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BOROUGH OF KIDDERMINSTER

ANNUAL REPORT

ON THE WORK OF THE
PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT
FOR THE YEAR

1967

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.

1967 - 1968.

Chairman	Councillor D.V. Adam.
Vice-Chairman	Alderman H.G. Parker.
HIS WORSHIP THE MAYOR (ex officio)	...	...	...	...	Councillor H. Purcell.
Councillor F.R. Bennett	...	...	...	...	Councillor Mrs. R. Chamberlain.
Councillor C.G. Dance	...	...	...	...	Councillor G.W. Edwards.
Councillor W.A. Edwards	...	...	...	...	Councillor J. Foxall.
Councillor S. Makin	...	...	...	...	Councillor J.S. Perrin.
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.

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 (Until 30th September)

MRS. S.A. COLLINS (From 6th November).

Cleansing Superintendent.

S.B. LORD, A.M.I.W.H.S.

Public Analyst:

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

SUMMARY OF STATISTICS FOR 1966 and 1967.

	1967	1966
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	45,510	44,540
No. of inhabited houses estimated	15,541	15,322
No. of persons per house	2.93	3.00
Rateable value	£2,034,694	£1,952,913
Sum represented by Penny Rate	£8,150	£7,857
No. of Marriages	474	388
No. of Live Births	922	842
No. of Still Births	12	13
Birth Rate (Live) (Corrected)	20.3	18.6
Birth Rate for England and Wales (Live)	17.2	17.7
No. of illegitimate births	55	46
No. of deaths under one year of age	17	18
of these there were illegitimate	2	2
INFANTILE MORTALITY PER 1,000 BIRTHS	18.0	21.1
Infantile Mortality for England and Wales	18.3	19.0
Maternal Mortality Rate, England and Wales	0.20	0.26
Maternal Mortality Rate (per 1,000 total births)	Nil	Nil
Number of deaths	501	531
Death Rate (Corrected)	11.0	11.6
Death Rate for England and Wales	11.2	11.7
Number of Deaths from all forms of Tuberculosis	1	Nil
Number of Deaths from Cancer	92	101
Number of Deaths from Influenza	1	10
Number of Deaths from Measles	Nil	Nil
Number of Deaths from Whooping Cough	Nil	Nil

Year	Live Births	Deaths	Births over Deaths Increase
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
1967	922	501	421

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE
MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

FOR THE YEAR 1967.

5 - 9, Church Street,
Kidderminster.

To the Chairman and Members of the
Health Committee.

Mr. Chairman,

The Medical Officer's Annual Report is a balance sheet for the community's health and as such shows both gains and losses.

The figures speak for themselves and show on the whole a gain in general well being.

Further improvement can be achieved in several directions, some of them by collective action such as smoke control and provision of sufficient fluoride in the water supply, others by the individual exercise of restraint and self discipline - e.g. with cigarette smoking, alcoholism, venereal diseases and stricter hygiene in food handling.

Health Education must play a major part in community well being, since it is only by better use of health knowledge that future improvements will be achieved. Being aware of this, every opportunity has been taken by the Department to pass on health information in such a form that it can be understood and applied.

I am grateful to the Chairman and Members of the Health Committee for their patience and understanding throughout the year and to all the staff of the Health Department for their ever willing and loyal support.

Your obedient servant,

COLIN STARKIE.

Medical Officer of Health.

POPULATION.

The Borough Statistics show an increase of 970 in the population to 45,510. An increase in the number of inhabited houses to 15,541 - of which more than a quarter are owned by the Corporation and an increase in Rateable Value.

A greater number of marriages have occurred and there have been more live births than last year.

The Birth Rate is up and so is the illegitimacy rate - now 6% of births.

The Infant Mortality Rate is down and compares favourably with that for England and Wales. 18.0 for Kidderminster and 18.3 for England and Wales.

The number of deaths and Death Rate is down to about the same as for England and Wales.

20 out of 247 males died of lung cancer. 20 years ago the figure was only 2!

Lung cancer in men accounted for a quarter of all the cancer deaths in the Borough.

HOUSING.

Work on the removal of old worn out houses is fully dealt with in the Public Health Inspector's Report, see page 26.

The Housing Department supplied the following details:-

Houses Built.

Number of houses built by private enterprise ...	...	305
Number of houses built by Local Authority ...	...	167
Total No. of Corporation houses in the		
Borough at 31. 12. 67 ...	...	4,249
Total number of applicants on housing waiting list at the		
1. 1. 67. ...	...	815
Total number of applicants on housing waiting list at the		
31. 12. 67. (Reviewed November) ...	...	525

The total number of corporation houses completed and occupied during the year 1967, was 167 in the following types:-

1 bedroom bungalows ...	...	32
1 bedroom flats ...	...	60
2 bedroom houses ...	...	2
3 bedroom houses ...	...	19
3 bedroom maisonettes . ...	...	54
Number of houses vacated and re-let during 1967 ...	...	227
Number of Aged Persons Units built up to 31. 12. 67. ...	...	561
Number of Aged Persons Units with Warden or Flat		
Superintendent... ...	...	445

HOUSING CONTD....

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 will 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 will shortly be commenced at Habberley Estate.

ATMOSPHERIC POLLUTION.

It is well established that chronic bronchitis is very prevalent where the atmosphere is most polluted.

The most concentrated pollution occurs with cigarette smoking but much filth is still poured into our air by chimneys both domestic and factory.

General atmospheric pollution with all its attendant health risk and nuisance will continue so long as smoke-producing coal continues in general use.

A further note on Atmospheric Pollution will be found on page 34.

WATER SUPPLY.

A good adequate water supply has been available so far, but more and more of this valuable commodity is required each year. Frequent samples have passed the excellent bacteriological examination and with one exception the chemical quality of the water.

Our water is deficient in the trace substance fluorine, so essential for producing decay resisting teeth in the community.

Those forward looking people who are already enjoying the results of fluoride added to their water must be at a loss to understand why we are dragging our feet over this simple and effective public health measure.

GENERAL HEALTH.

Child Welfare.

922 live births is the highest number we have ever recorded for the Borough.

Of the babies who died in their first year two thirds were under 4 weeks old and died either from prematurity or congenital defects.

The infant Mortality Rate is slowly dropping over the whole country due to ever increasing knowledge and skill in maternity and child care, but we can never relax on any point if we are to save even more infant lives.

GENERAL HEALTH Contd.....

Deaths.

Total - 501.

Causes. (See also page 11.

Heart and Circulatory	-	163
Intracranial Haemorrhage (Stroke)	-	72
Cancer other than lung		68
Respiratory -Pneumonia and bronchitis	-	46
Lung Cancer	-	24

During the last 20 years the average expectation of life has increased from 64 - 68 years for men and from 69 - 74 years for women. Why should there be this difference in expectation of life between the sexes?

Do men live in such a manner that they actively reduce their life span compared with women, or have women an inborn potential to live longer? Fair wear and tear of the human body is expected and is so far unavoidable. Degenerative changes of heart and circulation must occur but do we deliberately hasten this decay by the way we live? The lungs are quite robust organs, but so many people wreck their lungs by inhaling noxious fumes. In 1967 there were 28,250 people died from lung cancer in England and Wales, a condition 35 times more prevalent in cigarette smoking men than in non-smokers. Coronary artery disease is increased in cigarette smokers, so that cigarettes are the likely cause of very many deaths from this condition. In 1964 the Ministry of Health Bulletin stated that "Coronary artery disease accounts for 45% of all excess deaths among smokers, and lung cancer for 16%". In these figures there is surely a strong message that if we would enjoy good health we must treat our bodies with respect and not expose them to known fatally harmful substances. Many of us realise this and act upon it, but so far we have failed to pass the message to our contemporaries who will realise only too late that they are becoming invalids or are dying prematurely.

The ages at which resident deaths have taken place during 1967 are as follows:-

Under 4 weeks	11
4 weeks and under 1 year	6
Between 1 and 5 years	Nil
Between 5 and 15 years	1
Between 15 and 25 years	5
Between 25 and 35 years	3
Between 35 and 45 years	9
Between 45 and 55 years	36
Between 55 and 65 years	72
Between 65 and 75 years	134
75 years and upwards	224

NUMBER OF DEATHS FROM EACH DISEASE.

Cause of Death	Male	Female
1. Tuberculosis of Respiratory System.	Nil	1
2. Other forms of Tuberculosis.	Nil	Nil
3. Syphilitic Diseases.	Nil	Nil
4. Diphtheria.	Nil	Nil
5. Whooping Cough.	Nil	Nil
6. Meningococcal Infections.	Nil	Nil
7. Acute Poliomyelitis.	Nil	Nil
8. Measles.	Nil	Nil
9. Other infective and Parasitic Diseases.	1	1
10. Malignant Neoplasm. Stomach.	5	5
11. " " Lung, Bronchus.	20	4
12. " " Breast.	Nil	8
13. " " Uterus.	Nil	1
14. Other Malignant and Lymphatic Neoplasms.	23	24
15. Leukaemia, Aleukaemia.	1	1
16. Diabetes.	4	4
17. Vascular lesions of Nervous System.	36	36
18. Coronary Disease Angina.	55	42
19. Hypertension with Heart Disease.	1	2
20. Other Heart Diseases.	25	38
21. Other Circulatory Diseases.	8	17
22. Influenza.	Nil	1
23. Pneumonia.	10	20
24. Bronchitis.	17	9
25. Other Diseases of Respiratory System.	3	1
26. Ulcer of Stomach and Duodenum.	2	2
27. Gastritis, Enteritis and Diarrhoea.	2	1
28. Nephritis and Nephrosis.	1	Nil
29. Hyperplasia of Prostate.	1	Nil
30. Pregnancy, Childbirth, Abortion.	Nil	Nil
31. Congenital Malformations.	2	3
32. Other defined and ill-defined diseases.	19	23
33. Motor Vehicle Accidents.	2	4
34. All other accidents.	5	4
35. Suicide.	4	2
36. Homicide and Operations of War.	Nil	Nil
Total:	247	254

INFECTIOUS DISEASES AND PREVENTIVE MEASURES.

Preventive Measures.

Diphtheria.

775 primary immunisations were completed and 1272 reinforcing injections were given.

Poliomyelitis Vaccination.

662 Primary immunisations were completed and 734 reinforcing doses were given orally.

Tuberculosis.

The miniature Mass Radiography Unit visited the Borough every Monday from 2-30p.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 86.5%

NOTIFIABLE DISEASES (OTHER THAN TUBERCULOSIS) during the year 1967.

Diseases	Total cases notified	Total Deaths
Dysentery	1	Nil
Scarlet Fever	10	Nil
Pneumonia	Nil	30
Measles	446	Nil
Poliomyelitis	Nil	Nil
Erysipelas	Nil	Nil
Food Poisoning	Nil	Nil
Diphtheria	Nil	Nil
Whooping Cough	19	Nil
Puerperal Pyrexia	Nil	Nil

TUBERCULOSIS.

There were 12 new cases of Pulmonary Tuberculosis and no cases of Non-Pulmonary Tuberculosis notified. 1 death was due to Tuberculosis.

Year	Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary	
	New Cases	Deaths	New Cases	Deaths
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
1967	12	1	Nil	Nil

SPECIAL SERVICES.

CARE OF OLD PEOPLE.

Many voluntary and statutory agencies often unknown to each other are now caring for the Welfare of the older citizen.

These include -

W.R.V.S. which organises Darby and Joan Clubs, Meals on Wheels and the Day Club at Windermere House Flats.

County Council Health Visitors.

County Council Old People's Welfare Officers.

Home Helps.

Housing Department Welfare Officers.

Ministry of Social Security Officers..

Self Organised Old People's Clubs.

Many Church Organisations.

Youth Groups.

Red Cross.

St. John's Ambulance.

Toc H.

Sunday Picnic Club.

Rotary Club.

Inner Wheel.

Round Table

and others.

Even with all these services available often more help is required. For example, it would be of great benefit if a Day Centre could be available for old people. A Committee representing everyone helping old people could be of great service by promoting full association and discussion between all relevant and voluntary statutory agencies, especially if such a Committee were affiliated to the National Old People's Welfare Council.

It is hoped that in the near future the old people will have a Day Centre and that a Committee of all voluntary and statutory agencies will be established.

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-Worcestershire Hospital Management Committee, whereby for an annual payment the Borough 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 were undertaken by the Health Department on account of the following:-

Ants	4
Fleas	7
Bugs	51
Cockroaches	1

See also page 30.

HEALTH INFORMATION.

All the medical knowledge in the world is useless until it is applied, and it is not likely to be applied until people are made aware of it.

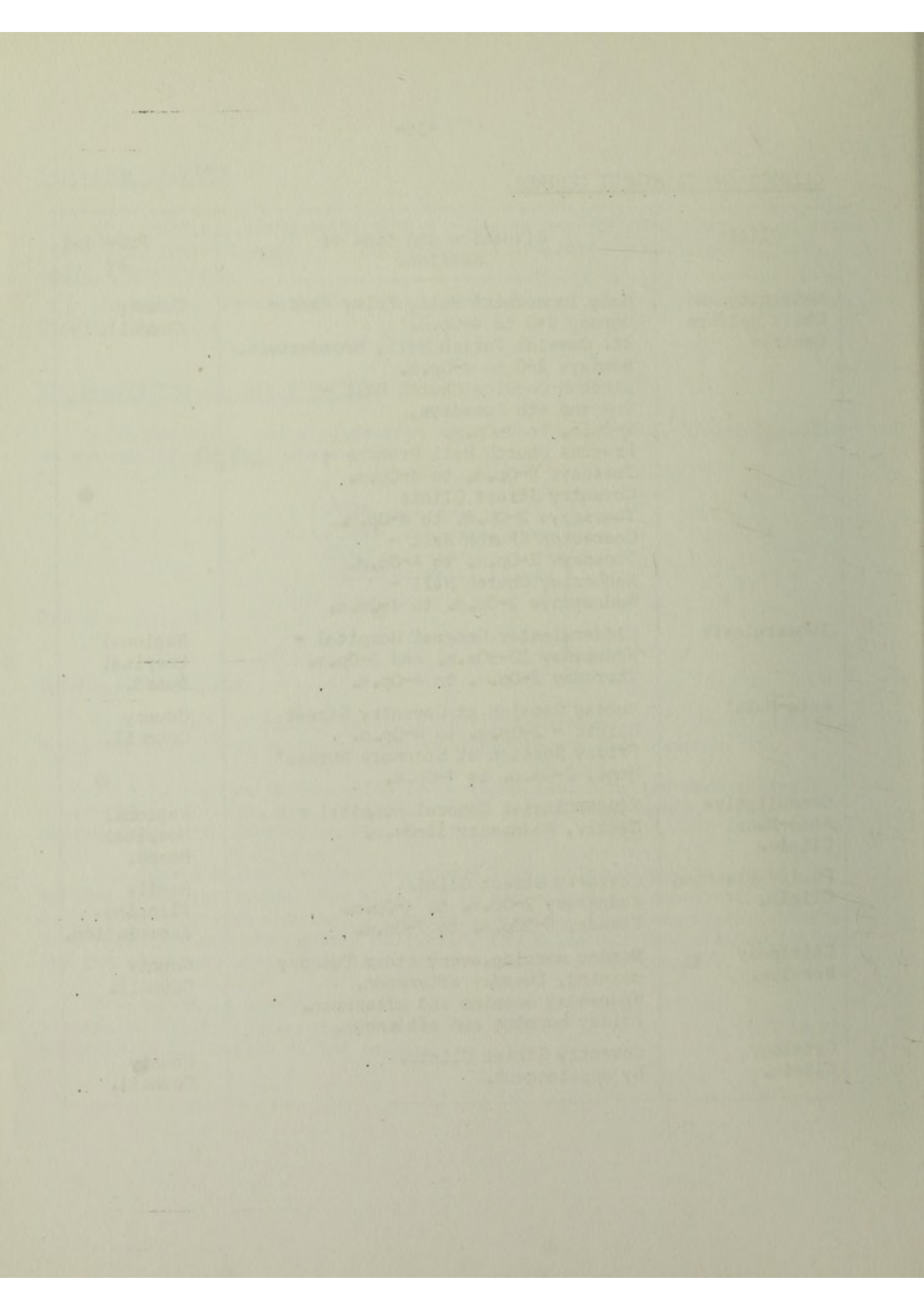
This is why Health Education is so important no matter from whatever source it is derived, e.g. family doctors, health departments, T.V., papers, magazines, advertisements, teachers etc.,

The Public Health Service has always been trying to induce people to live healthier lives. For this end it has recently concentrated on the dangers of cigarette smoking, alcoholism, venereal diseases, road accidents, food poisoning and atmospheric pollution; the value of various immunisations and the addition, where deficient, of fluoride to water supplies.

How far these measures have been accepted is a gauge of the success of Health Education; their non-acceptance is surely reflected in the preventable ill health of the people.

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-Op.m. to 4-Op.m. Franch Church Hall Franche - Tuesdays 2-Op.m. 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. Tuesday 5-30p.m. to 7-Op.m.	Family Planning Association.
Chiropody Service.	Monday morning, every other Tuesday morning, Tuesday afternoon. Wednesday morning and afternoon. Friday morning and afternoon.	County Council.
Cytology Clinic.	Coventry Street Clinic. By appointment.	County Council.



R E P O R T O F T H E
C H I E F P U B L I C H E A L T H I N S P E C T O R
F O R T H E Y E A R 1 9 6 7.

To the Chairman and Members of the Public Health Committee.

Mr. Chairman,

In accordance with Circular 1/68 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, 1967, 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.

In common with immediate past years, 1967 - the year under review - has been a busy one with Meat and Food Inspection, Refuse Collection and Disposal, Housing and Slum Clearance demanding much of your Officers' time. Work in connection with Food Hygiene and sampling was also "stepped up".

The position regarding staff remained relatively stable during the year which was a boon in so far as continuity of work was concerned. Only one change was made occasioned by the resignation of Mr. F. Green as Inspector under the Offices, Shops & Railway Premises Act, 1963. He was succeeded in this office by Mrs. S.A. Collins.

I accord a generous word of appreciation to the Chairman, Vice-Chairman and Members of the Public Health Committee for continued support, thanks to the Medical Officer of Health and Officers of other Departments for much help during the past year, such help being of inestimable value. I would again like to record my appreciation to senior members of the County Analyst's Department, also to Dr. R.J. Henderson and Staff of the Public Health Laboratory Service, Worcester, 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 Inspectorate.

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.

THE MEAT INSPECTION (AMENDMENT) REGULATIONS 1966.

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.

In accordance with these Regulations the hours of slaughter for premises within the Borough have now been fixed.

MEAT AND EDIBLE OFFAL CONDEMNED.

DISEASE	TONS.	CWTS.	LBS.
Cirrhosis, Distomatosis	9	11	92
Pyogenic Abscesses	2	11	95
Oedema & Emaciation	2	1	53
Tuberculosis	1	18	37
Parasitic Cysts	1	5	38
Septicaemia	1	0	50
Pleurisy, Peritonitis & Pericarditis		17	100
Necrosis		15	1
Pneumonia		13	8
Injury, Bruising		12	93
Hydatid Cysts		12	6
Angiomatosis		5	48
Moribund & Badly Bled		4	32
Pyæmia		3	64
Malignant Tumours		2	86
Cysticercus Bovis		2	49
Swine Erysipelas		2	32
Actinobacillosis		1	101
Arthritis		1	84
Septic Pleurisy & Peritonitis		1	23
Jaundice			105
Fatty Infiltration & Degeneration			85
Immaturity			75
Swine Fever			75
Decomposition			70
Contamination			48
Urticaria			26
Melanosia			25
Gangrene			25
Enteritis			25
Emphysema			22
Congestion			22
Actinomycosis			20
Presternal Calcification			40
Nephritis			8
Hydronephrosis			3

Total weight condemned - 23 tons. 11 cwts. 86 lbs.

CARCASES, INSPECTED AND CONDEMNED.

	Cattle Excluding Cows	Cows	Calves	Sheep and Lambs	Pigs
Number killed	7,069	148	726	29,896	10,998
Number inspected	7,069	148	726	29,896	10,998
<u>ALL DISEASES EXCEPT TUBERCULOSIS:</u>					
Whole carcasses condemned	2	11	17	42	25
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	1,534	53	6	1,192	955
Percentage of number inspected affected with disease other than Tuberculosis	21.7	43.2	3.2	4.1	8.9
<u>TUBERCULOSIS:</u>					
Whole carcasses condemned	-	-	-	-	1
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	-	-	-	-	328
Percentage of number inspected affected with Tuberculosis	-	-	-	-	3.0
<u>CYSTICERCUS BOVIS:</u>					
Whole carcasses condemned	-	-	-	-	-
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	17	-	-	-	-
Percentage of number inspected affected with Cysticercus Bovis	0.24	-	-	-	-

OTHER FOODSTUFFS CONDEMNED.

2921 tins, packets & jars of various foodstuffs
(estimated weight 13 cwt.)

36 $\frac{1}{2}$ cwts.	Miscellaneous frozen foods.	87 lbs.	Ox Tongue.
15 cwts.	Potatoes.	84 lbs.	Corned Beef.
8 $\frac{3}{4}$ cwts.	Oranges.	58 lbs.	Chocolate.
8 $\frac{3}{4}$ cwts.	Tomatoes.	50 lbs.	Pork.
8 $\frac{1}{4}$ cwts.	Onions.	47 lbs.	Lamb.
7 $\frac{1}{4}$ cwts.	Frozen chickens.	47 lbs.	Tinned Vegetables.
7 $\frac{1}{4}$ cwts.	Pears.	34 lbs.	Jellied Veal.
5 cwts.	Sugar.	32 lbs.	Poultry.
2 cwts.	Melons.	30 lbs.	Cod Fillets.
2 cwts.	Bacon.	24 lbs.	Cooked Ham.
250 lbs.	Tinned Ham.	22 lbs.	Cooked Meats.
234 lbs.	Tinned Pork.	10 lbs.	Crisps.
221 lbs.	Fruit and fruit juices.	9 lbs.	Fish cakes.
154 lbs.	Beef.	5 lbs.	Cheese portions.

SUMMARY.

	T.	C.	lbs.
Total weight (Meat and Foods) Condemned	29.	18.	0.
Total weight (Meat) Condemned	23.	11.	86.

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 - 28.

No Ritual Slaughter took place in the Borough during the year.

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 ...	...	171
Premises where wrapped Ice-Cream and bulk is sold		
(Does not include Cafes) ...	...	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 ... 165.

<u>Nature of Samples.</u>	<u>Number Taken.</u>
Butter	3
Cheese and Cheese Spread	7
Condiments	3
Confectionery	2
Cream, fresh	1
Drugs	4
Fats other than butter	4
Fish and Fish Products	4
Flavourings	2
Flour	1
Fruit Products	2
Ice-Cream	6
Jelly Powder	1
Meat Products	13
Milk and Channel Islands Milk	74
Nut Products	3
Poultry Products	2
Preserves	2
Puddings	2
Sauces	1
Sausages and Sausage Rolls	17
Soft Drinks	5
Soup	1
Sweets	2
Tea	1
Vinegar, Malt	2

FOOD AND DRUGS ACT, 1955.

ACTION TAKEN REGARDING SAMPLES IRREGULAR.

Sample No.	Sample of	Deficiency or Condition	Result, Action, etc.,
637	Milk	Slight extraneous water.	Probably due to defective bottle washer which has since been replaced. Manufacturer advised. Source of supply of sausage meat changed. Manufacturer's method of mixing investigated and corrected to provide correct percentages.
671	Sausage Rolls	Lean meat ratio low.	
682	Ice-Cream	Deficient in milk solids-not fat.	
683	Ice-Cream	Deficient in milk solids-not fat.	

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	42	42	-	-	42	-	-
Sterilised	10	-	-	-	-	-	10

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
11	2	4	-	5

Regarding the five samples falling into Grade 4 investigations into the method of manufacture were made on a very detailed basis.

FOOD AND DRUGS ACT 1955 Contd

ROUTINE SAMPLES TAKEN DURING THE YEAR.

(b) Other Foods.

<u>Commodity.</u>	<u>Number of Samples Taken.</u>
Frozen Faggots.....	5
Sausages	3
Pork Pie	1
Fresh Faggots	1

WATER SAMPLES.

Seven 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)	32
Sterilised Milk	- Processing Plants	1
	- Dealers (prepacked milk)	58

MILK AND DAIRIES (GENERAL) REGULATIONS, 1959.

Number of Distributors registered	-	8
Number of Dairy Premises registered	-	2

FOOD COMPLAINTS.

The incidence of Food Complaints has now become a permanent feature in the Department's work and during the year a total of 54 were received and investigated. Commodities affected included bread, pies, poultry, fish, cheese, milk, confectionery and cereal and complaints included abnormal taste, mould, decomposition, infestation, contraries and discolouration. After enquiries, often exhaustive, warning letters were sent in 11 cases and 4 cases resulted in prosecution.

Wrapped foods, in particular pies, sausages, bread and confectionery seem prone to mould growth development. These foods, mainly manufactured many miles from the town pass through a chain of incidents before reaching the consumer. After manufacture these goods are transported (sometimes long distances) to retail shops where they are on display or in some cases placed under refrigeration. It follows, therefore, that the utmost care should be exercised by shop keepers and assistants to ensure proper stock rotation and so prevent the sale of goods which are passed their "shelf-life" or otherwise out of condition. Various systems of codings are in use by producers and shop-keepers, the meanings of which are more often than not

FOOD COMPLAINTS Contd.....

obscure except to the initiators. It is incumbent on all concerned with these perishable commodities to be ever vigilant to prevent as far as is humanly possible coming into conflict with the food laws.

SUMMARY OF FOOD PREMISES.

The figures of various categories of food businesses given below are so arranged in accordance with Ministry of Health Circular 1/68 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	29	27	29	29
Cafes, Restaurants	22	19	22	22
Confectioners	14	14	14	14
Fish & Chip Shops	15	15	15	15
Greengrocers	18	18	18	17
Grocers, General Stores	104	99	104	104
Industrial Canteens	16	16	16	16
Multiple Stores	11	11	11	11
Sugar Confectioners	13	13	7	7
Wholesale Warehouse	7	7	2	2

HOUSING.

Considerable progress was made during the year in the work of much needed slum clearance. However, with some 550 houses, which are of a low standard, yet to be dealt with it is too early to say with assurance that the end is in sight - so far as these activities are concerned.

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

(a) Action under Housing Act during year.

No. of houses represented for Demolition Orders	-
" " Demolition Orders made.	-
" " houses represented for Closing Orders.	1
" " Closing Orders made (whole houses)	-
" " " " " (part of a building)	-
" " " " changed to Demolition Orders.	-
" " " " determined (house made fit)	1
Undertakings not to use house accepted.	-
" " to repair house accepted.	-
No. of houses represented, Clearance Areas	86
No. of houses actually demolished during year	159
" " houses closed.	1
No. of persons displaced.	150

The 86 houses represented in "Clearance Areas" were located as follows:-

York Street (No.2.)	14 houses.
Cross Street (No.3.)	65 houses.
Arch Hill	7 houses.

Public Enquiries were held during the year on the Edward Street (No. 1), York Street (No.1) and Cross Street (No.3.) areas, the areas being subsequently confirmed. An enquiry was also held on the Bewdley Hill Area which was not confirmed, the owner being given the opportunity to demolish one house and make fit the other.

(b) Public Health Act.

Houses in which defects were remedied.	
After informal action by Local Authority	78
After formal action by Local Authority	29

SUMMARY OF NOTICES SERVED - PUBLIC HEALTH ACT, 1936.

Preliminary Notices served ...	...	...	82
Intimation letters sent ...	...	...	16
Statutory Notices served ...	...	...	29

Set out overleaf is a summary of defects remedied.

HOUSING REPAIRS AND RENT ACT 1957.

No applications were received during the year.

SUMMARY OF DEFECTS REMEDIED (HOUSES) YEAR 1967.

DWELLING HOUSES.

Roofs repaired ...	...	...	...	...	58
Chimney stacks repointed/repared ..	...	...	...	...	15
Defective spouting repaired, refixed or new provided..	...	...	...	...	15
House brickwork repointed/repared..	...	...	...	...	4
Plasterwork repaired or renewed ...	...	...	...	...	22
Windows repaired, sashcords provided	...	...	...	...	48
Floors repaired...	...	...	...	...	3
Stairs or steps repaired ..	...	...	...	...	3
Woodwork of doors repaired or new ones provided	...	...	...	...	12
New fireback provided	...	...	...	...	2
New skirting provided	...	...	...	...	3
Roof light repaired	...	...	...	...	2
Dormer window repaired	...	...	...	...	6

WASH-HOUSES.

Wash-house roofs repaired..	...	...	...	...	3
Defective spouting repaired, refixed or new provided .	...	...	...	...	2
Walls repointed...	...	...	...	...	5

WATER-CLOSETS.

Roofs repaired ...	...	...	...	...	4
New pedestal pans provided	...	...	...	...	10
Flushing cistern repaired or new provided	...	...	...	...	9
Leaking water-closet joints repaired	...	...	...	...	5
Seats provided ...	...	...	...	...	3
Floors repaired/renewed ...	...	...	...	...	1

DRAINAGE.

Obstructed drains cleared..	...	...	...	...	62
Drains relaid or repaired..	...	...	...	...	1
Sink waste pipe cleared ..	...	...	...	...	1

WATER SUPPLY.

Waste pipes repaired or new provided	...	...	...	...	2
Service pipes renewed	...	...	...	...	3

SUMMARY OF SANITARY INSPECTIONS, INTERVIEWS AND
OTHER VISITS.

House Inspections (Public Health and Housing Acts)...	...	694
Water Supply ...	...	8
Drain Testing ...	...	7
Interview with Owner or Builder ...	...	36
Enquiry Inspections ...	...	78
Improvement Grant Inspections ...	...	37
Advance on Mortgage Inspections ...	...	4
Trade Refuse ...	...	7
Official Searches re Property ...	...	21
Common Lodging House Visits ...	...	3
Offensive Trades Visits...	...	3
Factory Act (Sanitary accommodation etc.,) ..	...	5
Rodent Control...	...	20
Refuse Disposal .	...	151
Infectious Diseases ...	...	5
Places of Entertainment ..	...	6
Private Slaughterhouses (Meat Inspection)...	...	1810
Private Slaughterhouses (Construction) ...	...	39
Food Preparing Premises...	...	55
Retail Food Shops ...	...	168
Ice-Cream Retailers ...	...	8
Tinned Food and other articles of food examination ..	...	76
Food and Drugs Sampling...	...	85
Interview in Office ...	...	269
Other complaints and miscellaneous visits ..	...	580
Atmospheric Pollution (Clean Air Act) ...	...	23
Mobile Vans (Food) ...	...	19
Offices, Shops & Railway Premises Act ...	...	476
Keeping of Animals ...	...	5
Licensing Act ...	...	2
Tents, Vans & Shed (Human occupation) ...	...	2
Dustbins ...	...	3
Markets ...	...	32
Refuse Collection ...	...	65

MAGISTERIAL PROCEEDINGS.

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

Nature of Offence	Enactment Contravened	Result
Selling pork sausages which were sour and contaminated with mould.	Food & Drugs Act, 1955. Section 2.	Fined 25 guineas plus £3. 3. 0. Advocate's Fee.
Selling loaf of bread heavily contaminated with mould.	Food & Drugs Act, 1955. Section 2.	Fined 25 guineas plus £5. 3. 0. costs.
Failure to comply with Regulations 13, 16 22(c) 25 (a) and 40.	Slaughterhouses (Hygiene) Regulations 1958.	Fined £115. plus £10. 10. 0. costs.
Letting house in contravention of Closing Order.	Housing Act 1957. Section 27 (1)	Fined £5. 0. 0.

DISINFESTATION OF PREMISES, CLOTHING ETC.,

The Department is called upon for help in the eradication of vermin with many requests of a varied nature, more recently wasps nests seem to be figuring. Help is given whenever possible. Disinfestation against the more common house pests, viz: bed bugs, fleas and cockroaches is the main feature.

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, sometimes supplemented with gaseous fumigation. 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 - 59.

COMMON LODGING HOUSES.

We have now only two of these houses remaining in the Borough maintaining a reasonable standard of accommodation. They do, of course, provide shelter for the type of person moving from district to district and job to job.

OFFENSIVE TRADES.

We have now only one trade being carried on at present which comes within this term - that of a Gut Scraper.

MORTUARY.

During the year 117 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	12	3	-	-
(ii) Factories not included in (1) in which Section 7 is enforced by Local Authority.	199	-	-	-
(iii) Other premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding outworkers premises)	-	-	-	-
TOTAL:	211	3	-	-

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
		Remedied	Referred		
			To H.M. Inspector.	By H.M. Inspector.	
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	-	3	-	3	-
(c) not separate for sexes	-	-	-	-	-
Other offences against the Act (not including offences relating to Outwork)	-	-	-	-	-
TOTAL:	-	3	-	3	-

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	17,565	7
No. of properties inspected as a result of notification.	586	-
Number infested by		
(a) Rats	443	-
(b) Mice	130	-
No. of properties inspected for reasons other than notification.	688	-
Number infested by		
(a) Rats	677	-
(b) Mice	532	-

SEWER TREATMENTS.

Number of manholes test-baited	61
Number of manholes showing bait taken	3
Number of manholes poison baited	11

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 1967.

The number of registered premises covered by the Act is 534.

The number of persons employed in these premises totalled 3,010 comprising 1299 males and 1,711 females.

A total of 487 visits of all types were made to premises and of these 202 were general inspections.

8 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 202 general inspections, a total of 63 contraventions were found and 30 informal letters were sent to occupiers or owners drawing their attention to these matters and asking that steps be taken to remedy them.

The contraventions were as follows:-

Cleanliness	Section 4	..	..	1
Overcrowding	" 5	..	..	2
Temperature	" 6	..	..	3
Ventilation	" 7	..	..	2
Lighting	" 8	..	..	5
Sanitary Conveniences	" 9	..	..	4
Washing Facilities	" 10	..	..	1
Drinking Water	" 11	..	..	2
Clothing Accommodation	" 12	..	..	1
Floors and Passages	" 16	..	..	10
Dangerous Machinery	" 17	..	..	1
First Aid	" 24	..	..	11
Notification of Accidents	" 48	..	..	3
Employment of Persons Order	" 49	..	..	15
Information for Employees Regulations				2

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 6

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. Their noisesome practices and anti-social behaviour is indicative of their disregard for other people's rights, privileges or property. Your Council's Enforcement Officer is evicting these people from Council owned land with monotonous regularity but the mere moving on of such people from district to district hardly seems the answer. Maybe we are driven to the conclusion that a more objective approach to the problem is required and there is ample evidence that this is a national problem and not merely a local one.

ATMOSPHERIC POLLUTION.

Chimney Heights.

In one instance 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.

Two 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.

An 8 port volumetric and smoke filter apparatus is now installed in the Church Street Offices. October, November and December were used as "dummy" months with which to calibrate the constant flow pump and to settle the equipment in prior to an official commencement of readings on the 1st January, 1968.

RAINFALL.

Month	Inches		Rainfall for the past ten years	
	1966	1967	Year	Inches
January	1.38	1.13		
February	2.86	2.36		
March	1.00	1.72	1958	28.90
April	2.47	0.58	1959	24.56
May	1.71	5.53	1960	37.08
June	2.30	0.47	1961	22.73
July	1.50	0.98	1962	22.79
August	2.84	1.84	1963	20.90
September	0.79	2.38	1964	19.49
October	3.22	5.00	1965	27.89
November	2.15	1.57	1966	24.93
December	2.71	3.25	1967	26.81
Total:	24.93	26.81	Average:	25.60

PUBLIC CLEANSING, REFUSE AND SALVAGE COLLECTION AND DISPOSAL.

The Refuse Incineration Plant is continuing to work well and as year succeeds year a growing feeling of satisfaction and confidence is gained in this more advanced and hygienic method of refuse disposal. There is indeed every indication that our refuse disposal system is on a solid foundation which should auger well for the future. Every endeavour is made to maintain the Plant in a clean and satisfactory state and it is gratifying to recall that this is commented upon very favourably by visiting parties. Apart from the Plant itself, other improvements at the Depot are being carried out in a steady programme of improvement and the whole place given a much needed "face-lift". The paper baling house, badly ravaged by fire in 1966, was restored and brought back into use early in 1967.

The entire work of salvage recovery is done at the Hookbrook 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. At the end of the year a new approach was made to the problem of the Christmas period refuse collection "break". A new system of overtime working previous to and after the holiday resulted in an almost complete absence of the usual spate of complaints.

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).

<u>Vehicles.</u>	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.
	1 Massey-Ferguson 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 as much salvageable material as is possible, such as baled paper, baled tins, light scrap iron and broken glass. Apart from the 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 1967 was ...	...	£84,553.
*The income was..	...	£8,234.
The net cost being	...	£76,319.

*Financial year ended 31st March, 1968. These figures do not include administration costs.

COLLECTION AND DISPOSAL OF DOMESTIC AND TRADE REFUSE.

Loads of refuse taken to incinerator	7,425
* Loads of refuse taken to Puxton and Broadwater Tips	300
Total number of loads of refuse removed	7,725
Loads of salvage removed	1,238
Loads of destructor waste taken to tip	1,700

* The Refuse Plant underwent its annual maintenance in the month of September and was out of commission for several days. This accounts for the 300 loads tipped at Puxton and Broadwaters.

RECORD OF SALVAGE FOR THE YEAR 1967/1968.

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

Materials	Tons.	Cwts.	Qrs.	£.	s.	d.
Baled Waste Paper.....	421	0	3	3,548.	4.	6.
Baled Destructor Scrap	419	18	0	1,889.	19.	9.
Cullet (Broken glass)	182	1	1	324.	9.	3.
Light Scrap Iron	52	10	2	120.	14.	11.
Total:	1,075	10	2	5,883.	8.	5.

OTHER INCOME.

Incineration charges	£709.	0.	0.
(1st April, 1967 - 31st March, 1968) ..			
Removal of Trade Refuse Charges.. ...	£1,642.	0.	0.
(1st April, 1967 - 31st March, 1968)...			

