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RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL OF LUDLOW

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# **ANNUAL REPORT**

of the

**Medical Officer of Health**

For the Year

1967



PUBLIC HEALTH OFFICER

Until 31st March, 1967

Ludlow Rural District Council

Ludlow District Council

National Office of Health

RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL

L.R.D.C., Ludlow, Shropshire, S.W.15

OF LUDLOW

From 1st April, 1967

ANNUAL REPORT

Public Health Officer & Acting Rural District Council

National Office of Health

Elizabeth Capper, M.B., B.S.

OF THE

SHROPSHIRE PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR

Ronald F. Saunders, M.D.S.P., M.A.P.H.C.

SHROPSHIRE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

G. G. Dicks, M.B., B.S., M.A.P.H.C.

ADDITIONAL PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR

L. D. Gould, M.B.

FOR THE YEAR

J. G. Gould, M.A.P.H.C.

Area Inspectors

E. S. Long.

B. Tidy.

B. Mills.

S. Lacey.

1967

Clerk/Typist

Mrs M. Robinson.

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PUBLIC HEALTH OFFICERS

Until 31st March, 1967

Ludlow Rural District Council

Ludlow Borough Council

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.

Elizabeth Capper, M. B. Ch.B.,  
D.P.H.

Public Health Inspector

H. V. James, M.A.P.H.I.,  
M.I.Mun.E.

From 1st April, 1967

Public Health Officers : Ludlow Rural District

Medical Officer of Health

Elizabeth Capper, M. B. Ch.B., 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 Inspectors

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

J. G. Gosnell, M.A.P.H.I.

Meat Inspectors

R. S. Tong.  
B. Reddy.  
D. Mills.  
B. Lawson.

Clerk/Typist

Miss R. Bebbington.

PUBLIC HEALTH OFFICERS

Until 1st March, 1967

London Rural District Council

London Borough Council

Medical Officer of Health

William Hall, M.B. Ch.B., M.R.C.S., M.R.C.P., D.P.H.  
Elizabeth Gayer, M.B. Ch.B., D.P.H.

Public Health Inspector

H. V. Jones, M.A., M.B.I.,  
M.I.M.H.

From 1st April, 1967

Public Health Officers & London Rural District

Medical Officer of Health

Elizabeth Gayer, M.B. Ch.B., D.P.H.

Chief Public Health Inspector

Ronald T. Saunders, M.B. Ch.B., M.A., M.B.I.

Senior Additional Public Health Inspector

G. S. Gayer, M.B. Ch.B., M.A., M.B.I.

Additional Public Health Inspectors

I. D. Gayer, M.B. Ch.B., M.A., M.B.I.

J. G. Gayer, M.A., M.B.I.

Health Inspectors

R. S. Tong,  
S. Reddy,  
D. Miller,  
S. Lawson.

Glaxo/Unilever

Mrs. N. Robinson.

## C O N T E N T S   O F   R E P O R T

## Introduction

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## Section B. General Provisions of the Health Service.

## Section C. Sanitary Circumstances of the District.

## Section D. Housing.

## Section E. Inspection and Supervision of Food Supply.

## Section F. Prevalence and Control of Infectious Diseases.



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Section E. Inspection and Supervision of Food Supply.

Section F. Prevalence and Control of Infectious Diseases.

Rural District Council Offices,

Ludlow.

Report of the Medical Officer of Health

1967

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to present to you the Report on the Health of Ludlow Rural District in 1967.

As the Ludlow Rural District amalgamated with Ludlow Borough on 31st March, 1967 all the figures given in the Report relate to the combined areas from January 1st. Thus they are not really comparable to those for the separate Districts last year.

The Vital Statistics do not give cause for concern. It is satisfactory that the Illegitimacy Rate does not show a rising tendency. The increases in Infant Mortality and Peri-natal Mortality Rates in any one year are not necessarily cause for alarm when small numbers are involved - tendencies over a few years are of greater significance.

A lot of preliminary work has been done in selecting schemes in order of priority for small sewage treatment works in some of the rural areas, in selecting areas for slum clearance and re-development in Ludlow town, and in considering better methods of refuse disposal for the District as a whole. These schemes can then proceed when financial restrictions permit.

This has been a year of consolidation and future planning.

I should like to thank all my colleagues here for their help and co-operation during the year - especially Mr. Saunders, the Chief Public Health Inspector - and to thank him also for his help in preparing this report.

Elizabeth Capper.

Rural District Council Offices,

Indlow.

Report of the Medical Officer of Health

1967

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to present to you the Report on the Health of Indlow Rural District in 1967.

As the Indlow Rural District was merged with Indlow Borough on 1st March, 1967 all the figures given in the Report relate to the combined areas from January 1st. These figures are not really comparable to those for the separate districts last year.

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A lot of preliminary work has been done in selecting schemes in order of priority for early sewage treatment works in some of the rural areas, in selecting areas for air clearance and re-forestation in Indlow town, and in considering better methods of refuse disposal for the District as a whole. These schemes are then passed when financial considerations permit.

This has been a year of consolidation and future planning.

I should like to thank all my colleagues here for their help and co-operation during the year - especially Mr. Saunders, the Urban Public Health Inspector - and to thank him also for his help in preparing this report.

Elizabeth Gayer.

# VITAL STATISTICS 1967

## Live Births

	Male	Female	Total
Number	203	172	375
Rate per 1,000 population			16.0
Standardised Birth Rate			17.92

## Illegitimate Live Births

Number	14	7	21
Per cent of total live births			5.6

## Still Births

Number	3	4	7
Rate per 1,000 total live and still births			18.3

## Total Live and Still Births

382

## Infant Death (death under 1 year)

7 4 11

## Infant Mortality Rates

Total Infant Deaths per 1,000 total live births	29
Legitimate Infant Deaths per 1,000 legitimate live births	25.42
Illegitimate infant Deaths per 1,000 illegitimate live births	95.24

## Neo-natal Mortality Rate

18.51

(Death under four weeks per 1,000 total live births)

## Early Neo-natal Mortality Rate

16.00

(Death under one week per 1,000 total live birth)

## Perinatal Mortality Rate

34

(Still births and deaths under one week combined per 1,000 total live and still births)

## Maternal Mortality (including abortion)

Number of deaths	1
Rate per 1,000 total live and still births	2.62

## Deaths from all causes

162 171 333

## Death Rate per 1,000 population

Crude 14.2  
Standardised 11.36



General Statistics and Notes on Vital Statistics

Area (in acres)	120,451
Registrar Generals Estimate of Population	23,480
Rateable value	£733,009

Births

There were 375 live births of which 21 were illegitimate. The percentage of illegitimate live births was 5.6 and this figure has been unchanged for the last three years.

The standardised birth rate of 17.92 per 1,000 population is a little higher than that for England and Wales.

Still Births

There were 7 still births and the still birth rate of 18.3 is lower than that last year but is a good deal higher than that for England and Wales.

Infant Mortality

There were 11 infant deaths making an Infant Mortality Rate of 29 which is considerably higher than the Rate for recent years.

Perinatal Mortality

There were 13 still births and deaths of infants under oneweek giving a Perinatal Mortality Rate of 34. This is higher than the Rate for England and Wales, and higher than the rate last year.

Maternal Mortality

There was one maternal death - a woman of 28 years who died from

- a) Cerebral haemorrhage.
- b) Toxaemia of pregnancy.

Deaths

There were 333 deaths and the standardised death rate of 11.36 is a little higher than last year and just a little higher than the rate for England and Wales.

Diseases of the heart and circulation caused 58% of the deaths, cancer and leukaemia caused 15.6% and lung infection caused 10%. The latter figure varies quite a lot but the other two figures have been remarkably constant in recent years.

There were 8 deaths from lung cancer - all males -

- One in the age group 45-55
- Three in the age group 55-65
- Three in the age group 65-75
- One in the age group 75 and over

Accidents and suicide caused 4.2% of all the deaths.



# Number of deaths at different periods of life

		Age in years									
		Under 4 weeks	4 weeks and under 1 year	1-	5-	15-	25-	35-	45-	55-	65- 75 & over
Male	4	3	-	2	2	3	9	5	25	47	62
Female	3	1	1	-	1	2	6	5	16	38	98

## Causes of Death

	Male	Female
Tuberculosis Respiratory	-	1
Tuberculosis Other	-	1
Other infective and parasitic diseases	1	-
Malignant neoplasm, stomach	6	2
Malignant neoplasm, lung, bronchus	8	-
Malignant neoplasm, breast	-	4
Malignant neoplasm, uterus	-	2
Other malignant and lymphatic neoplasms	16	12
Leukaemia, aleukaemia	1	1
Diabetes	-	3
Vascular lesions of nervous system	20	40
Coronary disease, angina	40	31
Other heart diseases	13	36
Other circulatory diseases	7	6
Pneumonia	9	8
Bronchitis	14	2
Ulcer of stomach and duodenum	4	3
Gastritis, enteritis and diarrhoea	-	1
Nephritis and nephrosis	-	1
Hyperplasia of prostate	1	-
Pregnancy, childbirth, abortion	-	1
Congenital malformations	1	1
Other defined and ill-defined diseases	13	9
Motor vehicle accidents	3	2
All other accidents	4	4
Suicide	1	-
	<u>162</u>	<u>171</u>

The number of births exceeded the number of deaths by 42.

General Provision of the Health Service

Staff

The Medical Officer of Health devotes two sessions per week to Rural District Council duties - the session times vary to fit with Council, Committee and other meetings. If needed in an emergency she can always be found by application to the County Health Office - telephone number Shrewsbury 52211. In non-urgent cases a message may be left at the Public Health Department, Stone House.

The additional Public Health Inspector has been required to work in Ludlow town where a great back log of work has been building up in recent years as the Ludlow Borough was unable to get a Public Health Inspector when they tried a few years ago.

Laboratory Services

Drinking water supplies and the Ludlow Swimming Bath water are sampled regularly and the samples are examined at the Public Health Laboratory, Royal Salop Infirmary. We also send samples there in cases of suspected food poisoning. Dr. Jones and his staff are always most willing to give any advice and help we require.

Ambulance Service

The station at Craven Arms is serving the area satisfactorily and no complaints have been heard about it. Ambulances are normally obtained by hospitals or family doctors, but in cases of accidents an emergency 999 telephone call should be made immediately for an ambulance: valuable time should not be lost by trying to find a doctor first.

Child Welfare Centres

These are provided at Ludlow, Cleobury Mortimer, Church Stretton and Clee Hill as follows:-

Cliftonville, Dinham, Ludlow	Mondays	1.30p.m.-4.30 p.m.
East Hamlet, Ludlow	Thursdays	1.30p.m.-4.30 p.m.
Parish Hall, Cleobury Mortimer	1st & 3rd Wednesdays	2.0 p.m.-4.0 p.m.
Sylvester Horne Institute Church Stretton.	1st & 3rd Thursdays	2.0 p.m.-4.30 p.m.
Clee Hill Village Hall	1st Wednesdays	2.0 p.m.-4.0 p.m.

Other clinics are also held at the Dinham, Ludlow, Centre by appointment for dental care anti natal care, mother craft and relaxation, child guidance, speech therapy and audiology. The Probation Officer has a weekly evening session there and the Moral Welfare has a morning session there also each week.

Salop County Council has now plans to provide Health Centres in 8 areas of the County, but Ludlow is not included in this list.

Health Visitors

Two full-time Health Visitors work in the Rural District.



## District Nurses and Midwives

It is difficult to get full-time staff so the area is covered by full-time and several part-time nurses.

From 1st October the Church Stretton and Craven Arms areas joined a night rota scheme for midwifery, combining with Clun and Bishops Castle. All night calls for midwifery have now to be made to the County Ambulance Depot (Telephone number Shrewsbury 6331) and the staff there contact the nearest midwife on call.

## Home Helps

There are local offices at the Sylvester Horne Institute, Church Stretton and at the Child Health Centre, Dinham, Ludlow. Last year 5 part-time Helps were working in Church Stretton and 36 in the Ludlow area. The full charge for the service is 5/6d. an hour but this can be adjusted according to means. Most of the Home Helps work with the aged, but a few are needed at times for chronic illness, midwifery cases and cases of acute illness.

## Provision of Nursing Equipment, including incontinence pads

A variety of equipment can be obtained on loan from the County Health Office - a small charge is made for the hire of larger articles.

## Care of Unmarried Mothers and Illegitimate Children

This work is done by the Moral Welfare Worker employed by the Hereford Diocesan Association.

## Venereal Disease Clinic

Belmont, Shrewsbury

Males	Tuesdays and Fridays	6. p.m.	-	8 p.m.
Females	Mondays	3.30 p.m.	-	5.30 p.m.
	Thursdays	5.0 p.m.	-	7.0 p.m.

## Family Planning Clinics

The nearest clinics, which are run by the Family Planning Association, are at Leominster, Hereford, Kidderminster and Shrewsbury. Details can be obtained from family doctors or Child Welfare Centres.

## Cervical Cytology Clinics

A monthly clinic was started at the Dinham, Ludlow Centre at which smears are taken to detect early cancer of the neck of the womb. An examination of the breasts is also made if desired.

# SECTION C

## Sanitary Circumstances of the District

### Water Supplies

#### Public Supplies

Samples have been taken regularly from public supplies in the area, as shown in the following table.

Source	No. of samples	Satis.	Unsatis
All Stretton	8	5	3
Birmingham Aqueduct (S.E. Parishes)	12	11	1
Bitterley	6	6	0
Burford a) East (E.S.W.B.)	11	8	3
b) West (W.S.W.B.)	6	6	0
c) Centre (N.W.W.W.B.)	8	8	0
Bushmoor	2	2	0
Church Stretton	26	18	8
Clee Hill	9	7	2
Clee St. Margaret a) Borehole	8	2	6
b) Village Well	6	3	3
Cleobury Mortimer	18	15	3
Coreley	6	6	0
Craven Arms	19	18	1
Diddlebury	4	4	0
Far Forest (N.W.W.W.B.)	1	1	0
Hope Bowdler	4	1	3
Little Stretton	5	4	1
Longville-in-the-Dale	3	3	0
Ludlow a) High Level	27	27	0
b) Low Level	28	27	1
Middleton	7	7	0
Munslow	3	3	0
Onibury	3	2	1
Seifton	5	1	4
Soudley	5	4	1
St. Milburgha's Well			
a) Chlorinated	2	2	0
b) Unchlorinated	25	10	15
Wall-under-Heywood	3	3	0
	<u>270</u>	<u>214</u>	<u>56</u>

Of these unsatisfactory samples - all of which contained coliform bacilli, more than half contained B. Coli Type 1.

The unsatisfactory reports are received by telephone from the Public Health Laboratory and passed on immediately to the Area Engineer of the appropriate Water Board for action.

Because of the network of trunk mains we now have little idea of the source of the water in a main and increased sampling will be needed to check the purity of the supplies.

During 1967 the East Shropshire Water Board laid a main to bring water from the new reservoir at Coreley to the Clee Hill Reservoir. It is hoped that this new system will be brought into use in 1968, thus replacing the Old Clee Hill supply which has been the subject of much complaint.

It is understood that the East Shropshire Water Board has decided not to lay small diameter pipes off the trunk main to serve scattered properties in Doddington and Crumpsbrook areas.

The new supply at Stoke St. Milborough came into use during the year and many properties have already been connected.



### Private Supplies

67 samples were taken during the year and only 10 of these were satisfactory:- most of these being the result of remedial works to supplies which had been found unsatisfactory previously.

### Swimming Baths

The water at both the Council's bath in Ludlow and the Salop County Council's bath at Cleobury Mortimer were sampled regularly. The new type of comparator for checking both chlorine content and Ph value was used this year.

<u>Bath</u>	<u>No. of samples</u>	<u>Satisfactory</u>	<u>Unsatisfactory</u>
Ludlow	37	33	4
Cleobury Mortimer	18	15	3

Chemical samples from the Ludlow bath were satisfactory.

### Rodent Control and supervision

One operative was employed throughout the year but also many visits had to be paid by Public Health Inspectors when he was on holiday or on sick leave.

The control of rats in the area is made difficult by Warfarin resistance which has been in existence for several years. An added difficulty is the barrier area of the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food designed to prevent the spread of resistance. In these areas only acute poisons have to be used to ensure success in extermination. But unfortunately there is nothing to prevent any member of the public from continuing to use Warfarin in such areas. This is probably done resulting in a further increase in Warfarin resistant rats.

Private dwelling houses were treated free of charge and a charge of 7/- per 20 minutes of the operative's time and material was made for other premises.

In the Autumn, the outbreak of Foot and Mouth Disease meant a virtual cessation of work on agricultural properties and a big increase in rat population will no doubt result.

### Factories and Workshops

#### Number in Register

a) Factories with mechanical power	121
b) Factories without mechanical power	3
	<u>124</u>
No. of inspections	21
No. of contraventions dealt with	4

### Offices Shops & Railway Premises Act, 1963

No. of premises so far registered	253
No. of persons employed in these premises	1,143
No. of premises receiving general inspection in 1967	92
No. of visits made during the year	121
No. of informal notices served	33

Premises were found to be mainly satisfactory and contraventions generally were of a minor character.

One accident involving an employee was notified.



## Sewerage and Sewage Disposal

The new scheme was completed and the plant at Burford came in to operation in the Autumn.

Ludlow: Stage II The work was completed well outside the date on which the contract period expired - 20.5.67.

Ludlow: Stage III This scheme has been approved in principle for inclusion in the 1968/69 rate estimate and administrative preparatory work is proceeding.

Craven Arms: Plans have been approved for the necessary extensions to the sewage treatment works.

Other smaller rural schemes have been considered and their priorities discussed.

## Refuse Collection and Disposal

There have been considerable improvements brought about during the year, the greatest of these being the closure of the Ludlow Tip. Conditions here had become more and more unsatisfactory during recent years. Efforts to get an alternative tipping site in the Ludlow area failed and so it was decided to make increased use of the tip at Woofferton. Increased necessary equipment was purchased and a tip attendant engaged. Reorganisation of rounds and the longer journeys were helped by the purchase of a larger collection vehicle.

Conditions are satisfactory at the present time but the present tip has only a limited life and it is becoming increasingly difficult to get suitable space for this purpose.

A Sub Committee was appointed to consider the Working Party Report on refuse collection and disposal and the Council approved in principle these recommendations that a central incinerator should be provided for the District; this will be required in the fairly near future.

The provision of dumps and special collection for bulky articles was also considered by this Sub Committee.- to meet the requirements of the Civic Amenities Act and it was considered that arrangements were satisfactory meantime.

The Tip at Cleobury Mortimer was closed during the year as it became full. It was decided to require all householders to use standard dust bins

## Scrap Metal Dealers Act, 1964

Ten dealers are registered under this Act. Inspection of these records are carried out by the Police.

## Knackers Yards

The two yards are both owned by the same family firm. Most of the slaughtering is done at Sparchford where there is a meat sterilisation and pet food packing plant. Both yards have been kept in a satisfactory condition.

## Common Lodging Houses

There are none registered in this District.

There is one house in Church Stretton let in multiple occupation and it has been conducted in accordance with the Regulations.



## Air Pollution

The two deposit gauges at Clee Hill were kept in operation, one until the end of November and the other till the end of December. The Amalgamated Roadstone Corporation have fitted new dust arrestation plant. This has only been in full operation since September but the average deposit recorded for the last four months of 1967 compared with the same period in 1966 showed a worthwhile improvement. Further discussions have been held with the quarry management and more improvements are to be carried out in the coming year.

The wood burning device at a works at Cleobury Mortimer proved to be rather troublesome and this part of the business involving the burning of waste was closed for some time. Subsequently it was brought into use again towards the end of the year mainly as a result of devaluation of the pound making imported timber too expensive to use, thus compelling the use of wood from which the scrap has to be disposed. The management has agreed to extend the height of the chimney and it is thought that this will carry most of smoke away from the near-by inhabited areas.

## Caravan Sites and Moveable Dwellings

### Site Licences. Caravan Sites and Control of Development Act, 1960.

Thirty nine site licences were in force on the 31st December, 1967.

	<u>Residential</u>	<u>Holiday</u>
(a) Individual	23	8
(b) Multiple (more than 3)	-	8
	<u>23</u>	<u>16</u>

These licences cover the siting of 438 caravans, 412 for holiday caravans and 26 for permanent residential use.

Eleven contraventions of the Act were found and dealt with informally.

Conditions at the multiple holiday sites are generally very satisfactory.

The increase in the number of caravans over the last 10 years has been considerable. It is also noticeable that holiday caravanning is now enjoyed by a wider section of the community. This is evident from the fact that caravan site operators can set their own standards as high or as low as they wish (providing they comply with the Council's standards) and still fill their sites to capacity.

All the licensed sites are in the Southern part of the district. Judging by enquiries made it is evident that there is demand for a large site in the Northern part of the district but so far no applicant has been successful in obtaining Planning Permission.

Caravans and caravan sites are controlled by the Caravan Sites and Control of Development Act, 1960. Moveable dwellings (including tents) still come under the control of the Public Health Act, 1936.

Court proceedings had to be taken about the unlicensed use of a caravan and 'bus body at Boraston. These matters had to be dealt with jointly under both Acts, involving the service of three summonses. The caravan was removed to another site and the Council rehoused the family using the 'bus body.

Tented sites cause no nuisance in this district; they are used during the holiday season only.

No. of informal notices served:-

Food Hygiene	57
Offices, Shops and Railway Premises Act	33
House repairs	27
Drainage	16
Water Supply	13
Caravans	11
Slaughterhouse Hygiene	9
Dangerous buildings	7
Removal of litter	6
Air pollution	5
Factories Acts	4
Rodent Control	2
Obstructed footpaths	2
Miscellaneous matters	5
<b>Total</b>	<b>197</b>

Number of Statutory Notices served 3

Market Hall Ludlow

Improvements are needed to comply with Food Hygiene Regulations and these are still under consideration.



HOUSING

Number of inhabitable houses 1.1.67.	8,126
Number of houses constructed during the year	
1) Council Houses	78
2) Private Houses	106
Number of additional houses provided by the conversion of buildings into houses or division of larger houses	8
Number of houses brought back into use as a result of complying with Undertakings	10
Number of houses closed	41
Number of houses demolished (including 4 previously reported as closed)	15
Lost by conversion of two or more into one	4
Number of habitable houses 31.12.67.	8,268

Action under Housing Acts

Number of houses demolished	15
Number of houses closed under terms of Closing Orders	18
Number of houses closed under terms of undertakings given by owners.	23
Number of houses made fit and undertakings or Orders revoked	10

Informal Action

Number of houses made fit as a result of informal action	6
--	---

During the year there was a considerable improvement in the housing position throughout the area except in the town of Ludlow. There is still a waiting list for Council Houses which is too long in the town.

Improvements to Council Houses

- a) Abdon. Plans are in hand to improve two houses and this work is to proceed as soon as is practicable.
- b) Onibury and Culmington. 16 Houses are being improved and the work is nearly completed.
- c) Church Stretton. It was decided to improve 50 houses and work started at the end of the year.
- d) Ludlow. Work started in Ludlow to install hot water - 95 pre-war houses.

New Council Houses

The scheme at Craven Arms proceeded satisfactorily and the houses were allocated. The Housing position in Craven Arms has been eased considerably. Plans have been approved for an Old People's Flatlet scheme in Craven Arms in the new site area.

Slow progress was maintained on the Clee Hill Site, the bungalows being completed by the end of the year, but not the houses.

The house type plans were approved for the Lower Galdeford, Ludlow Scheme - including two bungalows designed for occupation by handicapped persons in wheel chairs.

A scheme has been approved for the development of a site off Henley Road, Ludlow consisting of Old People's dwellings and two bedroomed bungalows and garages.

#### Ludlow District Council House Tenants Association

This was formed early in the summer. It is composed largely of members from Ludlow town. Useful meetings between it and the Housing Committee are envisaged - one of which has already taken place.

Number of houses demolished (including previously reported as closed)

Lost by conversion of two or more into one

Number of habitable houses 35,425. Loss of houses 1,200. Total 34,225.

#### Action under Housing Acts

Number of houses demolished  
Number of houses closed under terms of Closing Orders  
Number of houses closed under terms of undertakings  
Given by owners  
Number of houses made fit and undertakings or Orders revoked

#### Informal Action

Number of houses made fit as a result of informal action

During the year there was a considerable improvement in the housing position throughout the area except in the town of Ludlow. There is still a waiting list for Council houses which is too long in the town.

#### Improvements to Council Houses

- a) Abdon. Plans are in hand to improve two houses and this work is to proceed as soon as is practicable.
- b) Onibury and Calington. 15 houses are being improved and the work is nearly completed.
- c) Church Stratton. It was decided to improve 30 houses and work started at the end of the year.
- d) Ludlow. Work started in Ludlow to install hot water - 32 houses.

#### New Council Houses

The scheme at Groven Arms proceeded satisfactorily and the houses were allocated. The housing position in Groven Arms has been eased considerably. Plans have been approved for an Old People's Flatted scheme in Groven Arms in the new site area.



## SECTION E

### Inspection and Supervision of Food Supplies

#### Meat Inspection

At the time of amalgamation there were three licensed slaughter-houses in the district - one in Craven Arms and two in Ludlow. In July the licence of the slaughterhouse in the built up area of Ludlow lapsed and was not renewed owing to the high cost of bringing the premises up to standard.

Conditions at the two remaining slaughterhouses were generally satisfactory, but since the Ludlow slaughterhouse was built, throughput has increased so much that the provision of an extension to the cooling hall is now a matter of urgency.

Meat Inspection at Craven Arms was carried out by the full time Meat Inspectors. During the early part of the year meat inspection in Ludlow was done by the Public Health Inspectors outside normal hours, usually in the early morning. Towards the end of the year it was found possible to withdraw one of the Meat Inspectors from full time work at Craven Arms to do meat inspection in Ludlow. The Public Health Inspectors help out with this work as necessary.

Number of animals slaughtered and inspected in 1967 (figures for 1966 in brackets).

	Cattle					
	(Ex.Cows)	Cows	Calves	Pigs	Sheep	Total
Numbers killed	11,660	2,004	5,628	20,811	95,472	135,575
Numbers inspected	11,660	2,004	5,628	20,811	95,472	135,575
	(8,699)	(2,146)	(3,546)	(27,813)	(101,650)	(143,854)

#### All Diseases except Tuberculosis and Cysticercus Bovis

Whole carcasses condemned	5	27	128	65	382
Organs or parts condemned	3,614	1,204	16	1,972	1,910
Percentage affected	31.04	61.43	2.56	9.79	2.4

#### Tuberculosis Only

Whole carcasses condemned	-	-	-	-	-
Organs or parts condemned	3	6	-	75	-
Percentage affected	0.03	0.3	-	0.36	-

#### Cysticercus Bovis Only

Whole carcasses condemned	1	-	-	-	-
Organs or parts condemned	10	1	-	-	-
Percentage affected	0.09	0.05	-	-	-

Weight of meat condemned:

1. On account of Tuberculosis 820 lbs.
2. On account of Cysticercus Bovis 754 lbs.
3. On account of other diseases 112,160 lbs.

113,734 lbs.

= 50 Tons 15 Cwts. 54 lbs.



## Food Hygiene, Food and Poultry Inspection

### Food Hygiene

Once the structural provisions of the Regulations have been met much food hygiene work consists of "health education". A great deal can be done by verbal persuasion making the service of notices unnecessary.

### Food Hygiene (General) Regulations, 1960

<u>Type of Premises</u>	<u>No.</u>	<u>No. with wash hand basins</u>	<u>No. which should have sinks</u>	<u>No. which have sinks</u>
Hotels, Public Houses, Guest Houses	78	78	78	78
Grocers and General Stores	70	64	67	67
Cafes and Restaurants	33	32	33	33
Village Halls etc.	25	23	25	25
Butchers Shops	23	22	23	23
School Kitchens and Dining Rooms	23	22	21	21
Clubs etc.	16	16	16	16
Sweet Shops	9	9	7	8
Greengrocers	9	8	9	8
Confectioners	8	8	5	5
Food Factories and Wholesalers	7	7	6	6
Factory canteens	6	6	6	6
Grocer/Greengrocer	5	5	5	5
Bakehouses	5	5	5	5
Garages selling ice-cream	5	5	1	1
Fish and Chip Shops	4	4	4	4
Fish (Wet) Shops	2	2	2	2
<u>Totals</u>	<u>328</u>	<u>316</u>	<u>313</u>	<u>313</u>

Some complaints of foreign bodies found in food were dealt with informally. Where substantial evidence of neglect, or bad methods or management exists the cases are passed to the Salop County Council, the Food and Drugs Authority.

Two complaints dealt with informally concerned insects (wasps and a fly) found in food. None of the products were from factories in the Ludlow Rural District. The matters were taken up with the producers concerned.

Mobile shops and similar food delivery vehicles are liable to inspection in each district in which they travel. It is thought that a system whereby the local authority in whose area the vehicle is based would be responsible for inspection and enforcement of the law might be preferable.

### Poultry Inspection

Late in 1966 the Ministry of Health drew the attention of local authorities to the need for frequent and regular visits to be made to all poultry processing establishments to ensure that the requirements of the Food and Drugs Act, 1955, the Food Hygiene (General) Regulations, 1960 and the recommendations of the Code of Practice on Poultry Dressing and Packing are being observed.

For many years now an inspection arrangement, as recommended by the Ministry, has been in operation at The Grove where vast numbers of poultry and turkeys are processed. Under this arrangement "spotters" on the dressing lines remove suspect birds for subsequent detailed inspection and judgement. The operators at The Grove also use a "quality control" system under which many birds whilst not being diseased, are rejected as not being up to standard. During the year the system worked well.

Regular inspections were made and standards of hygiene and cleanliness were satisfactory.

Number of processing premises in the District	1
Number of visits to premises	109

Number of birds killed at The Grove

Broilers	5,585,735
Hens	839,834
Capons	203,624
Turkeys	517,565
<u>Total</u>	<u>7,146,758</u>

Number of culls or condemned birds

Broilers	34,906
Hens	15,339
Capons	6,236
Turkeys	1,302
<u>Total</u>	<u>57,783</u>

Percentage rejected as unfit	0.8%
Weight of poultry condemned as unfit	229,800 lbs (estimated)

Condemnation of Food

The following foods were inspected and voluntarily surrendered at general food premises as unfit for human consumption:-

116 lbs. Tinned vegetables
101 lbs. Wet fish
58 lbs. Tinned milk products
56 lbs. Tinned meat
48 lbs. Frozen foods
42 lbs. Tinned fruit
34 lbs. Meat
21 lbs. Tinned fish
3 lbs. Tinned soup
<u>479 lbs. Total</u>

Ice-cream

Premises are registered for the sale or manufacture of ice-cream under the Food and Drugs Act, 1955. Changes of occupier should be notified to the local authority but this law is rarely complied with without the Inspectors drawing the matter to the attention of the new occupier.

One hundred and sixty three premises are registered for the sale of ice-cream and two for manufacture. Soft mix ice-cream is manufactured in vehicles from which it is sold.

Conditions generally were satisfactory.



## SECTION F

### Prevalence and Control of Infectious Diseases

The following notifications of infectious diseases were received.

	1st Quarter	2nd Quarter	3rd Quarter	4th Quarter
Scarlet fever	2	1	2	8
Whooping cough	-	25	11	7
Measles	15	86	112	25
Acute Pneumonia	1	1	2	-
Food Poisoning	-	-	-	1
Tuberculosis pulmonary	-	-	2	-
non-pulmonary	-	-	2	-
	18	113	131	41

Measles seem to be becoming endemic - in the past it has occurred in epidemics at two yearly intervals. Apart from the measles cases notifications are low.

The case of food poisoning was of interest as it occurred in a man who worked in a slaughterhouse and lived in a house in multiple occupation. One other case was found in the house by testing all the contacts.

The pulmonary tuberculosis cases were one female aged 61 and one male aged 62 and the non-pulmonary cases were both male, aged 34 years and 61 years.

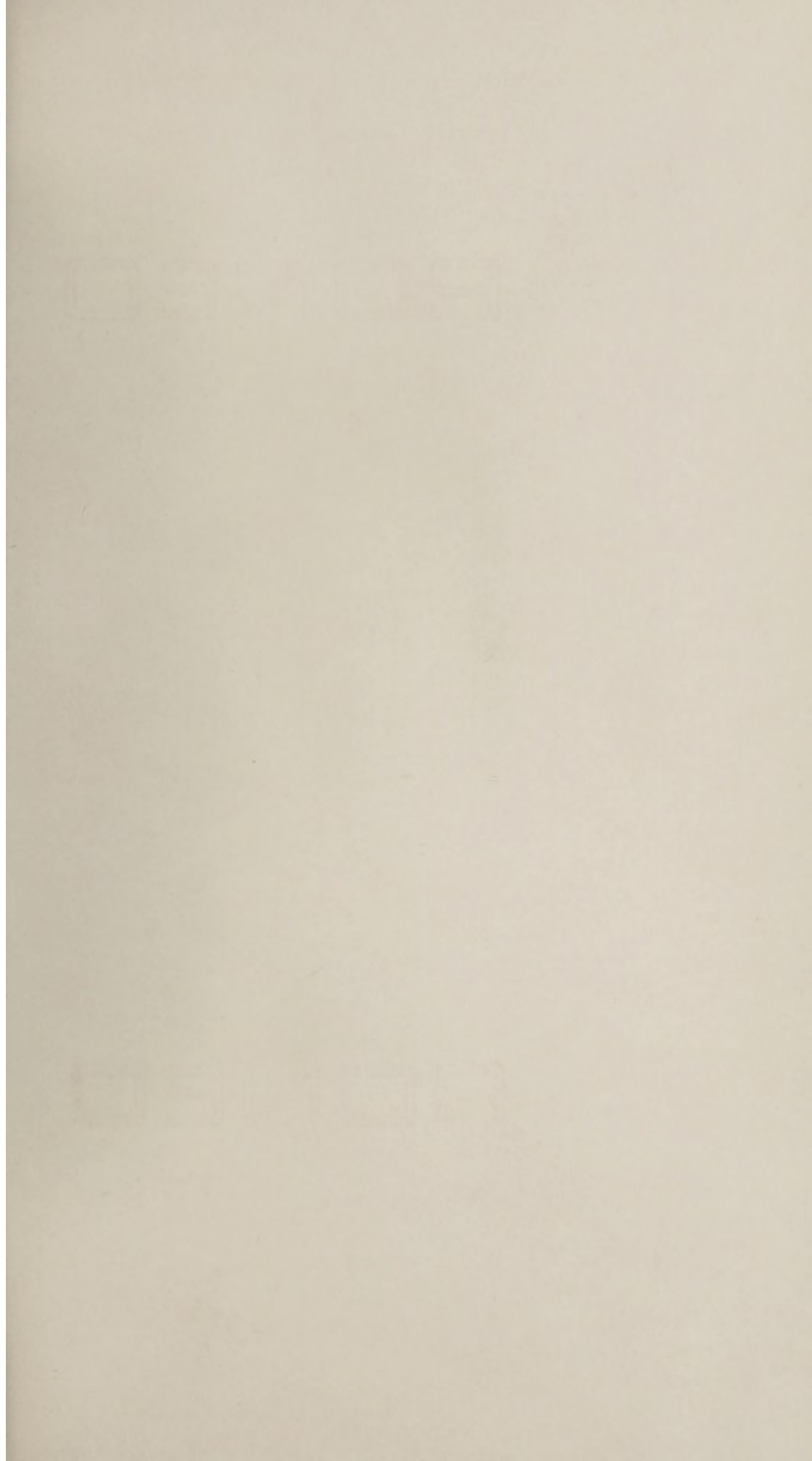
Number of cases on tuberculosis register December, 1967

Pulmonary	75
Non-pulmonary	23

Number removed from register during the year : cured	6
Number removed from register : left the district	1
Number removed from register : died	2
Number added to register : come into the District	1
Number added to register : new cases notified	4

Protection against diphtheria, whooping cough, tetanus, poliomyelitis and small pox can be given to children either by Family Doctors or at Child Welfare Centres or Schools. Protection against tuberculosis and yellow fever is given by the County Health Department - against other diseases e.g. typhoid by Family Doctors.

The notifications of food poisoning have remained low and the Public Health Inspectors visit food premises regularly to try to maintain high standards of food hygiene. The general public could do much to help by bringing any lapses to the notice of the management immediately and to the Public Health Department and by patronising only those food premises that are obviously interested in maintaining high standards.





# Prevalence and Control of Infectious Diseases

The following notification of infectious diseases were received:

	1st Quarter	2nd Quarter	3rd Quarter	4th Quarter
Measles	1	1	1	1
Whooping cough	-	11	11	7
Diphtheria	10	5	11	25
Scarlet fever	1	1	1	-
Polio	-	-	-	1
Subacute poliomyelitis	-	-	1	-
Non-poliomyelitis	-	-	1	-
Total	12	17	24	34

Measles cases in the following manner - In the 1st quarter there occurred 12 cases of measles in the public schools. Apart from the routine vaccination are low.

The case of scarlet fever in the 1st quarter is of interest as it occurred in a man who was in a short illness and lived in a hotel in addition to his occupation.

The following notification of infectious diseases were received - In the 1st quarter there occurred 12 cases of measles in the public schools. Apart from the routine vaccination are low.

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Measles	12
Non-poliomyelitis	1

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