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MARKET DRAYTON RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL

ANNUAL REPORT

of

THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

FOR THE YEAR

1970

### PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT STAFF

Medical Officer of Health
A. N. O'Brien, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.

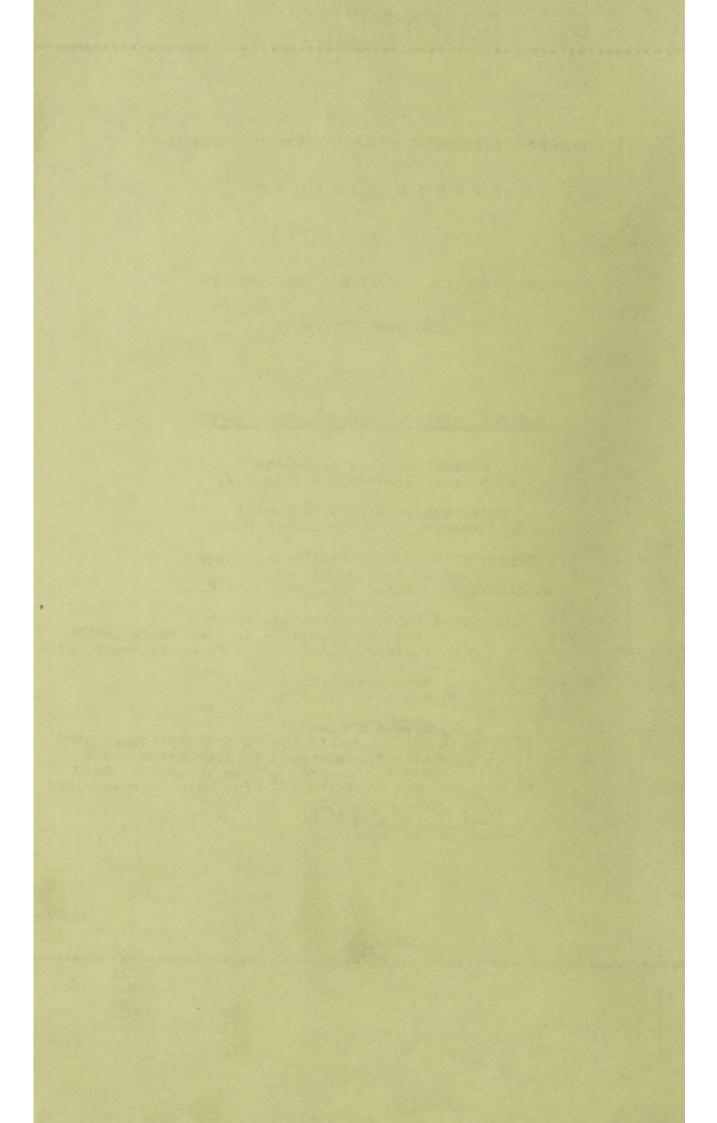
Chief Public Health Inspector A. Sandbrook, M.R.S.H., M.A.P.H.I.

Deputy Chief Public Health Inspector and Cleansing Officer A. Kinnersley, M.A.P.H.I., A.M.Inst.P.C.

Additional Public Health Inspector
W. Pye, M.A.P.H.I. - To 31st March, 1970
D.G. Gallear, M.A.P.H.I. - From 9th March, 1970

Meat Inspector W. Sparkes, A.R.S.H.

Typist Clerks
Miss E. Jennings - To 6th September, 1970
Miss M.E. Roberts - To 31st March, 1970
Miss L. Roberts - From 1st April, 1970
Mrs. R. Smith - From 19th October, 1970



### PUBLIC HEALTH COMMITTEE

Chairman of the Council Mr. D. Nagington

Vice Chairman of the Council Mr. B. Morgan

### Chairman

Mr. J. M. Boffey

Mr. H. Clare

Major C. Hill

Mr. T. Pocock

Mr. Bert Smith

Mrs. A. Upton

Mr. W. Whitehouse

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### INDEX

					Pad	
FOREWORD					i -	ii
SECTION A - General	Station	tion			7	
	Statistic		::	:	1	
Table	I - L	ive Birt	hs	11	î	
Table	II - S	tillbirt	ths	11	î	
	III - De		17817		ī	
	IV - II				2	
Table	V - Ne	eonatal	Mort	ality		
Table	VI - Ea	arly Nec	onata	1		
indies III, IVIE	No. of Street, or other Persons			ality	2	
SECTION B - Health	Services	for the	ne Ar	ea	3 -	4
SECTION C - Epidem		is wire	Street, or other party of the last of the		5	
Table	I - N					
d VI on page 11.		nfection	is Di	seases		
	II - Me				5	
	from Al	L Causes	5		7	
Table					7	
Table					8 -	
Table					10	
Table	VI.				11	
REPORT OF CHIEF PU	BLIC HEAL	TH INSI	PECTO	R	13	
Sanitary Circumsta				and		
Sewerage				••	13 -	
Refuse Collection	and Dispo	osal .		••	15	
Rodent Control					16 -	18
Food Premises, Food	Contro.			Testero	10	22
Offices, Shops & R	4 7 D	house		1062	19 -	
Factories Act 106	allway F	cemises	Act,	1903	23	
Factories Act, 196	1067		••	**	23	
Civic Amenities Ac	Act 10	264		••	24	
Scrap Metal Dealer Clean Air Acts, 19	56 - 1065	2		**	24	
Animal Boarding Es			- 10	63	24	
and Pet Animals A	1051	erres Ac		03	24	
Caravan Sites & Con	strol of	Develor	ment	Act.		
1960 and Caravan				a.	24	
Housing Act, 1969,					25	
Noise Abatement Ac	1960	,			25	
Public Health Acts					25	
Improvement Grants			VALS	1,000,0	26 -	30

31

### KSOKE

Public Health Department, Council Offices, Smithfield Road, Market Drayton, Shropshire. MARKET DRAYTON RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL ANNUAL REPORT OF THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH, 1970 Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen, I have the honour to present my report for 1970. The mid-year estimate of the population, given by the Registrar General was 17,020 (16,920 in 1969). The total number of Live Births was 284; 146 males, 138 females. Illegitimate births 17; 6 males, 11 females. Stillbirths totalled 7, an increase of 5 over the previous year. Detailed statistics are given in Section A. Deaths from all causes and at all ages totalled 189, an increase

of 15. Tables III, IV. and V on pages 7, 8, 9 and 10 show the causes of death in detail.

Heart disease and other diseases of the circulatory system accounted for 53.3% of all deaths. 14 deaths were due to Respiratory diseases and 31 were due to all forms of Cancer. Deaths from Lung Cancer were 5; 3 males and 2 females, the lowest figure in the past four years. See Table VI on page 11.

Three women died from Cancer of the uterus, and one from breast cancer.

There were five deaths from influenza and nine from pneumonia. Five persons were killed on the roads in motor vehicle accidents and four others died in other accidents.

It is necessary to repeat yet again, that those who smoke run the risk of developing a serious and probably fatal disease. Cigarette smokers are peculiarly liable to the Three C's - Cough, Cancer and Coronary. This is hardly surprising when one considers the large number of toxic substances produced by the combustion of tobacco such as hydrogen - cyanide, ammonia, carbon monoxide, nicotine, butane and tar. Surveys have shown time after time that smokers run a higher risk of chronic bronchitic than non-creaters and those who disease. Cigarette chronic bronchitis than non-smokers and those who develop chronic bronchitis run a higher risk of developing lung cancer.

In May, 1970, the 23rd Assembly of the World Health Organisation resolved that "health agencies' must now demonstrate their concern for the reduction of the main causal factors in diseases related to smoking". It was further proposed to enquire how far and by what educational methods, young people might be persuaded not to begin smoking.

There was a severe epidemic of influenza in this country during the winter 1969/70 due to the Hong Kong/68 variant of A2 virus. As well as the more obvious effects, influenza increases the likelihood of death occurring in other conditions such as pneumonia, bronchitis and heart disease. Vaccines so far produced are not considered sufficiently reliable and give only partial protection.

During the year, in the Rural District, much time was spent by the staff of the department on problems connected with food hygiene and with the prevention and control of food poisoning and other diarrhoeal diseases. Intensive farming methods, which increase the amount of infection in animals and poultry, and the problem of disposing of large amounts of animal residues lead to health hazards for humans. The widespread use of frozen and other convenience

foods sometimes causes outbreaks of food poisoning because of lack of knowledge on the part of the food handler in preparing, storing, thawing and cooking the food.

Nowadays, the public is much more aware of the problems of pollution. Complaints are frequently made of nuisance arising from smells caused by the spraying of farm effluents onto land. Most odour problems arise where manures are mixed with water, stored and then spread on land at a later date. Pollution or contamination of water, of crops and of animals may occur through the chemical or bacterial content of slurries and effluents. The Ministry of Agriculture and the Agricultural Research Council are carrying out a number of studies concerned with the treatment of effluents to prevent river pollution and amenity problems, with the optimum use of farm manures on land and the long term effects on soil.

Discussions on Local Government changes and the re-organisation of the National Health Service continued throughout the year. In 1970, the Salop County Council announced plans for the provision of a Health Centre in Market Drayton in which will be co-ordinated medical services provided by Hospital, General Practitioner and Local Authority.

There were several staff changes during the year, which added considerably to the difficulties of the day to day organisation of the work of the department. I wish to thank all the members of the staff and particularly Mr. Sandbrook, Chief Public Health Inspector, for their help and conscientious work throughout the year.

I am,

Your obedient servant,

A. N. O'BRIEN

Medical Officer of Health

### SECTION 'A'

### General Statistics

Area at 31st December, 1970 - 56,383 acres
Rateable value - £555,022.00

Sum represented by the penny rate (estimated for the year) - £2,258

Registrar General's mid-year estimate of population - 17,020

Number of inhabited houses - 5,434

### VITAL STATISTICS

### TABLE I - LIVE BIRTHS

Lys Sixths syl	L. Sada			Rates per 1000 est:	imated population
LIVE BIRTHS	2	M F		Market Drayton R.D.C.	England & Wales
Total Legitimate Illegitimate	284 267 17	146 140 6	138 127 11	16.7	16.0
Area Comp			ctor	0.99	1.00
Corrected			ths as	16.5	16.0
			ive Bir	ths 6%	8%

### TABLE II - STILLBIRTHS

A Marian Street				Rates per 1000 Live & Still Births					
STILLBIRTHS		M	F	Market Drayton R.D.C.	England & Wales				
Total Legitimate	7	5	2	24	13				
Illegitimate	1	1	-	minimus de la larer (100)	fog Reen'l rob				

In 1969 the Stillbirth Rate in Market Drayton was 7 per 1000 Live & Stillbirths while that for England & Wales was 13 per 1000 L. & S.B. The national rate remains the same in 1970 but the figure for Market Drayton at 24 per 1000 has increased more than 3 times.

### TABLE III - DEATHS

THE WALKER				Rates per 1000 estimated population					
DEATHS	All Ages	M	F	Market Drayton R.D.C.	England & Wales				
Total	189	92	97	Crude 11.1 Adjusted 12.1	11.7				

### TABLE IV - INFANT MORTALITY

Infant Mortali	ty			Rates per 1000 related Live Births							
i.e. deaths un 1 year of age	der	M	F	Market Drayton R.D.C.	England & Wales						
Total	4	3	1	14	18						
Legitimate	4	3	1	15	17						
Illegitimate		-	-	The state of the language of the	26						

### TABLE V - NEONATAL MORTALITY

Deaths of Infa	nts			Rates per 1000 rela	ted Live Births
under 4 weeks		M	F	Market Drayton R.D.C.	England & Wales
Total	4	3	1	14	12
Legitimate	4	3	1	Manager Land	
Illegitimate	-	-	-	The same of	ilegitimata

### TABLE VI - EARLY NEONATAL MORTALITY

Deaths of Infar	its			Rates per 1000 related Live & Still									
under 1 week of age.		M 3 3 -	F	Market Drayton R.D.C.	England Birth & Wales								
otal 4 egitimate 4 llegitimate -			1 1 -	Early Neonatal 14 Perinatal 38	11 23								

The perinatal mortality rate is the combined stillbirths and deaths under 1 week per 1000 total live and stillbirths.

### Maternal Deaths in Market Drayton 1970

There were no maternal deaths reported in 1970; i.e. deaths which are due to complications of Pregnancy, Labour and Abortion.

National Statistics for Abortions legally induced in England & Wales 1970 - provisional figures only:

1970 - 86,565 1969 - 54,157

### SECTION 'B'

### Health Services for the Area

The National Health Service Act, 1946, Sections 21 - 29; the Health Services and Public Health Act, 1968; and the Local Authority Social Services Act, 1970, are the main Acts providing Health and Welfare Services. The Salop County Council, as the Local Health Authority, is responsible for certain personal health services; these include the Home Help Service, the Ambulance Service, Health Visiting, District Home Nursing and Midwifery, Child Health Services and arrangements for special clinics such as Cervical Cytology and Family Planning. Certain functions of the County Health Department and all the functions of the Childrens; and County Welfare Departments were to be taken over by a new Social Services Department in January, 1971.

Clinical Sessions at Child Health Centre, Longslow Road, Market Drayton.

Telephone: Market Drayton 2634.

Health Visitors: Miss Hopwood and Miss Mawson.

Any enquiries concerning the service provided by the County Health Department should be addressed to the County Medical Officer of Health, The Health Department, Shirehall, Shrewsbury or to the Health Visitor at the local clinic.

### TIME TABLE

Child Health	Wednesdays	9.30 - 12.30 1.30 - 4.30
Immunisations & Vaccinations	2nd and 4th Wednesday by appointment	9.30 - 12 noom
Chirepody	By appointment	
Domestic Help	Mon. Wed. Fri.	2 - 5 p.m.
Probation Reporting Centre	Alternate Tuesdays and 4th Thursdays	5 - 8 p.m. 4 - 7 p.m.
Psychiatric	1st, 3rd and 5th Fridays	2 p.m. onward
Speech Therapy	Friday each week	12 noon to 12.30 and 1.45 to 5 p.m.
Audiology	By appointment	
Dental	By appointment	Mornings only
Welfare Foods	Wednesday Saturday	10 a.m. to 12 noom 2.15 - 4.15 10 a.m. to 12 noon
Cervical Cytology	By appointment	14 1. 15-24
Family Planning	4th Friday	2 p.m 4 p.m.

### Vaccination and Immunisation

Protection against a number of infectious diseases is freely available and can be given to children from early infancy at the appropriate times by General Practitioners or Clinic Doctors. Parents are urged to consider the necessity of keeping up a high level of immunity in the child population. The consequences of such serious diseases as Diptheria, Poliomyelitis or Tetanus are not generally known to the public and it is difficult for parents to appreciate the risks of leaving their children unprotected. Nevertheless the risks are real and the means of avoiding them are easily obtained. Diseases such as Whooping Cough, Diphtheria, Tetanus, Poliomyelitis, Smallpex, Measles, Tuberculosis and Rubella (German Measles) can be prevented.

In 1970 a scheme was introduced nationally, offering Rubella vaccine to girls between 12 - 14 years, in order to prevent the occurrence of congenital defects in infants, whose mothers suffer from Rubella in early pregnancy. Babies at risk suffer from such serious defects as blindness, deafness, heart defects and mental sub-normality. The vaccine is safe when given to a non-pregnant female, but must not be given to one who is pregnant or likely to become so within two months fellowing vaccination.

Peoplé travelling abroad to areas where serious diseases are endemic e.g. Typhoid fever, Smallpox, Cholera, Yellow Fever, are advised to seek the appropriate innoculations in good time. Family doctors can arrange for all except Yellow Fever vaccination, which can only be given at one of the designated centres. Applications for this should be made to the County Medical Officer of Health,

The Shirehall, Shrewsbury.

Telephone: Shrewsbury 52211.

### Laboratory Facilities

The Public Health Laboratory Service under the Direction of Dr. Alun Jones, provides a comprehensive service for Local Authorities in the investigations of bacterial food poisoning.

### Mass Miniature Radiography

Successful treatment of Tuberculosis has led to a reduction in the prevalence of the disease and hence the number of patients found by screening procedures has fallen dramatically (from 6.0 per 1000 in 1946 to 0.6 per 1000). There has been a tremendous rise in costs so that the policy now is one of modified screening; the number of new cases discovered by M.M.R. being greater among those patients referred by their G.P. than among those randomly chosen.

The M.M.R. Unit attends Wrekin Hospital, Wellington each Friday morning: and Copthorne Hospital, Shrewsbury, each Friday afternoon.

### SECTION 'C'

### 3pidemiology

the work of the Public Health Department in the field of epidemiology is of great importance to the health of the whole community. Vigorous efforts to control an cutbreak of infectious disease and to prevent the spread of disease are necessary, especially in the early stages. Prompt notification is essential.

Doctors in hospital and general practice are required by law to notify the Medical Officer of Health immediately of those cases of communicable tisease designated as Notifiable.

### These are:-

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

### INFECTIOUS DISEASES

The following notifications were received in 1970:

TABLE I

Cerebrovesculor Plan	Infectio	1969	1968		
Diseases	Total	Male	Female	Total	Total
Measles	9	1	8	7	81
Meningitis	4	2	2	2	1
Food Peisening	15	14	1	4	-
Dysentery	1		1	10	-1-
Scarlet Fever	2	1	1	-	-
Infective Hepatitis	1	1	- 1	3	1 3
Whooping Cough Tuberchlosis	1	1	-	-	-
a) Respiratory	2	**	2	2	1 1
b) Non-respiratory	-	-		1	1

TABLE II
Measles by Age Incidence

	Under 1 yr.	1-2	2-3	3-4	4-5	5-9	10-14	15-24	Total
1967	15	20	21	26	22	68	2	2	171
1968	2	9	10	15	12	33	-	-	81
1969	2	1	1	1	1	1			7
1970	2	1.	1.	-	-	4			9 1

<sup>\*</sup>Includes 1 Female - age not known.

Measles vaccination involves a single injection given to susceptible children aged one year and over. It can be obtained by applying to the Family Doctor or to the County Medical Officer of Health through the Clinic. At the time of writing this report, the 1971 figures are showing a sharp increase in the incidence of Measles. Parents are urged to have their children protected as the complications of the disease can be serious.

### TUBERCULOSIS

Two cases of Pulmonary T.B. were notified during 1970.

### DISEASES OF ANIMALS

During the year, 4 notifications of Salmonella infection in calves were received. All incidents were investigated to exclude the spread of infection to human contacts. Four outbreaks of Salmonella dublin occurred. No human contacts were ill.

There were no notifications of Anthrax or of Brucellosis in animals during 1970.

# DEATHS IN MARKET DRAYTON RURAL DISTRICT 1970

# TABLE III

ALL CAUSES	MALE	FEMALE
Other Tuberculosis	1	1 1 2 1
Malignant Neoplasms:	K 1 2 1	T P D
Buccal Cavity	-	1
Stomach	1	2
Intestine	3	1
Lung & Bronchus	3	2
Breast	100-1	1
Uterus	-	3
Leukaemia	-	1
Other Malignant Neoplasms	7	7
Diabetes mellitus	-	2
Anaemias	-	1
Other Diseases of the Blood	-	1
Chronic Rheumatic Heart Disease	1	1
Hypertensive Disease	1 2 1	1
Ischaemic Heart Disease	≥ 28	17
Other Forms of Heart Disease	3	12
Cerebrovascular Disease	10	22
Other Diseases of Circulatory System	4	2
Influenza	4	1
Pneumonia	3	6
Bronchitis & Emphysema	9	1
Asthma	-	1
Other Diseases of the Respiratory System	1	2
Peptic Ulcer	1	-
Intestinal Obstruction and Hernia	2	1
Other Diseases of the Digestive System	1	1
Other Diseases of the Genito-Urinary System	1 5 1 8	2
Diseases of Skin & Subcutaneous tissue	1	-
Congenital Anomalies		1
Birth Injury - Difficult Labour	1	-
Other Causes of Perinatal Mortality	2	1
Motor Vehicle Accidents	4	1
All other Accidents	2	2
	1	1 4.

TABLE IV

# CAUSES OF DEATH AT DIFFERENT AGES 1970

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CAUSE OF DEAT	Other Tuberculesis	Malignant Neoplasm						Leukaemia	Other Malignant Neoplasms	Diabetes Mellitus	Anaemias	Other Diseases of the Blood	Chronic Rheumatic Heart Disease	Hypertensive Disease	Ischaemic Heart Disease	Other Forms of Heart Disease	Cerebro-Vascular Disease	Other Diseases of Circulatory	Influenza	Pneumonia	Bronchitis & Emphysema	Asthma	Other Diseases of the Respiratory System	Peptic Ulcer

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	Other Diseases of the Digestive System 2	Other Diseases of the Genito-Urinary System 2	Diseases of Skin and Subcutaneous Tissue 1	Congenital Anomalies	Birth Injury, Difficult Labour	Other Cases of Perinatal Mortality 3	Motor Vehicle Accidents 5	All Other Accidents 4	

### TABLE V

CAUSES OF DEATH IN NUM ORDER OF FREQUENCY	IERICAL		MALE	FEMALE	TOTAL
Heart Disease and Circulatory Diseases	Ischaemic Heart Disea	ase	28	17	45
	Hypertensic		4	3	7
	Other Forms	s of Heart	4	13	17
		TOTAL	36	33	69
Cerebro-vascular Disease		lar lesions in & C.N.S.	10	. 22	32
		TOTAL	10	22	32
Cancer	Mouth Stomach Intestine Lung and Breast Uterus Leukaemia Others	ronchus	1 3 3 - - 7	1 2 1 2 1 3 1 7	1 3 4 5 1 3 1
		TOTAL	14	18	32
Respiratory Diseases	Bronchitis Emphysema Pneumonia Others	and	9 3 1	1 6 3	10
TO COMMISSION OF COLUMN STREET,		TOTAL	13	10	23

Coronary disease accounted for 23.8% of all deaths; other Heart diseas and Cerebro-vascular lesions with other circulatory disorders accounted for a further 29.5%; a total of 53.3% of deaths due to diseases in this group.

All forms of Cancer caused the death of 32 persons or 16.9% of all death Respiratory diseases accounted for a further 12.2%.

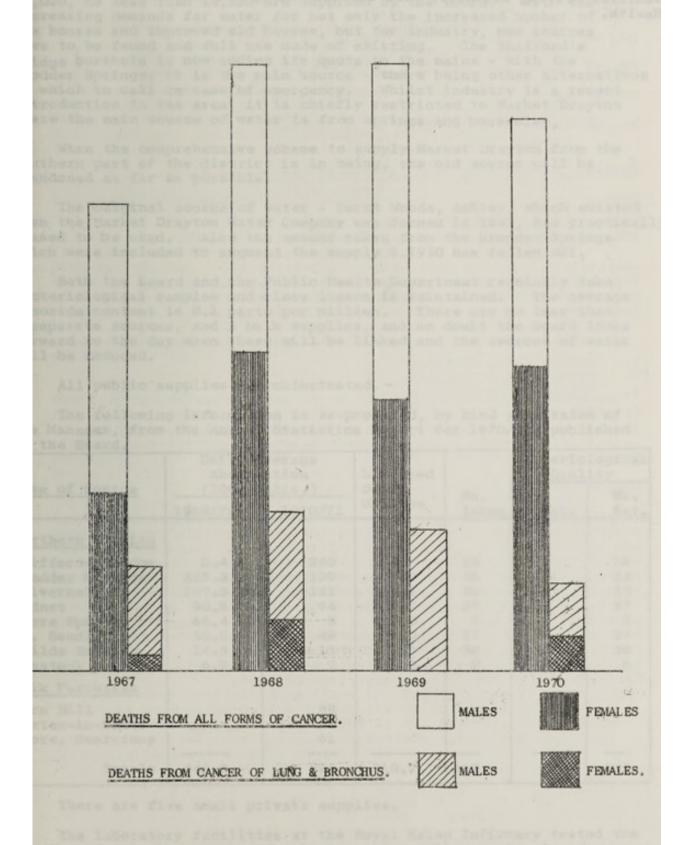
Four women died from cancer of breast or uterus; it is worth mentioning that simple tests can be made to detect these forms of cancer at an early stage. Women aged over 30 years who may be at risk, are advised to have a smear test for cervical cancer and a breast examination. Arrangements for this can be made with General Practitioners or through the County Health Department, Shirehall, Shrewsbury.

There were nine deaths due to accidents; five of them caused by motor vehicles. 4.7% of all deaths were therefore accidental.

Three times as many people were killed by disease of the Heart and Circulation as were killed by Cancer. In each of these two main groups accounting for over 70% of all deaths, many cases could be cured by earl diagnosis and many could be prevented. The services exist and are available to all for the detection and treatment of many common condition but unfortunately those who are most at risk do not make the fullest use of these services, either through ignorance or through fear of the consequences.

TABLE VI

### CANCER DEATHS 1967 to 1970



### NATIONAL ASSISTANCE ACT, 1948, SECT. 47.

No action was taken under this Act in 1970.

### MEDICAL EXAMINATIONS 1970

Four examinations for Superannuation purposes and two for Heavy Goods Vehicles Driving Licences, were carried out by the Medical Officer of Health.

### 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 17,020, no less than 14,330 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. The Shifford's Bridge borehole is now adding its quota to the mains - with the Brodder Springs, it is the main source - there being other alternatives on which to call in case of emergency. 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 and boreholes.

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.

The original source of water - Burnt Woods, Ashley, which existed when the Market Drayton Water Company was formed in 1891, has practically ceased to be used. Also the amount taken from the Brodder Springs which were included to augment the supply c.1930 has fallen off.

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 9 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.

All public supplies are chlorinated.

The following information is re-produced, by kind permission of the Manager, from the Annual Statistics Report for 1970/71, published by the Board.

Bacteriological Daily Average Licenced Abstraction Quality Daily Name of Source (1000 galls.) No. No. No. Gallens Unsat. Sate 1969/70 1970/71 Taken Northern Section 2.4 240 13 Shifferds Bridge 216.0 36 305.3 199 Brodder Springs 35 107.3 121 249.2 Calverhall 90.8 94 200.0 37 37 Hodnet 5 100.0 5 5 Blore Springs 66.4 50.8 49 75.0 37 37 Gt. Soudley 14.5 13 20.5 38 38 Childs Ercall 6.2 50.0 6 6 Hinstock Bulk Purchases Tern Hill 89 16 Norton-in-Hales 61 Woore, Bearstone 203 Totals 643.7 894 910.7 207

There are five small private supplies.

The laboratory facilities at the Royal Salop Infirmary tested the samples of drinking water and swimming and paddling pool 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. The move from the old pathological laboratories to the new ones at Copthorne Hospital Centre will be welcomed by all.

Total number of houses in district			5439
No. of houses supplied from public mains direct to house			4728
No. of houses supplied from public mains, by means of standpipes		Int b	30
No. of houses supplied from private mains) direct to house			-
No. of houses supplied from private mains) by means of standpipes			54
No. of houses supplied from wells, streams pumps, etc.	,		627

### Houses - connections made in 1970 to the public mains.

Houses	New	Existing
Connections from public mains, i.e. potential charged with water rate (a) private (b) Council b	64	11

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

### Satisfactory Unsatisfactory

1.	Public mains supplies	20	7
2.	Private mains supplies	4	7
3.	Wells, streams, pumps, etc.	7	12

In addition the East Shropshire Water Board take regular routine samples from their undertakings. Any unsatisfactory samples result in immediate liaison between the Board and the Public Health Dept.

### Sewage Disposal Plants and Sewerage Generally

It was pleasing to have the Norton-in-Hales scheme completed within the year. This was a relatively straight forward scheme and advantage will soon be taken to improve and connect some eight council houses. Woore scheme is very much nearer the commencing date. Ightfield scheme is nearer to commencing and the opportunity to take over the R.A.F. sewers and works at Stoke Heath, looms on the horizon. Whilst there appears to be no public health nuisance at the present time - it is abundantly being pointed out by events all over the world that man cannot go on indefinitely polluting the earth's surface without a "kick-back". No doubt housing development by private enterprise - controlled by Town Planners - will result from sewering villages.

Connected

Z. There were interestly related			during Year
No. of houses in district		5439	63
No. of houses connected to sewage	e disposal	THE PARTY.	
works, owned by Incal Aut		3418	89
No. of houses connected to satis;		e e e	
disposal or treatment plan		1320	12
No. of houses without satisfactor	ry means of		
that it was tide to define the tant	sewerage	701	
No. of sewage disposal works own			
Securification and Little and the way	Council	7	
No. of houses using chemical, pa privy closets:			
(a) with proper means of dis		701	
(b) without proper means of	disposal	NIL	
No. of houses where Local Author:	ity collect		
night soil		NIL	
Number of sewerage effluent samp the year ending 31st Dece			
and the second s	Satisfactory	62	
. anglacello ell othi (vilnese) to	Unsatisfactory	69	to

### REFUSE COLLECTION AND DISPOSAL DURING 1970

Household refuse is collected from the District by a fleet of three Shelvoke & Drewry Pakamatic refuse vehicles. Bulky items and excess refuse are collected by the foreman in a pick-up vehicle. The service continued with a weekly collection throughout the District. Dustbins were in use in the rural areas whereas in the town of Market Drayton, sacks were used which give a cleaner, more efficient service. It is hoped that the sack system will be extended throughout the District in the not too distant future, the sacks being used as liners in the existing dustbins.

Disposal is by means of controlled tipping, in which the day's tipped refuse is covered by inert material which prevents fires and nuisance by smell, rodents and insects. The refuse is covered by quarry waste using a wheeled tractor. Controlled tipping is not only a means of disposing of the District's refuse but also enables land to be brought into use for agriculture by levelling off depressions and hollows.

Two sites were in use during the year, at Calverhall and Lostford. The Calverhall site was finished near to the end of the year and several acres will be brought into agricultural use.

Problems of flooding were encountered at Lostford, but when a by-pass drain is laid to carry the water from the ditch at the periphery of the site, it is hoped that the problem will be overcome as well as extending the life of the tip.

Planning permission, for the use of land for tipping of refuse at Ightfield, was received during the year, and tipping will commence when Lostford is finished.

The finding of suitable sites for refuse disposal will tend to become more of a problem in the future as available sites become scarce. Another difficulty is the scarcity of suitable covering material, and the need to satisfy fully Town Planning from amenities and traffic angles.

### RODENT CONTROL

Rodent Control in this County received a set-back when the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries & Food, announced the cessation of their so-called containing ring around the warfarin-resistant rat area to the west of the county. This ring was found not to have contained the rats - they had penetrated beyond and the Ministry had rightly concluded that it was time to acknowledge this and to inform all local authorities that they would hereafter go it alone. Various reasons for failure were advanced, such as:

- 1. Warfarin made rodent elimination too easy and it soon passed into the "do-it-yourself" stage when every Tom, Dick and Harry thought it was just a matter of throwing down a bit of warfarin here and there. It is a fact that if baits are not renewed often or put down in concentrations to allow the rats to take sufficient at a feed to be fatal, then if a rat gets just enough to make it ill and it recovers, then it is warfarin-shy from then on and can breed the shyness (or immunity) into its offsprings Is this the cause of warfarin-resistant rats, or as the publicity-loving press term it "super-rat"? When such do-it-yourself types have failed they often send for the local authority s rodent operator who starts off at a disadvantage amongst suspicious rats and in disturbed surroundings.
- 2. Total elimination needs 100% co-operation this was not obtained in the Ministry's protection belt although there were Ministry rodent operators going around dealing with rats for free it was not possible to cover every acre.

It has been suggested that alleged inefficient rodent control by private operators was a major factor in the significant spread of warfarin-resistant rats in Wales and the West Midlands, but where is the evidence? As for mice, these little varmints are naturally harder to hammer than rats - they are such fickle feeders (they can afford to be because their habitat offers such a variety of foodstuffs) that it is more difficult to get them to stay long enough at a particular bait to get a fatal dose - for years the warfarin for Mus Musculus was five times more concentrated than for rats.

Whilst warfarin-resistant rats, according to a national rodent operating firm, are confined to 2% of Great Britain, it now appears that warfarin-resistant mice are present in 50% of the area and are much more likely to be encountered inside buildings. However, there are biological reasons why warfarin-resistant rats may not get a hold in towns and cities. The answer to it all would appear, at least, until nature once again adjusts itself, to be a new rodenticide. These are continually being under test - but a bit of research and a lot of money are required before they can be let loose on the market.

Should warfarin resistance appear in this area, we shall resort to the use of the older, direct poisons - zinc phosphide for rats, and alpha chlorolose for mice - this will, however, be costlier.

### Summary from Technical Circular No. 23, M.A.F.F.

1. Information from local authority Public Health Departments has been analysed to try to determine the extent to which numbers of rats and mice vary from place to place and from year to year in England and Wales. As a comparative guide to rodent numbers most use was made of the information on numbers of properties found to be infested by rats and mice following notification, but this was supplemented, where it seemed necessary and appropriate, by evidence from other inspection work done by the Public Health Departments.

- 2. There were generally relatively fewer properties infested by rats in large urban areas than small ones.
- 3. About 40 per cent of local authorities apparently had rat-free sewer systems.
- 4. Rat infestation tended to decline to the north and to the west of the country.
- 5. From 1966 to 1968 there was a small overall decrease in numbers of rat-infested non-agricultural preperties.
- During the same period there was an increase of ratinfested agricultural properties.
- 7. Mouse infestation increased in both urban and rural areas throughout the country between 1966 and 1968 perhaps due to an increase in the incidence of resistance to anticoagulant rodenticides.
- 8. With only a period of 3 years so far examined, it is not possible to say whether the annual changes noted reflect part of normal short term fluctuations in rodent numbers or part of long term trends.

Conclusions drawn from the Circular by the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries & Food, are:

- (i) It appears that the more urbanised the area, the smaller the proportion of rat-infested properties.
- (ii) In contrast, the chance of a sewer being rat-infested, is, as might be expected because of their larger size, greater in the larger urban areas.
- (iii) A long term downward trend in the proportion of nonagricultural properties infested can almost certainly be expected - if only because of the annual addition of numbers of new properties - most of which will be less susceptible to rat-infestation than those already in existence.
- (iv) There is some indication that mice decrease in number towards the north and the east.

### OTHER OBSERVATIONS

In addition to sending information on the numbers of properties inspected and infested, some authorities took the opportunity to make further observations on the rodent situation. Over the 3 years an increasing number experienced problems with warfarin resistant mice. Some of these also recorded a worsening of the problem over a period of time within their particular areas and attributed increasing notifications of mice to the fact that many people, who normally controlled their own mouse infestations with warfarin, sought help when this poison failed to be effective. It seems likely therefore that, even if resistance to warfarin is not the sole reason for the rise in mouse infestation, it is a large contributory factor. Many authorities reported the effective use against resistant mice of other poisons, particularly alphachloralose and zing phosphide, but to what extent these materials will stop the rise and restore mouse infestation to its earlier level, remains to be seen.

Some authorities reported the successful use of fluoroacetamide against rats in the sewers and others emphasised the importance of rodent control at building sites, where not infrequently rats had been discovered in newly built property. Finally quite a number of authorities, both urban and rural, have entered into contracts with servicing companies not only to control rodents in such places as sewers and refuse tips but also to deal with rodent infestations in private dwellings. On some occasions such contracts were found to be necessary because of the difficulty of replacing retiring operators by suitably qualified men.

The public sewers throughout the district were treated twice in the year, those in the town being treated with fluoroacetamide. The latter is being used more and more by local authorities and has the advantage of (a) using less labour and time, (b) giving a greater kill. The results have to be gauged by the test-baiting which is done once a year, over 3 or 4 years. It is intended to extend the use of fluoroacetamide to the villages in 1971.

The summary rendered to the Ministry was as follows:

		Type of	Property
PROPI	ERTIES OTHER THAN SEWERS	Non-Agri- cultural	Agri- cultural
1.	Number of properties in district	6,179	786
2.	Total number of properties (including nearby premises) inspected following notification	374	89
(a)	Number infested by (i) Rats (ii) Mice	302 25	85
3.	Total number of properties inspected for rats and/or mice for reasons other than notification	118	14
	Number infested by (i) Rats (ii) Mice	23	8

### SEWERS

4. Were any sewers infested by rats during the year?

YES

Contracts made for rodent control number 9. In other cases the charge is £1 per hour. Domestic infestations of rats or mice are treated free of charge.

### INFESTATIONS

The Department dealt with the following complaints:-Eleven cases of Ants, 1 of Cockroaches, 1 of Bees, 2 of Wasps, 1 of Fleas and 1 of Spiders - except for 2 cases of Wasps - all were in Council Houses.

### INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD PREMISES

The Palethorpes (Bibbys) factory continues to be operated in Market Drayton by Bibby's and has a nationwide area of distribution - small quantities of their products are exported to overseas markets.

No. of slaughterhouses

No. of Knackers Yards

No. of persons licensed to slaughter cattle 20

No. of persons licensed to slaughter horses 3

No. of persons licensed to slaughter pigs

& sheep 21

The Posts	Cattle excldg Cows	Cows	Calves	Sheep and Lambs	Pigs
No. killed No. NOT inspected	412	-	0000	1216	33,82
All diseases except T.B. and Cysticerci Whole carcases condemned	1 and 1		on en		61
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	79	30.0	Moreore	40	11,09
See Assessed to the Asses	19.5%	-	-	3.2%	33.0
Tuberculesis Only Whole carcases condemned	A -(0.200 A - (0.200 A	Les	923	930 963	2
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	ng book ?	200	inspect	ealings	241
da biendabien beerdaren fertalie	-	-	e Test	-	.71
Cysticerci Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned Carcases submitted to refrigeration Generalised and totally condemned		200	ac by man of the back agodd a	A Super	-

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

### Diseases of Animals Communicable to Man

Cases of salmonella infection in cattle - all in calves - were reported by the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries & 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:

	and the state of t	11111	squipt (	aug 4	Tons	Cwts	1bs
	1. Meat	Tons.	cwts.	lbs.	33.7	03700	
(a)	Slaughterhouses (i) carcase meat (ii) offal	11 28	16 11	15 70	40	7	85
(b)	Wholesale (i) carcase meat premises (ii) offal	-	-		-	20	- N
(c)	Retail shops (i) carcase meat (ii) offal		-	102	-	-	102
	2. Cooked Meat & Meat Products				904	12403	10
	3. Canned Meats 4. Other canned foods				1	-	9 29
	5. Fish (fresh)	bulng	used.		-	-	14
	<ol> <li>Frozen foods due to cabinet</li> <li>Other foods</li> </ol>	break	down		-	3	82 21
			To	otal	40	13	16

There were no prosecutions under Sect. 2 or Sect. 8 of the Food & Drugs Act, 1955.

### BACTERIOLOGICAL SAMPLING 1970

A total of 8 samples were taken as follows:-

<u>Ice Cream</u> Mobiles (Soft)- 4 - (Grade 1 = 2, Grade 1V = 2)

Premises - 4 - (Grade 11 - 1, Grade 111 = 2,

Grade 1V = 1)

Routine inspections of food premises numbered 255

TRADE	No. of Premises	No. provided wit Wash-hand basin Si		
Bakeries	8	8	8	
Butchers Shops	15	15	15	
Cafes	11	11	11	
Fish & Chips	4	Listot 4 ns be	allered 4	
General Grocers	34	34	33	
Mixed Business	25	24	25	
TOTAL	97	96	96	

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

There were 4 dairies registered under the Milk & Dairies Regulations, 1959, one of which contains a pasteurising plant.

The Food & 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 & Drugs Act, 1955 Milk	Pasteurised Channel Islands Pasteurised	9
	Untreated Farm Bottled Sterilised	3 4
	Bulk untreated ex farm	43
		68

Five samples of untreated milk ex farmwere found to contain extraneous water. Legal proceedings were instituted against the producers who were fined £100 with £23-50 costs.

Fruit Cordial	1	Lellyades	3
Self Raising Flour	1	Lard	1
Pholcodine Linctus BPC	1	Paracetamol Tablets	2
Bacon	1	Vitamin & Minerals Tablets	2
Condensed Milk	1	Entroquin Tablets	1
Food colouring	1	Full Fat Soft Cheese with	
Pork Brawn	1	Onions	1
Apricots	1	Pork Pie	1
Mild Beer	2	Brewing Malt	1
Childrens Aspirin	1	Baked Beans	2
Beef & Pork Sausages	1	Vitamin Syrup	2
Beefburgers	1	Steak and Kidney Pie	1
GB GB (B) 70		Friars Balsam	1.
			-
			26

The above samples were satisfactory

In addition to the above:

A loaf of bread was found to contain part of a beetle. A warning letter was sent to the manufacturers.

A meat and potato pie was found to be affected by mould. Legal proceedings were instituted against the distributors who were fined £15.

A loaf of bread was found to be affected by mould. A letter was sent to the manufacturers.

A tin of pineapple pieces in syrup was found to contain an empty container in the larger tin. A warning letter was sent to the importers.

A tin of Italian tomatoes was found to contain an insect larva. On the advice of the Clerk of the Council no further action was taken in this matter.

A bottle of milk was found to contain black grease. A warning letter was sent to the processors.

### Milk (Special Designation) (Specified Area) Order, 1956

Whataimed		Methylene Blue Test			
Obtained,	Passed	Passed	Failed	Void	Passed
56	56	50	2	4	7 37
28	28	25	d twoil	3	13
3 3	1000	2	ILLDER .	1 3	2.5
	28	28 28 3 3	28 28 25 3 3	28 28 25 - 3 3 2 -	28 28 25 - 3 3 3 2 - 1 3

90

Warning letters were sent in respect of the Methylene Blue failures above.

# Milk (Special Designation) (Pasteurised & Sterilised Milk) Regulations 1949-55

25 samples of pasteurised milk were obtained from the processing plant in the district. All proved to be satisfactory.

### POULTRY INSPECTION

No poultry slaughtering establishment is established in the area. When pending legislation is available it will provide an even tighter control over what has become an important source of meat which is in keen competition.

### OFFICES, SHOPS & RAILWAY PREMISES ACT, 1963

The year's inspections are summarised below:

### A. Registrations & General Inspections

Class of Premises	No. of premises regd. during the year	No. of Regd. premises at end of year.	No. of Regd. premises receiving a gen. insp. during year.	
Offices	5	42	12	
Retail Shops	1	99	15	
Wholesale shops, Warehouses	4 - 10ra	2	# 111 ± 2,	
Catering establish- ments open to the public, canteens	4	17	6	
Fuel storage depots		2	5-13-80-E-30	
Totals	10	162	33	

### In this Schedule:

"general inspection" means any inspection of premises to which the Act applies which is undertaken for the purpose of ascertaining whether all the relevant provisions of the Act and instruments thereunder are complied with as respects those premises; and "registered premises" means any premises in respect of which a notice under section 49 of the Act has been received by a local authority or by the Greater London Council and the expression "premises registered" shall be construed accordingly.

### B. Analysis of Contraventions

Sect.	No. of Contraventions	found	Sect.	No. of Contraventions
4	Cleanliness	- 11	16	Floors, passage & Stairs
5	Overcrowding		17	Fencing exposed parts
6	Temperature	14		machinery
7	Ventilation	3	18	Protection of young
8	Lighting	3		persons from dangerous
9	Sanitary conveniences	10	and the	machinery
10	Washing facilities	8	19	Training of young person
11	Supply of drinking wat	er-		working at dangerous
1.2	Clothing accommodation		199	machinery
13	Sitting facilities	-	23	Prohibition of heavy was
14	Seats (Sedentary		24	First Aid
	Workers)	-		Other matters
15	Eating facilities	3	10	Tetal

\*Refer to two contraventions only:-

Registering of premises on Form OSR1.

2) Provision of Abstract of Act.

No applications for exemption were made.

Total number of visits of all kinds by Inspectors - 92 Initial - 30 - other visits - 62.

### PRESCRIBED PARTICULARS ON ADMINISTRATION OF FACTORIES ACT, 1961

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

	STATE STATE OF	Number of		
Premises	Number on Register	Inspections	Written notices	Occupiers Prosecuted
Factories in which Sects.  1, 2, 3, 4 & 6 are to be enforced by Local Auth.	1	NIL	NIL	NIL
Factories not included in 1, in which Sect. 7 is enforced by the L.A.	72	4	1	NIT
Other premises in which Sect. 7 is enforced by the L.A. (excl. cut-workers' premises)	3	NIL	NIL	NIL
Total	76	4	1	NEE

2. Cases in which DEFECTS were found

No. of cases in which defects were found					No. of cases im
			Referred		which
Particulars	Found	Remedied	To HM Inspector	By HM Inspector	prosecu- tions were instituted
of cleanliness (S.1)	-	on the	-	hannah fi	
crowding (S.2)	812 18	1909 100 70	-	us.	CALLED A.
(S,3)	-	-	BAHE LIB	BONE THE	JAMTHA.
lequate ventilation					
(S,4)			Section of	TAN Lavage	a
fective drainage of				signife a	
floors (S.6)	-		-		. 16
tary Conveniences (S.T.	1	PARTICIAL VAL	TO TORITION	N BITTES A	
Insufficient		-	111, - 111	THE CANADA	**
Unsuitable or defect:	ive4	4	NIL	2	NIL
Not separate for sex	es -		-	All and the second	
r offences against the (not including offence		Park Rank	Samuel 2000	A CAMPAGE	\$1000 · · ·
ting to Outwork)	Y - 01	-	( and the second	- 111-	apules.
Total	4	4	NIL	2	NIL

### CIVIC AMENITIES ACT, 1967

47 visits were made. Mostly we were involved with abandoned vehicles, but two cases did involve derelict buildings. Court proceedings were resorted to in one case; but the matter had not been cleared up at the end of 1970.

### SCRAP METAL DEALERS ACT, 1964

24 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 last year 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 fiwe or six letters, and whilst no positive action was open to us, the practice has been considerably reduced. The taking up of the problem with the Ministry has not apparently produced any permanent solution but there were no cases in 1970 of registration de-registration and re-registration.

### CLEAN AIR ACTS 1956 - 1968

26 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

No contraventions were recorded.

### Furnaces, Clean Air Act, 1956 - Section 3

Notification was received in two cases for prior approval and application granted in both cases.

### Chimney Heights, Clean Air Act, 1968 - Section 6

One application was received and approved.

### Smoke Control Orders.

Owing to the lack of adequate supplies of Smokeless Fuel our No. 1 Order has not so far been confirmed, but the horizon may be brighter in two senses in 1971.

### ANIMAL BOARDING ESTABLISHMENTS ACT 1963 and PET ANIMALS ACT, 1951

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

## CARAVAN SITES & CONTROL OF DEVELOPMENT ACT, 1960 and CARAVAN SITES ACT, 1968

At the end of 1970 the number of site licences operating on (a) Individual Sites was 22 on residential sites and (b) Multiple (more than 3) was 1 - involving a total of 56 caravans.

There were Ricaravans on 3 multiple sites.

There were no prosecutions all contraventions being remedied informally and to the end 87 Inspections were carried out.

### Isolated Camping Sites.

There was one licenced site as at 31st December, 1970, attached to a licenced residential carawan site. It is for 30 pitches. Additional sanitary accommodation is to be provided.

### HOUSES IN MULTIPLE OCCUPATION

There are no known cases.

### HOUSING ACT, 1969, Part III, Sec. 45.

Three applications for Qualification Certificates were received at the end of 1970. No certificates have yet been issued.

HATTON COMMON with its caravans, varying from 3 - 5, is still presenting its problems.

### NOISE ABATEMENT ACT, 1960

A total of 27 complaints were received and investigated varying from barking dogs (quite common), mechanical saws, bulk grain lorries unloading, to pneumatic road drills and the chimes from mobile ice cream vendors' vehicles.

Three commercial complaints were confirmed under Sec. 1 and dealt with informally - one being reported to Committee. Under Sec. 2, the Department received and remedied informally, two complaints. The Noise Meter has proved useful in deciding the vexed question of what is harmful to the average person in average circumstances - the psychological effect of producing some yardstick and the idea of "recording the truth" is very great and appreciation of the Council's action in providing this Noise Meter is herewith put on record.

### SWIMMING BATHS

Sampling to check on the efficiency of the chlorination of the water has given the following results:

		Satisfactory	Unsatisfactory
Swimming	Pool	9	NIL
Paddling	Peo1	1	2

A chlorination plant for the paddling pool has been installed and it is hoped that all samples will, in future, be satisfactory.

### PUBLIC HEALTH ACTS and HOUSING ACTS

A total of 786 visits were made.

### HOUSING ACTS, 1957, 1961 and 1969

Out of 5,439 houses in the district, 1,432 are Council houses. Under the Housing Act, 1957, the individually unfit houses demolished were 23, whilst 10 were closed and 11 unfit houses made fit. The Council erected 2 dwellings in 1969 and 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, 1970, the Council has erected 1,019 houses, and private enterprise 974 - 71 during 1970.

No council houses were sold to the tenant during the year. There were 143 applications to live in council houses at the end of the year. During the year 8 Flats (Shrewsbury Read) and 22 Bungalows (Rowan Read) were erected.

### GRANTS COMPLETED SINCE THE COMING INTO LAW OF THE HOUSING ACT,

### Discretionary

Owner/Occupier .

### Standard

Owner/Occupier 10

GRANTS COMPLETED IN 1970 (includes Grants promised under Housing Act, 1969 and previous legislation).

### DISCRETIONARY GRANTS ( HOUSING ACT, 1969)

Number of dwellings in applications completed during year 30 b.

Average cost per dwelling approved on work ranking for

Amount of grant payable by Local Authority stated as % 43.29%

d. Average cost per dwelling including repairs and improvements etc. £2309. 5

### STANDARD GRANTS (HOUSING ACT, 1969)

Number of dwellings in applications completed during year 10

b. Average cost per dwelling 4473.2.6

Average amount of grant per dwelling paid by Council C. 1229 13.3

Compared with last year, this shows, for the first full year under the new legislation, nearly 50% increase in the number of grants paid.

372 visits in connection with grants were made.

It is interesting to note that the District gained nine flats as the result of the conversion of two single dwellings - a Hall and a Rectory. These unwanted examples of how a few privileged persons lived a century ago are now providing good housing units for today's commuters who wish to regenerate themselves after the wear and tear of life in towns and in the modern work-a-day The grant rises from £1,000 to £1,200 per dwelling produced for flats of three or more storeys.

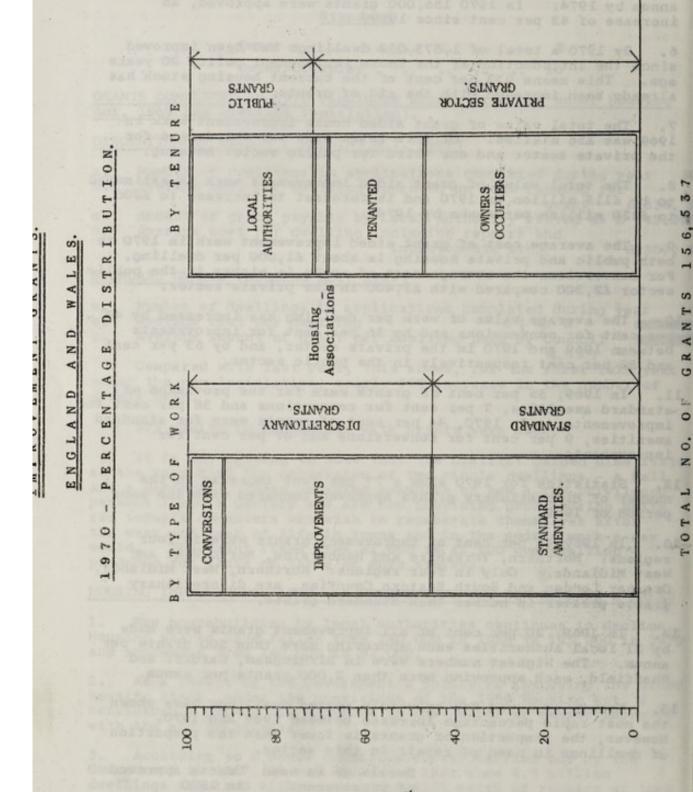
### HOUSING IMPROVEMENTS 1970 - A PROGRESS REPORT FOR ENGLAND & WALES

- New housebuilding by local authorities continues to decline. Housing starts have fallen from 140,000 in 1968 to 125,000 in 1970 and approvals from 140,000 to 91,000.
- As a result of the Government's policy of improving the older housing stock, under the provisions of the 1969 Housing Act, a considerable growth has occurred in the number of houses improved with the aid of grants.
- According to a house condition survey carried out by the Government in 1967, it was estimated that some 4.5 million dwellings required either more than £125 worth of repairs or lack one or more of the basic amenities, or both. Of these, 4.5 million, 3.9 millions are in the private sector of which 2.0 million are rented.

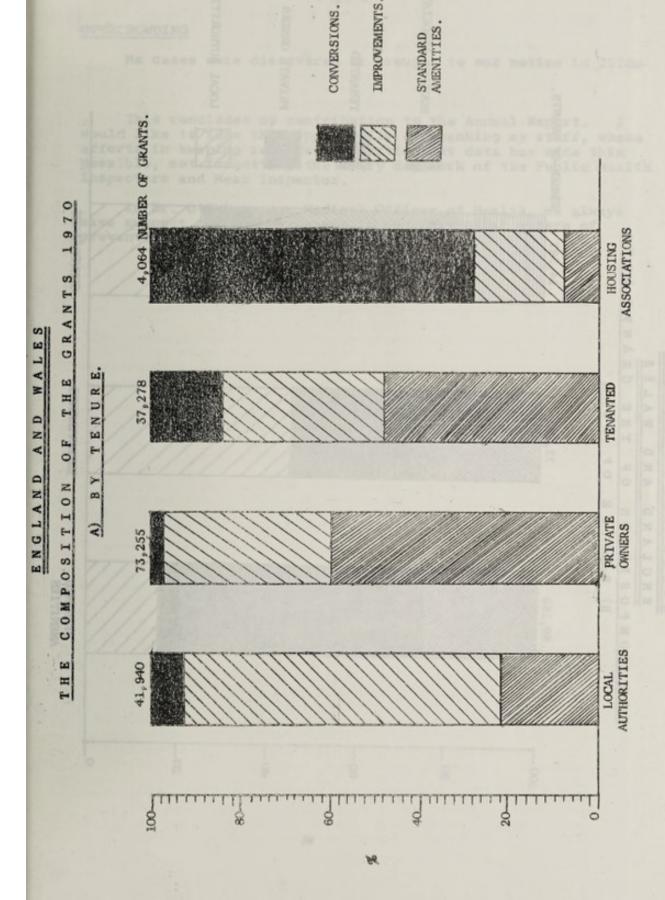
- 4. Government estimates show that the value of work to be done in improving and repairing the 4.5 million dwellings referred to above is in the region of £2,250 million (at 1967 prices).
- 5. It is estimated that the number of dwellings improved will rise from the 1969 total of 109,000 per annum to 250,000 per annum by 1974. In 1970 156,000 grants were approved, an increase of 43 per cent since 1969.
- 6. By 1970 a total of 1,573,052 dwellings had been improved since the introduction of the house improvement policy 20 years ago. This means 9.3 per cent of the current housing stock has already been improved with the aid of grants.
- 7. The total value of grant aided house improvement work in 1969 was £56 million. Of this total some two thirds was for the private sector and one third for public sector housing.
- 8. The total value of grant aided improvement work is estimated to be £115 million in 1970 and is forecast to increase to £200 to £220 million per annum by 1974.
- 9. The average cost of grant aided improvement work in 1970 to both public and private housing is about £1,000 per dwelling. For conversions the average cost of works is higher in the public sector £2,300 compared with £1,400 in the private sector.
- 10. The average value of work per dwelling has increased by 44 per cent for conversions and by 36 per cent for improvements between 1969 and 1970 in the private sector, and by 65 per cent and 52 per cent respectively in the public sector.
- 11. In 1969, 55 per cent of grants were for the provision of standard amenities, 7 per cent for conversions and 38 per cent for improvements. In 1970, 44 per cent of grants were for standard amenities, 9 per cent for conversions and 47 per cent for improvements.
- 12. Statistics for 1970 show a 77 per cent increase in the number of discretionary grants approved compared with the same period of 1969.
- 13. In 1969,45 per cent of improvement grants were in four regions: Northern, Yorkshire and Humberside, North West and West Midlands. Only in four regions: Northern, West Midlands, Greater London and South Eastern Counties, are discretionary grants greater in number than standard grants.
- 14. In 1969, 20 per cent of all improvement grants were made by 21 local authorities each approving more than 500 grants per annum. The highest numbers were in Birmingham, Cardiff and Sheffield, each approving more than 2,000 grants per annum.
- 15. Grants approved for privately rented dwellings have shown the most rapid percentage increase between 1969 and 1970. However, the proportion of grants is lower than the proportion of dwellings in need of repair in this sector.

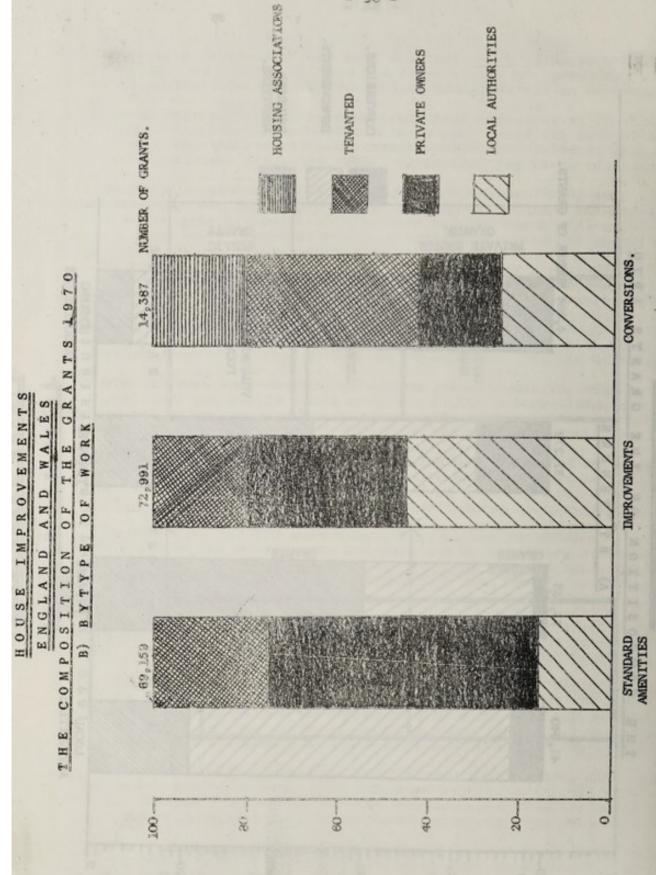
	Dwellings in need of improvement 4.5 million	Grants approved in 1970 156 thousand		
Local authorities	13%	28%		
Private owners	42%	49%		
Privately rented	45%	23%		

16. At the current rate of house improvement it will take slightly under 30 years to improve the current stock in need of repair. If the Gorvenment's target of about a quarter of a million improvements per annum is achieved this could be achieved in 20 years.



36





### OVERCROWDING

Ne cases were discovered or brought to our notice in 1970s-

would like to take this opportunity of thanking my staff, whose efforts in keeping records and sorting out data has made this possible, not forgetting the every day work of the Public Health Inspectors and Meat Inspector.

In Dr. O'Bries, our Medical Officer of Health, we always have support and encouragement in our particular sphere of preventative medicine.

