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Contributors

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BOROUGH OF KIDDERMINSTER

ANNUAL REPORT

ON THE WORK OF THE
PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT
FOR THE YEAR

1966

COLIN STARKIE, M.D., M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.P.H., B.Sc.,

(Medical Officer of Health)

J. B. HINTON, A.R.S.H., M.A.P.H.I.,

(Chief Public Health Inspector)





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PUBLIC HEALTH COMMITTEE.

1966 - 1967.

| | | | | | |
|------------------------------------|-----|-----|-----|-----|---------------------------------|
| Chairman | ... | ... | ... | ... | Councillor D.V. Adam. |
| Vice-Chairman. | ... | ... | ... | ... | Alderman H.G. Parker. |
| HIS WORSHIP THE MAYOR (ex officio) | ... | ... | ... | ... | Councillor R.A. Ricketts. |
| Alderman D. Samuel | ... | ... | ... | ... | Councillor Mrs. R. Chamberlain. |
| Councillor C.G. Dance | ... | ... | ... | ... | Councillor W.A. Edwards. |
| Councillor J. Foxall | ... | ... | ... | ... | Councillor H. Lewis. |
| Councillor J.S. Perrin. | ... | ... | ... | ... | Councillor H. Purcell. |
| Councillor R.C. Reid-Jones | ... | ... | ... | ... | Councillor C.H. Whitaker. |

PUBLIC HEALTH OFFICERS OF THE BOROUGH.

Medical Officer of Health:

COLIN STARKIE, M.D., M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.P.H., B.Sc.,

Public Analyst:

W.E. JONES, F.R.I.C.

Chief Public Health Inspector and Food and Drugs Inspector:

J.B. HINTON, A.R.S.H., M.A.P.H.I.

(Cert. Meat and Food Inspector).

Deputy Chief Public Health Inspector and Food and Drugs Inspector:

J. WHITTINGSLOW, A.R.S.H., M.A.P.H.I.

(Cert. Meat and Food Inspector).

Public Health Inspectors:

N. MILLINER, A.R.S.H., M.A.P.H.I.

(Cert. Meat and Food Inspector).

D. KNIGHT, A.R.S.H., M.A.P.H.I.

(Cert. Meat and Food Inspector).

B.E. ROBERTS, M.R.S.H., M.A.P.H.I.

(Cert. Meat and Food Inspector).

Assistant to Public Health Inspectors:

R.A. ROGERS.

Inspector:

Offices, Shops and Railway Premises Act, 1963.

F. GREEN.

SUMMARY OF STATISTICS FOR 1966 and 1965.

| | 1966 | 1965 |
|---|------------|------------|
| Area of District in Acres | 4,694 | 4,694 |
| Population at Census 1961 | 40,822 | 40,822 |
| Estimated Population (mid year) for Birth Rate and Death Rate | 44,540 | 43,880 |
| No. of inhabited houses estimated | 15,322 | 14,741 |
| No. of persons per house | 3.00 | 3.05 |
| Rateable value | £1,952,913 | £1,883,936 |
| Sum represented by Penny Rate | £7,857 | £7,570 |
| No. of Marriages | 388 | 431 |
| No. of Live Births | 842 | 816 |
| No. of Still Births | 13 | 10 |
| Birth Rate (Live) (Corrected) | 18.6 | 18.0 |
| Birth Rate for England and Wales (Live) | 17.7 | 18.1 |
| No. of illegitimate births | 46 | 38 |
| No. of deaths under one year of age of these there were illegitimate | 18 2 | 13 Nil |
| INFANTILE MORTALITY PER 1,000 BIRTHS | 21.1 | 15.5 |
| Infantile Mortality for England and Wales | 19.0 | 19.0 |
| Maternal Mortality Rate, England and Wales | 0.26 | 0.25 |
| Maternal Mortality Rate (per 1,000 total births) | Nil | Nil |
| Number of deaths | 531 | 458 |
| Death Rate (Corrected) | 11.6 | 10.3 |
| Death Rate for England and Wales | 11.7 | 11.5 |
| Number of Deaths from all forms of Tuberculosis | Nil | Nil |
| Number of Deaths from Cancer | 101 | 84 |
| Number of Deaths from Influenza | 10 | 1 |
| Number of Deaths from Measles | Nil | Nil |
| Number of Deaths from Whooping Cough | Nil | Nil |

| Year | Live Births | Deaths | Births over Deaths Increase. |
|------|-------------|--------|---------------------------------|
| 1957 | 657 | 467 | 190 |
| 1958 | 625 | 487 | 138 |
| 1959 | 648 | 502 | 146 |
| 1960 | 647 | 472 | 175 |
| 1961 | 712 | 534 | 178 |
| 1962 | 776 | 517 | 259 |
| 1963 | 781 | 532 | 249 |
| 1964 | 834 | 532 | 302 |
| 1965 | 816 | 458 | 358 |
| 1966 | 842 | 531 | 311 |

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE
MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH
FOR THE YEAR 1966.

5 - 9, Church Street,
Kidderminster.

To the Chairman and Members of the
Health Committee.

Mr. Chairman,

Anyone seeing our people, particularly the children would know that the general health was very good.

Those whose job it is to make a closer study of health, and the work of the health research workers, understand some of the hidden factors menacing our health and our very lives.

In his annual report it is the Medical Officer's task to strike a balance between the optimism inspired by obvious gains in public health and the pessimism engendered by the misery and illness which will surely be the lot of those who neglect sensible health rules.

Thus more children are being born to live to a greater age in good health than ever before, but only if they refrain from smoking, do not become alcohol addicts, or indulge in other addictive drugs, do not get themselves killed on the roads, do not over eat, and if they are adequately protected against at least five diseases!

Optimism comes from knowing that these conditions could be carried out; pessimism from knowing that so often they will not be.

However, clinical observations and statistics show the great improvement in many health fields over the last two decades, brought about partly by the enlightened health service of this country, and not least by the work of this Health Department.

I give my thanks to the Health Committee for their continued support, to all members of the Health Department for their cheerful assistance at all times, and to all who have helped to improve the health of Kidderminster during the year.

Your obedient servant,

COLIN STARKIE.

Medical Officer of Health.

NOTEABLE EVENTS.

- | | | |
|-----------|---|--|
| January | - | Mild flu epidemic |
| April | - | Borough Health Department moved from Vicar Street to better premises in Church Street. |
| May | - | Variola Minor - mild strain of Smallpox in Midlands. Health Staff revaccinated. |
| September | - | First "Well Woman Clinic" (Cervical Cytology Clinic) commenced in Kidderminster. |

POPULATION.

In the immediate post war years high birth rates were registered, the peak being in 1947. This was followed by a steady decline to 1953 after which it remained nearly stationary until 1961. By this time the post war babies had grown up and were beginning to produce babies themselves in increasing numbers so that in 1966 there were 842 births, or 18.6 per 1,000 population, the highest figures ever recorded in this Borough.

The total Kidderminster Borough population of 44,540 is the highest recorded so far but is likely to increase for several years. If the rate for the last ten years continues, by 1977 Kidderminster will have 50,000 inhabitants.

More accommodation is needed, more pre school nursery places are required, and in five years time more infant school provision will be demanded. We hope our planners are acting now.

With regard to the spacing of children, the Family Planning Circle has been helping families in Kidderminster for the last 16 years. During this time over 3,500 mothers have attended for help and advice. It is impossible to assess the great value to health which this pioneer venture has been.

FOOD.

In this fine generation of adults we are seeing the results of generally good and sufficient food. Rarely do we see the ravages of malnutrition - more often we see over nutrition. Dental caries, although not so marked as it used to be, is still very prevalent in this fluoride deficient, over sugared population.

During recent years the preparation, packaging and hygiene of food has greatly improved. It is now the exception to find a food shop without a cold storage food cabinet where meats, fish, chickens, vegetables and milk products

FOOD Continued -

are kept in excellent fresh condition. Food is also protected by glass cabinets, transparent plastic coverings, or put in plastic containers. Unfortunately, some shop assistants still contaminate with their fingers freshly sliced meats in spite of admonitions by the Health Inspectors, and occasionally other breaches of the Hygiene Code call for action by the Health Department. See page 27.

CLOTHING.

When we give a backward glance through a couple of centuries, we can see the vast difference brought about in clothing by technological discovery and invention.

Until nearly 1800 the masses of people were dressed in wool or leather. Linen, silk and fur were used by a very small minority of wealthy people only. It was not until 1788 that cotton came into general use. Soap was scarce and crude in quality and detergents were unknown.

The rough heavy clothing was often handed down for years regardless of shape or size (much the same thing applied to hand carved artificial dentures!)

With the introduction of cotton into general use a great step forward in personal hygiene was made. During the last thirty years, increasing use of synthetic fibres has further transformed our clothing, and coupled with the invention of modern detergents has made personal cleanliness easy for everyone.

It may be that we shall soon be using disposable clothing which could make washing machines and many detergents redundant.

Already we have disposable paper napkins, paper towels, baby napkins, some dresses and overalls. Disposable collars, shirts, trousers, underwear and dresses may be commonplace in the next few years - helping the housewife in some ways, but adding to the difficulties of the refuse disposal department!

An interesting consequence of the greater cleanliness of skin and clothing is that people are now sensitive to body odour. This has caused a great increase in the use of deodorants by both men and women. Their use could be extended with advantage particularly by young males especially in closed crowded situations.

HOUSING.

The important task of clearing away insanitary, obsolete housing and the building of new houses has continued in 1966.

From dilapidated premises, 271 persons have been moved in the year.

HOUSING Contd -

Further details are given in the Public Health Inspectors Report, see page 29.

The Housing Department supplied the following details:-

Houses Built.

| | | | |
|--|-----|-----|-------|
| Number of houses built by private enterprise | ... | ... | 372 |
| Number of houses built by Local Authority | ... | ... | 134 |
| Total No. of Corporation houses in the Borough at the 31. 12. 66. | ... | ... | 4,061 |
| Total No. of applicants on housing waiting list at the 1. 1. 66. | ... | ... | 837 |
| Total No. of applicants on housing waiting list at the 31. 12. 66. | ... | ... | 815 |

The total number of corporation houses completed and occupied during the year 1966, was 134 in the following types:-

| | | |
|--|-----|-----|
| 1 bedroom bungalows | ... | 14 |
| 1 bedroom flats | ... | 20 |
| 2 bedroom flats | ... | 42 |
| 3 bedroom houses | ... | 18 |
| 3 bedroom maisonettes | ... | 40 |
| Number of houses vacated and re-let during 1966 | ... | 205 |
| Number of Aged Persons Units built up to 31.12.66. | ... | 469 |
| Number of Aged Persons Units with Warden or Flat Superintendent. | ... | 353 |

The weekly inclusive rents for Corporation dwellings ranged between 30/- for pre-war Aged Persons bungalows, to 96/- for a 5 bedroomed post war house.

One-bedroomed premises are most useful for the aged, for people living alone and even for childless married couples.

For the increasing number of old people it would be most useful to have a large number of one bedroomed flatlets, grouped round common sitting rooms, centrally heated and with a resident warden. Such premises are under discussion by the Council.

ATMOSPHERIC POLLUTION.

Daily measurements of atmospheric pollution were made in Kidderminster until April 1966, when the Borough Health Department was transferred from Vicar Street to Church Street. New, modern pollution measuring apparatus has been obtained and is in process of being assembled.

Houses and flats are being built in hundreds each year, and so far they are allowed to use any filthy fuel they wish. The air space is decreasing and the pollution is increasing.

ATMOSPHERIC POLLUTION Contd...

There is an acceptance in principle that Kidderminster should become a Smoke Controlled Area by a planned scheme of smaller areas made over a number of years. We can only hope that the recent natural gas finds and the increasing number of atomic power stations will eventually free us from the drudgery and filth of solid fuel.

WATER SUPPLY.

The town is supplied by a mixture of soft upland water and deep well water, controlled by the North West Worcestershire Water Board. The water is of excellent quality though lacking in fluoride and is in sufficient quantity. However, with the increasing number of new houses and estates it has been more difficult to meet the rising demands. An increasing population, more modern houses, more industries all point to a need of more water and soon. It is hoped that this vital commodity is receiving top priority. Lack of water could very effectively stop further development.

GENERAL HEALTH.

Child Welfare.

842 live births - more than in any other year and a record birth rate of 18.6. were registered.

Unfortunately, 18 of these babies died in their first year.

The causes of death were -

| | | |
|----------------------|---|---|
| Congenital deformity | - | 6 |
| Prematurity | - | 5 |
| Accidents | - | 4 |
| Infection | - | 3 |

Over the whole country the Infant Mortality Rate is gradually decreasing due to a greater knowledge and skill in maternity and child care.

At no point, research, clinical, social, can we relax if even more infant lives are to be saved.

Deaths.

Total - 531.

Causes - (See also page 14)

| | | |
|---|---|-----|
| Heart and Circulatory | - | 202 |
| Respiratory - Pneumonia and bronchitis | | 71 |
| Lung Cancer | | 20 |
| Intracranial Haemorrhage (Stroke) | | 66 |
| Miscellaneous | | 71 |

GENERAL HEALTH Contd

Deaths Contd..

We cannot yet do much to prevent heart and circulatory degenerative changes which caused the 202 deaths and 66 intracranial haemorrhages.

We do know how to prevent much lung damage which caused 1/5 of all the deaths. The lungs are damaged by air pollution and by cigarette smoking. As a corporation we could ensure minimal pollution of the air, and as individuals we could control our smoking habits. Responsible people everywhere now realise that cigarette smoking is closely associated with the deaths of over 27,000 people aged 50 - 70 every year. This makes anything that other "drugs" have done pale into insignificance.

The ages at which resident deaths have taken place during 1966 are as follows:-

| | |
|--------------------------|-----|
| Under 4 weeks | 10 |
| 4 weeks and under 1 year | 8 |
| Between 1 and 5 years | 2 |
| Between 5 and 15 years | 4 |
| Between 15 and 25 years | 4 |
| Between 25 and 35 years | 5 |
| Between 35 and 45 years | 15 |
| Between 45 and 55 years | 34 |
| Between 55 and 65 years | 94 |
| Between 65 and 75 years | 122 |
| 75 years and upwards | 233 |

INFECTIOUS DISEASES AND PREVENTIVE MEASURES.

Preventive Measures.

Diphtheria.

547 primary immunisations were completed and 913 reinforcing injections were given.

Poliomyelitis Vaccination.

980 Primary immunisations were completed and 356 re-inforcing doses were given orally.

Tuberculosis.

The Miniature Mass Radiography Unit visited the Borough every Monday from 2-3Op.m. to 4-Op.m. to examine ante-natal patients, patients referred by general practitioners and other members of the public.

B.C.G. inoculation was offered to the 13 year and older children and was accepted by 83.3%

INFECTIOUS DISEASES AND PREVENTIVE MEASURES Contd...

NOTIFIABLE DISEASES (Other than Tuberculosis) during the
year 1966.

| Diseases | Total cases Notified. | Total Deaths. |
|-------------------|--------------------------|---------------|
| Scarlet Fever | 40 | Nil |
| Pneumonia | 1 | 29 |
| Measles | 273 | Nil |
| Poliomyelitis | Nil | Nil |
| Erysipelas | Nil | Nil |
| Food Poisoning | Nil | Nil |
| Diphtheria | Nil | Nil |
| Whooping Cough | Nil | Nil |
| Puerperal Pyrexia | Nil | Nil |

TUBERCULOSIS.

There were 7 new cases of Pulmonary Tuberculosis and 2 cases of Non-Pulmonary Tuberculosis notified. No deaths were due to Tuberculosis.

| Year | Pulmonary | | Non - Pulmonary | |
|------|-----------|--------|-----------------|--------|
| | New Cases | Deaths | New Cases | Deaths |
| 1957 | 29 | 2 | 2 | Nil |
| 1958 | 17 | 3 | 2 | 1 |
| 1959 | 16 | 3 | 5 | Nil |
| 1960 | 21 | 6 | 3 | Nil |
| 1961 | 9 | Nil | 6 | Nil |
| 1962 | 17 | 3 | 1 | Nil |
| 1963 | 15 | 4 | Nil | Nil |
| 1964 | 9 | 5 | Nil | Nil |
| 1965 | 8 | Nil | 1 | Nil |
| 1966 | 7 | Nil | 2 | Nil |

NUMBER OF DEATHS FROM EACH DISEASE.

| Cause of Death | Male | Female |
|--|------|--------|
| 1. Tuberculosis of Respiratory System. | Nil | Nil |
| 2. Other forms of Tuberculosis. | Nil | Nil |
| 3. Syphilitic Diseases. | Nil | Nil |
| 4. Diphtheria. | Nil | Nil |
| 5. Whooping Cough. | Nil | Nil |
| 6. Meningococcal Infections. | 1 | Nil |
| 7. Acute Poliomyelitis. | Nil | Nil |
| 8. Measles. | Nil | Nil |
| 9. Other infective and Parasitic Diseases. | Nil | 1 |
| 10. Malignant Neoplasm. Stomach. | 6 | 5 |
| 11. " " Lung, Bronchus. | 18 | 2 |
| 12. " " Breast. | Nil | 15 |
| 13. " " Uterus. | Nil | 7 |
| 14. Other Malignant and Lymphatic Neoplasms. | 25 | 23 |
| 15. Leukaemia, Aleukaemia. | Nil | 1 |
| 16. Diabetes. | 1 | 4 |
| 17. Vascular lesions of Nervous System. | 29 | 37 |
| 18. Coronary Disease Angina. | 59 | 42 |
| 19. Hypertension with Heart Disease. | - | 2 |
| 20. Other Heart Diseases. | 28 | 54 |
| 21. Other Circulatory Diseases. | 6 | 11 |
| 22. Influenza. | 5 | 5 |
| 23. Pneumonia. | 12 | 17 |
| 24. Bronchitis. | 23 | 4 |
| 25. Other Diseases of Respiratory System. | 2 | 3 |
| 26. Ulcer of Stomach and Duodenum. | 3 | 2 |
| 27. Gastritis, Enteritis and Diarrhoea. | 1 | Nil |
| 28. Nephritis and Nephrosis. | 2 | Nil |
| 29. Hyperplasia of Prostate. | 2 | Nil |
| 30. Pregnancy, Childbirth, Abortion. | Nil | 1 |
| 31. Congenital Malformations. | 2 | 3 |
| 32. Other defined and ill-defined diseases. | 21 | 22 |
| 33. Motor Vehicle Accidents. | 7 | 3 |
| 34. All other accidents. | 5 | 8 |
| 35. Suicide. | 1 | Nil |
| 36. Homicide and Operations of War. | Nil | Nil |
| Total: | 259 | 272 |

SPECIAL SERVICES.

CARE OF OLD PEOPLE.

Mrs. G.B. Evans, Central Organiser, W.R.V.S. Kidderminster, makes the following report for the year ending December 31st, 1966.

Meals on Wheels.

This service has been able to deal with every demand made on it so far.

There are 51 people on the Monday and Thursday route and 34 on the Tuesday and Friday route. If any more names are submitted for the first route I shall have to re-arrange the Schedule and transfer some to Tuesday and Friday.

Thus 85 people are getting two hot meals a week.

The finances of this service are in a satisfactory state and the new van supplied by the Round Table is giving joy to the drivers.

Home Helps.

It is well worthy of record that Kidderminster will be the last town in England in which the Home Help Service will be administered by the W.R.V.S. It is due to go over to paid staff, i.e. The County Council in the Spring or early Summer. The scheme is still working most successfully under Mrs. B. Moule, B.E.M.

| Reason for Help. | Number of cases visited by Home Helps. |
|--------------------|--|
| Patients over 65 | 445 |
| Chronic ill | 55 |
| Mentally Disturbed | 6 |
| Maternity | 115 |
| Others | 55 |

While reporting briefly on these two Services the Public Health Committee (in the absence of any Welfare Committee) may be interested to know of the two other main Services administered by the W.R.V.S.

Darby and Joan Clubs.

The first of these was opened 19 years ago and there are now between 250 and 300 members of the various Clubs. Thanks to the untiring efforts of the Club Helpers these Clubs continue to provide a Service for which the demand seems to be constant.

Hospital Canteens.

The Committee may not be aware that there are two W.R.V.S. Canteens at the General Hospital, Mill Street, one adjoining the Casualty Department and one in the Out-Patients Department. One is open from 10- 4 and the

other from 10 - 2 daily, and one is open on Saturday 10 - 12 noon. I have now virtually achieved my objective in obtaining a pool of over 80 ladies who do one two hour shift (some do 4 hours) each month. They have found this service a rewarding one. This service too is in a satisfactory financial state.

The Corporation is considering plans for more and better housing of old people including blocks of flatlets.

The need for an Old People's Day Centre is now recognised and discussions are beginning on how to provide one in the near future.

MATERNITY AND CHILD WELFARE.

These services are the direct responsibility of the County Council and so do not have to be considered in this report.

PUBLIC MORTUARY.

The agreement made between the Borough and the Mid-Worcester Hospital Management Committee, whereby for an annual payment the Borough can use the Kidderminster General Hospital's Mortuary, continued to work satisfactorily.

LABORATORY SERVICE.

The Standing arrangements with the County Analyst have remained in force. The Public Health Laboratory, Worcester, is available for examination of medical specimens.

The Medical Practitioners of the Borough also use the Laboratory at the General Hospital.

DISINFESTATION AND DISINFECTION.

Disinfestation and disinfection was undertaken by the Health Department on account of the following:-

| | |
|-------------|----|
| Ants | 2 |
| Fleas | 6 |
| Bugs | 26 |

See also page 33.

HEALTH INFORMATION.

A very useful service is given by the Citizens Advice Bureau (C.A.B.) whose voluntary workers are selected and trained, and are available at the C.A.B. Office on the Library Car Park to help on all sorts of problems, including health and hygiene.

Health information is constantly given by every member of the Health Department Staff, often informally; sometimes by lectures, demonstrations or discussions to selected groups of people.

HEALTH INFORMATION Contd.....

Television, radio, books, schools, papers and magazines are all helping to keep the public informed on health matters, and by these means we can hope to dispel some of the old prejudices and encourage healthier and happier ways of living.

But how long will it be before the community realises the serious damage to its health caused by cigarette smoking, excess alcohol intake, air pollution and over indulgence in sugary foods?

CLINICS AND TREATMENT CENTRES.

| Clinic | Situation and time of Session. | Provided by |
|-------------------------------------|--|------------------------------|
| Maternity and Child Welfare Centres | Holy Innocents' Hall, Foley Park - Monday 2-0 to 4-Op.m. St. Oswalds Parish Hall, Broadwaters. Mondays 2-0 to 4-Op.m. Birchen Coppice Church Hall - 2nd and 4th Tuesdays, 2-0 to 4-Op.m. Franch Church Hall, Franche - Tuesdays 2-0 to 4-Op.m. Coventry Street Clinic Thursdays 2-Op.m. to 4-Op.m. Comberton Church Hall - Tuesdays 2-Op.m. to 4-Op.m. Habberley Church Hall - Wednesdays 2-Op.m. to 4-Op.m. | County Council |
| Tuberculosis | Kidderminster General Hospital - Wednesday 10-30a.m. and 3-Op.m. Thursday 2-Op.m. to 4-Op.m. | Regional Hospital Board. |
| Ante-Natal | Monday Session at Coventry Street Clinic - 2-Op.m. to 4-Op.m. Friday Session at Stanmore Nurses' Home, 2-Op.m. to 4-Op.m. | County Council. |
| Consultative Ante-Natal Clinic | Kidderminster General Hospital - Weekly, Wednesday 11-0a.m. | Regional Hospital Board. |
| Family Planning Clinic | Coventry Street Clinic Wednesday 2-Op.m. to 4-Op.m. 1st and 3rd Tuesday of each month 5-3Op.m. | Family Planning Association. |
| Chiropody Service | Monday morning, Tuesday morning, Wednesday morning and afternoon, Friday morning and afternoon. | County Council. |
| Cytology Clinic | Coventry Street Clinic. | |

REPORT OF THE
CHIEF PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR
FOR THE YEAR 1966.

To the Chairman and Members of the Public Health Committee.

Mr. Chairman,

In accordance with Circular 1/67 of the Ministry of Health I present with pleasure the Report on the work accomplished by the Public Health Inspectorate for the year ended 31st December, 1966, coupled with a short report on the Public Cleansing Service administered by the Department dealing with the collection and disposal of household refuse, some trade refuse and salvage.

The main details of the Report can be found on subsequent pages and set out in tabular or other form for ease of reference.

The year under review has been busy in common with immediate previous ones with Meat and Food Inspection, Refuse Collection and Disposal, Housing and Slum Clearance demanding much of your Officers' time. These duties are proving to be more and more important features in the year's work.

Three staff changes were effected as under:-

Mr. B.E. Roberts of Flint succeeded Mr. J. Hunt as Additional Public Health Inspector.

Miss B. Smith replaced Miss Jones as Junior Clerk.

Mr. R.I. Gibb, who was our Pupil Public Health Inspector, obtained his full qualification in June and almost immediately became appointed as a Public Health Inspector to the County Borough of West Bromwich.

Mr. K. Randle filled the vacancy thus created as Pupil Public Health Inspector.

It is interesting to mention here the change in office accommodation. After many years at Lloyds Bank Chambers we moved to Church Street. This has proved beneficial in several ways. We have more accommodation making working conditions better and the fact that other principal departments are housed in the same building makes lines of communication much easier.

I express my sincere thanks to the Chairman and Members of the Public Health Committee, the Medical Officer of Health and Officers of other Departments for much help and support during the past year, such help being of inestimable value. I would also like to record my appreciation to senior members of the County Analyst's Department, whose advice when sought on matters concerning food etc., is so readily given. To the Inspectorate and Clerical Staff I offer my thanks for loyalty and application to duties.

Yours obediently,

J.B. HINTON.

Chief Public Health Inspector.

SLAUGHTERHOUSES AND MEAT INSPECTION.

The Borough possesses a complement of 8 private slaughterhouses, but no municipally owned Public Abattoir and the duty of meat inspection was pursued during the year with customary diligence. The use of two of these slaughterhouses is restricted to small animals only, the amount of slaughtering at one being very small indeed.

THE MEAT INSPECTION REGULATIONS 1963.

The coming into force of the Meat Inspection Regulations 1963, has made the work more exacting in as much as they provide that meat must be inspected at Slaughterhouses in accordance with the standard procedure laid down in their 1st Schedule and meat which is passed must be marked with a stamp bearing the name of the Local Authority and a code No. or letter to identify the officer who made the inspection.

MEAT AND EDIBLE OFFAL CONDEMNED.

| DISEASE | TONS. | CWTS. | LBS. |
|--------------------------------------|-------|-------|------|
| Cirrhosis, Distomatosis | 3 | 8 | 101 |
| Pyogenic, Abscesses | 2 | 17 | 81 |
| Tuberculosis | 2 | 1 | 30 |
| Parasitic Cysts | | 19 | 23 |
| Septicaemia | | 16 | 57 |
| Pleurisy, Peritonitis & Pericarditis | | 15 | 56 |
| Hydatid Cysts | | 12 | 73 |
| Oedema & Emaciation | | 10 | 43 |
| Moribund and Badly Bled | | 9 | 7 |
| Injury, Bruising | | 8 | 59 |
| Necrosis | | 7 | 71 |
| Pyaemia | | 4 | 86 |
| Angiomatosis | | 4 | 45 |
| Swine Erysipelas | | 3 | 103 |
| Cysticercus Bovis | | 3 | 52 |
| Pneumonia | | 3 | 32 |
| Actinobacillosis | | 2 | 46 |
| Septic Arthritis & Emaciation | | 1 | 28 |
| Arthritis | | | 112 |
| Septic Pleurisy & Peritonitis | | | 75 |
| Rickets | | | 60 |
| Fatty Infiltration & Degeneration | | | 57 |
| Septic Metritis | | | 45 |
| Actinomycosis | | | 29 |
| Melanosia | | | 23 |
| Hydronephrosis | | | 16 |
| Nephritis | | | 6 |
| Adenoma | | | 5 |

Total weight condemned - 14 tons. 14 cwts. 77 lbs.

THE MEAT INSPECTION (AMENDMENT) REGULATIONS 1963.

The above regulations which came into force on the 30th September, 1966, gave Local Authorities (after due consultation with slaughterhouse occupiers) the power to determine the days and hours during which slaughtering may take place at private slaughterhouses within their districts. At the close of the year consultations with slaughterhouse occupiers were taking place and the hours of slaughtering were subsequently fixed. I am in full agreement with the advent of these regulations. If 100% meat inspection is the aim then the whole operation of slaughtering and inspecting meat must be so channelled as to provide order throughout.

CARCASES, INSPECTED AND CONDEMNED.

| | Cattle Excluding Cows | Cows | Calves | Sheep and Lambs | Pigs |
|--|-----------------------------|------|--------|-----------------------|--------|
| Number killed | 7,080 | 116 | 642 | 35,466 | 12,862 |
| Number inspected | 7,080 | 116 | 642 | 35,466 | 12,862 |
| <u>ALL DISEASES EXCEPT TUBERCULOSIS:</u> | | | | | |
| Whole carcasses condemned | 1 | 2 | 10 | 47 | 22 |
| Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned | 1,003 | 37 | 9 | 1,260 | 1,125 |
| Percentage of number inspected affected with disease other than Tuberculosis | 14.2 | 33.6 | 3.0 | 3.7 | 8.9 |
| <u>TUBERCULOSIS:</u> | | | | | |
| Whole carcasses condemned | - | - | - | - | 1 |
| Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned | 1 | - | - | - | 369 |
| Percentage of number inspected affected with Tuberculosis | .01 | - | - | - | 2.9 |
| <u>CYSTICERCUS BOVIS:</u> | | | | | |
| Whole carcasses condemned | - | - | - | - | - |
| Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned | 28 | - | - | - | - |
| Percentage of number inspected affected with Cysticercus Bovis | 0.4 | - | - | - | - |

OTHER FOODSTUFFS CONDEMNED.

| | | | |
|------|---|-----|------------------------|
| 1624 | Tins, packets & jars of various foodstuffs. | 112 | lbs. Yeast. |
| | | 84 | lbs. Tinned Ox Tongue. |
| 132 | cwts. Potatoes. | 70 | lbs. Hake. |
| 15½ | cwts. Melons. | 56 | lbs. Nuts. |
| 13 | cwts. Carrots. | 54 | lbs. Jellied Veal. |
| 492 | lbs. Tinned Fruit and Fruit Juices. | 32 | lbs. Sausages. |
| 491 | lbs. Tinned Livers. | 31 | lbs. Poultry. |
| 351 | lbs. Raisins. | 23 | lbs. Cheese. |
| 275 | lbs. Tinned Ham. | 13 | lbs. Tinned chicken. |
| 270 | lbs. Beef. | 10 | lbs. Cooked Pork. |
| 134 | lbs. Tinned Meats. | 6 | lbs. Haddock. |

SUMMARY:

| | T. | C. | LBS. |
|---|-----|-----|------|
| Total weight (Meat and Foods) Condemned | 24. | 4. | 89. |
| Total weight (Meat) Condemned | 14. | 14. | 77. |

SLAUGHTER OF ANIMALS ACT, 1958.

One of the principal requirements of this Act is that persons engaged in the slaughtering of food animals must hold a licence and these licences specify the kind of animals which may be slaughtered and the types of instruments to be used. The licences are for 12 monthly periods and require renewal at the end of that time. Persons holding such licences must be over 18 years of age and competent to discharge their duties.

Number of licences in force - 23.

FOOD AND DRUGS ACT, 1955.

ICE-CREAM - Registration of premises.

Number of premises where Ice-Cream is manufactured, stored or sold.

| | | |
|---|-----|-----|
| Manufacturers (complete cold mix only) ... | ... | 1 |
| Premises where wrapped Ice-Cream only is sold ... | ... | 182 |
| Premises where wrapped Ice-Cream and bulk is sold | | |
| (Does not include Cafes) ... | ... | 1 |
| Wholesale Storage Depot ... | ... | 1 |

From the above table it will be readily appreciated that most of the ice-cream sold in this Borough is supplied by large manufacturers whose premises are outside our district. This is achieved mainly by either bulk deliveries to retail shops and stores or by retail vans.

FOOD AND DRUGS ACT, 1955.

ROUTINE SAMPLES TAKEN DURING THE YEAR.

Total number of samples taken for chemical analysis during the year ... 147.

| <u>Nature of Samples.</u> | <u>Number taken.</u> |
|--------------------------------|----------------------|
| Bicarbonate of Soda | 1 |
| Bread | 1 |
| Butter | 4 |
| Cheese Spread | 1 |
| Confectionery | 6 |
| Cream, fresh and tinned | 5 |
| Cream Topping | 1 |
| Dessert Powder | 1 |
| Fats other than Butter | 1 |
| Fish and Fish Products | 3 |
| Fruit Products | 2 |
| Honey Cake | 1 |
| Ice-Cream | 5 |
| Infant Food | 1 |
| Macaroni | 1 |
| Meat Products | 14 |
| Milk, Evaporated | 1 |
| Milk & Channel Islands Milk | 42 |
| Nut Products | 3 |
| Preserves | 5 |
| Puddings | 2 |
| Sauces | 3 |
| Sausages and Sausage Seasoning | 30 |
| Shandy | 1 |
| Soft Drink | 2 |
| Soup, Dried and Tinned | 3 |
| Table Jelly | 1 |
| Tea | 1 |
| Vegetable Products | 1 |
| Vinegar, Malt | 2 |
| Yoghurt and Yogfruit | 2 |

FOOD AND DRUGS ACT, 1955.

ACTION TAKEN REGARDING SAMPLES IRREGULAR.

| Sample No. | Sample of | Deficiency or Condition. | Result, Action etc., |
|------------|--------------------------|---|---|
| 447 | Beef Sausage. | Presence of preservative not declared. | Notice provided. |
| 458 | Chocolate Confectionery. | Essentially a chocolate substitute. "Choc" description not appropriate. | Products relabelled. |
| 459 | Chocolate Confectionery. | | |
| 460 | Orange drink. | Contained undeclared artificial sweetener. | Product relabelled. |
| 499 | Pork Sausage. | Contained excess preservative. | |
| 502 | Pork Sausage. | Contained excess preservative. | |
| 503 | Sausage Seasoning. | Contained preservative in excess of declared amount. | This was cause of failure of previous two samples. Product withdrawn. New formula accords with declaration of contents. |
| 504 | Pork Sausages. | Presence of Preservative not declared. | Notice provided. |
| 563 | Orange Drink. | Contained undeclared artificial sweetener. | Product relabelled. |

FOOD AND DRUGS ACT, 1955.

ROUTINE SAMPLES TAKEN DURING THE YEAR.

Bacteriological Examination of Milk.

The following is a table showing the number of samples taken and results:-

| Sample | No. | Methylene Blue Test | | | Phosphatase Test | | Turbidity Test |
|-------------|-----|---------------------|--------|------|------------------|--------|----------------|
| | | Passed | Failed | Void | Passed | Failed | Passed |
| Pasteurised | 89 | 89 | - | - | 86 | 3 | - |
| Sterilised | 7 | - | - | - | - | - | 7 |

The sampling of certain types of foods for bacteriological examination continues to be used to assess the cleanliness of their preparation etc., Below is a synopsis of the samples taken -

(a) Ice-Cream.

| Samples submitted | Grades | | | |
|-------------------|--------|---|---|---|
| | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 |
| 7 | 6 | - | - | 1 |

(b) Other Foods.

Commodity.

Number of Samples Taken.

| | | |
|----------------|-----|----|
| Sausages ... | ... | 12 |
| Frozen Faggots | ... | 10 |
| Fresh Cream.. | ... | 5 |
| Pork Pie ... | ... | 2 |
| Meat Pie ... | ... | 2 |
| Fresh Faggots | ... | 2 |
| Fish. ... | ... | 1 |
| Tinned Meat.. | ... | 1 |
| Honey Cake... | ... | 1 |

FOOD AND DRUGS ACT, 1955.

WATER SAMPLES.

Ten samples of mains water were taken during the year by the Department and submitted for Bacteriological Examinations.

These all proved satisfactory and were in addition to the routine samples taken by the Water Board.

THE MILK (SPECIAL DESIGNATION) REGULATIONS 1963.

At the end of the year the following licences were in force:-

| | | | |
|------------------|---|--------------------------|----|
| Pasteurised Milk | - | Processing Plants | 1 |
| | - | Dealers (prepacked milk) | 30 |
| Sterilised Milk | - | Processing Plants | 1 |
| | - | Dealers (prepacked milk) | 59 |

MILK AND DAIRIES REGULATIONS, 1949.

| | | |
|-------------------------------------|---|---|
| Number of Distributors registered | - | 6 |
| Number of Dairy Premises registered | - | 1 |

FOOD COMPLAINTS.

During the year a total of 31 Food Complaints were received and investigated. Commodities affected included bread, pies, bacon, butter, poultry, fish, cheese, milk, confectionery and cereal and complaints included mould, decomposition, infestation and discolouration. In 9 cases the complaints were found to have no justification. In 7 cases warning letters were sent and 2 cases resulted in prosecution. (See page 32).

SUMMARY OF FOOD PREMISES.

The figures of various categories of food businesses given below are so arranged in accordance with Ministry of Health Circular 1/67 as to show particulars of compliance with the parts of the Food Hygiene General Regulations 1960 concerning hand washing facilities and facilities for washing equipment.

| Premises | Total No. | Food Hygiene (General) Regulations 1960. | | |
|-------------------------|--------------|--|----------------|----------|
| | | Regulation 16 Complied | Regulation 19. | |
| | | | Applicable | Complied |
| Butchers | 30 | 23 | 30 | 25 |
| Cafes, Restaurants | 20 | 17 | 20 | 20 |
| Confectioners | 14 | 13 | 14 | 14 |
| Fish and Chip Shops | 16 | 14 | 16 | 16 |
| Greengrocers | 19 | 15 | 19 | 17 |
| Grocers, General Stores | 109 | 98 | 109 | 105 |
| Industrial Canteens | 16 | 16 | 16 | 15 |
| Multiple Stores | 8 | 8 | 8 | 8 |
| Sugar Confectioners | 14 | 14 | 7 | 7 |
| Wholesale Warehouse | 8 | 7 | 2 | 2 |

Representations to occupiers of businesses above which did not comply were being followed up at the end of the year. In two cases of fish friers the premises were due for demolition which has since been carried out.

HOUSING.

The removal of old, worn-out, sub-standard houses, which are usually found to be damp, dilapidated, defective in structure and lacking in sanitary amenities is of major importance to improve the lot of the unfortunate populace who by dint of circumstances have to occupy them.

Set out below is a synopsis of the work, viz:

(a) Action under Housing Act during year.

| | |
|--|-----|
| No. of houses represented for Demolition Orders. | 3 |
| " " Demolition Orders made. | 8 |
| " " houses represented for Closing Orders. | - |
| " " Closing Orders made (whole houses) | 4 |
| " " " " (part of a building) | - |
| " " " " changed to Demolition Orders. | - |
| " " " " determined. | - |
| Undertakings not to use house accepted. | - |
| " " to repair house accepted. | 1 |
| No. of houses actually demolished during year. | 10 |
| " " houses closed. | 6 |
| No. of persons displaced. | 271 |
| No. of houses represented, Clearance Areas. | 111 |

The 111 houses represented in "Clearance Areas" were located as follows:-

| | |
|----------------------|------------|
| Edward Street (No.1) | 60 houses. |
| Orchard Street. | 27 houses. |
| Offmore Road (No.1) | 5 houses. |
| Bewdley Hill. | 2 houses. |
| York Street (No.1) | 17 houses. |

Public Enquiries were held during the year on the Clensmore Street (No. 1) and Summer View Areas, the areas being subsequently confirmed.

(b) Public Health Act.

| | |
|--|----|
| Houses in which defects were remedied. | |
| After informal action by Local Authority | 85 |
| After formal action by Local Authority | 26 |

SUMMARY OF NOTICES SERVED - PUBLIC HEALTH ACT, 1936.

| | | | |
|--------------------------------|-----|-----|----|
| Preliminary Notices served ... | ... | ... | 92 |
| Intimation letters sent ... | ... | ... | 19 |
| Statutory Notices served ... | ... | ... | 31 |

Set out overleaf is a summary of defects remedied.

HOUSING REPAIRS AND RENT ACT, 1957.

One application for a certificate and subsequently an application for its cancellation were received during the year.

SUMMARY OF DEFECTS REMEDIED (HOUSES) YEAR, 1966.

DWELLING HOUSES.

| | | | | | | |
|---|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|----|
| Roofs repaired... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 36 |
| Chimney stacks repointed/repaired.. | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 8 |
| Defective spouting repaired, refixed or new provided. | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 17 |
| House brickwork repointed/repaired. | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 5 |
| Walls damp-proofed | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 9 |
| Plasterwork repaired or renewed | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 17 |
| Handrail secured | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 1 |
| Windows repaired, sashcords provided | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 17 |
| Floors repaired | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 2 |
| Stairs or steps repaired.. | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 4 |
| Woodwork of doors repaired or new ones provided | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 5 |
| Ventilator repaired | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | - |
| Dangerous yard wall repaired | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | - |

WASH-HOUSES.

| | | | | | | |
|--|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|---|
| Wash-house roofs repaired | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | - |
| Wash-house windows and doors repaired or renewed | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | - |
| Defective spouting repaired, refixed or new provided | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 1 |

WATER-CLOSETS.

| | | | | | | |
|--|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|----|
| Window repaired.. | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | - |
| Roofs repaired... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | - |
| New pedestal pans provided | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 3 |
| Flushing cistern repaired or new provided... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 16 |
| Leaking water-closet joints repaired | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 4 |
| Seats provided... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 1 |
| Spouting renewed. | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | - |
| Walls repointed/repaired . | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 5 |
| Doors repaired or new provided | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | - |
| Floors repaired/renewed .. | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 1 |

DRAINAGE.

| | | | | | | |
|----------------------------|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|----|
| Obstructed drains cleared. | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 62 |
| Drains relaid or repaired. | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 1 |
| Soil pipe cleared | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | - |
| Sunken paving relaid | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | - |
| New sink provided | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 1 |
| Sink secured | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | - |

WATER-SUPPLY.

| | | | | | | |
|--------------------------------------|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|---|
| Waste pipes repaired or new provided | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 3 |
| Burst pipes repaired | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | - |
| Service pipes renewed | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 2 |
| Water cisterns renewed | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | - |

SUMMARY OF SANITARY INSPECTIONS, INTERVIEWS AND
OTHER VISITS.

| | | |
|---|-----|-------|
| House Inspections (Public Health and Housing Acts)... | ... | 805 |
| Water Supply... | ... | 10 |
| Drain Testing... | ... | 20 |
| Interview with Owner or Builder... | ... | 60 |
| Enquiry Inspections ... | ... | 28 |
| Improvement Grant Inspections ... | ... | 24 |
| Advance on Mortgage Inspections... | ... | 14 |
| Trade Refuse... | ... | 195 |
| Official Searches re Property ... | ... | 224 |
| Common Lodging House Visits ... | ... | 2 |
| Offensive Trades Visits ... | ... | 4 |
| Factory Act (Sanitary accommodation etc.,) | ... | 15 |
| Rodent Control... | ... | 30 |
| Refuse Disposal ... | ... | 129 |
| Infectious Diseases ... | ... | 6 |
| Places of Entertainment... | ... | 9 |
| Private Slaughterhouses (Meat Inspection)... | ... | 2,203 |
| Private Slaughterhouses (Construction) ... | ... | 24 |
| Food Preparing Premises ... | ... | 60 |
| Retail Food Shops ... | ... | 129 |
| Ice-Cream Retailers ... | ... | 5 |
| Tinned Food and other articles of food examination .. | ... | 104 |
| Food and Drugs Sampling... | ... | 88 |
| Interview in Office ... | ... | 242 |
| Other complaints and miscellaneous visits... | ... | 595 |
| Atmospheric Pollution (Clean Air Act) ... | ... | 68 |
| Mobile Vans ... | ... | 3 |
| Offices, Shops & Railway Premises Act ... | ... | 553 |
| Keeping of Animals ... | ... | 4 |
| Licensed Premises ... | ... | 4 |
| Tents, Vans & Shed (Human occupation) ... | ... | 5 |
| Rent Act ... | ... | 3 |
| Dustbins ... | ... | 27 |

MAGISTERIAL PROCEEDINGS.

Summary proceedings were instituted in the following cases during the year.

| Nature of Offence. | Enactment Contravened | Result. |
|--|--|---|
| Selling meat pie contaminated with mould. | Food & Drugs Act, 1955. Section 2. | Fined £25. plus £2.2.0. Advocate's Fee. |
| Selling steak and kidney pie contaminated with mould. | Food & Drugs Act, 1955. Section 2. | Fined £10. plus £5. 3. 0. costs. |
| Failure to keep cafe clean and in proper repair. | Food Hygiene Regula- tions. | Fined £32. 0. 0. |
| Failure to comply with notice to abate nuisance. | Public Health Act, 1936. Section 93. | Order obtained. |
| Failure to comply with notices to abate nuisance, and execute repairs. | Public Health Act, 1936. Section 93. Section 45. | Order obtained. Fined £3. 0. 0. |

DISINFESTATION OF PREMISES, CLOTHING ETC.,

Disinfestation against the more common house pests, viz: bed bugs, fleas and cockroaches is carried out by the Department.

The spraying of infested premises, furniture and other fittings with an insecticide which contains both "knock-down" and "residual" properties is the method usually applied. Where possible such fittings as picture rails, skirting boards, architraves and wallpapers are removed, so as to facilitate the work.

Number of houses disinfested by local authority - 45.

COMMON LODGING HOUSES.

We have now only two of these houses and they are well kept and ordered, maintaining a reasonably good standard of accommodation.

OFFENSIVE TRADES.

We have now only one trade being carried on at present which comes within this term - that of a Gut-Scraper. Several visits were paid to this establishment which resulted in an entire cleaning up of the premises.

MORTUARY.

During the year 122 bodies were received into the Mortuary at the Kidderminster General Hospital.

FACTORIES ACT, 1961.

Prescribed particulars on the Administration of the Factories Act, 1937.

PART 1 OF THE ACT.

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

| Premises. | Number on Register | Inspection. | Number of | |
|--|--------------------------|-------------|---------------------|-------------------------|
| | | | Written Notices. | Occupiers Prosecuted |
| (i) Factories in which Sections 1,2,3,4 & 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities | 10 | 5 | - | - |
| (ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by Local Authority | 194 | 10 | 1 | - |
| (iii) Other premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding outworkers premises) | - | - | - | - |
| Total: | 204 | 15 | 1 | - |

FACTORIES ACT, 1961 Contd.....

2. CASES IN WHICH DEFECTS WERE FOUND.

(if defects are discovered at the premises on two, three or more separate occasions, they are reckoned as two, three or more "cases").

| Particulars | Found | Number of cases in which defects were found. | | Number of cases in which Prosecutions were instituted. | |
|--|-------|--|--|--|---|
| | | Reme- died | Referred To H.M. Inspec- tor. | By H.M. Inspec- tor. | |
| Want of cleanliness (S.1) | - | - | - | - | - |
| Overcrowding (S.2.) | - | - | - | - | - |
| Unreasonable temperature (S.3.) | - | - | - | - | - |
| Inadequate ventilation (S.4.) | - | - | - | - | - |
| Ineffective drainage of floors. (S.6.) | - | - | - | - | - |
| Sanitary conveniences (S.7.) | | | | | |
| (a) insufficient | - | - | - | - | - |
| (b) unsuitable or defective | - | 5 | - | 6 | - |
| (c) Not separate for sexes | - | - | - | - | - |
| Other offences against the Act (not including offences relating to Outwork). | - | - | - | - | - |
| Total: | - | 5 | - | 6 | - |

THEATRES, CINEMAS ETC.,

The one theatre and one cinema together with several other places of entertainment were inspected for a report on sanitary accommodation etc., to the Licensing Justices in relation to Theatre and Cinematograph Licences.

They were found to be satisfactory.

RODENT CONTROL, PREVENTION OF DAMAGE BY PESTS ACT, 1949.

Two rodent operatives are employed, who in addition to their duties as such also carry out the work of disinfection and disinfestation. The work entailed covers private houses, business premises, refuse disposal sites and main sewers. There are a few cases of business premises where private firms are engaged in rodent control and disinfestations.

A summary of the work is set out below:

| <u>RODENT CONTROL</u> <u>PREVENTION OF DAMAGE</u> <u>BY PESTS ACT, 1949.</u> | Non- Agricultural | Agricultural. |
|--|----------------------|---------------|
| No. of properties in district | 17572 | 5 |
| No. of properties inspected as a result of notification. | 415 | - |
| Number infested by (a) Rats (b) Mice | 346 101 | - - |
| No. of properties inspected for reasons other than notification. | 115 | 5 |
| Number infested by (a) Rats (b) Mice | 75 60 | - - |

OFFICES, SHOPS AND RAILWAY PREMISES ACT, 1963.

The Act is primarily concerned with the health, safety and welfare of workers in office, shop and railway premises. It came into operation on the 1st August, 1964.

Below is a synopsis of the work done under the Act during 1966.

The number of registered premises covered by the Act is 531.

The number of persons employed in these premises totalled 3,157 comprising 1,172 males and 1,985 females.

A total of 553 visits of all types were made to premises and of these 181 were general inspections.

11 accidents were reported during the year under Section 48 of the Act. These were investigated but in no case was any further action necessary.

During the 181 general inspections, a total of 136 contraventions were found and 47 informal letters were sent to occupiers or owners drawing their attention to these matters and asking that steps be taken to remedy them.

These contraventions were as follows:-

| | |
|---|----|
| Cleanliness. Section 4 | 2 |
| Temperature. Section 6 | 14 |
| Ventilation. Section 7 | 2 |
| Lighting. Section 8 | 5 |
| Sanitary Conveniences. Section 9 | 13 |
| Washing facilities. Section 10 | 20 |
| Floors, Passages, Staircases etc., Section 16 ... | 30 |
| First Aid. Section 24..... | 14 |
| Information for employees regulations | 28 |
| Employment of Persons Order | 8 |

Although much remains to be done to bring all premises up to the standards required by the Act, during the past year there has been considerable progress towards this objective.

PET ANIMALS ACT.

This Act seeks to secure that the offering for sale of animals, birds, and fish shall be on suitable premises and that they shall be fed, watered and protected from the risk of fire.

No. of Licences issued for such premises 7.

CARAVANS.

There are no licensed caravan sites in the Borough. We are, however, faced with the problem of nomadic dwellers invading vacant pieces of land. There is every indication that so often these people have little or no regard for other people's rights, privileges or property. Your Council's Enforcement Officer is evicting these people from Council owned land with monotonous regularity, and the mere moving on of these people from District to District hardly seems the answer. There is no doubt that this is a mounting problem.

ATMOSPHERIC POLLUTION.

Chimney Heights.

In two instances the Department was asked to advise on the height for new industrial chimneys. This was given in accordance with the memorandum on chimney heights issued as a guide under the Clean Air Act, 1956.

New Furnaces.

Three notifications of the installation of new industrial furnaces were received, together with a request for prior approval. The approval was given in accordance with plans and specifications submitted.

Atmospheric Pollution Recording Apparatus.

The taking of readings from the volumetric and smoke filter equipment was temporarily suspended when the Department moved offices from Vicar Street to Church Street. It is intended to install an 8 part apparatus at Church Street and an Officer from Warren Spring Laboratories visited the Department to advise on the siting of the proposed new equipment.

RAINFALL.

| Month | Inches | | Rainfall for the past ten years | |
|-----------|--------|-------|------------------------------------|--------|
| | 1965 | 1966 | Year | Inches |
| January | 2.41 | 1.38 | | |
| February | 0.29 | 2.86 | | |
| March | 2.18 | 1.00 | 1957 | 28.75 |
| April | 1.95 | 2.47 | 1958 | 28.90 |
| May | 2.15 | 1.71 | 1959 | 24.56 |
| June | 3.02 | 2.30 | 1960 | 37.08 |
| July | 2.78 | 1.50 | 1961 | 22.73 |
| August | 0.62 | 2.84 | 1962 | 22.79 |
| September | 4.28 | 0.79 | 1963 | 20.90 |
| October | 0.56 | 3.22 | 1964 | 19.49 |
| November | 3.15 | 2.15 | 1965 | 27.89 |
| December | 4.50 | 2.71 | 1966 | 24.93 |
| Total: | 27.89 | 24.93 | Average: | 25.73 |

PUBLIC CLEANSING. REFUSE AND SALVAGE COLLECTION AND DISPOSAL.

Now that the Plant has been working for some two years an appraisal of its efficiency has been gained. It can be said with certainty that this method is hygienic as the incinerated refuse is reduced to an inert and innocuous material. The "screenings" need disinfection (for flies) under certain seasonal weather conditions, otherwise there is no problem. The amount of salvageable materials - baled tins, glass, light scrap etc., sold has been most satisfactory as can be seen from the statement of income on the following page. The plant has proved most effective in dealing with bulky articles such as household furniture and for the destruction of animal carcasses. The overall reduction in the volume of refuse received at the plant is as good as anything that can be achieved in mechanical refuse handling.

The entire work of salvage recovery is done at the Hoobrook Depot, where the plant is housed and where all refuse and salvage operations are now concentrated.

In the main a weekly collection of refuse and salvage has been maintained throughout the year. The following is a list of vehicles and equipment in use by the Department during the year under review (apart from the separation and incineration plant itself).

- 2 S.D. Fore and Aft container bulk loaders.
- 6 S.D. Fore and Aft Refuse Freighters.
- 1 Morris Van for salvage.
- 1 Morris dropside tipping lorry.
- 1 Morris Van (used by Foreman)
- 1 Brayloader Mechanical Shovel.
- 1 Metal Baling Press (ex Destructor Plant)
- 1 Paper Baling Press.
- 1 Elevator for loading baled paper.
- 1 Commer metal bodied lorry for clinker from Plant.

During the year we have disposed of such salvageable materials as baled paper, baled tins, light scrap iron and broken glass. Apart from revenue accruing from the sale of this material we are indeed fortunate in being able to be completely rid of it, this I would emphasise as one of the cardinal features of our present method of refuse and salvage disposal.

| | | |
|---|-----|---------|
| * The cost of collection and disposal of refuse and salvage for the year 1966 was ... | ... | £77,726 |
| * The income was ... | ... | £9,774 |
| The net cost being ... | ... | £67,952 |

* Financial year ended 31st March, 1967. These figures do not include administration costs.

COLLECTION AND DISPOSAL OF DOMESTIC AND TRADE REFUSE.

| | |
|--|-------|
| Loads of refuse taken to incinerator..... | 6,040 |
| Loads of refuse taken to Puxton and Broadwaters Tips | 542 |
| Total number of loads of refuse removed | 6,582 |
| Loads of salvage removed | 1,512 |
| Loads of destructor waste taken to Puxton Tip | 2,051 |

RECORD OF SALVAGE FOR THE YEAR 1966/1967.

The weights of the salvaged materials have been segregated and are set out below:-

| Materials | Tons | Cwts. | Qrs. | £. | s. | d. |
|------------------------------|-------|-------|------|-------|----|----|
| Baled Waste Paper | 422 | 9 | 0 | 3,979 | 12 | 4 |
| Baled Destructor Scrap | 417 | 16 | 0 | 2,588 | 15 | 5 |
| Cullet (Broken glass) | 171 | 14 | 0 | 358 | 8 | 3 |
| Light Scrap Iron | 66 | 5 | 0 | 132 | 19 | 11 |
| Total: | 1,078 | 4 | 0 | 7,059 | 15 | 11 |

OTHER INCOME.

| | | | |
|---|---------|----|----|
| Incineration charges | £572. | 0. | 0. |
| (1st April 1966 - 31st March, 1967). | | | |
| Removal of Trade Refuse charges.. ... | £1,559. | 0. | 0. |
| (1st April 1966- 31st March, 1967). | | | |
| Reimbursement of Insurance Claim for Fire Damage. | £584. | 0. | 0. |

