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MARKET DRAYTON RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL

ANNUAL REPORT

of

THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

FOR THE YEAR

1969

PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT STAFF

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I should like to record my appreciation of the co-operation I have received during the year from my colleagues in other departments, from the General Practitioners, and particularly from Mr. Sandbrook, Chief Public Health Inspector and the other members of the staff of the Public Health Department. Much of the work which is done never appears on record and I should particularly like to thank the clerical staff, for their cheerful efficiency.

I am, your obedient servant,

A.M. O'BRIEN

Medical Officer of Health.



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MARKET DRAYTON RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL.  
ANNUAL REPORT OF THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH, 1969.

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to present the report for 1969 on the work of the Public Health Department, and the health of the rural district of Market Drayton.

The mid-year estimate of the population, given by the Registrar General was 16,920 (16,850 in 1968).

The total number of births was 285 live births and 2 stillbirths. 28 births or 10% of the total were illegitimate, i.e. twice the rate shown in 1968.

There were fewer deaths in 1969; 172 deaths from all causes, as against 194 in 1968. Tables I, II and III in Section C show the causes of death by age and sex incidence. Heart disease and diseases of the circulatory system remain the chief killers and reflect the dangers man is exposed to in his environment. Many environmental factors have been recognised as being detrimental to health, but in many instances we remain apathetic and fail to take action to prevent our environment from becoming more dangerous. We hear a great deal about pollution; of the air we breathe, of our rivers and beaches, of the food we eat. In a highly technological age we are introducing into our environment factors whose harmful effects over a period of time we know little about. Yet there are already influences at work which we know to be harmful and about which little or no action is taken. Sir George Godber, the Chief Medical Officer of the Department of Health and Social Security, has said "It is a fantastic situation that we promote by our own voluntary - and surely no longer ignorant - action, by far the largest single avoidable cause of death and disability in Britain today. There is no other agent in our environment that approaches the cigarette in menace to health and life".

In 1969, in Market Drayton, 8 men died from cancer of the lung and bronchus.

Health Education continues to be an important undertaking of the Public Health Department, especially in the field of food hygiene. During the year, talks were given and films shown to workers in the food industry, stressing the need for every individual who handles food to be aware of the dangers of contamination, and how to prevent them.

I should like to record my appreciation of the co-operation I have received during the year from my colleagues in other departments, from the General Practitioners, and particularly from Mr. Sandbrook, Chief Public Health Inspector and the other members of the Staff of the Public Health Department. Much of the work which is done never appears on record and I should particularly like to thank the clerical staff, for their cheerful efficiency.

I am, your obedient servant,

A.N. O'BRIEN

Medical Officer of Health.

Public Health Department,  
Council Office,  
Bathurst Road,  
Bathurst, New South Wales,  
Australia.

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT, 1950.

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have the honor to present the report for 1950 on the work of the Public Health Department, and the health of the rural district of Bathurst.

The mid-year estimate of the population, given by the Registrar General was 15,950 (15,500 in 1949).

The total number of births was 355 live births and 2 stillbirths. 25 deaths of 100 of the total were registered, i.e. twice the rate known in 1949.

There were fewer deaths in 1950: 175 deaths from all causes, as against 194 in 1949. Tables I, II and III in Section C show the causes of death by age and sex incidence. Heart disease and diseases of the alimentary system remain the chief killers and reflect the dangers now so exposed in this environment. Many environmental factors have been recognized as being detrimental to health, but in many instances we remain apathetic and fail to take action to prevent our environment from becoming more dangerous. We have a great deal about pollution; of the air we breathe, of our rivers and beaches, of the food we eat. In a highly technological age we are introducing into our environment factors whose harmful effects over a period of time we know little about. Yet there are already indications of work which we have to be doing and about which little or no action is taken. The Chief Medical Officer of the Department of Health and Social Security has said "it is a fantastic situation that we propose by our own voluntary - and surely no longer ignorant - action by the largest single avoidable cause of death and disability in Britain today. There is no other agent in our environment that approaches the cigarette in causing death and life".

In 1950, in Bathurst, 5 men died from cancer of the lung and bronchus.

Health Research continues to be an important undertaking of the Public Health Department, especially in the field of food hygiene. During the year, talks were given and films shown to workers in the food industry, stressing the need for every individual who handles food to be aware of the dangers of contamination, and how to prevent them.

I should like to record my appreciation of the co-operation I have received during the year from my colleagues in other departments, from the General Practitioner, and particularly from Mr. Kenneth, Chief Public Health Inspector and the other members of the staff of the Public Health Department. Much of the work which is done never appears on records and I should particularly like to thank the clerical staff for their cheerful efficiency.

I am, your obedient servant,

A. N. COWEN

Medical Officer of Health.



SECTION A.

General Statistics.

Area at 31st December, 1969	.. .. .	56,383 acres
Rateable value	.. .. .	£555,022
Sum represented by the penny rate (estimated for year)	.. .. .	£2,153
Registrar General's estimate of resident population as at 30th June, 1969		16,920
Number of inhabited houses		5,359.

Vital Statistics

TABLE I

LIVE BIRTHS		M	F	Rates per 1000 estimated population	
				Market Drayton R.D.C.	England & Wales
Total	285	146	139	16.8	16.3
Legitimate	257	133	124	15.4	14.1
Illegitimate	28	13	15	1.6	1.3

Area Comparability Factor	.. .. .	.99	1.00
Corrected Birth Rate	.. .. .	16.6	16.3
Illegitimacy Rate per 1,000 total live births		98.2	
Illegitimate Births expressed as rate per 1,000 of the population		1.6	
Illegitimate Live Births as percentage of all Live births		10	8

TABLE II

STILL BIRTHS		M	F	Rates per 1000 Live and Still births	
				Market Drayton R.D.C.	England & Wales
Total	2	1	1	7	13
Legitimate	2	1	1		
Illegitimate	-	-	-		

TABLE III

DEATHS		M	F	Rates per 1000 estimated population	
				Market Drayton R.D.C.	England & Wales
Total	172	91	81	10.7 (corrected 11.2)	11.9

Area comparability factor	1.05	1.00
---------------------------	------	------



TABLE IV

INFANT MORTALITY (deaths under one year of age)		M	F	Rates per 1000 related Live Births	
				Market Drayton R.D.C.	England & Wales
Total	3	2	1	11	18
Legitimate	3	2	1	12	17
Illegitimate	-	-	-	-	25

TABLE V

NEONATAL MORTALITY (deaths of infants 1 - 4 weeks of age)		M	F	Rates per 1000 related Live Births	
				Market Drayton R.D.C.	England & Wales
Total	2	1	1	7	12

TABLE VI

PERINATAL MORTALITY (Stillbirths & deaths of infants under 1 week of age)		M	F	Rates per 1000 related Live births & Stillbirths	
				Market Drayton R.D.C.	England & Wales
Total	2	1	1	14	23
Legitimate	2	1	1		
Illegitimate	-	-	-		

Maternal Deaths There were no maternal deaths reported in 1969.

Abortions in England and Wales

In the period from 1st January, 1969 to 31st December, 1969 the Registrar Generals figures show that the following Abortions were carried out in accordance with the provisions of the Abortion Act, 1967.

TOTAL = 54,157

SECTION B.

Health Services for the Area.

Services provided by the Salop County Council.

The Salop County Council, as the Local Health Authority, is responsible for providing certain personal health services (PART III National Health Service Act, 1946) These include the Ambulance Service; Health Visiting; District Home Nursing and Midwifery; Child Health Services and Domestic Home Help.

Clinical sessions held at the Child Health Centre, Longslow Road, Market Drayton, are as follows:-

Child Health	Wednesdays	9.30 - 12.30 1.30 - 4.30
Immunisations	2nd & 4th Wednesdays	9.30 - 12 noon
Chiropody	By appointment	
Domestic Help	Mon.Wed.Fri.	2pm - 5 pm
Probation Reporting Centre	Alternate Tuesdays and 4th Thursdays	5 pm - 8 pm 4 pm - 7 pm
Psychiatric	1st 3rd & 5th Fridays	2 pm onwards
Speech Therapy	Friday each week	12 noon - 12.30 1.45 - 5pm
Audiology	By appointment	
Cervical Cytology	By appointment	
Welfare Foods	Wednesday	10 a.m - 12 noon & 2.15 - 4.15
	Saturday	10 am - 12 noon
Dental	Appointment	Mornings only.
Family Planning	4th Friday	2pm - 4pm

Vaccinations and Immunisations are offered to all children at the appropriate age from six months onwards. They can be effectively protected against a number of infectious diseases, including DIPHTHERIA, WHOOPING COUGH, TETANUS, POLIOMYELITIS, SMALLPOX, MEASLES AND TUBERCULOSIS. Booster doses are given also at the appropriate intervals. Parents are urged to protect their children in this way. The reduction each year in the numbers of notifications of infectious diseases and the reduction in the numbers of deaths from such diseases are due partly to the protection afforded by immunisation and partly to improved methods of treatment.

	Deaths at ALL Ages in England & Wales.	
	1947	1967
Tuberculosis - all forms	23,551	2,043
Children only	1,955	27
Poliomyelitis	707	Nil
Diphtheria	2,783	Nil
Measles	644	99



ask for an appointment.

disease.

and defects of vision.



SECTION C.

A. EPIDEMIOLOGY.

Prompt notification of infectious disease is essential in ensuring the control of an outbreak and preventing its spread.

General Practitioners and Hospital Doctors are required by law to notify to the M.O.H. cases of an infectious nature, which are designated as "Notifiable Diseases".

These include:-

Acute encephalitis; Acute meningitis;  
Acute poliomyelitis; Anthrax; Cholera;  
Diphtheria; Dysentery (amoebic or bacillary);  
Infective Jaundice; Leprosy; Leptospirosis;  
Malaria, Measles; Ophthalmia neonatorum;  
Paratyphoid fever; Plague; Relapsing fever;  
Scarlet Fever; Smallpox, Tetanus; Tuberculosis;  
Typhoid Fever; Typhus; Whooping Cough,  
Yellow Fever and Food Poisoning.

In 1969 in England and Wales, there were 10,425 cases of Food Poisoning notified, but this represents only a proportion of the actual number of cases. Disease due to organisms present in food is widely prevalent and need not be so if only those people who are involved in the preparation or production or selling of food would take simple precautions to ensure a good standard of Food Hygiene. Housewives in their kitchens, handling the end product of what may be an involved process of manufacture, must be made aware of the risks they run, quite unknowingly sometimes. Not only must the housewife continue to maintain a high standard of cleanliness in her house, nowadays she must also understand and apply the principles of temperature control and how cross contamination occurs. The increased use of convenience foods has led to an increase in the problems of production, packaging, storing at the correct temperature and reheating for use in the home. Outbreaks of food poisoning occur throughout the year and are often found on investigation to have been caused by the preparation of food under faulty conditions, or by the contamination of food after cooking. Enteric disease in human beings is found in relation to enteric diseases of animals and poultry and, as a result of intensive farming methods, man is being exposed to a greater risk of infection by the organisms of the Salmonella group of bacteria, which are commonly found in domestic animals.

Complete freedom from food poisoning organisms cannot be assured. Progressive food manufacturers realise the need to exercise control over hygiene at all stages of food production; to prevent the risk of cross contamination by keeping raw food separate from the finished product and to carry out bacteriological examinations at all stages of manufacture. Much more can be done to prevent the spread of food poisoning organisms. The housewife should refuse to buy from premises where the standard of hygiene is low; where the personnel handle both raw meats and cooked meats, serving them perhaps from the same counter; or where the assistant blows into the paper bag or licks her fingers after handling cream cakes. The Public Health Inspectors continue their constant efforts to educate food handlers and the public in the principles of good food hygiene; members of the public should be willing to use this information for their own protection. When food poisoning occurs a great deal of time and money is spent by Public Health Departments in tracing the contacts and finding the source of infection. In 1969 in Market Drayton, four initial visits were paid in connection with known or suspected cases



of food poisoning, 21 samples of food were sent for bacteriological analysis, and 75 bacteriological examinations of nasal swabs and faecal samples were carried out by the Pathologists of the Public Health Laboratory, whose co-operation and helpful advice we rely upon to assist us in this essential part of our work.

TABLE I

	Infectious Diseases Notified during 1969			1968
	Total	Male	Female	
Measles	7	4	3	81
Dysentery	10	4	6	1
Infective Hepatitis	2	1	1	2
Tuberculosis				
a) Pulmonary	2	1	1	1
b) Non-Respiratory	1	-	1	1
Meningitis	2	-	2	1
Food Poisoning.	4	1	3	-

TABLE II

Measles by Age Incidence

	Under 1 yr.	1-2	2-3	3-4	4-5	5-9	10-14	15-24	TOTAL
1969	2	1	1	1	1	1	-	-	7
1968	2	9	10	15	12	33	-	-	81
1967	15	20	21	26	22	68	2	2	171

In this country measles is a relatively mild diseases. Nevertheless, it can produce serious complications, such as encephalitis, pneumonia and defects of vision and hearing. Parents are advised to consult their family doctor about vaccination, which involves giving a single injection. Vaccination can also be obtained by applying to the Health Visitor at the Child Health Centre.

Tuberculosis

Three new cases were notified during 1969.

Pulmonary	1 adult male	1 adult female
Non-Pulmonary	-	1 adult female.

Following the notification of non-pulmonary TB, full investigations were carried out by the Veterinary Officers of the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food into the possible tuberculous infection of a milk supply. The milk was subjected to an Order requiring heat treatment before sale. Extensive tests were made and no evidence of infection in the cattle was found.

Disease of Animals.

Notifications of Salmonella in animals were followed up by the Public Health Inspectors, in order to exclude the possibility of spread of the disease to human contacts. One case of Animal Anthrax was reported and dealt with. Human contacts were protected by being given penicillin.

## DEATHS IN MARKET DRAYTON RURAL DISTRICT 1969.

TABLE I

All causes	Male	Female
Malignant Neoplasms		
Buccal Cavity	-	1
Oesophagus	-	1
Stomach	1	1
Intestine	3	3
Lung- Bronchus	8	-
Breast	-	3
Uterus	-	3
Prostate	1	-
Other Malignant Neoplasms	6	3
Diabetes Mellitus	2	-
Chronic Rheumatic Heart Disease	1	-
Hypertensive Disease	3	2
Ischaemic Heart Disease	20	20
Other forms of Heart Disease	7	5
Cerebrovascular Disease	11	23
Other Diseases of Circulatory System	5	3
Influenza	1	-
Pneumonia	2	3
Bronchitis & Emphysema	6	1
Other Diseases of Respiratory system	1	2
Peptic Ulcer	-	1
Intestinal Obstruction & Hernia	1	-
Cirrhosis of Liver	1	-
Other Diseases of Digestive System	-	1
Nephritis and Nephrosis	1	-
Hyperplasia of Prostate	1	-
Diseases of Musculo Skeletal System	1	-
Congenital Anomalies	-	1
Birth Injury, Difficult labour etc.	1	-
Symptoms and ill-defined conditions	-	1
Motor Vehicle Accidents	1	1
All other accidents	3	2
Suicide and self-inflicted injuries	3	-
TOTAL ALL CAUSES	91	81



TABLE II  
Causes of Death at Different Periods of Life during 1969

CAUSES OF DEATH	TOTAL ALL AGES	UNDER 4 weeks	4 weeks & under 1 yr	1-4 yr	5- 14	15- 24	25- 34	35- 44	45- 54	55- 64	65- 74	75 & over
Malignant Neoplasm, Buccal Cavity etc	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-
Malignant Neoplasm, Oesophagus	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
Malignant Neoplasm, Stomach	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2
Malignant Neoplasm, Intestine	6	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	2	2	1
Malignant Neoplasm, Lung, Bronchus	8	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	5	2	1
Malignant Neoplasm, Breast	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	-	-	1
Malignant Neoplasm, Uterus	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	2
Malignant Neoplasm, Prostate	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-
Other Malignant Neoplasms	9	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	3	3	2
Diabetes Mellitus	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	1	-
Chronic Rheumatic Heart Disease	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
Hypertensive Disease	5	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	2	2
Ischaemic Heart Disease	40	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	2	5	13	19
Other forms of Heart Disease	12	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	2	8
Cerebrovascular Disease	34	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	6	10	17
Other Diseases of Circulatory system	8	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	6
Influenza	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
Pneumonia	5	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	2	2





TABLE III

CAUSES OF DEATH IN NUMERICAL ORDER OF FREQUENCY.		MALE	FEMALE	TOTAL
1. Heart Disease and Circulatory Disease	Ischaemic Heart Disease	20	20	40
	Hypertension & other diseases of circulatory system	8	5	13
	Other forms of heart disease	8	5	13
	TOTAL	36	30	66
2. a) Cerebro Vascular Disease	Vascular lesions of the brain and C.N.S.	11	23	34
	TOTAL	11	23	34
b) Cancer	Mouth	-	1	1
	Oesophagus	-	1	1
	Stomach	1	1	2
	Intestine	3	3	6
	Lung, Bronchus	8	-	8
	Breast	-	3	3
	Uterus	-	3	3
	Prostate	1	-	1
	Others	6	3	9
TOTAL		19	15	34
3. Respiratory Disease	Pneumonia	2	3	5
	Bronchitis & Emphysema	6	1	7
	Others	1	2	3
	TOTAL	9	6	15

Coronary Artery Disease accounted for 23% of deaths from all causes, while deaths from all forms of heart and circulatory diseases were 38% of the total. There were eight fatal cases of cancer of the lung and bronchus in men. All forms of cancer accounted for 19.7% of the total deaths and a further 19.7% was due to cerebral haemorrhages and other vascular lesions of the Central Nervous System. 4% of all deaths was due to Accidental Causes.

Section 47. National Assistance Act, 1948.

No action was taken under this Act in 1969.



MR. SANDBROOK, CHIEF PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR, REPORTS -  
SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES IN THE AREA.

Generally speaking, the water supply of the area has been satisfactory (i) in quality (ii) in quantity. This is, no doubt to a great degree due to the efforts made by the East Shropshire Water Board, who supply the bulk of the water consumed in the district, to seek alternative sources. Out of a population of 16,920 no less than 14,132 are supplied by the Board. With the increasing demands for water for not only the increased number of new houses and improved old houses, but for industry, new sources have to be found and full use made of existing. Whilst industry is a recent introduction in the area, it is chiefly restricted to Market Drayton where the main source of water is from springs.

When the comprehensive scheme to supply Market Drayton from the southern part of the district is in being, the old source will be abandoned as far as possible.

Both the Board and the Public Health Department regularly take bacteriological samples and close liason is maintained. The average fluoride content is 0.1 parts per million. There are no less than 8 separate sources, and 3 bulk supplies, and no doubt the Board looks forward to the day when these will be linked and the sources of water will be reduced.

The following information is re-produced from the Annual Statistics Report for 1969/70 published by the Engineer to the Board.

Source	Annual abstraction in 1,000 gallons	Sampling	No. of samples taken	
			US	S
British Rail, Market Drayton	872	52	-	52
Brodder Springs			-	
Calverhall	39049	52	-	52
Hodnet	33067	52	-	52
Elore Springs	24086	51	3	48
Great Soudley	18520	44	-	44
Childs Ercall	5330	42	3	39
Soudley Borehole	46722	47	4	43
Tern Hill	24640 (Bought in bulk)	20	-	20
Norton-in-Hales	5944 "	12	-	12
Woore & Bearstone	22652 "	12	-	12
TOTAL	220882	384	10	374

There are 4 small private supplies.

The laboratory facilities at the Royal Salop Infirmary test the samples of drinking water and swimming water for us regularly and specimens from suspected food poisoning are also examined there. Valuable advice and help are received from Dr. Jones and his staff. This service is essentially for the protection of the public by sampling of public water



supplies in the mains, or at source, and for use in cases of suspected private supplies, and is not otherwise for routine checks on existing or proposed sources of food or private water supplies which are not suspect.

Total number of houses in district	.. .. .	5359
No. of houses supplied from public mains direct		
	to house	4629
No. of houses supplied from public mains, by means		
	of standpipes	39
No. of houses supplied from private mains direct	)	
	to house	52
No. of houses supplied from private mains by means	)	
	of standpipes	
No. of houses supplied from wells, streams, pumps etc.		639.

Houses - connections made in 1969 to the public mains.

<u>Houses</u>	<u>New</u>	<u>Existing</u>
Connections from public mains, i.e. premises		
charged with water rate (a) private	53	3
(b) Council houses	10	

The following figures refer to the results of water samples submitted to the Public Health Laboratory at the Royal Salop Infirmary.

	<u>Satisfactory</u>	<u>Unsatisfactory</u>
1. Public mains supplies	30	6
2. Private mains supplies	1	2
3. Wells, streams, pumps etc.	11	31

Emptying of Septic Tanks and Cesspools.

This service, operated by the Surveyors' Department, is appreciated by the rural dwellers where houses have to be dependant upon such installations in the absence of a public sewer. A suitable site for the disposal of the sludge has been found, and is operating satisfactorily.

Sewage Disposal Plants and Sewerage Generally.

Countrywide financial restrictions do not produce the happiest of atmospheres in which to favour the growth of this essential amenity. Such schemes are the ultimate logical goal and must eventually follow upon the installation of a water scheme. Otherwise full improvement of the existing houses - be they Council owned or private - cannot take place and much frustration results. Not only are much needed schemes help up, but with the tendency for development to be confined to towns and large villages, the existing schemes become overloaded and this in turn restricts further development. Norton-in-Hales scheme was commenced in the year, and will be soon completed.

Woore scheme is now, once again, on the move and Ightfield and Calverhall will, it is hoped, soon be able to see modernisation of its houses. Whilst there cannot be said to be obvious health nuisances apparent in the unserved parishes, there is always the danger that the strict attention given to proper installation of septic tanks may reach its limit, in keeping down the dangers of pollution. The year 1970 is to be a year of intensive activity for the many international organisations concerned with the control of environmental pollution. There are many aspects of pollution - pollution of the air, pollution by noise and by radioactivity, but at least three amenities can be polluted by the sewage aspect of



man's waste products - that is land, fresh water, sea and beaches. This Council's area is closely associated with the first two.

No. of houses in district .. .. .	5359
No. of houses connected to sewage disposal works, owned by Local Authority.. ..	3253
No. of houses connected to satisfactory private sewage disposal or treatment plants	1312
No. of houses without satisfactory means of sewerage	794
No. of sewage disposal works owned by District Council	7
No. of houses using chemical, pail, earth or privy closets	
(a) with proper means of disposal	794
(b) without proper means of disposal	Nil
No. of houses where Local Authority collect night soil	Nil
Number of sewerage effluent samples analysed during the year ending 31st December, 1969	
Satisfactory	11
Unsatisfactory	15

#### REFUSE COLLECTION AND DISPOSAL DURING 1969

The service continues much as last year with a weekly collection throughout the district and with Market Drayton using paper sacks. Lostford and Calverhall tips continue in use, although Calverhall Tip will be filled during 1970. Disposal is likely to be a problem in the future, as acceptable tipping sites are proving difficult to find. The possibilities of mechanised disposal, and joining with other authorities have been considered. Paper and cardboard are collected privately by a Sack and Metal Merchant.

#### RODENT CONTROL.

The average Britisher has an inbred dislike of rats - the elimination of which was at one time a well-organised sport which had its own breed of canine rat destroyer. The housewives aversion to the mouse is well know. Together, this added up to a wish to keep on top of the menace of rodent infestation which is a threat to health and is a spoiler of food. With these islands of ours carrying such a relatively large population we are a 'rodent infestation conscious' people, who will view with alarm any spread of the two acknowledged areas where warfarin resistant rats are located in the County. It appears that a good measure of control has been achieved, but one wonders whether it will be possible to contain these rats within their present bounds or better still to destroy them by the use of the older chemical poisons. In the meantime, we may find that a new type of poison will be discovered, to which we hope rats will not develop resistance.

The sewers throughout the district were treated on two occasions and infestations, although luckily of a restricted nature, were speedily eliminated.

The summary rendered to the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food was as follows:-



Properties other than sewers	Type of Property	
	Non-Agricultural	Agricultural
1. No. of properties in district	4167	719
2a. Total no. of properties (including nearby premises) inspected following notification	225	43
b. No. infested by (i) Rats	184	43
(ii) Mice	6	-
3a. Total no. of properties inspected for rats and/or mice for reasons other than notification.	117	11
b. No. infested by (i) Rats	35	9
(ii) Mice	2	-

The number of contracts for rodent control is seven, and in other cases the charge is £1 per hour. Domestic infestation are treated free of charge.

#### PESTS AND INFESTATIONS.

Under this heading, the Department has had to deal with ants, flies, cockroaches, wasps nests, bee swarms and bee nests, slugs and carpet beetles. It is significant that, despite the vastly increased number of efficient chemicals in handy form, such aerosols and persistent insecticides which are now available to the public, there is a growing inability for the public to deal with small infestations themselves.

#### INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD PREMISES.

Despite the competition of broiler fowl and ready for the oven this-and-that, the country housewife still has ability to make a sound judgement in regard to a "made to measure" joint of meat. This is manifest in the continual existence of two country butchers who kill and dress their own choice of beast, pig and sheep, and this makes available not only a good class of local bred meat, but a choice selection of by-products.

The Paletthorpes factory is now operated by Bibby's and has a nationwide area of distribution - small quantities of their products are exported to overseas markets.

No. of slaughterhouses	3
No. of Knackers Yards	1
No. of persons licensed to slaughter cattle	19
No. of persons licensed to slaughter horses	3
No. of persons licensed to slaughter pigs & sheep	20

<u>Carcases inspected and condemned.</u>					
	Cattle excdg cows	Cows	Calves	Sheep and Lambs	Pigs
No. killed	447	-	1	1255	31447
No. NOT inspected	-	-	-	-	-
<u>All diseases except T.B. and Cysticerci</u>					
Whole carcasses condemned	-	-	-	1	67
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	56	-	-	34	6865
	12.5%	-	-	2.7%	22.3%
<u>Tuberculosis Only.</u>					
Whole carcasses condemned	-	-	-	-	-
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	-	-	-	-	673
	-	-	-	-	2.7%
<u>Cysticerci</u>					
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	1	-	-	-	-
Carcases submitted to refrigeration	-	-	-	-	-
Generalised and totally condemned	-	-	-	-	-
	0.2%	-	-	-	-

The only knackers yard in the district operates chiefly as a transit depot for the casualties which occur on farms.

Diseases of Animals Communicable to Man

Cases of salmonella infection in cattle - all in calves - were reported by the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food. The farmers household and workers are interviewed and sampled if necessary. No infection was found in human contacts.

Unsound Food surrendered or condemned.

The following foodstuffs were surrendered during the year.

	Tons	Cwts.	Lbs.
Meat at Slaughterhouses	39	9	96
Meat at Wholesale premises	1	3	47
Canned meats	-	-	-
Other canned foods	-	-	-
Fish (fresh)	-	-	-
Other Foods.	-	-	18
	-	2	62
TOTAL	40	15	111

There were no prosecutions under Sec. 2 or Section 8, of Food and Drugs Act, 1955



# BACTERIOLOGICAL SAMPLING.

A total of 24 samples were taken as follows:-

<u>Ice Cream</u>	Mobiles	- 2	(Grade II and III)
	Premises	- 1	(Grade III)
<u>Fresh Cream</u>		- 7	(3 unsatisfactory)
<u>Milk</u>		- 2	
<u>Cream Cheese</u>		- 12	(1 unsatisfactory)

Routine Inspections of food premises numbered 315.

Trade	No. of Premises	No. provided with Washhand basin Sink	
Bakeries	8	8	8
Butchers Shops	15	15	15
Cafes	11	11	11
Fish and Chips	3	3	3
General Grocers	36	36	35
Mixed Business	22	21	22
TOTAL	95	94	94

## Food Hygiene (Market Stalls and Delivery Vehicles) Regs.1966

January 1969 saw the completion of the improvements to the Lower Town Hall Covered Market.

Facilities provided included sinks and washhand basins with hot and cold water, paper towel dispensers and soap. A new floor surface, chopping blocks and stalls with smooth laminated surfaces allowed the traders a good start in maintaining hygienic conditions. Improved heating, lighting and extractor fans allowed of more comfort, whilst redecoration gave a cleaner and brighter aspect.

All this is temporary until the County Council, in a combined scheme redevelop the site and provide a new covered market; but already because of restrictions of a financial nature, the wisdom of putting our own house in order in the meantime has adequately justified the expenditure in my opinion.

The number of food premises by type, registered under Section 16 of the Food and Drugs Act, 1955 is as follows:-

Storage and Sale of Ice Cream	75
Preparation or manufacture of sausages or potted, pressed, pickled or preserved food intended for sale	23

There were 4 dairies registered under the Milk and Dairies Regulations, 1959, one of which contains a Pasteurising Plant.



The Food and Drugs Authority for the Rural District is the Salop County Council. Details of sampling carried out by them, and the results of action taken, are as follows:-

Food and Drugs Act, 1955.

<u>Milk</u>	<u>No. of samples</u>
Pasteurised	16
Channel Islands Pasteurised	14
Untreated Farm bottled	2
Sterilised	4
Bulk untreated ex. farm	43
TOTAL	79

All the above samples proved to be satisfactory.

Other Foods

Coffee and Chickory essence	1	Iodised Salt	1
Ground Mixed Spice	1	Bubble Gum	1
Dressed Crab	1	Ground Rice	1
Cream Cheese	1	Mayonnaise	1
Butter	3	Yoghourt with wine	1
Health Salts	1	High Protein Bread	1
Gin	1	Rum	1
Boric Lint	1	Cough Pastilles	1
Vinegar	1	Fish cakes	1
Margarine	1	Cider	1
Vodka	1	Chutney	2
		Cheese spread	1

TOTAL = 26

A tin of Italian Tomatoes was found to contain a grub. The importers were covered by Overseas Warranty and on receiving assurance that they would take the matter up with the packers, no further action was taken.

A loaf of bread was found to be contaminated with mould.

A bottle of Pasteurised milk was found to contain foreign matter consisting of black grease.

A loaf of bread was found to contain dirt.

A jam and sponge cake was found to contain carbonised material.

Complaints regarding the above, together with the offending food were brought into this Councils Public Health Department and followed up by the County Public Health Inspectors.

MILK (SPECIAL DESIGNATION) (SPECIFIED AREA) ORDER 1956.

	Samples Obtained	Phosphatase Test	Methylene Blue Test		Turbidity Test	
		Passed	Passed	Failed	Void	Passed
Pasteurised	46	46	38	1	7	-
Channel Islands Pasteurised	26	26	22	0	4	-
Untreated Farm Bottled	4	-	4	-	-	-
Sterilised	3	-	-	-	-	3
	79					

A warning letter was sent regarding the pasteurised milk failure. Milk (Special Designation) (Pasteurised & Sterilised Milk) Regs. 1949-60 28 samples of pasteurised milk and 18 samples of sterilised milk were obtained from the processing plant in the district. All proved to be satisfactory.

# POULTRY INSPECTION.

One small poultry slaughtering establishment was established in the area and almost immediately closed down. There is one large establishment in a rural district in the south of the county and this may account for the fact that no establishment has been set up permanently in our district.

## OFFICES, SHOPS AND RAILWAY PREMISES ACT, 1963.

The years inspections are summarised below.

One exemption from the need to provide a running water supply was granted for 2 years. No prosecutions were taken.

### A. Registrations and General Inspections.

Class of Premises	No. of premises regs. during the year.	No. of regd. premises at end of year	No. of regd. premises receiving a general inspection during the year.
Offices	1	37	13
Retail shops	10	101	22
Wholesale shops, warehouses	-	2	-
Catering establishments open to the public, canteens.	1	13	2
Fuel storage depots	1	2	2
	13	155	39

### B. Analysis of Contraventions.

Section	Number of Contraventions found	
4	Cleanliness	18
5	Overcrowding	-
6	Temperature	13
7	Ventilation	11
8	Lighting	31
9	Sanitary conveniences	38
10	Washing Facilities	16
11	Supply of drinking water	2
12	Clothing accommodation	3
13	Sitting facilities	-
14	Seats (sedentary workers)	1
15	Eating facilities	-
16	Floors, passage and stairs	26
17	Fencing, exposed parts machinery	24
18	Protection of young persons from dangerous machinery	-
19	Training of young persons working at dangerous machinery	-
23	Prohibition of heavy work	-
24	First Aid	18
	Other matters.	31
	TOTAL	232

Two non-fatal accidents, both in retail shops, were reported. In each case, an employee fell.

Initial inspections numbered 31 - other inspection 104



## PRESCRIBED PARTICULARS ON ADMINISTRATION OF FACTORIES ACT, 1961

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

Premises	No. on Register	Inspections	No. of written Notices	Occupiers Prosecuted
1. Factories in which Secs 1, 2, 3, 4, & 6 are to be enforced by Local Authority	1	-	-	-
2. Factories not included in 1 in which Sec. 7 is enforced by L.A.	64	19	5	-
3. Other premises in which Sec. 7 is enforced by the L.A. (excluding out-workers premises)	2	-	-	-
TOTAL	67	19	5	-

2. Cases in which DEFECTS were found

	No.of cases in which defects were found				No. of cases in which prosecutions were instituted
	Found	Remedied	Referred		
			To H.M. Inspector	By H.M. Inspector	
Want of Cleanliness (S.1)	-	-	-	-	-
Overcrowding (S.2)	-	-	-	-	-
Unreasonable temperature(S.3)	-	-	-	-	-
Inadequate ventilation(S.4)	-	-	-	-	-
Ineffective drainage of floors (S.6)	-	-	-	-	-
Sanitary Conveniences(S7)					
a.Insufficient	1	1	-	-	-
b.Unsuitable or defective	4	4	-	4	-
c.Not separate for sexes	-	-	-	-	-
Other offences against the Act (not including offences relating to Outwork)	-	-	5	-	-
TOTAL	5	5	5	4	-

No outworkers have been notified under Sections 133 and 134 of the Act. The six new Factories notified during this year were small, and five others were deleted from the list. Two were notified under Sec. 7 (Works of Building or Civic Engineering)

Inspections of factory sanitary accommodation and the other items affecting health and welfare were carried out mainly whilst visiting premises for other purposes. The register is kept up to date in conjunction with the Factories Inspector. A total of 19 inspections were made.



Early in 1968, the draft of a new Bill to replace both the Factories Acts and the Offices, Shops and Railway Premises Act was circulated to interested bodies. It is understood that such legislation, if presented to Parliament, would make the division of responsibility between Public Health Inspectors and H.M. Factory Inspectors more clear cut.

CIVIC AMENITIES ACT, 1967.

128 visits were made.

SCRAP METAL DEALERS ACT, 1964.

22 dealers were registered under the Act. No duty is incumbent upon the Local Authority, except registration, the remaining duties lying with the Police.

Considerable office work was created by the repeated withdrawal and subsequent re-registration of dealers who wished to take advantage of Social Security benefits (which are not so beneficial to the 'self-employed') in between scrap 'deals'. Each amendment to the register involves five or six letters, and whilst no positive action was open to us, the practice has been considerably reduced by taking up the problem with the Ministry.

CLEAN AIR ACTS 1956 - 1968.

39 inspections (including smoke observations) were made.

The later Act amends the 1963 Act and gives powers to deal with the emission of grit and dust.

Dark Smoke. Clean Air Acts 1956 and 1968. Section 1.

Two contraventions under the first Act and one under the second Act were recorded.

Furnaces. Clean Air Act, 1956 Sec. 3

Notification was received in one case and application granted

Chimney Heights. Clean Air Act, 1968. Section 6.

One application was received and approved.

ANIMAL BOARDING ESTABLISHMENTS ACT 1963 AND PET ANIMALS ACT, 1966

Licences have been issued for one boarding establishment and two Pet Shops.

CARAVAN SITES AND CONTROL OF DEVELOPMENT ACT, 1960 and CARAVAN SITES ACT, 1968

On the 31st December, 1969, licences existed for 27 individual caravans for residential use and one for 46 caravans on the outskirts of the town of Market Drayton. 144 inspections were carried out.

The Council does not own any sites.

There were three contraventions under Section 9 which were remedied informally. Despite the Salop County Councils intention to provide sites for gypsies, tinkers and itinerant traders, this Council is trying to provide a site which will solve the problem of a residential family, members of whom have lived on Hatton Common for some years in contravention of the prohibition order, granted by the Ministry. In the long run, it will no doubt be wise to provide a site which will go a long way to satisfying the gypsies, the public and the consciences of those who see them as the remaining 'lost tribe' of our times. It is



not an easy task and obviously their total integration into society will not come about in one generation. The latest Act has attempted to define 'gypsies' but the true Romany has disappeared as far as this district is concerned.

Whilst the district is fairly free from itinerant traders, nuisances can occur not so much during their stay - this is often in keeping with the luxury and obvious high standard of upkeep of their vans and vehicles, but from the amount of litter which they leave behind them, which is sometimes considerable. Prosecution under the Litter Act is impracticable, as usually it cannot be proved who deposited the litter.

There is one tented camping site in regular use with approximately 10 tent pitches and it has satisfactory water supply, sanitary accommodation, washing and refuse facilities.

#### NOISE ABATEMENT ACT, 1960.

There were two complaints received, one of which was confirmed and remedied informally.

#### SWIMMING BATHS.

At the Market Drayton outdoor Swimming Baths and Paddling Pool, the attraction in summer results in a sudden influx of people directly proportional to the weather. This is rapidly becoming a much-appreciated amenity and holds its own despite the number of indoor swimming pools being established in towns around. Sampling to check on the efficiency of the chlorination of the water has given the following results:-

	<u>Satisfactory</u>	<u>Unsatisfactory</u>
Swimming Pool	11	1
Paddling Pool	-	4

#### AGRICULTURAL NUISANCES.

These are associated with increasing tendency for intensive farming to be tried out on small farms. The nuisances have been arising exclusively from the disposal of manure or waste products. Last year produced a few complaints from the public, who, if they have recently arrived from the town to become a rural dweller, do not readily accept the existing background smells, never mind those that go with intensive farming.

#### HOUSING ACTS 1957, 1961 and 1969

Out of 5,359 houses in the district, 1,464 are Council houses. Under the Housing Act 1957, the individually unfit houses demolished were 23, whilst 6 were closed and 10 unfit houses made fit. The Council erected 2 dwellings in 1969 and private enterprise 69. At the end of 1969, 8 Council dwellings were in course of erection and 96 by private enterprise.

However, since 1st April 1945 to 31st December, 1969, the Council erected 989 houses, and private enterprise 903.

One council house was sold to the tenant and there were 154 applications to live in Council houses at the end of the year.

#### GRANTS. HOUSING ACT, 1969.

These are still early days as far as the area improvement programme under the 1969 Housing Act is concerned. There are new incentives - for local authorities, property-owners and builders - in the form of larger grants and more liberal powers; and a good number of local authorities (nearly 50 at the last



count) have been quick off the mark in declaring improvement areas. But it will clearly be several years before the effectiveness of this new legislation can be measured.

Since 1949, when the first housing improvement grants were introduced, Government policy has wavered remarkably in its choice between compulsion and persuasion.

The present approach to housing improvement, in abandoning the stick, has introduced a giant-sized carrot in the form of grants more generous than ever before. But perhaps of even greater importance than the grant levels is the new form of local government involvement - the grant-aided environmental improvement schemes, designed both to bring style and interest to depressed surroundings and to create a new confidence in the area among its residents.

What has made Improvement Grants more attractive as far as this authority is concerned is that there are two types of grant - the Standard and the Improvement (which was known as Discretionary). Maximum grants have increased for Standard from £155 to £200 with an increase from £350 to £450 on the Extended Standard Grant. Improvement Grants from £400 to £1,000.

£450 to £1,200 for flats of three or more storeys.  
Grants completed as at 28.10.69 (Previous to 1969 Act)

	<u>Discretionary</u>		<u>Standard</u>	
	<u>Owner</u>	<u>Owner-Occ</u>	<u>Owner</u>	<u>Owner-Occ</u>
Old R.D.C.	223	55	32	38
Old U.D.C.	6	25	5	33
New R.D.C.	25	16	7	32
	254	96	44	103
	350		147	
	497			

Discretionary Grants. (Housing (Financial Provisions) Act, 1958 as amended and Housing Act, 1969).

- a. No. of dwellings in applications completed during 1969.. .. 14
- b. Av. cost per dwelling approved of work ranking for grant  
£937.13.0.
- c. Amount of grant payable by L.A. stated as % 40.08%
- d. Average cost per dwelling, including repairs and improvements etc. £1301.9.9.

Standard Grants. (House Purchase and Housing Act, 1959, and Housing Acts, 1964/69)

- a. No. of dwellings in applications completed during 1969 14
- b. Av. amount of grant per dwelling paid by Council £264

OVERCROWDING.

Cases coming to light are getting fewer, there being only one in 1969.

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In concluding my contribution to the Annual Report, I am pleased to say that, once again, its compilation has reminded me of how much is owed to my Staff for their team work throughout the year. During this time, we have had the guidance and support from our Medical Officer of Health, Dr. O'Brien, during her first full year of office.

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