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BOROUGH OF LISKEARD

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

1969.

P.J. Fox, M.B., B.Ch., B.A.O.,  
D.P.H.

REPORT OF THE

THE  
ANNUAL REPORT  
OF THE

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

FOR THE YEAR

1909.

E. J. FORD, M.D., D.P.H., S.A.O.  
P.M.

W. J. FORD

BOROUGH OF LISKEARD

TO THE MAYOR, ALDERMEN and COUNCILLORS OF THE BOROUGH OF LISKEARD.

Your Worship, Ladies and Gentlemen,

During the year which ended on 30th June 1969 the estimated population of the No. 7 Health Area showed an increase of 700 to a total of 52,760. Of the six County Districts in the Health Area the Borough of Saltash showed the greatest increase at 250, whilst at the low end of the scale the figure in the Looe Urban District was limited to 10.

Live births during 1969 totalled 810, an increase of 67 over the 1968 figure, and the largest number registered since 1948. This produced a corrected birth rate of 18.6 per 1000 of population some 2.3 per 1000 above the national figure. Of these 810 live births 54 were illegitimate giving a percentage of 6.7 as compared with 7.1 per cent in the preceeding year. Deaths of infants under one year of age totalled 13 which gave an infant mortality rate of 16.0 per 1000 live births. As is usual 10 of these 13 infants did not survive the critical first four weeks of life and 8 of these did not live for more than one week. No deaths resulting from the complications of pregnancy, childbirth or the puerperium occurred during 1969.

During the year there were 734 deaths, an increase of 28 on the figure for 1968. The corrected death rate of 11.4 per 1000 of population was slightly below the national death rate. Again the most prevalent cause of death was heart disease which was responsible for 36% of all deaths. Cancer caused just over 21% of all deaths, and strokes were responsible for 16% of all deaths. Of the defined forms of cancer, that affecting the lung/bronchus was most prevalent, and caused 28 deaths, a reduction of 6 on the corresponding total for 1968, but still a high toll from a disease which is largely preventable.

Whilst the overall incidence of notifiable disease was only moderate - 313 cases giving an attack rate of 5.82 per 1000 of population - two troublesome minor epidemics were seen during the year. In and around Pelynt in the Liskeard Rural District there were at least 31 cases of scarlet fever, and in the adjoining Urban District of Looe a further 27 cases were notified. In addition many more children and some adults who did not show the rash of scarlet fever, suffered from tonsillitis and septicaemia both of which are caused by the same organism which causes scarlet fever - streptococcus pyogenes. The main weight of this outbreak fell on children attending the Pelynt Infant and Junior School. In an endeavour to halt or slow down the spread of this infection throat and nose swabs were taken from all children actually attending the school on the several occasions when it was visited, and children found to be carrying the causal organism were excluded for appropriate treatment. As an ancillary measure the school was closed for the two weeks immediately preceeding the normal Easter school holiday. When after this period of five weeks the school re-opened some children were still found to be carrying the infection, and some few more cases of scarlet fever, and tonsillitis occurred, but by the end of April almost all of this infection had disappeared. Some types of streptococcus are capable of causing more serious disease which can permanently damage the kidneys and the heart, but fortunately these types were not encountered during this outbreak.

During the second and third quarters of the year there was an unpleasant outbreak of infective jaundice which was largely confined to the Borough of Liskeard with a small number of cases in the adjoining parts of the Liskeard Rural District. One case which occurred in the St. Germans Rural District was a more virulent form of this infection, and caused the death of an 18 year old female.



This disease is thought to be due to a virus as yet not positively identified. The precise means of spread are not known, but it is believed that human faeces carry the infection, and the possibility of spread by droplet infection from the upper respiratory tract cannot be ruled out. Children are commonly affected and in many cases may not show obvious signs of the infection and in consequence the infection is not recognised. Nevertheless such sub-clinical cases are capable of acting as links in the chain of infection and passing on the disease to others. It is also possible that in the early stages of infection before the disease clearly declares itself, the patient may infect others before he or they are aware that he is in the early stages of the disease. These and other factors make it difficult to control the spread of disease, and one is driven back on the advocacy of stricter personal and general hygiene when the disease is prevalent, and especially if one is in contact with or caring for children or adults suffering from a vague illness which may well be the early stages of an attack of infective jaundice.

Whilst tuberculosis is no longer a crippling and lethal disease its occurrence cannot be viewed lightly or with lack of concern. Not so many years ago there were those who felt that in a relatively short time this disease would be no more than an unpleasant memory. These hopes have proved to be too optimistic, and after early large reductions in the prevalence of this disease, gains in recent years have been much less spectacular, and it is now clear that we must expect to have tuberculosis as a disease to be reckoned with for many years to come. As appears to be the case generally progress in reducing the number of newly discovered infections in this Health Area has been disappointingly slow in the last few years, and instead of the hoped for steady downward trend the totals of new cases have fluctuated up and down over the past seven years. Thus in 1969 the total of 13 new cases notified was one more than the corresponding figure for 1968, and appreciably above the lowest total so far recorded of 9 cases in 1965. As is almost always the case nowadays the majority of the new infections occurred amongst males over the age of 45 years. It seems likely that such cases are due to the re-activation of an infection which may have occurred in earlier life. Causing little or no illness at that time it may not have been recognised as a tuberculosis infection, and would have remained dormant and inactive for many years before emerging as a recognisable disease in later middle age or old age.

In the past couple of years attention has been increasingly and more sharply focussed on the way in which the human animal is polluting and in many cases destroying the environment essential to the support, enjoyment, and even the continued existence of life in its many forms. Two great forces exert the main pressures against the environment we share with animal and plant life. The first, and presently probably the strongest of these is modern technology in the almost infinite variety of ways in which it manifests itself and is used. Those which spring most readily to mind are the chemical substances which are so widely used in agriculture and horticulture. Whilst their basic purpose in controlling pests and plant disease, and in improving crop yields is good and desirable, the harmful side effects and long term effects associated with their use so outweigh the advantage of using them that either they have to be used selectively and with great discretion, or in certain cases they have to be withdrawn or their use banned. Some of the large plants in which such chemicals and many others are manufactured produce waste material the disposal of which presents great problems. Traditionally such waste products have been turned into watercourses with the result that in some areas where industrial undertakings large in size and output, and perhaps also numerous operate, local streams, rivers and in some cases lakes have become heavily, and often dangerously polluted. This has produced conditions in which the normal fauna and flora of the water are reduced in number, and variety, and ultimately cease to exist. In other instances where fish can continue to live they may accumulate in their bodies levels of chemicals which are toxic to human beings if such fish are eaten.



The disappearance of the normal water plants, and weeds is frequently followed by a great proliferation in slimy green algae and fungi which further degrade and destroy the watercourse involved giving it the character of a disgusting and stagnant ditch. Streams, rivers, and lakes are amongst the most pleasant features in our natural environment, and afford valuable outlets for recreation. Additionally with the growth in population and industry these as sources of water supply are assuming an importance which increases year by year. This consideration is more likely to be a compelling and urgent indication that this particular aspect of environmental pollution be brought under control than the pure amenity aspect of the problem. In the long run this, and indeed most forms of environmental pollution arise because we as individuals and communities expect, and in a large part achieve higher and more sophisticated standards of living. There is nothing inherently wrong in this demand for a so-called higher standard of living, but we must not turn our backs on the undesirable by-products which result whether in the pollution of land, and water from industrial activities, the pollution of the atmosphere by gaseous discharges, the despoilation of open spaces by the deposit of household refuse, and unwanted domestic hardware or the ever rising tide of noise that assaults and batters our senses and our peace of mind. Reducing and eventually preventing pollution will not come about without the expenditure of money, in some cases very large sums indeed. If industry has to spend money on this, all or a large part of the expense involved will be passed on to the consumer by way of higher prices for goods and services. If such price increases reduce the ability of an industry to be competitive in overseas markets, it may well be necessary to subsidise measures to control and abate the pollution it creates. One way or another we all face the inescapable conclusion that solving this problem will cost us something.

On the personal level we must be clearly aware of the increasing amount of pollution we as individuals contribute to our environment in shape of household refuse and discarded hardware. The volume and diversity of this increases not only because population grows, but also because affluence and higher living standards give rise to more refuse per head of population. Modern methods of containing, wrapping, and presenting goods whilst excellent for that purpose, do by virtue of the almost indestructible properties some of them possess present quite a problem in their disposal. The increase in the number of non-returnable containers for solid and liquid commodities of all sorts adds further to the volume of unwanted material to be collected from private houses, and trade premises. As a consequence of all this, areas suitable for the tipping of refuse, which are already most difficult to find even in lightly populated rural districts, are having their life drastically reduced. I have for some time felt that refuse disposal is an increasingly serious problem to which insufficient thought and concern has so far been given. More enquiry and research on the two main facets of this problem is called for. We must look at ways and means of reducing the volume of refuse produced per head of population even if this involves some reduction in the durability and relative indestructibility of packages and containers or their replacement by some material which can be disintegrated or destroyed more readily. At the other end of the process more efficient handling of refuse at the tipping site including methods of bulk reduction, and destruction where possible will have increasingly to be used. The inevitable result of this will be some increase in the cost of this service. As a footnote I might add that as much of additional refuse produced consists of inert non-prutrescible material it presents a greater threat to amenity and civilised living conditions than to the health of the community.

During the year an interesting if rather unusual aspect of food hygiene came to notice. Elsewhere in the country close on 40 people were infested with liver fluke. This leaf-like worm normally attacks the sheep in which it causes liver rot. As the development of flukes calls for damp conditions and water, vegetation in the vicinity of streams and ponds in fields containing sheep is in danger of having on it encysted forms of the young fluke. Included with grass and other plant life to which flukes attach themselves is watercress. If watercress from such a location - usually referred to as "wild" watercress - is eaten by human beings the fluke will infest the human liver making the person concerned ill.



A certain amount of this "wild" watercress is still gathered and consumed or is sold to shops, hotels, and catering establishments and consumption of this type of watercress was implicated in the outbreak of fluke infestation referred to above. An additional hazard of eating watercress from uncontrolled sources is that of contracting food poisoning because the plant may have been contaminated by foul drainage from sewage disposal works, septic tanks, farmyards, fields, and roads. Whilst this latter form of contamination can be largely removed by vigorous washing of the crass in running water, the encysted young flukes are very firmly cemented to leaves and stems and are not normally loosened or dislodged until the watercress is eaten. Clearly any watercress eaten should come from reputable sources and growers where the conditions under which it is grown are properly controlled, and shops, hotels, and catering establishments have a clear duty to ensure that clean and safe supplies only of this popular commodity are offered to the public.

In closing this general preface I should like to take the opportunity of expressing to Members and Officers of the six County District Councils concerned my sincere thanks for the support and assistance afforded me in carrying out the duties of my appointment.

I have the honour to be

Your Worship, Ladies and Gentlemen

Your obedient Servant,

P. J. FOX

Medical Officer of Health.

A certain amount of this "wild" watermelon is still gathered and consumed or is sold to shops, hotels, and catering establishments and consumption of this type of watermelon was implicated in the outbreak of this infection referred to above. An additional hazard of eating watermelon from uncontrolled sources is that of contracting food poisoning because the plant may have been contaminated by foul drainage from sewage disposal works, septic tanks, lavatories, fields, and roads. Whilst this latter form of contamination can be largely removed by vigorous washing of the rind in running water, the encased young melons are very likely to be contaminated on leaves and stems and are not normally loosened or disinfected until the watermelon is eaten. Clearly any watermelon eaten should come from reputable sources and growers where the conditions under which it is grown are properly controlled, and shops, hotels, and catering establishments have a strict duty to ensure that clean and safe supplies only of this popular commodity are offered to the public.

In closing this general problem I should like to take the opportunity of expressing to Members and Officers of the six County Medical Societies concerned my sincere thanks for the support and assistance afforded me in carrying out the duties of my appointment.

I have the honour to be

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LISKEARD BOROUGH COUNCIL.

HEALTH COMMITTEE - 1969/70:

Councillor S.R. George	Chairman
Councillor Mrs. E.W.M. Ellam	Vice-Chairman
Alderman Mrs. E.G. Clemo	
Alderman C.M. Dennis	
Councillor L.G. Davey	
Councillor Mrs. S. Dennis	
Councillor J. Haworth	
Councillor R.G. Holmes	
Councillor T.O.S. Sivell	

HEALTH OFFICERS OF THE AUTHORITY:

Medical Officer of Health:

P.J. Fox, M.B., B.Ch., B.A.O., D.P.H.

Health Area Office,  
Westbourne House,  
West Street,  
Liskeard.

Telephone - Liskeard 3373

Chief Public Health Inspector:

J.K. Inman, M.A.P.H.I.

Meat Inspector:

P. Mobbs

Office Staff:

Miss V.M.Burt

Council Offices,  
West Street,  
LISKEARD.

Telephone - Liskeard 3177



BOROUGH OF LISKEARD

Area of Borough	2,704 Acres
Population (Registrar General's Estimate)	4,890
Number of Inhabited Houses	1,845
Rateable Value	£177,276
Product of Penny Rate	£705

VITAL STATISTICS FOR: 1969

	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>	<u>Total</u>
Live Births:	38	32	70
<u>Liskeard M.B.    Health Area No. 7    England and Wales</u>			

Birth rate per 1,000 of population:	17.2	18.6	16.3
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No still births were registered.

	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>	<u>Total</u>
Deaths:	40	61	101
<u>Liskeard M.B.    Health Area No.7    England and Wales</u>			

Death rate per 1,000 of population	9.7	11.4	11.9
--	-----	------	------

	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>	<u>Total</u>
Death of infants under one year of age:	1	-	1
<u>Liskeard M.B.    Health Area No.7    England and Wales</u>			

Infant mortality rate per 1,000 live births:	14.0	16.0	18.0
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Principal Causes of Death at All Ages:

Stroke:	34
Heart disease:	28
Cancer (all sites)	16
Respiratory disease:	9
Circulatory disease:	4

Of those who died during the year, 66% had reached or exceeded the age of 75 years at the time of death.

Notifiable Disease (other than Tuberculosis)

Had it not been for the unpleasant outbreak of infective jaundice which commenced in early April, continued until late September and involved 62 cases, the year 1969 would have seen little or no notifiable disease in the Borough. Other than these 62 cases of infective jaundice, one case only of measles was notified.

The following are details of cases and case rates:-

<u>Disease</u>	<u>Cases</u>	<u>Rate per 1,000 of population</u>	
		<u>Liskeard M.B.</u>	<u>Health Area No. 7</u>
Infective jaundice	62	12.68	1.41
Measles	1	0.20	2.49



#### Tuberculosis:

One case only occurred during the year. The person involved, a 31 year old female, developed an infected gland in her neck.

At the end of 1969 there were 18 known cases of respiratory tuberculosis, and 3 known cases of other forms of tuberculosis resident in the Borough.

#### National Assistance Act, 1948:

No action under Section 47 of this Act was called for during the year.

#### Water Supply:

A generally adequate supply of wholesome water has been available from the mains of the East Cornwall Water Board. A very small number of residents living on the outskirts of the Borough are dependent on water from springs and wells. As is generally the case, with such local untreated supplies, the quality and bacteriological standards of the water vary considerably.

#### Sewerage and Sewage Disposal:

Effective drying of the sludge produced at the treatment works and its subsequent disposal continues to present a problem. It seems clear that a more sophisticated drying method will have to be used if an acceptable end product is to result.

#### Food:

In general, the standard of hygiene prevailing in establishments where food is handled was reasonably good. I am interested in Mr. Inman's observations on the inadequacies of deep freeze storage/display units which are an important part of almost all food shops and catering establishments. In less elaborate form they are also becoming a part of the equipment of normal households. As at present designed, they do make it most difficult to separate different types of food, and to ensure proper rotation of the foods they contain. One hopes that serious thought is being given by manufacturers of this equipment to eliminating the drawbacks to which Mr. Inman has drawn our attention.

No cases of food poisoning were notified in the Borough during the year.

#### Factories Act, 1961:

The operation of those sections of this Act which concern the Borough Council presented no difficulties during 1969.

#### Report of Chief Public Health Inspector:

This report by Mr. J. K. Inman follows. I wish to place on record my gratitude to Mr. Inman for the assistance he has given me during the past year.



ANNUAL REPORT OF THE CHIEF PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR,  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED: 31st December, 1969.

TO:

THE MAYOR, ALDERMEN and COUNCILLORS OF  
THE CORPORATION OF THE BOROUGH OF LISKEARD.

Your Worship, Ladies and Gentlemen,

The increase in the number of Supermarkets in the Borough will accelerate the changes which have been taking place in the smaller retail Food Shops. The tendency is towards everyone trying to sell everything. Apart from economic pressures which make this necessary, there appears to be a customer resistance developing to the old habit of shopping around for things. Perhaps this has arisen because nobody but a retired mathematician would have the time or ability to determine the difference between weekly specials, bonus discounts, and economy packs.

The Deep Freeze Storage/Display Unit enables the small shop-keeper to sell everything. Lack of space requires this unit to be narrow and deep. Newly delivered stock and rapid turnover lines are often to be found at the top; old stock and slow turnover lines at the bottom. All too often customers rummage through the contents in search of a particular delicacy. The food is pre-packed so few people are worried. Any attempt to rotate stock, or effectively separate different types of food stuffs, is defeated.

The problems are stock rotation and product separation, i.e. keeping the oats meat away from the Yogurt. The answer to the former is labelling with a clearly printed expiry date; the latter, a new type of Deep Freeze Storage/Display Unit. The Unit has to be narrow and deep and it should be arranged so that stock is rotated naturally, i.e. New stock put in at the top, older stock is removed by the customer at the bottom. The customer should be able to examine a specimen of the product he may wish to buy. Different types of products to be effectively separated. The answer appears to be a Storage Unit with the products arranged in vertical shelves, something on the lines of the Chocolate Machines which were formerly to be seen on the Railway Stations.

The Technology of Food Vending has not kept up with that of Food Packaging.

I am,

Your obedient servant,

J.K. INMAN.



### 1. WATER SUPPLIES:

Headings (A) to (D) below are in respect of items on which the Department of Health and Social Security specifically requested information:

(A) The Borough's mains water, supplied by the East Cornwall Water Board, was entirely satisfactory in quality and quantity as in previous years.

(B) No form of contamination of water supplies was discovered this year.

(C) Public Mains Water Supply was provided direct to 1768 houses, having an approximate population of 4,828 persons.

Public Mains Water Supply was provided by stand-pipe to three premises, having a population of six persons.

(D) The Fluorine content of the Public Mains Water Supply averages 0.1 P.P.M. which is below the amount considered adequate to maintain Dental Health.

(E) There are 9 Private Water Supplies within the Borough, serving 19 Dwellings and 62 persons. Eleven samples were taken for bacteriological examinations and were found satisfactory. The standard of untreated water supplies varies with changes in the weather and land usage and such supplies are always regarded as suspect.

### 2. SEWERAGE AND SEWAGE DISPOSAL:

The New Sewerage system has operated successfully. It has been necessary to connect to the new system four sets of old existing sewers, the presence of which were formerly unknown.

Some trouble has been experienced at Trevecca with the Rising Main - a series of accidental damage resulting from building and road widening works have had to be rectified. The discharge of blood from a local Abattoir into the sewerage system has now been abated.

In general, the Sewage Works has operated satisfactorily. A few of the routine tests on Sewage Effluent have shown results slightly higher than Royal Commission standards. A pattern is beginning to emerge which indicates a surcharge of solids resulting from the cleansing of the Livestock Market - action is being considered in respect of this.

Sludge disposal remains a problem. The position is the same as that reported last year. Labour costs, resulting from the operation of Sludge Drying beds, have been excessive and the efficiency of the drying operation subject to changeable weather conditions. A joint study is being carried out with the Liskeard Rural District Council in respect of the feasibility of the provisions of a Mechanical Sludge Drying Plant to be shared by both Authorities.

### 3. HOUSING:

Improvement Grants:

(a) Discretionary:

Applications approved	2
Amount of Grants approved	£1291. 3. Od.



### 3. HOUSING - continued:

The drop in the number of applications for Discretionary Grants, as compared with the year 1968, indicates that the public were awaiting the more generous Grants and provisions contained in the Housing Act 1969 "Improvement and Repair", which was much publicised towards the end of 1968 but did not become operative until the 29th August, 1969.

#### (b) Standard:

Applications approved	10
Maximum amount of Grants approved	£1385. 0. 0d.

#### New Houses Completed:

##### (a) Local Authority Housing:

The number of dwellings completed at Culverland Park during the year were:-

Houses	74
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##### (b) Private Housing:

Number of dwellings completed	70
Number in hand at end of year	21

### 4. BUILDING INSPECTIONS:

92 Applications were received in respect of Building Proposals. This is slightly under half of the number received in 1968 and possibly reflects the impact of the financial provisions which have become necessary to rectify the Balance of Payments.

### 5. PUBLIC CLEANSING:

The anticipated increase in the amount of domestic refuse has been exceeded. The occupation of 150 houses having either gas or electric central heating has shown that in this time of attractive packaging and disposable containers the standard 3 - 3½ cubic foot Bin is not adequate for a family. In addition, the habit of making small daily purchases at the shops is giving way to a once weekly routine of bulk purchasing at the Supermarket. There is always a handy supply of empty boxes available in the Supermarket doorway to enable customers to carry their purchases back to the Car Park. This system not only reduces the Trade Refuse Charges but provides the householder with a second domestic refuse container. For an Authority such as the Borough which operates the Bin system, the additional box of domestic refuse does not substantially increase labour costs but is reflected in vehicle running costs. As in former years, garden refuse is firmly rejected by the Domestic Refuse Collectors. Special collections are available on a rechargeable basis.

### 6. PEST CONTROL:

Rat infestation has remained generally slight. Infestation of private houses was generally in areas where adjacent premises were used for the keeping of poultry, pigeons, or pigs.

No. of Infestations:	Non Agricultural - 15	Agricultural - 2
Sewer Treatments:	Takes were recorded at 3 Manholes and treatment carried out.	



## 6. PEST CONTROL - continued:

One Notice was served under the Prevention of Damage by Pests Act 1949.

Advice on rat proofing and control was given to 2 firms of provender dealers, 2 piggeries, a slaughterhouse and a Bakery.

Insect infestations were slight - 5 Treatments were carried out.

## 7. INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD AND FOOD PREMISES:

Headings (A) to (C) below are in respect of items on which the Department of Health & Social Security specifically requested information to be included in the Annual Report.

### (A) MILK SUPPLIES - BRUCELLA ABORTUS:

Raw Milk Sampling is undertaken by the County Council

(1)	Number of bulk samples examined	-	16
	Number of individual samples examined	-	94
(2)	Number of positive bulk samples	-	3
	Number of positive individual samples	-	1

(3) A Notice was served under Regulation 20 Milk and Dairies (General) Regulations 1959 in respect of the herd of Cows which had one infected animal. The infected animal was disposed of. Individual samples were taken on two occasions from the rest of the herd and gave negative results. The Notice was withdrawn and the sale of raw milk recommenced after a period of three months.

### (B) FOOD HYGIENE (GENERAL) REGULATIONS 1960:

The number of premises subject to the Food Hygiene (General) Regulations 1960 is given below. They are grouped in categories according to the main food business at any food premises.

<u>Category</u>	<u>Number</u>	<u>Complies</u> <u>Reg. 16</u>	<u>Application</u> <u>Reg.19</u>	<u>Complies</u> <u>Reg. 19</u>
General Provisions	16	16	16	16
Wholesale Fruit & Vegetable	1	-	1	1 (B2)
Retail Fruit & Vegetable Shops	6	6	6	6 (B2)
Retail Fruit & Vegetable Stalls	1	-	1	-
Butchers	8	8	8	8
Wholesale Sweets	1	1	-	-
Retail Sweets	5	5	5	5
Ice Cream Manufacturer	1	1	1	1



## 7. INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD AND FOOD PREMISES :

(B) - Continued:

<u>Category</u>	<u>Number</u>	<u>Complies</u> <u>Reg. 16</u>	<u>Application</u> <u>Reg. 19</u>	<u>Complies</u> <u>Reg. 19</u>
Fish Shops	1	1	1	1 (B2)
Dairy	3	1	1	1 (B2)
Bakehouses	4	4	1	1
Cafes	5	5	1	1
Licensed Hotel Restaurants	4	4	4	4
Public Houses	8	8	8	8
School Meals Kitchen	1	1	1	1
Schools Serving Meals	4	4	4	4
Factory Canteen	1	1	1	1
Soft Drink Manufacturer	1	1	1	1

### (C) POULTRY INSPECTION:

There are no Poultry Processing Premises within the Borough.  
Approximately 120 lbs of pre-packed frozen Poultry was condemned.

### GENERAL:

In respect of Cream, 7 samples were taken. In the absence of a statutory bacteriological standard for Cream, the standard achieved by the 7 samples can only be described as poor. Advice has been given on the subject of storage, display and care of utensils. No organisms of *Brucella Abortus* were found.

Ice Cream Samples showed better bacteriological standards. All of the eight samples were satisfactory.

Three cases of mouldy packaged foods and two cases of foods having an unattractive appearance were investigated; in most cases, the failure was in respect of the stock rotation methods employed.

Approximately 1317 lbs of canned or frozen foods were voluntarily surrendered by food traders for destruction.

## 8. MEAT INSPECTION AND SLAUGHTER HOUSE SUPERVISION:

The total number of animals killed has shown a decrease on last year, particularly in respect of Sheep and Lamb.

Liskeard is a convenient centre for the slaughter of Reactor animals which are sent in by the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries & Food. Meat inspection procedures in respect of Reactors are, of course, more time consuming than routine inspections.



8. MEAT INSPECTION AND SLAUGHTER HOUSE SUPERVISION - continued:

	<u>1968</u>	<u>1969</u>
Tuberculosis Order 1964	114	152
Brucellosis Accredited Herd Scheme	23	73

The cleansing of carcasses with a water spray at a local Abattoir has been a problem due to fluctuating mains water pressure. This matter has been resolved by the provision of a High Pressure Booster Pump.

An important piece of legislation this year has been the Meat (Sterilization) Regulations 1969. In effect, this has made compulsory the sterilization of meat intended for sale as Pet Foods. This has at last broken an unchecked chain of infection from the farm yard to the domestic refrigerator and possibly to the domestic washing-up water as well.

The local Knackers Yard are to be congratulated on the efficient way in which the new plant was fitted and the slaughtering system completely re-organised at very short notice.

9. COMMON LODGING HOUSES:

There are no common lodging houses within the Borough. (The above information is specifically required by the Department of Health and Social Security).



LOCAL AUTHORITY - LISKEARD BOROUGH COUNCIL.

MEAT INSPECTION RETURN FOR YEAR ENDING: 31.12.69.

	<u>Cattle</u>	<u>Cows</u>	<u>Calves</u>	<u>Sheep Lambs</u>	<u>Pigs</u>
Number killed	2449	893	81	21929	15751
Number inspected	2449	893	81	21929	15751
All diseases except Cysticercosis and Tuberculosis .....					
(a) Whole carcass condemned	22	58	10	82	92
(b) Carcass of which some part or organ was condemned	973	742	2	6573	3182
% of number inspected	40.628	89.585	14.814	30.347	20.785
Tuberculosis only ..					
(a) Whole carcass condemned	-	-	-	-	-
(b) Carcass of which some part or organ was condemned	-	14	-	-	72
% of number inspected	-	1.567	-	-	0.457
Cysticercosis only ..					
(a) Whole carcass condemned	-	-	-	-	-
(b) Carcass of which some part or organ was condemned	1	-	-	-	-

GROSS WEIGHT OF MEAT CONDEMNED :-

<u>TONS</u>	<u>CWT</u>	<u>QRS</u>	<u>LBS</u>
47	2	1	2



10. MISCELLANEOUS:

Most contraventions and public health nuisances were dealt with by informal action. Statutory Notices were served in seven cases - 2 Dangerous Structures, 2 Housing Acts, and 3 Public Health Acts.

11. STATISTICS:

<u>Complaints received:-</u>	<u>1969</u>
Public Health General	25
Drainage defects	29
Accumulations	6
Refuse containers	16
Nuisance from Animals	3
Dangerous Structures	8
Housing Repairs "Council"	1043
" " "Private"	13
Pests	20
Food Stuffs	8
Caravans	1
Atmospheric pollution	2
	<hr/>
	1174

Visits by Chief Public Health Inspector  
Visits marked X include visits made by  
the Borough Surveyor and his Assistant

	Catering Premises (other than Public Houses)	17
	Public Houses	4
	Butchers Shops	15
	Bakeries	3
	Ice Cream Manufacturer	4
	Ice Cream Retailers	22
	Ice Cream Samples	8
	Food Premises	26
	Food Stalls and Vehicles	5
	Slaughterhouse - Visited daily	
	Meat Inspection	
X	Sewage Works	67
X	Sewerage System and Other Drains	106
X	Drains under Building Regulations	166
X	Building Regulations (other than drainage)	916
	Planning Regulations	98
	Dangerous Structures	22
	Accumulations	20
	Refuse Containers	38
	Dirty Conditions	27
	Public Health Act Miscellaneous	29



# 11. STATISTICS - continued:

	Water Supplies - visits	25
	" " - samples	11
	Caravans	9
	Petroleum Installations	53
	Knackers Yard	8
X	Local Authority Housing Repairs	840
	Rodent Infestation	25
	Insect Infestation	8
	Housing Acts Inspections	59
	Overcrowding	21
	Improvement Grants	28
	Demolition	12
	Offices, Shops and Railway Premises Act:	
	Offices	12
	Retail Shops	29
	Wholesale/Warehouses	3
	Catering Establishments	4
	Factories Act:	
	Power Factory	21
	Non Power Factory	21
	Abandoned Vehicles	25 (6 Vehicles removed)



APPENDIX 1PRINCIPAL CAUSES OF DEATH - ALL AGES - 1969

DISEASE	ST. GERMANS R.D.	LISKEARD R.D.	SALTASH M.B.	TORPOINT U.D.	LISKEARD M.B.	LOOE U.D.	HEALTH AREA No. 7
Heart disease	82	71	29	26	28	28	264
Cancer (all sites)	42	46	23	13	16	16	156
Stroke	20	28	14	9	34	12	117
Respiratory disease	23	24	16	5	9	7	84
Circulatory disease	6	3	2	4	4	1	20
Digestive disease	5	7	4	-	-	1	17
Accidents	6	1	6	1	1	-	15
Genito-urinary disease	8	1	-	1	-	-	10

APPENDIX 2TYPES OF HEART DISEASE AND CANCER CAUSING DEATH - 1969

TYPE OF DISEASE	ST. GERMANS R.D.	LISKEARD R.D.	SALTASH M.B.	TORPOINT U.D.	LISKEARD M.B.	LOOE U.D.	HEALTH AREA No. 7
Ischaemic heart disease	58	64	23	19	28	18	210
Other heart disease	10	4	3	5	-	8	30
Hypertensive disease	9	2	2	2	-	2	17
Chronic rheumatic heart disease	5	1	1	-	-	-	7
Cancer of lung and bronchus	4	8	6	3	5	2	28
Cancer of intestine	11	6	1	1	1	3	23
Cancer of stomach	9	4	1	5	-	-	19
Cancer of breast	5	6	2	-	1	3	17
Cancer of uterus	2	2	1	-	1	1	7
Other cancers	11	20	12	4	8	7	62

APPENDIX 3DEATHS BY AGE GROUPS - 1969

DISTRICT	0 - 4 YEARS	5 - 14 YEARS	15- 44 YEARS	45- 64 YEARS	65- 74 YEARS	75 YEARS AND OVER	ALL AGES
ST. GERMANS R.D.	6	-	7	37	66	93	209
LISKEARD R.D.	4	-	10	45	55	80	194
SALTASH M.B.	2	-	1	14	37	44	98
TORPOINT U.D.	1	-	3	14	16	30	64
LISKEARD M.B.	1	-	1	8	25	66	101
LOOE U.D.	1	1	2	18	16	30	68
HEALTH AREA NO. 7.	15	1	24	136	215	343	734



APPENDIX 4.

TUBERCULOSIS

NEW CASES IN NO. 7 HEALTH AREA - 1969

<u>AGE GROUPS</u>	<u>MALES</u>	<u>FEMALES</u>	<u>PERSONS</u>
0 - 4 years	-	-	-
5 - 14 years	-	-	-
15 - 24 years	1	-	1
25 - 44 years	1	3	4
45 - 64 years	4	-	4
65 years and over	4	-	4
	<u>10</u>	<u>3</u>	<u>13</u>

	<u>MALES</u>	<u>FEMALES</u>	<u>PERSONS</u>
New case rate per 1,000 of population	0.186	0.056	0.242

CASE RATES AND MORTALITY RATES IN COUNTY DISTRICTS IN HEALTH AREA No. 7.  
- 1969

<u>DISTRICT</u>	<u>NEW CASES</u>	<u>ALL KNOWN CASES</u>	<u>DEATHS</u>
ST. GERMAN'S R.D.	0.07	1.65	-
LISKEARD R.D.	0.29	1.60	-
SALTASH M.B.	0.45	2.39	-
TORPOINT U.D.	0.32	1.30	-
LISKEARD M.B.	0.20	4.29	-
LOCE U.D.	0.25	2.70	-
HEALTH AREA No. 7.	0.24	2.01	-
CORNWALL COUNTY	0.17	2.33	0.04

APPENDIX 5.

CANCER OF THE LUNG AND BRONCHUS

DEATHS BY AGE GROUPS - 1969

<u>AGE GROUPS</u>	<u>MALES</u>	<u>FEMALES</u>	<u>PERSONS</u>
45 - 54 years	1	-	1
55 - 64 years	5	3	8
65 - 74 years	12	1	13
75 years and over	5	1	6
	<u>23</u>	<u>5</u>	<u>28</u>

DEATH RATE PER 1,000 OF POPULATION - 1969

	<u>MALES</u>	<u>FEMALES</u>	<u>PERSONS</u>
HEALTH AREA No. 7.	0.428	0.093	0.521
CORNWALL COUNTY	0.433	0.110	0.543
ENGLAND AND WALES	0.506	0.104	0.610



ANNUAL REPORT OF THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH  
IN RESPECT OF THE YEAR 1969 FOR THE  
BOROUGH OF LISKEARD IN THE COUNTY OF CORNWALL.

Prescribed particulars on the Administration of the Factories  
Act, 1961.

PART I OF THE ACT.

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

Premises	Number on Register	Inspections	Number of Written Notices	Occupiers Prosecuted
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)
(i) Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4, and 6, are to be enforced by Local Authorities	30	15		
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Sec.7 is enforced by the Local Authority	50	21	4	
(iii) Other Premises in which Sec. 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding out- workers' premises)	3	6	3	
TOTAL:	83	42	7	

2. Cases in which DEFECTS were found:

Particulars	Number of cases in which defects were found: Referred:				No. of cases in which prosecutions were instituted
(1)	Found	Remedied	To H.M. Insp.	By H.M. Insp.	(6)
(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)		
Want of cleanliness (S.1)	3	3	1		
Overcrowding (S.2)					
Unreasonable temperature (S.3)					
Inadequate ventilation (S.4)					
Ineffective drain- age of floors (S.6)	2	2			
Sanitary Convenience (S.7)					
(a) Insufficient					
(b) Unsuitable or defective	3	3	1	2	
(c) Not separate for sexes					
Other offences against the Act (not including offences relating to Out-work)					
TOTAL:	8	8	2	2	

No Notifications in respect of Outworks were received.





