council purchased mufflers for their own equipment and their example has been followed by most of the private firms regularly operating in the district.

One ice-cream vendor operating his chimes after 7.0 p.m. was warned of this contravention, and no further nuisance has been reported.

In conclusion, I would like to thank the staff of the Department and the other Chief Officers of the Council for their co-operation during the year and in compiling this report.

In all aspects of his work the Public Health Inspector is obligated to protect the individual or the general public likely to suffer from any default or negligence and his subsequent actions must, on occasions, be open to criticism or opposition from ill-informed sources.

It is, therefore, particularly gratifying to record my appreciation of the support and interest I have enjoyed from the Chairman and Members of the Public Health Committee and your good self during the past year.

H. BROOKS

Chief Public Health Inspector



