# Contributors

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# ANNUAL REPORT

of the MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

and

SENIOR PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR

for the

BASINGSTOKE RURAL DISTRICT FOR THE YEAR 1962



# BASINGSTOKE RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL

Public Health Department, "Eastlands", London Road, Basingstoke, Hants.

August, 1963.

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have much pleasure in presenting my Annual Report for the year ending 1962, and in my opening I should like to draw your attention to some salient points.

<u>General Health</u> - There was a heavy rush for new sickness benefits during the year which followed the pattern found in the adjacent areas. This was due to a mild epidemic of seasonal ailments which appeared towards the very end of 1961.

The number of infectious diseases notifications showed a heavy fall due entirely to the near absence of measles.

<u>Vital Statistics</u> - There was a small migration into the Rural District over the year. This is borne out by the fact that the population rose by 540, while the number of deaths equalled the number of births.

Although the number of deaths from Lung Cancer has risen by nearly 50% the figures involved are so small that they do not assume the significance which would be found if larger numbers were involved. However, plenty of advice and warnings have been given about the relationship between smoking and lung cancer and while it may be too late to influence many of the adults, we must still concentrate upon the younger section of the population. As in past years, diseases of the heart and circulation account for the greatest proportion of deaths.

<u>Social and Sanitary Circumstances</u> - The second stage of the Basing sewerage scheme was completed during the year and the Council's Officers proposed plans for the main drainage of Oakley.

During the year a survey was made of the sanitary and washing facilities in the Primary Schools in the area. A great number of improvements have been carried out since the last survey was undertaken in 1956. Eleven of the fourteen schools now comply with Ministerial Standards, and of the other three, two are to be closed within a year or two and plans for the modernisation of the other are in preparation.

My thanks are due to the Council and Staff of the Public Health Department for all their help during the.year.

Yours faithfully,

T. E. ROBERTS.

Medical Officer of Health

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# STATISTICS OF THE AREA

- 2 -

Area	74,790 acres.
Population - Registrar General's Estimate	
Mid 1962	19,640
Number of inhabited houses	5,174
Number of inhabited houses Rateable Value	(£203,578) £493,181
Product of penny rate	(£511) £330

# VITAL STATISTICS

	1962	1961	1960
Live Births.	312	317	318
Live birth rate per 1000 population.	15.8	16.5	17.66
Illegitimate live births per cent of total live births	5.1	5.0	3.4
Stillbirths.	2	4	2
Stillbirth rate per 1000 live and stillbirths	6.3	12.4	6.2
Total live and stillbirths.	314	321	320
Infant deaths.	5	9	8
Infant mortality rate per 1000 live births Total	16.0	28.3	25.1
""""Legitimate	16.0	28.3	26.0
Illegitimate	N11	Nil	Nil
Neonatal (first 4 weeks) rate per 1000 live births Early Neonatal rate (deaths under 1 week per 1000 live	16.0	25.2	15.7
Perinatal Mortality rate (stillbirths and deaths under l week)	12.8	18.9	18.9
Maternal deaths (including abortion)	Nil	1	Nil
Maternal mortality rate per 1000 live and stillbirths	Nil	0.05	Nil
Comparability factors	1.15	1.15	1.20
(deaths	0.58	0.59	0.58

BIRIHS		Male	Female	Total	1961	1960
Live Births	Legitimate	154	142	296	301	307
Live births	Illegitimate	9	7	16	16	ш
Birth rate per	1000 population (corrected)			19.0	18.9	21.2
Average for Eng	gland and Wales			18.0	17.4	17.1
DEATHS		Male	Female	Total	<u>1961</u>	1960
Deaths from all	1 causes	148	164	312	299	304
Death rate per	thousand (corrected)			7.9	9.2	9.8
Average for Eng	gland and Wales			11.9	12.0	11.5
MATERNAL MORTAL	LITY			Total	<u>1961</u>	<u>1960</u>
From all causes	5			Nil	One	Nil
INFANT MORTALI	<u>rr</u>	Male	Female	<u>Total</u>	<u>1961</u>	<u>1960</u>
Legitimate	•••••	l	4	5	9	8
Illegitimate		-	-	-	-	-

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CAUSES OF INFANT DEATHS	Under <u>24 hr</u> e	Unda . <u>1 wa</u>	-	L – 4 veeka	1 - 12 <u>months</u>
Congenital Malformations	-		-	-	-
Prematurity	l	3	L	-	-
Atelectasis	l		-	-	-
Bronchopneumonia	-	-	-	-	-
Miscellaneous group	-	1	L	l	-
STILLBIRTHS	Male	Female	Total	<u>1961</u>	1960
Legitimate	l	l	2	4	2
Illegitimate	-	-	-	-	-

# ANALYSIS OF CAUSES OF DEATH

Code					
No. Discase	Male	Female	Total	1961	1960
1 Tuberculosis Respiratory	-	1	1	-	_
2 Syphilitic Disease	-	-	-	-	-
8 Measles	-	-	-	-	-
10 Malignant Neoplasm - Stomach	2	2	4	3	6
Lung & Bronchus	10	1	11	8	5
12 Breast		1	1	5	5
13 Uterus	-	l	1	1	-
14 Other Malignant and Lymphatic Neoplasms.	13	17	30	28	21
15 Leukaemia	-	-	-	2	1
16 Diabetes	1	3	4	4	6
17 Vascular lesions of nervous system	14	21	35	30	32
18 Coronary Disease of Angina	25	16	41	54	45
19 Hypertension with Heart Disease	2	2	4	12	7
20 Other Heart Disease 21 Other circulatory Disease	30	32	62	46	70
	4	3	7	12	10
	10	22	12	2	25
23 Pneumonia 24 Bronchitis	5	32 3	42 8	36	35 8
25 Other Disease of Respiratory System	3	2	3	1	0
26 Ulcer of Stomach and Duodenum	2	-	2	1	4
27 Gastritis, Enteritis and Diarrhoea	2	2	4	3	ĩ
28 Nephritis and Nephrosis	ĩ	-	1	32	ī
29 Hyperplasia of Prostrate	2	-	2	ĩ	ĩ
30 Pregnancy, Childbirth and Abortion	-	_	_	ī	ī
31 Congenital Malformations	1	L	5	3	3
32 Other defined and ill-defined Diseases	13	20	33	19	21
33 Motor Vehicle accidents	4	2	6	3	2
34 All other accidents	5	1	5	12	12
35 Suicide	2	-	2	3	1
36 Homicide	-	-	-	-	-

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# EPIDEMOLOGY

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The claims for new sickness benefits showed little difference in number over the previous year. One point which however does require mention is that in January there was an exceedingly large number of new sickness benefit claims.

Notifiable Diseases

Measles	77
Scarlet Fever	2
Pneumonia	4
Tuberculosis - Pulmonary	4
Non Pulmonary	1
Erysipelas	1
Food Poisoning	-
Dysentery	-
Poliomyelitis	-
Opthalmic Neonatorum	1

# Immunisation - Diphtheria and Whooping Cough

During the year, 271 (325) primary doses were given. In addition, 384 (188) children in the 5 and 10 year group were given booster doses. (Figures in brackets refer to 1961).

# Vaccination - Smallpox

The rate of children under one year successfully vaccinated during the year ending 31st December, 1962 is:-

			1962	<u>1961</u>	1960	
Basingstoke	Rural	District	54.0	50.0	76.1	

# Vaccination - Polionyelitis

The early part of the year saw the introduction of Oral Polio Vaccine, making its administration easier for all concerned. 139 children who were born in 1961 and a further 20 who were born during the year also received three doses of Oral Vaccine. During the Summer Term all the schools were visited and children in the appropriate age group were given booster-doses.

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# SOCIAL CONDITIONS AND GENERAL HEALTH SERVICES

The district comprises 34 parishes and is mainly agricultural and residential. In recent years there has been a considerable increase in new houses built both by the Council and privately. Amenities have also improved; there is now a piped water supply in most areas and sewerage in all the larger parishes. The estimated population as given by the Registrar General shows an increase of 540 over the previous year.

# General Health Services

The County Council is the Health Authority. The local District Health Sub-Committee are responsible for helping and advising on these services.

# Maternity and Child Welfare - Health Visiting

Child Walfare Centres are situated throughout the district. Activities at which a doctor and nurse attend include advice on feeding and child managment, immunisation and the distribution of welfare foods. Attendance at these centres continued to be high. The growth of population in Basing has resulted in the number of Clinic Sessions being increased. The time is fast approaching when weekly clinics will have to be held and all of these will require the presence of a doctor.

# District Midwifery and Home Nursing Annual Statistics for 1962

	Home Confinements	<u>Visits</u>	General Cases	Visits
Basing	13	201	86	1,544
Bramley	17	269	87	1,353
Sherborne St. John	6	114	16	682
Preston Candover	15	235	72	922
Silchester	27	480	55	694
Upton Grey	5	108	49	493
Oakley	13	182	69	1,048

# Home Help Service

Summary of cases assisted

	1962	1961	1960
Maternity	9	22	5
General Sickness	4	3	4
Post Hospital	2	5	5
Child Care	2	l	-
Chronic Sickness	8	10	4
Aged Sick and Infirm	32	38	16
Tuberculosis	2	2	-
Residential	-	-	-
Special	-	l	-

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# Old People's Welfare

The care and welfare of all elderly people in the Rural District still continues to attract the interest and attention of many voluntary groups. Certain parts of the Rural District now have a visiting service. The kind attention of these groups and individuals brings to our notice the difficulties confronting the aged and it is by their kindness that much needed help in many instances is afforded to these people.

Visits, Applications and Admissions to Walfare Accommodation

No of cases visited	88	(68)	
Applications	16	(25)	including 2 short stay applications.
Admissions	14	(24)	including 2 short stay cases.

Visits to aged sick persons and referred to bed service for chronic sick..... 6 (6)

Figures in parenthesis refer to the year 1961.



# SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA

Housing

Although there was quite a large amount of private development during the year (mostly at Basing), the Council built 22 houses during this period.

Number of dwellings completed since 1945 (as at 31.12.62.):

	Total	Completed 1962	1961	1960
Private	987	125	113	104
Council	666	22	6	33

# Slum Clearance

By the end of the year only 24 properties remained of the original programme of 268 houses to be dealt with by August, 1965.

### Sewerage

The year saw the completion of the second stage of the Basing Sewerage scheme and now main drainage is available to nearly all those who require it.

Plans for the main drainage of East Oakley were also prepared and a Ministerial enquiry took place on this subject towards the latter part of the year.

# Water Supply

Piped water supplies are now available in all parishes. Regular sampling of water is carried out by the Department (details in the Senior Public Health Inspector's Report) and by the Statutory Water Company.

# Food Supplies Milk

PILIK

The small outbreak of Brucellosis mentioned in my report of 1961 was finally eradicated. All other milk smaples proved to be satisfactory.

AUGUST 1963

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Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have pleasure in presenting my fifteenth annual report concerning work carried out by your Public Health Inspectors.

Number and Nature of Visits and Inspections

Houses under Public Health Acts	385
Houses under Housing Acts	203
Improvement Grants and Standard Grants	323
Overcrowded Houses	7
re Housing Applications	108
re Water Supply	79
Petroleum Installations	65
Moveable Dwellings and Camping Sites	205
Factories	29
Schools	22
Food Premises	258
Refuse Collection and Disposal	394
Rodent Control	39
Cesspool Emptying Service	74
re-visits Following Service of Notices	91
Miscellaneous Visits	110
Complaints Received and Investigated	76

# FOOD PREMISES

Inspections made by the Public Health Inspectors regarding food and food premises were as follows:-

	No. in District	No. of Inspections
General Provision Shops	49	49
Butchers Shops	4	10
Inns and Off Licences	41	32
Restaurants, Cafes, etc.	10	35
Bakehouses	4	8
Registered Ice Cream Premises	57	40
Registered Sausage Manufacturers	8	10
Hospitals and Old Peoples Homes	4	8
Dairies and Milk Distributors	8	42
Schools	22	22
Clubs	11	12
Watercress Growers	6	12
	224	280

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inspections were at the fully health inspectors requering first and

Grade of Milk	No. of Samples	Satisfactory	Unsatisfactory
Pasteurised Tuberculin Tested	42 27	42 27	) Nil
Total -	69	69	

44 samples were subject to the Milk Ring Test and 12 gave a positive result. 20 guinea pig tests were made. All were negative. Most of these samples were taken while investigating brucellosis in a dairy herd. A case of brucellosis in a girl had been traced back to this herd, following which an Order was made prohibiting the sale of milk unless it was heat treated.

Investigations shewed this was a pedigree T.T. herd in which every cow had been inoculated with S.19. Infection in the herd was only removed by eradicating all animals supplying milk giving a positive result to the Milk Ring test. There was some evidence to indicate that calves may have been born into the herd infected with brucella. By agreement, no heifer is now admitted to the herd until its milk has been tested and found satisfactory.

# ICE CREAN SAMPLING

7 samples were taken and were reported upon as follows :-

Grade 1 - 7 Grade 2 - Nil Grade 3 - Nil Grade 4 - Nil

There are no ice cream manufacturers in this district and only prepacked ice cream is sold.

# WATERCRESS

Chlorination of watercress after bunching continued to be practised. All samples taken gave satisfactory results and no complaints were received from the markets.

# FOOD HYGIENE

During the year a further general improvement in the structural condition of food premises was observed, with the bigger use being made of new materials for shelving, counter tops and working surfaces. This was particularly noticeable in public houses where the amount of catering is increasing. In the past the brewers have shown a surprising reluctance to make provision for catering on any scale in their houses, but there are now signs of a change of policy in this direction.

An innovation which one feels could easily be a food poisoning hazard was noticed during the year. This was the deep frozen sandwich now being prepared for catering sales in public houses, roadside cafes, etc. The sandwiches are celophane-wrapped and must be thawed before sale. The shelf life is limited and there is an obvious temptation to re-freeze the sandwiches not sold at the end of the day.

## WATER SUPPLIES

Samples from the public mains proved to be satisfactory.

It was found necessary to take only six samples from private supplies. Of these only two were unsatisfactory. One has provided a piped supply from the main, and the other is in the process of doing so.



# SWIMMING POOL.

- 3 -

The swimming pool at Old Basing was used only a little and then closed due to lack of supervision.

# HOUSING ACTS

The Council's ten year programme for the clearance of unfit dwellings continued ahead of schedule during 1962 and details of action taken are shown below:-

Total unfit at 31.5.55.	5c 93	5b 79	5a 96	Total 268
Properties Demolished	54	17	17	88
Orders served and awaiting demolition	1	l	-	2
"Time and Place" Notices awaiting consideration	-	3	1	4
Closing Orders	-	8	4	12
Owners' Formal Undertakings accepted	17	11	14	42
Improved and rendered fit for habitation	20	26	38	84
In course of improvement and re-conditioning	-	4	7	11
Action deferred	1	-	-	1
	93	70	81	244
Still to be considered by Committee (before August 1965).	_	9	15	24

The clearance of this large number of properties has been achieved without resorting to legal proceedings to secure compliance with the Council's requirements. A patient approach to owners and personal interviews where possible has proved beneficial. So far as I am aware no hardship has arisen from the re-housing of tenants from unfit houses.

During 1962 a further 13 families comprising 26 persons were rehoused from such properties, 9 houses were demolished, 1 house was closed and the Council accepted from owners, undertakings that 3 dwellings would not again be used for human habitation unless and until rendered fit for that purpose. No action was necessary for the relief of overcrowding during the year.

# Improvement Grants

Applications in respect of 23 properties were approved during the year. 8 applications were refused. Since the Act was introduced in 1949, grants have been approved in respect of 441 properties. Enquiries from owners relating to these grants continue steadily.

# Repairs

91 houses were rendered fit for habitation, as a result of informal action by your Officers.

# Standard Grants

Applications approved - 43 Applications refused - Nil Applications withdrawn - 3

Total -

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# CARAVANS AND CARAVAN SITES

During 1962, further improvements were made to existing sites. All new applications for licence were again in respect of individual caravans only. At the same time, a steady increase was noted in the number of caravans sited within the curtilage of a dwelling house and not requiring a licence.

The Council's plans to provide a site for 60 caravans were thwarted when objections were raised on planning grounds to the site chosen. At the end of the year, agreement had still not been reached. However, the opening of a new site in the adjoining district relieved the demand for sites in the area to some extent.

The usual gypsy families camped in the district, and, in one case it was found necessary to prosecute the owner of the 1 nd on which they camped, for using the land as a caravan site without licence.

There are still sites in the district without planning consent and in respect of which enforcement action or appeals are outstanding. Litigation has been very protracted and considerable enhancement has been experienced by the Department when trying to secure improvement of conditions on these sites as they cannot be licensed. It is hoped that in the forthcoming year these remaining problems will be resolved.

# REFUSE AND SALVAGE COLLECTION AND DISPOSAL

Weekly collections were maintained throughout the district.

Present

Registration No.	Type	Purchased	Mileage
KOR 22	13 cu.yd. side-loader with petrol engine	June 1952	94,000
POT 471 )	18 cu.yd. fore and aft tipping	July 1956	72,000
VOG 558	vehicles with diesel engines.	March 1959	40,000
YAA 741 )	and an on Gamer a	April 1960	30,000

Vehicles in service are as follows:-

Vehicle KOR 22 was taken out of regular service in 1959 but it was found necessary to use it again on 2/3 days per week during 1962. The volume of refuse collected has increased by some 38% since weekly collections were introduced two years ago and this, together with the considerable new housing development in the area has taxed the present labour and vehicle force to the full. A new 25 cu.yd. vehicle is on order and it appears that the immediate vehicle needs will then be met. However, it seems likely that one additional loader will be required during the coming winter when collections are heaviest and daylight working hours are restricted.

Tipping continued at Marnel Dell and during the year the following quantities were disposed of :-

	Loads	Cu. Yds.
Basingstoke R.D.C.	1,566	22,825
Basingstoke Corporation	1,211	14,532
C.A.D. Bramley	173	1,183
Park Prewett	36	540
Trade Refuse	262	1,572

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The agreement with the Corporation, allowing them to tip double the quantity tipped by this Council worked satisfactorily.

Trade Refuse continued to be accepted at a standard charge of 7/6d. per load.

The Drott BTD Crawler Tractor continued to prove ideal equipment for this type of work.

The Depot at Coronation Road is now fully occupied. More vehicles will become necessary as the district expands and thought must be given to the enlargement of the building, the provision of better maintenance equipment and facilities for the employees' welfare.

During the year the following materials were salvaged and a bonus for the employees continued:-

			Value			
Paper	-	Tons 89	Cwts 12	Qrs 1	lbs 7	£460.
Rags	-	3	4	2	18	£85.
Metals	-	10	5	3	0	£56.
Compose	+ 4	o filmu	on for	former		£601.

Comparative figures for former years are:-

1961 - £809. 1960 - £856. 1959 - £663.

The annual mileage covered by this service was 35,000 miles.

# CESSFOOL EMPTYING SERVICE

This service was again in great demand by Ratepayers. The considerable overtime worked by employees failed to cope with the amount of work, and frequent delays in executing orders occurred.

The provision of main drainage in the larger villages has not reduced demands upon the service and in fact, the increased population of the district and inproved standards of housing and hygiene have resulted in more work being undertaken than ever before.

The newer vehicle which is now two years old was in regular use during the week and most weekends and the reserve vehicle which is 7 years old was used at weekends and whenever labour was available.

Charges for the work increased for the first time since 1957 and are now:-

For the First load on each occasion £1. 13. 0. Second and subsequent loads £1. 5. 6. on the same occasion

These charges are reduced by half for the third and subsequent emptying of a pit during the financial year, and the deficit so incurred is borne by the Rate Fund. Quarterly or more frequent emptying qualifies for a 10% discount if ratepayers enter into a contract. The agreement with the Corporation, allowing them to vip shalls the

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These charges are reduced by mail for the third and cohespand. Support of a pit during the Hannels year, and the duffeit so unsurved to borns by the hate fund. Charbarly of Born Haqiman capturing while the treThe service operates in areas where the Council has provided main drainage, only for the final emptying of a pit, when a connection to the public sewer is about to be made.

The fullest use is made of public sewers for the disposal of the vehicles contents and this reduces to a minimum, loads to be disposed of on arable land.

During the year, 2,387 loads were removed, 13,310 miles were covered and income from the service was £2,802.

# FACTORIES ACTS 1937 and 1948

Periodical inspections of the factories in the district were made. They were found to be kept in general conformity with the Factories Act.

# SHOPS ACT 1950

71 inspections were made, relating to the ventilation and temperature of shops and to sanitary conveniences. 2 notices were served and complied with.

# SCHOOLS

During the year a full survey of all the schools in the area was effected. The number of primary schools now in existence is fourteen as compared with seventeen in 1956. The total number of children in attendance is now 1,294.

As a result of improvement, modernisation and in some cases, rebuilding, ll schools now comply in all respects with Ministry of Education recommended standards, although slight improvements in the siting of washbasins, provision of hot water, etc., could be effected in some cases. In 1956 only one school reached the standard.

Of the three schools now below standard it is understood two are to be closed within a year or two and the remaining school is to be modernised in the near future.

# MAIN DRAINAGE

In the parishes of Old Basing, North Waltham, Sherborne St. John and Sherfield-on-Loddon, a further 177 properties were connected to public sewers during the year.

Further sewers and an enlarged disposal works were provided at Old Basing. Considerable new building has taken place in the area, and these houses have been provided with main drainage, but owners of existing properties are making slow progress in availing themselves of these facilities.

# CONVERSION OF PAIL CLOSETS INTO WATER CLOSETS

In the parishes where public sewers are available the Council have now assisted owners of 161 properties towards the cost of converting pail closets into water closets in accordance with the provisions of Section 47 of the Public Health Act, 1936.

### PESTS

No flea or bed bug infestations were reported, but complaints in respect of flies and mosquitoes increased.



Members of the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries Infestation Control Laboratory advised in an experiment to control infestation of the lesser house fly on a poultry farm using strings impregnated with Fenchlorphos. The experiment was extremely successful and to date control has been maintained.

# RODENT CONTROL

The inspection of properties throughout the district continued. One feels now that the initial impetus to the drive in the postwar years to bring rodent infestation under control has been lost. Certainly, the public are less concerned about infestations now than they were previously and it is more by survey than by receipt of complaint that infestations are discovered.

Details of rodent control work carried out during the were were :-

1) Number of properties inspected:-

(	(a)	Domestic and business	-	1,563
(	(b)	Agricultural	-	134

2) Total inspections carried out (including re-inspections):-

(a)	Domestic and business	-	3,193
b)	Agricultural	-	734

3) Properties found infested by :-

4)

5)

	(a) Rats (b) Mice	-	424 29	
	Number of properties treated by Council's Rodent Operators	-	449	
•	"Block Control" schemes carried out	-	42	

The Council's policy of providing a free disinfestation service to householders continued, but treatments at business and agricultural premises were carried out upon request and repayment of the cost involved.

# NOTICES SERVED AND COMPLIED WITH

	anding er 1961 Informal	Serv 196 Statutory	52	Complie 190 Statutory	52		anding er 1962 Informal
6	29	19	32	22	35	3	26

# LICENCES IN FORCE

Petroleum	94
Game Dealers	2
Caravans	37
Milk Distributors	11
Premises registered for	
the sale of ice-cream	49
Premises registered for the	
manufacture of sausages	8

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### BULLET CITELLE

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A steady increase in the dutics undertaken by the Public Health Department has again taken place, and I take this opportunity of expressing thanks to members of the staff for their loyalty and full co-operation.

Yours obediently,

9 c Box

Senior Public Health Inspector.

