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LUDLOW RURAL DISTRICT

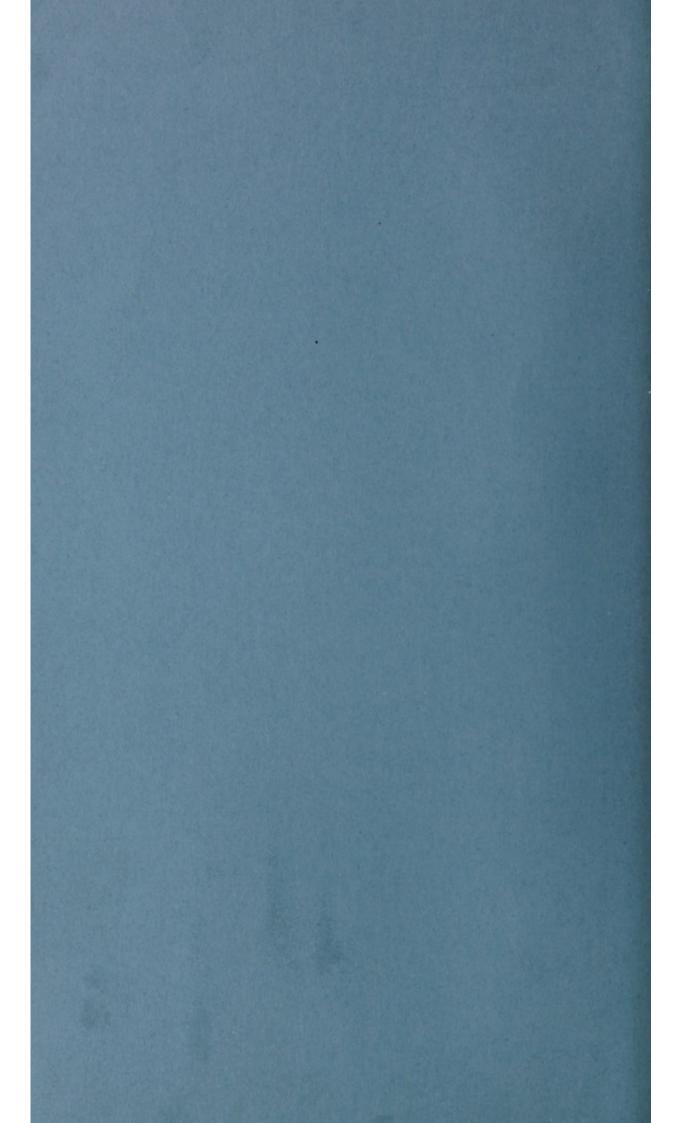
## ANNUAL REPORT

of the

## Medical Officer of Health

For The Year

1966



## LUDLOW RURAL DISTRICT

ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

FOR THE YEAR

1966

#### PUBLIC HEALTH OFFICERS

#### Medical Officer of Health:

William Hall, M. B. Ch.B., M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.Obst.R.C.O.G., D.P.H.

#### Chief Public Health Inspector:

Ronald F. Saunders, M.R.S.H., M.A.P.H.I.

#### Senior Additional Public Health Inspector:

G. S. Banks, M.R.S.H., M.A.P.H.I.

### Additional Public Health Inspector:

L. D. Cowell, M.R.S.H., M.A.P.H.I.

#### Meat Inspectors:

Mr. W. Fairgrieve

Mr. R. Tong

Mr. B. Reddy

Mr. D. Mills

## Student Public Health Inspector:

R. G. Cooke.

#### Clerk/Typist:

Miss R. Bebbington.

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WITTER Hall, H. S. Ch.S., M.R.C.C., L.R.C.P., D.Obst.R.C.C.Q., D.P.H.

## Unior Public Mealth Inspectory

Bonald P. Saundern, M.H.S.E., M.A.P.H.I.

## Soulor Additional Public Health Tonnestory

G. E. Howsen, M.R. B.H., MakaPalla.

## Additional Public Mealth Inspectors

T. B. Comell, N. R. H. H. H. R. R. L. P. R. L.

## Meat: Inmosphores

Mr. W. FELTERLOVE

Mr. E. Pong

Mr. B. Haddy

Mr. D. NELL

## Student Milite Health Lagracions

R. G. Cooke-

### Clerk/Typini:

Man P. Berbington.

## CONTESTS OF BEROW

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## Table of Vital Bathering

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Appendix Council of Death

#### LUDLOW RURAL DISTRICT

Annual Report of the Medical Officer of Health for the year ending 31st December, 1966

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to present to you the Report on the Health of your District for 1966.

The vital statistics compare very favourably with those for England and Wales and with the figures for the Rural District in 1965. The Standardised Birth Rate is above the national figure this year and the Standardised Death Rate is below the national figure. The Infant Mortality Rate and Perinatal Mortality Rates are well below the national figures. These Rates are a valuable guide to the health of a community. The Death Rate is about the same as last year and is below the national average.

There were 41 more births than deaths - compared with 26 last year - but even so there was a very slight fall in the total population. There is a surprisingly large "floating" population in this District.

Steady progress is being made to improve water supplies, sewerage and refuse disposal but much still remains to be done to bring many rural houses up to adequate standards.

There were only 98 notifications of Infectious Diseases received compared with 152 last year and 377 in 1964. Most of these were for measles, but there were 2 for tuberculosis. Last year no cases of tuberculosis were notified.

I should like to express my thanks to Mr. Saunders, the Chief Public Health Inspector, and to Mr. Shaw, the Engineer, Surveyor and Housing Manager, for their help in the preparation of this report.

Elizabeth Capper.

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## SECTION A COLLABORA

## GENERAL & LOCAL STATISTICS

VITAL STATISTICS FOR ENGLAND AND WALES	
al admid autification of the sent tracket and administration of	45.5
Birth-rate	17.7
Death-rate	11.7
Infant Mortality Rate	19.0
Neo-natal Mortality Rate	12.9
Perimatal Mortality Rate	26.3
VITAL STATISTICS OF THE DISTRICT	
serve Habita Tim (Storm) S. alon S.) admits (files 2 a	
BIRTHS	
made where many ny Cath we have no the Title and	270
Live Births Legitimate	239
Illegitimate	254
Total	L)T
Illegitimate Live Births as % of Total Live Births	5.9
Live Birth Rate per 1,000 population	
Company and the first of the fi	may at 8. FF to
Crude	15.6
Standardised	18.17.
STATE BATTLES DEVICTINGUE	5
Illegitimate	0 101 032
Total	5
These was two full latter Health Manager As the Br	40.7
Still Birth Rate per 1,000 of Total Births	19.3
Total Live and Still Births	259
12.47 and the Standardiced date of 170.65 ere already th	
ten for Ladlow Saral District and Courch Stretton Dron	
INFANT DEATHS	
int to bue add to paying at introisio assess twins out y	3
Death of Infants under one year	11.8
Rate per 1,000 Live Births	1100
the muster of strehm expeeds the number of deaths by	2
Deaths Legitimate	8.4
Rate per 1,000 legitimate Live Births	1
Deaths Illegitimate	66.7
Rate per 1,000 illegitimate Live Births	
Death under 4 weeks	1
Neo-natal Mortality Rate	3.9
NGO-Hatal Nortality have	
Death under 1 week	1
Early Neo-natal Mortality Rate	3.9
Dally 1160-110007 1102 002770 21111	
Perinatal Mortality Rate	23.2
MATERNAL MORTALITY	NIL
DEATHS	
	007 11-7- 440
Total Deaths from all causes	203 Male 112
	Female 91
- No. 100 Telephone Telephone 6	
Death Rate per 1,000 Population -	
	12.47
Crude	10.85
Standardised	

#### Population

The estimated mid-year population was 16,280 which is 10 less than the figure given for 1965.

#### Births

There were 254 live births (120 male 134 female) and of these 15 were illogitimate. The percentage of illegitimate live births is the same as last year.

The Standardised Birth Rate is above the national average and is higher than the rate for 1965.

### Still Births

There were 5 still births (3 male 2 female) all of which were legitimate. The still birth rate of 19.3 is much lower than the rate for 1965.

### Infant Mortality Rate

There were 3 deaths of children under one year of age (2 male 1 female) and one of these was illegitimate. The Infant Mortality Rate of 11.8 is very low. The rate for England and Wales for 1966 was 19.0.

#### Perinatal Mortality

The Perinatal Mortality Rate of 23.2 compares favourably with the rate for England and Wales (26.3).

#### Deaths

There were 203 deaths in 1966 - 112 male and 91 female. The Crude Death Rate of 12.47 and the Standardised Rate of 10.85 are almost the same as the rates for Ludlow Rural District and Church Stretton Urban District last year. The Death Rate is below the national figure (11.7). A table showing the chief causes of death is given at the end of this report.

This year the number of births exceeds the number of deaths by 41.

# SECTION B

#### Personal Health Services

#### Child Welfare Centres

These are provided at Ludlow, Cleobury Mortimer, Church Stretton and Clee Hill - this latter centre being opened in 1966.

Cliftonville, Dinham, Ludlow Mondays 1.30-4.30 p.m.
East Hamlet Hall, Ludlow Thursdays 1.30 - 4.30 p Parish Hall, Cleobury Mortimer Sylvester Horne Institute, Church Stretton. Clee Hill Village Hall

Thursdays 1.30 - 4.30 p.m.

1st and 3rd Wednesdays 2-4 p.m.

1st and 3rd Thursdays 2-4.30 p.m.

1st Wednesdays 2-4 p.m.

Cliftonville, Dinham is the only County Council owned building and clinics for dental care, ante natal care, mothercraft and relaxation, child guidance, speech therapy and audiology are also held there - attendance by appointment.

#### Care of Unmarried Mothers and Illegitimate Children

The Moral Welfare Worker employed by the Hereford Diocesan Association works in the whole Rural District and has the use of a room at the Dinham Clinic for one session per week.

#### Health Visitors

There are two full-time Health Visitors in the Rural District, one of whom also works in the Ludlow Borough.

#### District Nurses and Midwives

The area is covered by full and part-time nurses - except that the Burford area is without a midwife.

#### Ambulance Service

The new station at Craven Arms has now been in use for a year. Ambulances are normally obtained by family doctors or hospitals but in case of accident or emergency a telephone call should be made immediately to the telephone operator who contacts the Central Ambulance Station in Shrewsbury. By doing this the nearest ambulance can be directed to the scene of the accident and valuable time is not wasted.

#### Home Helps

Local branches of the County Council Services are in Ludlow at the Dinham Welfare Centre, and at Church Stretton. The service is used chiefly by the elderly but is available also in cases of need resulting from illness, - chronic or acute - and for maternity cases. The full charge is 5/6d. an hour but this can be adjusted according to means.

#### Veneral Disease Clinic

#### Belmont, Shrewsbury

Males Tuesdays and Fridays Females Mondays Thursdays

6 p.m. - 8 p.m. 3.30 p.m. - 5.30 p.m. 5.0 p.m. - 7.0 p.m.

#### Family Planning

There are Family Planning Association Clinics at Shrewsbury Hereford, Kidderminster and Leominster. Details of these can be obtained from Family Doctors and from the Child Welfare Centres.

#### Laboratory Facilities

We have excellent facilities at the Public Health Laboratory, Royal Salop Infirmary and Dr. Jones and his staff are readily available for help and advice.

Chemical analyses of water and of sewage effluents are made by the Public Analyst at Warrington.

## SECTION C

## Environmental Health Services

#### Water Supplies

#### Purity of Supplies

The undermentioned samples were taken for bacteriological examination from public supplies in the area.

Source Source	Total No. of samples	Satisfactory	Unsatisfactory
All Stretton	5	4	1
Birmingham Agueduct (a) Unchlorinated (b) Chlorinated	4 5	3 5	1 -
Bitterley	7	6	1
Burford (a) East (b) West	6	6	1
(c) North West Worcestershire Water Board	5	2	3
Bushmoor	4	4	-
Church Stretton	26	24	2
Clee Hill	7	7	190810-
Clee St. Margaret (a) Council Houses (b) Well	13 7	3 3	10 4
Cleobury Mortimer	6	6	-
Coreley	7	7	- impre
Craven Arms	8	8	rebus -
Diddlebury	bodd 5 life	3	Liding 2
Hope Bowdler	4	3	1
Little Stretton	4	4	
Longville	4	4	-
Middleton	6	6	quib -
Munslow	4	1) And to 4	-
Onibury	3	3	-
Seifton	4	4	-
Soudley	5	5 20 (3	-
St. Milburgha's Well	42	6	36
Wall-under-Heywood	3	3	t add
Total	199	137	62
	THE REAL PROPERTY.		

During 1966 the East Shropshire Water Board provided a new supply at the Sheet to replace the unchlorinated Birmingham Aqueduct Supply. This was done by extending the main from Ludlow town supply. Samples taken since the change over have all been satisfactory.

Users of the water from St. Milburgha's Well and the Council's bore at Clee St. Margaret were warned during the year to boil all water before used for drinking as the supplies were polluted. Both these supplies will be replaced by mains supplies from the Board's reservoir at Stoke St. Milborough in the near future.

The Department co-operated with the Board by arranging for regular samples to be taken from St. Milburgha's Well.

The degree of pollution to the North West Worcestershire Water Board's supply at Clee Hill Road, Burford was quite low. Samples taken by the Board were mainly satisfactory.

#### New mains

New mains have been laid to serve large areas, mainly in the centre and North of the district and it is hoped that many properties will be connected during the current year.

The provision of small diameter mains in the Doddington, Crumps Brook area is still awaited as this scattered area cannot be adequately served by a trunk main only passing through it.

#### Private Supplies

Samples Taken	Satisfactory	No. 24	Percentage 24.5%
	Unsatisfactory Total	74	75.5%

Investigations of some private supplies on the Earl of Plymouth's Estate were still proceeding at the end of the year.

### Drainage, Sewerage and Sewage Disposal

At the end of the year the work of laying new sewers at Burford was almost complete but, with the exception of one short branch which has been made, connections cannot be made until the work in the Tenbury Rural District has been completed. This is expected to be in the spring of 1967.

More connections were made at Church Stretton and many owners have improved facilities (Bathroom, W/C, Etc.).

There are still areas in the district where the provision of a public sewer would allow the improvement of houses up to full grant standard.

## Sewage Disposal Plants

Until the 31st December, 1966 the Council had the following sewage disposal works under its control:-

- 1) Ashford Carbonell
- 2) Church Stretton
- 3) Clee Hill
- 4) Cleobury Mortimer
- 5) Craven Arms and 20 other small installations on Housing Sites

The Plants are all of traditional design and have been erected since the war. The Craven Arms Plantdid not at all times turn out a satisfactory effluent throughout the year due to overloading from the abattoir of the Shropshire Fatstock Society but, steps were taken to install a recirculation pump and this has improved matters considerably.

At the 31st December, 1966 the following tips were being used by the Council:-

- 1) Little Stretton 2) Craven Arms
  3) Woofferton

  - 4) Cleobury Mortimer
    - 5) Onibury
    - 6) Diddlebury

As a result of the implementation of the reorganisation proposals under the Salop Order, it was decided during the year that the Onibury and Diddlebury tips would be discontinued. Although there were very few complaints reaching the Council as result of the tipping arrangements, the situation was not considered to be entirely satisfactory, as it was not possible to employ controlled tipping methods on these widely separated tipping area. Consequently, during the year, the Council was advised to look into the possibility of setting up a central pulverisation or incineration scheme and to close down all the tips in the area. This position was still being discussed at the 31st December, 1966.

#### Private Drainage

The main cause of complaint during the year was the difficulty in making satisfactory arrangements for the emptying of septic tanks by one contractor working in the area. Even when all the villages have been sewered there will still be many hundreds of septic tanks in the district. The disposal of the contents can be a major problem particularly as more new building takes place and the public become more willing to complain of unsatisfactory conditions.

#### Rodent Control

The Council's operator, Mr. F. Mear, continued his work during the year and it was agreed by the Council to retain his services until his 70th birthday in August, 1967.

Due to the extra work and cost involved in the warfarin resistant area and the policy of the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food in giving free treatments to agricultural premises in the "barrier area" it was decided to abolish contracts as from 31st March, 1966. Both contracts and single treatment charges were replaced by a charge of 7/- per 20 minutes of the operator's time spent actually treating the premises. At first the change was not greeted with enthusiasm by the general public; but the new system was subsequently accepted.

Regular treatments were carried out at Council properties, refuse tips, sewage disposal works and sewers.

A few suspected cases of warfarin resistance in the area outside the barrier area were reported to the Ministry but all proved to be negative. There was, therefore, no evidence of any significant spread of warfarin resistance during 1966.

#### Factories and Workshops

Number in Register

	with mechanical power without mechanical power Total	77 9 86
	spections during the year attraventions dealt with	21 2

#### Offices Shops and Railway Premises Act, 1963

No.	of premises so far registered	141
No.	of persons employed in these premises	329
No.	of premises receiving a general inspection	78
	during the year	
No.	of visits paid during the year	90

It is thought that there is still a small number of premises not registered. These will be found during the course of visits.

#### Inspections by the Public Health Inspectors

Housing (Public Health and Housing Acts)	887
Drainage	809
Water Supply	518
Rodent Control	281
Caravans and Caravan Sites	259
Food Premises and Food Inspection	152
"Abattoir Supervision and Meat Inspection	126
Air Pollution	118
Offices, Shops and Railway Premises Act	90
Nuisances	56
Infectious Diseases	27
Miscellaneous	227
Total	3,550

\*This figure does not include the work carried out by the full time Meat Inspectors.

The above figures do include the work carried out for the former Church Stretton Urban District Council during the first three months of 1966.

Most of the rodent control inspections were made by the Inspectors during a period when the Rodent Operator was away as the result of an accident at work.

#### Number of Informal Notices served: --

Drainage	17
Food Hygiene	16
House repairs	12
Caravans	12
Offices, Shops and Railway Premises Act	9
Water Supply	9
Slaughterhouse hygiene	5
Animals kept so as to be a nuisance Air pollution	: 3
Rodent Control	2
Knackers Yards	2
Filthy houses	1
Total	90

Most of the above notices were complied with before the 31st December, 1966.

#### Housing

#### General Statement

- (a) Number of inhabitable houses, including Council Houses and premises with living accommodation, as at 1st January, 1966 4453
- (b) Number of houses from former Church Stretton Urban District
  Council 31st March, 1966 1102

#### Additions

Number of houses constructed during the year

1. Council Houses 0

2. Private Houses 81

Number of additional houses provided by the conversion of buildings into houses or the division of large houses - 2

Number of houses brought back into use as a result of complying with undertakings - 8

91 5,646

#### Deductions

Number of houses closed Number of houses demolished (Excluding 6 previously reported as	11	
closed) Parts of buildings closed	13 1 25	25
to the Standard was also week and the control and the best pass of the passed and the control	Y DEST	5,621
Number of inhabitable houses, including council houses and business premises with living accommodation,		
as at 31st December, 1966		5,621

#### Action under Housing Acts

The following is a summary of statutory action taken during 1966, regarding unfit houses.

Number of houses demolished	
(excluding 6 previously reported as closed) Number of houses closed under the terms of	13
Closing Orders	5
Number of houses closed under terms of	
Undertakings given by owners	6
Number of houses made fit and Undertakings revoked.	8

#### Informal Action

Number of houses made fit as a result of informal action

A considerable number of houses still remain to be improved to full modern standard. The provision of piped water and a public sewer is a great help in this connection. Many owners are awaiting the provision of these facilities, particularly piped water, before attempting to recondition their houses.

#### Caravan Sites

#### Licences

Number of site licences in force as at 31st December, 1966.

	Residential	Holiday
(a) Individuel.	24	12
(b) Multiple (more than 3)	an anni a a a	6
Total number of caravans	27	303
Number of contraventions	5	
Remedied informally	5	

The poorest holiday site, at Acre Farm, Cleobury Mortimer has changed hands and the new owner is in the process of improving it to a good standard.

For this site the Council approved an increase from 40 to 60 caravans in respect of the existing area of land.

All sites were visited during the year and conditions generally found to be satisfactory.

## Inspection and Supervision of Food

#### (a) Meat Inspection

Only one slaughterhouse - at Craven Arms - was in use during the year. Staff rota system continued.

Conditions at the Slaughterhouse were in general satisfactory at the end of the year; much maintenance work was carried out during the year.

The total number of animals slaughtered was the highest ever (143,854). There was some export of carcases, - chiefly sheep and lambs, - to Continental countries during the year.

Number of animals slaughtered and inspected in 1966 (figures for 1965 in brackets).

Numbers killed Numbers inspected	Cattle (Ex Cows) 8699 8699 (8843)	2146 2146	3546 3546	27813	Sheep 101650 101650 (79029)	
All diseases except Tuberculosis and Cysticercus Bovis						
Whole carcases Organs or parts condemned Percentage affected		26 658 31 .87%				=
Tuberculosis						
Whole carcases condemned Organs or parts condemned Percentage affected	***		-	172 0.62%		makes
Cysticercus Bovis						
Whole carcases condemned Organs or Parts condemned Percentage affected.	10 0.11%		=	=	2	- Committee

#### Weight of meat condemned

- 1. On account of Tuberculosis 1677 lbs.
- 2. On account of Cysticercus

  Bovis

  854 lbs.

  3. Ca secount of other diseases 87435 lbs.

= 40 Tons 3 Cwts 30 lbs.

#### Poultry Inspection

Regular visits have been made to the packing station at the Grove where vast numbers of poultry and turkeys are processed. Inspection of these birds was carried out during the year on the lines recommended by the Ministry of Health. The "spotter" system using trained personnel on the dressing lines and public health inspectors to examine reject or doubtful birds was used.

Standards of hygiene at this plant have improved enormously in a few years and now, using modern machinery and appliances on the dressing lines, are at a high level.

#### Condemnation of Food

The following foods were inspected and voluntarily surrendered as unfit for human consumption:-

22 lbs Fish.

72 lbs Fruit and vegetables.

39 lbs Canned meat.

20 lbs Ham.

60 lbs Mixed tinned foods.

2841 lbs Broiler chickens (1252 birds).

#### Ice-Cream

Sixty-eight premises are registered for the sale of ice-cream.

There are two manufacturers registered.

Vehicles in which soft mix ice-cream is manufactured will be inspected under the Food Hygiene (Market Stalls and Delivery Vehicles) Regulations, 1966.

#### Knackers Yards

The two premises in the district were both maintained satisfactorily Most of the slaughtering was done at the Sparchford Yard; the yard at Lower Stanway was almost unused throughout the year.

#### Air Pollution

Two main items were dealt with during the year. The first was the work of checking deposit gauges on Clee Hill being used to ascertain the amount of pollution in the area of the quarries. Average and highest results for the year are as follows:-

Tons/Sq.Mile/Month	Cornbrook Cottage The Cre	
Total for Year. Total Deposit Insoluble Soluble	175,51 98.03 77.48	163,02 73.85 89.17
Average Deposit Insoluble Soluble	14.625 8.17 6.456	13.585 6.154 7.43
Highest monthly Total Deposit	28.24 (Oct.)	31.32 (Nov.)

A meeting was held with the quarry manager and he put forward proposals for reducing so far as possible dust emission from the plant. These proposals have now been altered to include a new arrestation plant to part of the works. This plant is to be installed in the early summer of 1967 so the gauges are being kept in use for purposes of checking.

Complaints were received about the burning of scrap wood at Cleobury Mortimer. An incinerator was installed at the end of the year but it suffered from "teething troubles" at first and so its efficiency cannot yet be judged.

#### Scrap Metal Dealers Act, 1964

Nine dealers are registered under this Act.

### SECTION D

#### Prevalence of and Control over Infectious Diseases

There were 98 infectious diseases notified during the year

Scarlet Fever	3
Measles	86
Acute Pneumonia	4
Dysentery	2
Tuberculosis	2
Food Poisoning	1

In 1965 152 notifications were received and there were 377 in 1964.

There were no deaths from Tuberculosis, but there were two new cases notified.

Number of cases of Tuberculosis Registered December, 1966.

Pulmonary 41 Non pulmonary 15

Details of the immunisation and vaccination figures for each County District are not now available from the County Health Office because of changes in their statistical methods.

Protection can be given against Diptheria, Whooping Cough, Tetanus, Smallpox and Poliomyeltis by the Family Doctor or at the Child Welfare Centres.

Protection against some other diseases can also be given by the Family Doctor and/or the County Health Department e.g. Tuberculosis, Yellow Fever, Typhoid.

#### Appendix

Causes of Death 1966	Male	Female	Total
Other infective and parasitic diseases	-	2	2
Malignant disease, stomach	3	3	6
Malignant disease, lung, bronchus	5	1	6
Malignant disease, breast	_	4	4
Malignant disease, uterus	Fillian	1	1
Other malignant and lymphatic neoplasms	7	5	12
Leukaemia, aleukaemia	2	our ha	2
Vascular lesions of nervous system	17	25	42
Coronary disease, angina	25	13	38
Hypertension with heart disease	2	2	4
Other heart disease	7	12	19
Other circulatory disease	4	2	6
Influenza	4	0.00	4
Pneumonia	6	6	12
Bronchitis	10	3	13
Other diseases of respiratory system	1	n 12 340	1
Gastritis, enteritis and diarrhoea	1	FE FRENCH	1
Nephritis and nephrosis	-	1	1
Hyperplasia of prostate	2	with the color	2
Congenital malformations	-	1	1
Other defined and ill-defined diseases	10	7	17
Motor vehicle accidents	2	1	3
All other accidents	2	2	4
Suicide	1	-	1
Homicide and operations of war	_1_	-	1
	112	91	203



