MARKET DRAYTON RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL

A N N U A L R E P O R T

OF

THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

FOR THE YEAR

1 9 7 1

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. To 10th January, 1971

Deputy Chief Public Health Inspector
and Cleansing Officer
D.S. Bruce, M.A.P.H.I.,M.R.S.H. From 1st March, 1971

Additional Public Health Inspector
D.G. Gallear, M.A.P.H.I.

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

Typist Clerks
Miss L. Roberts
Mrs. R. Smith - To 17th December, 1971
Mrs. D.C. Sherlock - From 20th December, 1971

PUBLIC HEALTH COMMITTEE

Chairman of the Council — Mr. B. Morgan

Vice Chairman of the Council — Mr. J.M. Boffey

Chairman

Mr. J.M. Boffey

Mr. H. Clare — Mr. Bert Smith

Major C. Hill (to 29th June, 1971) — Mrs. A. Upton.

Mr. T. Pocock — Mr. R.N. Rossiter

Mrs. Hulme.

* * *

I N D E X

I N D E X

Public Health Department,
Council Offices,
Smithfield Road,
MARKET DRAYTON,
Shropshire.

MARKET DRAYTON RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH, 1971

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to present my report for 1971.

The mid-year estimate of the population given by the Registrar General was 17,050 (17,020 in 1970) Live births totalled 295, 155 males and 140 females. Illegitimate births were 17, i.e. the same as in the previous year. There were 5 Stillbirths. Detailed statistics will be found on page 1.

Deaths from all causes were 174, i.e. 101 Males and 73 Females; a reduction of 15 from the number of deaths in 1970. Causes of death are detailed in the Tables on pages 7, 8, 9, and 10.

As in previous years, heart disease and disease of the circulatory system accounted for the majority of deaths; in 1971 51.1% of total deaths. 27 deaths were due to Respiratory disease and 29 to all forms of Cancer. There were 6 deaths from Lung Cancer (5 in 1970). Six males were killed in motor vehicle accidents.

Notifications of infectious disease showed a very large increase in the number of cases of Measles; 73 males and 65 females, a total of 138 ill children who had not been protected by vaccination. There were only 9 cases of measles in 1970. Parents are urged to consider the need to keep up a level of immunity in their children in order to protect them from the complications of this and other infectious diseases.

During the year there was, as in other years, a great deal of work done by the Public Health Department in encouraging food handlers as well as other members of the public to practice a high standard of food hygiene. In these days of intensive farming greater risks of cross infection occur and a greater degree of surveillance is needed to prevent or control an outbreak of food poisoning. 1971 was remarkable also for the vast amount of work carried out by the Public Health Inspectors in inspecting unfit houses. There were 116 houses inspected, and of those determined in the year, 22 had Demolition Orders, 12 had Closing Orders, and the remaining 35 were found to be Sub-standard but not unfit.

The housing requirements of the Community reveal a need for small units of accommodation for the elderly and for handicapped persons and for special aids to be provided to make life easier for those who, for example, have difficulty in climbing stairs or getting into a bath.

In the future there will be more disabled or elderly persons whose needs must be met by the Housing Authority.

At the time of writing this report, discussions are still taking place about the proposed changes in local government and the re-organisation of the National Health Service. This is an unsettling time for anyone working in local government.

I would like to thank all the members of the staff of the Public Health Department for the conscientious way that they have carried out the very demanding work of the department during the year; and to my colleagues in all the other departments of this authority, and of other authorities I would like to express appreciation for their co-operation.

I am,

Your obedient servant,

A.N. O'BRIEN

Medical Officer of Health

Public Health Department,
Council Offices,
Smithfield Road,
MARKET DRAYTON,
Shropshire.

MARKET DRAYTON RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH, 1971

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to present my report for 1971.

The mid-year estimate of the population given by the Registrar General was 17,020 (17,020 in 1970). Live births totalled 258, 132 males and 140 females. Illegitimate births were 17, i.e. the same as in the previous year. There were 5 stillbirths. Detailed statistics will be found on page 1.

Deaths from all causes were 174, i.e. 101 males and 73 females; a reduction of 15 from the number of deaths in 1970. Causes of death are contained in the Tables on pages 7, 8, 9, and 10.

As in previous years, heart disease and diseases of the circulatory system accounted for the majority of deaths: in 1971 51.1% of total deaths. 27 deaths were due to Respiratory diseases and 28 to all forms of Cancer. There were 8 deaths from Lung Cancer (5 in 1970). Six males were killed in motor vehicle accidents.

Notifications of infectious disease showed a very large increase in the number of cases of Measles, 72 males and 65 females, a total of 139 all children who had not been protected by vaccination. There were only 5 cases of measles in 1970. Parents are urged to consider the need to keep up a level of immunity in their children in order to protect them from the complications of this and other infectious diseases.

During the year there was, as in other years, a great deal of work done by the Public Health Department in encouraging food handlers as well as other members of the public to practice a high standard of food hygiene. In these days of intensive farming greater risks of cross infection occur and a greater degree of surveillance is needed to prevent or control an outbreak of food poisoning. 1971 was remarkable also for the vast amount of work carried out by the Public Health Inspectors in inspecting unfit houses. There were 116 houses inspected, and of these determined in the year, 22 had Demolition Orders, 12 had Closing Orders, and the remaining 82 were found to be sub-standard but not unfit.

The housing requirements of the Community reveal a need for small units of accommodation for the elderly and for handicapped persons and for special aids to be provided to make life easier for those who, for example, have difficulty in climbing stairs or getting into a bath.

In the future there will be more disabled or elderly persons whose needs must be met by the Housing Authority.

At the time of writing this report, discussions are still taking place about the proposed changes in local government and the re-organisation of the National Health Service. This is an unsettling time for anyone working in local government.

I would like to thank all the members of the staff of the Public Health Department for the conscientious way that they have carried out the very demanding work of the department during the year; and to my colleagues in all the other departments of this authority, and of other authorities I would like to express appreciation for their co-operation.

I am,

Your obedient servant,

A.R. GIBBINS

Medical Officer of Health

SECTION 'A'

General Statistics

Area at 31st December, 1971	56,065 acres
Rateable Value	£569,987.00
Sum represented by the 1p rate (estimated for the year)	£5,440.00
Registrar General's mid-year estimate of the population	17,050
Number of inhabited houses at 31.12.71	5,513

VITAL STATISTICS

TABLE I - LIVE BIRTHS

LIVE BIRTHS		M	F	Rates per 1000 estimated population: Market Drayton R.D.C.	Rates per 1000 estimated population: England & Wales
Total	295	155	140		
Legitimate	278	146	132	17.3	16.0
Illegitimate	17	9	8		
Area Comparability Factor ...				0.99	1.00
Corrected Birth Rate ...				17.1	16.0
Illegitimate Live Births as percentage of all Live Births				6%	8%

TABLE II - STILL BIRTHS

STILL BIRTHS		M	F	Rates per 1000 Live & Still Births: Market Drayton R.D.C.	Rates per 1000 Live & Still Births: England & Wales
Total	5	5	-		
Legitimate	5	5	-	17	12
Illegitimate	-	-	-		

In the Rural District in 1971 there were 11 more Live Births than in 1970 and 2 fewer still births.

TABLE III DEATHS - ALL CAUSES

DEATHS	All Ages	M	F	Rates per 1000 estimated population: Market Drayton R.D.C.	Rates per 1000 estimated population: England & Wales
Total	174	101	73	Crude 10.2 Adjusted 11.1	11.6
Area Comparability Factor				1.05	1.0

TABLE IV - INFANT MORTALITY

Deaths under 1 years of age		M	F	Rates per 1000 related Live Births Market Drayton R.D.C.	England & Wales
Total	7	6	1		
Legitimate	6	5	1	24	18
Illegitimate	1	1	-		

The infant Mortality Rate compares unfavourably with the national rate and also with the rate of 14 per 1000 in 1970.

The causes of infant deaths are recorded in Section C Table IV of this report on page 11.

TABLE V - NEONATAL MORTALITY

Deaths of Infants between 1 and 4 weeks old		M	F	Rates per 1000 related Live Births Market Drayton R.D.C.	England & Wales
Total	5	4	1	17	12
Legitimate	4	3	1		
Illegitimate	1	1	-		

TABLE VI - EARLY NEONATAL MORTALITY

Deaths of Infants less than 1 week old		M	F	Rates per 1000 Live Births Market Drayton R.D.C.	England & Wales
Total	4	3	1		
Legitimate	3	2	1	14	10
Illegitimate	1	1	-		

The Perinatal Mortality Rate is the combined still births and deaths of infants in the first week of life per 1000 total live and still births = ... 30 22

There were no Maternal Deaths in the Rural District during 1971.

NATIONAL STATISTICS FOR ABORTION legally carried out in England & Wales.

1969	54,157
1970	86,565
1971	126,774

Of those in 1971, 2646 were in girls under 16 years.

SECTION 'B'

Health Services for the Area

The National Health Service Act, 1946; the Health Services and Public Health Act, 1968; the local Authority Social Services Act 1970, are the main Acts providing health and welfare services.

Since January, 1971 all the functions of the previous Welfare and Childrens' Departments of the County Council together with some of the functions of the Health Department relating to home care have been incorporating in a new Social Services Department.

With the proposed re-organisation of the National Health Services and the formation of new District Authorities further changes in the pattern of health services will take place by 1974. Proposals to build a new health centre in Market Drayton were accepted in 1971.

The Local Health Authority i.e. Salop County Council through its Health Department in the Shirehall, Shrewsbury, provides many of the personal services through special clinics.

Sessions are held at the Child Health Centre, Longslow Road, Market Drayton, Market Drayton Telephone number 2634.

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

TIME TABLE

Child Health	Wednesday each week	9.30 -12.30 1.30 - 4.30
Immunisations & Vaccinations	2nd and 4th Wednesday by appointment	9.30 -12 noon
Chiropody	By appointment	
Probation Reporting Centre	Alternate Tuesdays and 4th Thursdays	5p.m.- 8p.m. 4p.m.- 7p.m.
Psychiatric	1st 3rd and 5th Friday	2p.m. onward
Speech Therapy	Each Friday	12 noon -12.30 1.45p.m.- 5.p.m.
Audiology	By appointment	
Dental	By appointment	Mornings only
Cervical Cytology	By appointment	
Family Planning	4th Friday	2p.m. - 4p.m.

Vaccination and Immunisation

A number of diseases common to children can be prevented by the use of suitable vaccines given at the appropriate age. Protection is freely available and can be given by the Family Doctor or by the Clinic Doctor. Parents are urged to get their children immunised against diseases which can cause a great deal of suffering. Because such serious diseases as Diphtheria, Polio, or Tetanus are rarely seen by the general public there is a belief that they no longer matter and that the children of today do not need to be protected. This belief is wrong and is dangerous. The control of infectious disease can only be maintained when the population most at risk is protected by immunisation or vaccination.

Severe complications often follow an infectious disease and it was in an effort to reduce the number of complications suffered by children who had Measles, that vaccination against this highly infectious disease was introduced. Sadly, the parents of children in the Rural Area have not taken advantage of facilities to protect their children. In 1971, 138 cases of Measles were notified. Apart from the risk of such complications as Pneumonia, Deafness, Vision defects or Encephalitis, Measles can also kill.

Incidence of Measles in Market Drayton

1968	...	81
1969	...	7
1970	...	9
1971	...	138

Programmes of immunisation in general use are as follows:-

Triple antigen (Diphtheria, Pertussis, Tetanus) given by injection plus Polio vaccine given by mouth at 6 months, 8 months and 14 months of age. Booster doses of Diphtheria, Tetanus and Polio given at 5 yearly intervals from the age of 5 years.

Measles vaccination at any time after the age of 1 year in children not previously infected by measles.

Rubella vaccine is given to girls aged 12 - 14 years and B.C.G. to protect against tuberculosis to both boys and girls aged 12 - 14 years.

Persons travelling abroad are advised to ask for the appropriate innoculations in good time. Yellow Fever vaccination can only be obtained at a recognised centre and an appointment can be made on application to the County Medical Officer of Health, The Shirehall, Shrewsbury. Telephone Shrewsbury 52211.

Other protective innoculations e.g. Typhoid, Cholera or Smallpox vaccinations are given by General Practitioners to their patients.

Laboratory Facilities

The Public Health Laboratory Service operates from a modern complex of laboratories at Mytton Oak Road, Shrewsbury. Local Authorities receive a great deal of help and advice from the staff under the direction of Dr. Alun Jon

Mass Miniature Radiography

X-ray investigations are undertaken by the M.M.R. Unit operating at the Wrekin Hospital, Wellington each Friday morning and at Copthorne Hospital, Shrewsbury each Friday afternoon.

SECTION 'C'

Epidemiology:

"The proper study of mankind is man"

Alexander Pope.

To study the natural history of disease calls for a careful and accurate assessment of all known facts. We begin by getting information about the numbers of cases of any one disease, the distribution according to age, sex and occupation, seasonal incidence and other environmental factors which might have a bearing and the relationship, if any, between one case and another, the methods of spread in infectious diseases and the source and resevoir of infection. Prompt notifications are essential and it is the duty of every medical practitioner in charge of a case of notifiable disease to notify the Medical Officer of Health immediately.

The following diseases are Notifiable.

Acute encephalitis; Acute meningitis; Acute poliomyelitis; Anthrax; Cholera; Diphtheria; Dysentery (amoebic or bacillary); Infective Jaundice; Leprosy; Leptospirosis; Maleria; 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 during 1971.

	M	F
Whooping Cough	-	2
Dysentery	-	1
Food poisoning	1	-
Measles	73	65

There were no new notifications of Tuberculosis in the Rural District in 1971. One death from Respiratory T.B. occurred.

DISEASES OF ANIMALS

Some of the diseases of animals which can affect man include the following:-

Tuberculosis, Anthrax, Rabies, Brucellosis and Salmonella infections. Health hazards exist where there is close contact with infected animals (including domestic pets) or when food prepared from infected animal products is incorrectly cooked or stored.

Intensive farming methods have led to a great increase in infections among animals produced for food, particularly is this true of poultry. Every report of infection in animals is investigated in order to exclude the possibility of spread of the infection to human contacts. Reported cases of food-poisoning are thoroughly checked and the infection traced to its source.

In 1971 four outbreaks of salmonella in animals were investigated and the human contacts checked for evidence of infection.

HEALTH EDUCATION

Dr. Johnson said, "Example is always more efficacious than precept."

An enlightened public opinion even more than direct legislation is of the first importance in the prevention of disease. Health is expensive, disease even more so. The continuing function of the Public Health Department to impart knowledge, to protect the community and to encourage individuals to make use of facilities available to them to preserve their own health is an essential duty. Everyone interested in preventing disease is a health educator and can do a very great deal to reduce the amount of suffering and lessen the economic burden imposed by ill health.

Many killing diseases are known to be preventable, the difficulty comes in persuading people to accept that this is so. Long held attitudes are often the bar to progress.

Mr. Ogden Nash the celebrated American poet, humorist and social commentator summed it up in his poem,

"Seeing Eye to Eye is Believing."

"When speaking of people and their beliefs I wear my belief on my sleeve;
I believe that people believe what they believe they believe.
When people reject a truth or an untruth it is not because it is a truth or an untruth that they reject it.
No, if it isn't in accord with their beliefs in the first place they simply say, "Nothing doing," and refuse to inspect it."

* * *

DEATHS IN MARKET DRAYTON RURAL DISTRICT 1 9 7 1

TABLE I

ALL CAUSES - 174	MALE	FEMALE
T.B. of Respiratory System	-	1
Malignant Neoplasm:		
Buccal Cavity	1	-
Stomach	4	2
Intestine	2	-
Larynx	1	-
Lung Bronchus	4	2
Breast	-	3
Uterus	-	2
Prostate	1	-
Other Malignant Neoplasms	4	3
Benign and Unspecified Neoplasms	-	1
Diabetes Mellitus	-	1
Anaemias	1	1
Other Diseases of Nervous System	2	-
Hypertensive Disease	2	1
Ischaemic Heart Disease	34	16
Other Forms of Heart Disease	5	3
Cerebrovascular Disease	11	13
Other diseases of Circulatory System	2	2
Influenza	-	1
Pneumonia	4	9
Bronchitis and Emphysema	6	4
Other diseases of Respiratory System	1	2
Peptic Ulcer	1	-
Intestinal Obstruction and Hernia	-	1
Other diseases of Digestive System	1	1
Other diseases - Genito-Urinary System	1	1
Congenital Anomalies	1	1
Birth Injury, Difficult Labour	1	1
Other Causes of Perinatal Mortality	3	-
Symptoms and Ill-defined conditions	1	1
Motor Vehicle Accidents	6	-
All Other Accidents.	1	-
TOTAL = 174	101	73

TABLE II

CAUSES OF DEATH AT DIFFERENT AGES 1 9 7 1

CAUSE OF DEATH	Sex	All Ages	Under 4 weeks	4 weeks to 1 year	1-4	5-14	15-24	25-34	35-44	45-54	55-64	65-74	75 and over
Tuberculosis of Respiratory System	M	-									-		
	F	1									1		
Malignant Neoplasm. Buccal Cavity	M	1										1	
	F	-										-	
Stomach	M	4									2	2	
	F	2									2	-	
Intestine	M	2										1	1
	F	-										-	-
Larynx	M	1											1
	F	-											-
Lung Bronchus	M	4								1	1	1	1
	F	2								1	1	-	-
Breast	M	-									-	-	-
	F	3									1	2	-
Uterus	F	2								1	1	-	-
Prostate	M	1											1
Other Malignant Neoplasms	M	4						-	-		2	2	-
	F	3						1	1		-	-	1
Benign and Unspecified Neoplasms	M	-											-
	F	1											1
Diabetes Mellitus	M	-										-	
	F	1										1	
Anaemias	M	1									1		-
	F	1									-		1
Other Diseases of Nervous System	M	2						1			1		
	F	-						-			-		
Hypertensive Disease	M	2							1		1		1
	F	1							-		-		-
Ischaemic Heart Disease	M	34							1	1	3	14	16
	F	16							-	-	3	5	7

Other forms of Heart Disease	M	5								–		1	4
	F	3								1		–	2
Cerebrovascular Disease	M	11									1	4	6
	F	13									–	5	8
Other Diseases of Circulatory System	M	2										2	–
	F	2										1	1
Influenza	M	–								–	–		
	F	1								1			
Pneumonia	M	4		1								1	2
	F	9		–								1	8
Bronchitis and Emphysema	M	6								–	1	3	2
	F	4								1	–	3	–
Other Diseases of Respiratory System	M	1									1	–	
	F	2									1	1	
Peptic Ulcer	M	1										1	
	F	–										–	
Intestinal Obstruction and Hernia	M	–					–						
	F	1					1						
Other Diseases of Digestive System	M	1										1	–
	F	1										–	1
Other Diseases Genito Urinary System	M	1								–			1
	F	1								1			–
Congenital Anomalies	M	1		1				–					
	F	1		–				1					
Birth Injury, Difficult Labour	M	1	1										
	F	1	1										
Other causes of Perinatal Mortality	M	3	3										
	F	–	–										
Symptoms and Ill defined Conditions	M	1											1
	F	1											1
Motor Vehicle Accidents	M	6						1	3			1	1
	F	–						–	–			–	–
All other Accidents	M	1				1							
	F	–				–							
TOTAL ALL CAUSES	M	101	4	2	–	1	–	2	4	2	14	35	37
	F	73	1	–	–	–	1	2	2	6	10	19	32

TABLE III

CAUSES OF DEATH IN NUMERICAL ORDER OR FREQUENCY		MALE	FEMALE	TOTAL
Heart Disease and Circulatory Disease	Ischaemic Heart Disease	34	16	50
	Other forms of heart disease	5	3	8
	Hypertension and other Circulatory Diseases	4	3	7
	TOTAL	43	22	65
Cerebro Vascular Disease	i.e. Vascular Lesions of Brain and C.N.S.	11	13	24
	TOTAL	54	35	89
Cancer		M	F	TOTAL
	Buccal Cavity	1	-	1
	Stomach	4	2	6
	Intestine	2	-	2
	Larynx	1	-	1
	Lung and Bronchus	4	2	6
	Breast	-	3	3
	Uterus	-	2	2
	Prostate	1	-	1
	Other Malignant neop'asms	4	3	7
	TOTAL	17	12	29
Respiratory Diseases	Bronchitis & Emphysema	6	4	10
	Pneumonia	4	9	13
	Tuberulosis	-	1	1
	Others	1	2	3
	TOTAL	11	16	27

Diseases of the Heart and Circulatory System were once again the major causes of death occurring in the middle aged and elderly. 28.7% of all deaths recorded were due to Coronary Heart Disease while all deaths due to disease of the heart or circulatory System together amounted to 51.1% of the total deaths.
Cancer in all its forms caused the deaths of 29 persons. This represents 16.6% of all deaths. Lung Cancer deaths in 1971 were recorded in 6 cases i.e. one more than in 1970. This type of cancer caused 20.6% of all deaths due to Cancer, or 3.4% of total deaths due to all causes. Respiratory diseases, led to 27 deaths, which represent 15.5% of total deaths recorded.

There were six deaths due to motor vehicle accidents and one due to other accidental causes, i.e. 4.5% of all deaths, a percentage higher than lung cancer deaths.

Three women died from cancer of the breast and two from cancer of the uterus. Simple screening tests can be done which detect early changes in normal tissue. Unfortunately women who are most at risk appear to be unwilling to have the tests. Prevention requires education. It has been said that at least 75% of cancer can be prevented, provided the right action is taken by the public against known causative factors. The effects of ionizing radiation, pollution of the atmosphere, food additives, pesticides, chemicals used in industrial processes have been carefully studied and these studies continue. The most important single cause of disease i.e. lung cancer, is the habit of smoking cigarettes. During the period 1960 - 1969 in England & Wales 250,000 people died from lung cancer.

TABLE IV

CANCER DEATHS 1967 to 1971

MARKET DRAYTON RURAL DISTRICT

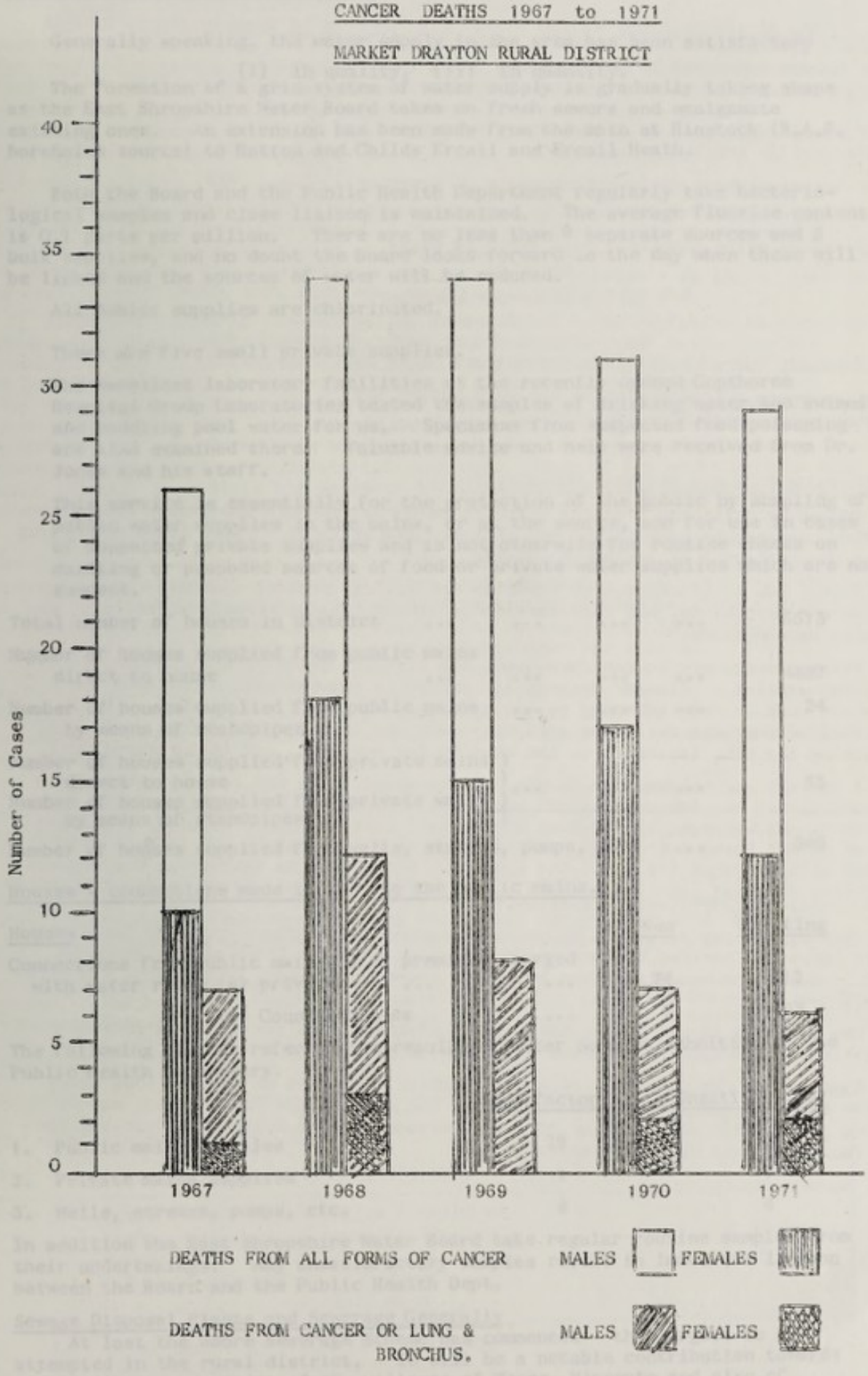

TABLE IV

CANCER DEATHS 1921 - 50, 1951

Sites of Cancer	Cancer Deaths Under Military Service Pensions	MALE	FEMALE	TOTAL
Buccal Cavity and Pharynx	Carcinoma Tongue, Mouth	34	16	50
	Other Sites of Buccal Cavity	5	3	8
	Nasopharynx, Accessory Sinuses, Larynx (Pharynx)	4	3	7
	Total	43	22	65
Digestive Tract	Oesophagus	11	19	30
	Stomach	34	25	59
	Colon	32	10	42
	Rectum	7	1	8
	Rectum and Sigmoid	4	2	6
	Sigmoid	2	2	4
	Caecum	1	1	2
	Colon and Caecum	4	2	6
	Liver	1	3	4
	Pancreas	1	2	3
	Gall Bladder	1	1	2
	Other Gastrointestinal Sites	4	3	7
	Total	17	12	29
Genito-Urinary Tract	Kidney	6	4	10
	Bladder	4	5	15
	Prostate	1	1	1
	Uterus	1	2	10
	Total	11	16	27

MR. SANDBROOK, CHIEF PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR, REPORTS -

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES IN THE AREA.

Generally speaking, the water supply in the area has been satisfactory (i) in quality, (ii) in quantity.

The formation of a grid system of water supply is gradually taking shape as the East Shropshire Water Board takes on fresh sewers and amalgamate existing ones. An extension has been made from the main at Hinstock (R.A.F. boreholes source) to Hatton and Childs Ercall and Ercall Heath.

Both the Board and the Public Health Department regularly take bacteriological samples and close liaison 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.

There are five small private supplies.

The excellent laboratory facilities at the recently opened Copthorne Hospital Group Laboratories tested the samples of drinking water and swimming and paddling pool water for us. Specimens from suspected food poisoning are also examined there. Valuable advice and help were 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 the 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	5513
Number of houses supplied from public mains direct to house	4887
Number of houses supplied from public mains by means of standpipes	24
Number of houses supplied from private mains direct to house / Number of houses supplied from private mains by means of standpipes	53
Number of houses supplied from wells, streams, pumps, etc. ...	549

Houses - connections made in 197 to the public mains.

Houses	New	Existing
Connections from public mains, i.e. premises charged with water rate (a) private	74	12
(b) Council houses ...	2	23

The following figures refer to the results of water samples submitted to the Public Health Laboratory.

	Satisfactory	Unsatisfactory
1. Public mains supplies	29	2
2. Private mains supplies	1	1
3. Wells, streams, pumps, etc.	8	4

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

At last the Woore sewerage Scheme has commenced - the largest to be attempted in the rural district. It will be a notable contribution towards the health and amenities of the villages of Woore, Pipegate and also of Knighton in Staffordshire. It will allow of development, within of course, the control of Town Planning. Improvement of Council Houses and private houses follows in its wake.

Also started was the Ightfield Scheme which will allow of modernisation of houses which up till now were restricted, because of compactness of siting, from the use of septic tanks.

		Connected during Year
Number of houses in district	5513	-
No. of houses connected to sewage disposal works, owned by local Authority	3492	74
No. of houses connected to satisfactory sewage disposal or treatment plants	1332	12
No. of houses without satisfactory means of sewerage ...	689	
No. of sewage dispoal works owned by District Council ...	8	
No. of houses using chemical, pail earth or privy closets ...		
(a) with proper means of disposal ...	689	
(b) without proper means of dispoal	NIL	
No. of houses where Local Authority collect night soil ...	NIL	
No. of sewerage effluent samples analysed during the year ending 31st December, 1971 Satisfactory	166	
Unsatisfactory	21	

REFUSE COLLECTION AND DISPOSAL DURING 1971

Refuse is collected from the District by three Shelvoke and Drewry Pakamatic vehicles now getting near to the end of their useful life. Bulky items and excess refuse are collected in a pick-up vehicle.

Except due to breakdowns of vehicles and holiday periods a weekly collection service was maintained, but this service is likely to be adversely affected as the vehicles become older.

Plastic sacks are in use throughout the District which give a cleaner, more efficient service. Cleaner because all refuse is removed within the sack and therefore none is left adhering to the sides and bottom of the dustbin. More efficient because the collector need only make one trip for the refuse instead of collecting the bin, taking it to the vehicle for emptying, and then returning it.

A variety of holders are in use for the sacks. In the country areas where the sack system was introduced last the sacks are used in the existing metal dustbins as liners, whereas in the town the "Dalek" type of holder is used. The new type of holder being introduced has the appearance ofa dustbin but is made of plastic with a rubber lid. It has a hole at the bottom to discourage the deposit of refuse, directly into the holder. This holder is being issued to new properties and to replace unserviceable dustbins.

Disposal of the refuse 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 Shovel.

One site was in use during the year at Lostford, and its life was increased by putting in a drain to culvert a ditch and by excavation.

Negotiation for further tipping land behind the cafes on the A41 took place but the planning permission from the County Council was not forthcoming, and at the end of the year an inspector of the Department of the Environment visited the site following this Council's appeal.

RODENT CONTROL

May an appeal be made to bird and pet lovers not to throw scraps of food down on the ground in an indiscriminate manner - it leads to providing easy food for rats and mice and may attract other pests such as feral pigeons which can foul their surroundings should they establish themselves. Food scraps should be placed in a bird tray out of reach of vermin and the larger birds. Similarly, workmen on building sites can play their part by not throwing down food scraps - amongst rubble they are not seen - except by vermin.

The reader may be interested to know that rodents cause millions of pounds worth of damage in this country annually. They carry and spread diseases which can be fatal to man. They are prolific breeders and are difficult to exterminate because of their innate wariness. In this country it is thought that there is at least one rat for every human - In India, incidentally, it is estimated that rats outnumber people by five to one.

In 1959 a strain of rat emerged which was found to be resistant to Warfarin poisoning. Warfarin is the most widely used "multiple dose" poison in this country. The low concentration doses have the advantage that they are unlikely to harm other animals. Although, at present, the numbers of resistant rats represent only a small percentage of the country's rat population, resistance in mice appears to be a more serious problem. Where resistant rodents are suspected, the use of Warfarin must cease and acute acting or 'single dose' poisons must be used to eradicate infestations. Many of the acute poisons are toxic not only to rodents but to other animals and humans and must be used with extreme caution by trained operators only.

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, it will be warfarin-shy from then on. It can breed the shyness (or immunity) into its offspring - 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.

The Public sewers throughout the district were treated four times in the year, both the town and country 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. We extended the use of fluoroacetamide to the villag sewerage systems of Norton-in-Hales, Hodnet and Cheswardine i.e. where the systems and plant is sufficiently large to allow safe dilution of the residual poison.

Fluoroacetamide has now been in use in the town sewers for the past 18 months. The second 12 monthly test-bait carried out this year revealed extremely promising results in the sewers - the rat population has been drastically reduced. Even better results are foreshadowed for the country systems, which have the advantage of being more up-to-date and were always less infested.

PROPERTIES OTHER THAN SEWERS	Type of Property: Non-Agricultural	Type of Property: Agricultural
1. Number of properties in district	6256	780
2. Total number of properties (including nearby premises) inspected following notification	261	19
(a) Number infested by (i) Rats	110	15
(ii) Mice	33	4
3. Total number of properties inspected for rats and/or mice for reasons other than notification	49	22
Number infested by (i) Rats	47	20
(ii) Mice	2	-

Contracts made for rodent control number 13. In other cases the charge is £1 per hour. Domestic infestation of rats or mice are treated free of charge.

PESTS AND INFESTATION

Included under the heading were a wide variety of insects which have annoyed citizens. With the wide variety of insecticides in general use the incidence of pests is getting less, nevertheless, people are less abler and willing to tackle the problem themselves - perhaps the average citizen has lost some of the know-how that his forefathers possessed and has come to depend upon sophisticated powders or liquids - only to use the wrong one in the circumstances in many cases. It is pleasing, however, to find some of the present generation who have never seen a bug - or even a flea.

Number of complaints	In privately owned property	Local Authority Owned
Ants	13	1
Wasps	60	56
Snails	1	1
Fleas	1	1
Mosquitoes	-	1

WASPS

1971 was a notable year for the widespread occurrence of wasps nests. The Rodent Operator had to be put on this work and many cases presented difficult problems. The use of timber cladding and cavity brickwork in modern dwellings often gives wasps the chance to establish nests in the most inaccessible positions - one has always to take care to use methods which do not endanger the human occupants and this restricts the method of treatment seriously.

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD PREMISES

The Palethorpes 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.

	1971
Number of slaughterhouses	3
Number of Knackers Yards	-
Number of persons licensed to slaughter cattle	21
Number of persons licensed to slaughter horses	3
Number of persons licensed to slaughter pigs and sheep	21
Number of persons licensed to slaughter pigs.	1

Carcases inspected and condemned	Cattle excluding Cows	Cows	Calves	Sheep and Lambs	Pigs
Number killed	341	-	-	1132	36,668
" NOT inspected	-	-	-	-	-
All diseases except T.B. and Cysticerci					
Whole carcases condemned	-	-	-	2	145
Carcases of which some part of or organ was condemned	65	-	-	50	8,671
	19.1%	-	-	4.59%	24.0%
Tuberculosis only					
Whole carcases condemned	-	-	-	-	1
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	-	-	-	-	105
	-	-	-	-	0.29%
Cysticerci					
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	-	-	-	-	-
Carcases submitted to refrigeration	-	-	-	-	-
Generalised and totally condemned	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-

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 samples taken 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.	Tons	Cwts	Lbs.
1. Meat								
(a) Slaughterhouses	(i) Carcase meat		22	14	62	38	1	68
	(ii) offal		15	9	6			
(b) Wholesale	(i) Carcase meat		-	-	-			
	(ii) offal		-	-	-	-	-	-
(c) Retail shops	(i) Carcase meat		-	1	68			
	(ii) offal		-	-	-	-	1	68
2. Cooked Meat and Meat Products						-	-	25
3. Canned Meats						-	-	-
4. Other canned foods						-	-	23
5. Fish (fresh)						-	-	28
6. Fruit & vegetable (fresh)						-	-	-
7. Frozen foods due to cabinet breakdown						-	13	66
8. Other foods						-	-	-
						38	17	54

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

BACTERIOLOGICAL SAMPLING 1971

A total of 41 samples were taken as follows:-

Grade	Mobiles				Premises			
	I	II	III	IV	I	II	III	IV
Soft Ice-cream	7	0	6	3	0	0	0	0
Other Ice-cream	2	1	0	0	2	1	0	0
Totals:	9	1	6	3	2	1	0	0

Other foods:

Sample	No. taken	No. Unsatisfactory
Fresh Cream	14	9
Milk	5	5

Routine inspection of food premises numbered 389

TRADE	No. of Premises	Number provided with Wash-hand basin	Sink
Bakeries	8	8	8
Butchers Shops	14	12	14
Cafes & Restaurants	12	12	12
Cake Shops	1	1	1
Fish & Chips	4	4	4
Fish Mongers	1	1	1
General Grocers	31	31	31
Green Grocers	4	4	4
Licensed Premises (Public Houses)	35	35	35
Mixed business	33	33	33
Sweet Shops	5	5	5
	148	146	148

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

Storage and Sale of Ice Cream	68
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.

Under the Food Hygiene (General) Regulations 1970 a case against a general grocer and fruiterer was taken in regard to requirements relating to food premises. A conviction and a fine and costs of £25 were obtained.

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 & Drug Act, 1953

Milk	Pasteurised	6
	Channel Islands Pasteurised	4
	Untreated Farm bottled ...	3
	Sterilised	1
	Bulk untreated ex farm ...	68
		82

Milk (Special Disignation) Specified Areas) Order 1956 .Investigation into Phosphatase failure at the pasteurising plant in the district failed to reveal the cause. Further samples proved satisfactory.

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

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

Other Foods & Drugs

Vodka & Orange	1	Starch-reduced Slices	1
Vodka Flavour Lime Drink	1	Processed Cheese	1
Vitamin C Health Drink	1	Cough mixture	1
"Milk Top"	1	Mashed Potato Calorie-reduced	1
Soya Four	1	Travel sickness tablets	1
Black Puddings	2	Cream cheese	1
Pork Luncheon Meat	1	Laxative Emulsion	1
Coffee	1	"Dietrious"	1
Dried Apricots	1	Malt drink	1
Double Cream	1	Pork pies	1
Lard	1	Zinc & Castor oil cream	1
Tomato Ketchup	1	Low Fat Soft cheese	1
			25

The sample of Vodka & Orange was found to smell strongly of disinfectant which might have been derived from the container. The smell could not be indentified by chemical methods. No further action was taken in this matter and the complainant and vendor were informed accordingly.

The sample of Vodka Flavour Lime Drink was reported as incorrectly described as Vodka flavour. A more suitable description was suggested to the manufacturers and no further action was taken.

The sample of mashed potato (calorie reduced) was found to be incorrectly described. The manufacturers stated that they had discontinued selling this product and no further action was taken.

The sample of Dried Apricots was found to contain an insect. The Importers stated that the matter had been up with the Overseas Packers and no further action was taken.

The samples of Zinc and castor oil cream was found to be deficient in Zinc Oxide. The manufacturers stated that they had ceased production of this product. No further action was taken.

In addition to the above:

A packet of Milk Food was found to contain a Bluebottle fly.

contd. /A

A sliced loaf was found to contain colour dye from wrapping paper.

A packet of Beef Sausage was found to be affected by mould. Legal proceedings were instituted against the vendors who were fined £10 and ordered to pay costs of £5.25.

A jar of Orange Marmalade was found to contain a small fly.

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

	Samples Obtained	Phosphatase Test		Methylene Blue Test			Turbidity
		Passed	Failed	Passed	Failed	Void	Test Passed
Pasteurised	50	49	1	37	6	7	
Channel Islands Pasteurised	18	18		16	1	1	
Untreated Farm bottled	1						1
Sterilised	1						
	70						

An investigation was carried out at the pasteurising plant in respect of the phosphatase failure above but no cause could be found. Further samples proved to be satisfactory.

Warning letters were sent to the Dealers concerned in respect of the Methylene Blue failures.

POULTRY INSPECTION

No poultry slaughtering centre is establised in the area.

OFFICES, SHOPS & RAILWAY PREMISES ACT, 1963

The year's inspections are summarised below:

A. Registrations & General Inspections

Class of Premises	Number of premises Registered during the year	Number of registered premises at end of year.	Number of registered premises receiving a general inspection during the year.
Offices	5	47	2
Retail Shops	6	95	13
Wholesale Shops, Warehouses	1	3	-
Catering Establishments open to the public, canteens	4	21	1
Fuel storage depots	-	2	-
Totals	16	168	16

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 found	
4	Cleanliness	1	16	Floors, passage & Stairs	21
5	Overcrowding	0	17	Fencing exposed parts machinery	6
6	Temperature	11			
7	Ventilation	5	18	Protection of young persons from dangerous machinery	0
8	Lighting	4			0
9	Sanitary conveniences	17			
10	Washing facilities	10	19	Training of young persons working at dangerous machinery	0
11	Supply of drinking water	0			
12	Clothing accommodation	3			
13	Sitting facilities	2	23	Prohibition of heavy work	0
14	Seats (Sedentary Workers	1	24	First Aid	18
				Other matters	18
15	Eating facilities	2			
					128

Two accidents, both at retail shops, were investigated and informal advice given.

No applications for exemption were made.

Total number of visits of all kinds by Inspectors - 73

Initial - 35. Other visits - 38.

PRESCRIBED PARTICULARS ON ADMINISTRATION OF FACTORIES ACT, 1961

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

PREMISES	NUMBER ON REGISTER	NUMBER OF		
		INSPECTIONS	WRITTEN NOTICES	OCCUPIERS PROSECUTED.
1. Factories in which Sects. 1,2,3,4, and 6 are to be enforced by Local Auth.	NIL	NIL	NIL	NIL
2. Factories not included in 1 in which Sect. 7 is enforced by the L.A.	71	14	6	NIL
3. Other premises in which Sec. 7 is enforced by the L.A. (excl. out workers premises)	7	10	NIL	NIL
TOTAL	78	24	6	NIL

2. CASES IN WHICH DEFECTS WERE FOUND.

PARTICULARS	Number of cases in which defects were found				Number 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 Temp. (S.3)	-	-	-	-	-
Inadequate Vent. (S.4)	-	-	-	-	-
Ineffective drainage of floors (S.6)	-	-	-	-	-
Sanitary Conveniences (S.7)					
(a) Insufficient	-	-	-	-	-
(b) Unsuitable or defective	6	6	-	1	-
(c) Not separate for sexes	-	-	-	-	-
Other offences against the Act, (Not including offences relating to outwork.	-	-	-	-	-
TOTAL	6	6	NIL	1	NIL

CIVIC AMENITIES ACT, 1967

46 visits were made. Mostly we were involved with abandoned vehicles but one case di involve derelict buildings. Court proceedings were resorted to in one case; but the matter had not been cleared up at the end of 1971.

SCRAP METAL DEALERS ACT, 1964

32 dealers were registered under the Act, an increase of 8 over last years figures. No duty is incumbent upon the Local Authority, except registration, the remaining duties lying with the Police.

CLEAN AIR ACTS, 1956 - 1968

101 inspection (including smoke observations) were made.

The later Act amends the 1956 Act and gives powers to deal with the emission of grit and dust.

Dark Smoke, Clean Air Act, 1956 and 1968 - Section 1

No contraventions were recorded.

Furnaces, Clean Air Act, 1956 - Section 3

Notification was received in three cases for prior approval and application granted in all cases.

Chimney Heights, Clean Air Act 1968 - Section 6

Three applications were received and approved.

Smoke Control

The Councils first Smoke Control Order was confirmed by the Secretary of State for the Environment in June and will become operational on 1st July, 1972.

The total number of properties included in the area will, when development is complete, total over 500 and the acreage covered is 209.

Although a considerable number of properties are included only about 20 are eligble for grant payment, the remainder being "new dwellings" i.e. erected after August, 1964 The area covered by the Order is the North and Eastern portion of the town of Market Drayton.

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

Licences have been issued for two boarding establishments and one pet shop.

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

1 prosecution in regard to contraventions of site conditions and the occupier was fined £10.

1 prosecution was taken in regard to the illegal siting of a caravan at Childs Ercall and the occupier of the land was fined £5.

113 inspections were carried out.

Isolated Camping Sites

There was one licensed site as at 31st December, 1971, attached to a licensed residential caravan site. It is for 10 pitches.

HOUSES IN MULTIPLE OCCUPATION

There are no known cases.

HOUSING ACT, 1969, PART III SEC. 45.

Ten applications for Qualification Certificates were received at the end of 1971. Four certificates were issued, one refused and the remainder pending.

HATTON COMMON with its caravans, which has risen from two to five is still presenting its problems. The rehousing of one family in a council house has been successful despite many objections. However, this appears to have encouraged outsiders to move in and fill the vacuum. The site was cleaned up and refuse collection commenced on a weekly basis but sad to relate, the site has once again become covered in scrap metal and waste.

NOISE ABATEMENT ACT, 1960

A total of three complaints were received and investigated-varying from industrial, commercial and domestic premises.

The one commercial premises (Machinery) complaint was confirmed under Public Health Act, Sec. 1 and dealt with informally. Under Sec. 2 the Department received and remedied informally, one complaint. Complaints received on noise sources exempt from proceedings under the Noise Abatement Act or to which action under the Act was not appropriate amounted to two cases (barking dogs).

SWIMMING BATHS

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

	Satisfactory	Unsatisfactory
Public Swimming Pool	16	5
Public Paddling Pool	6	8
Private Swimming Pool	13	1

PUBLIC HEALTH ACTS AND HOUSING ACTS.

A total of 690 visits were made.

HOUSING ACTS, 1957, 1961 and 1969

Out of 5513 houses in the district, 1430 are Council houses. Under the Housing Act, 1957, the individually unfit houses demolished were 11 whilst 3 were closed and 9 unfit houses made fit. The Council erected 1 dwelling in 1971 and private enterprise 85. At the end of 1971 20 Council dwellings were in course of erection and 125 by private enterprise.

However, since 1st April, 1945 to 31st December, 1971 the Council have erected 1059 houses, and private enterprise 1059

Three Council houses were sold to the respective tenant during the year. There were 190 applications to live in council houses at the end of the year.

GRANTS COMPLETED SINCE THE COMING INTO LAW OF THE HOUSING ACT, 1969

Discretionary	
Owner	30
Owner/occupied	30
Standard	
Owner	6
Owner/occupied	11

GRANTS COMPLETED IN 1971 (includes Grants promised under Housing Act, 1969 and previous legislation)

DISCRETIONARY GRANTS (HOUSING ACT, 1969)

(a)	Number of dwellings in applicarions completed during year	30
(b)	Average cost per dwelling approved on work ranking for grant	£1,897.50
(c)	Amount of grant payable by Local Authority stated as %	33%
(d)	Average cost per dwelling including repairs and improvements etc. ...	£2,118.60

STANDARD GRANTS (HOUSING ACT, 1969)

(a)	Number of dwellings in applications completed during year	5
(b)	Average amount of grant per dwelling paid by Council	£174.39

416 visits in connection with grants were made.

IMPROVEMENT GRANTS

Nationally there was a 30 per cent increase in the number of improvement grants, approved in the year 1971.

House improvement grants for 233,800 dwellings were approved in 1971, compared with 180,000 in the previous year. The number of grants approved in the last quarter of 1971 was 75,800 compared with 48,700 in the same quarter of 1970.

In development and Intermediate areas (including the whole of Scotland) 38,000 grants were approved in the quarter making a total for the year of 96,000 grants, compared with 64,200 in 1970.

In England and Wales, 34 local authorities declared 39 general improvement areas during the latest quarter, bringing the totals so far to 192 authorities and 276 areas.

During December 21,300 grants were approved in England and Wales; this compared with 13,000 in December, 1970. Monthly figures are not available for Scotland.

The total number of dwellings improved with grants* in Great Britain during 1971, is estimated as 192,600 compared with 141,000 in 1970. Of these, 61,600 were improved in the fourth quarter of 1971 and 40,100 in the corresponding quarter of 1970.

* These estimates are obtained from the sum of grants paid to the private sector and grants approved for the public sector.

HOUSING IMPROVEMENT GRANTS

IMPROVEMENT GRANTS APPROVED - GT. BRITAIN.

Not Seasonally Adjusted — Thousand Dwellings

	1970				1971			
	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4
All Grants approved	33.9	46.4	50.9	48.7	46.7	53.3	58.1	75.8
Of which Discretionary Grants	19.7	28.7	30.5	30.3	32.8	37.9	41.9	58.8

SLUM CLEARANCE

In 1971, 70,100 houses were demolished or closed in England & Wales as a result of slum clearance action, 56,200 of these were in or adjoining clearance areas. The corresponding numbers in 1970 were 67,800 of which 52,500 were in clearance areas.

The total demolished or closed in the fourth quarter was 17,200 compared with 16,200 in the same period of 1970.

HOUSES DEMOLISHED

Not seasonally adjusted — Thousand houses

	1970				1971			
	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4
Houses demolished or Closed	17.5	16.6	17.6	16.2	22.9	14.1	16.0	17.2
Of which in or adjoining Clearance Areas.	13.5	12.7	14.0	12.4	18.2	11.3	12.9	13.8

OVERCROWDING

No cases were discovered or brought to our notice in 1971.

* * *

In concluding this contribution to the Annual Report, I would like to set on record my appreciation of my staff, which has changed considerably as compared with the previous year. The keeping of records and collection of data makes possible this Report - not forgetting the other office work. To the Public Health Inspectors and Meat Inspector I owe my gratitude for their loyalty and hard work - essential ingredients to the work of a relatively small team - which work is made interesting and fruitful by the encouragement and help given to us by our Medical Officer of Health - Doctor O'Brien.

A. SANDBROOK.

CHIEF PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR

(a) Number of dwellings in applications completed during year	20
(b) Average cost per dwelling approved on work ranking for grant	£1,697.7
(c) Amount of grant payable by Local Authority stated as %	33%
(d) Average cost per dwelling including repairs and improvements etc. ...	£2,116.6

HOUSES DEMOLISHED

(a) Number of dwellings in applications completed during year ...	[illegible]
(b) Average amount of grant per dwelling paid by Council ...	£[illegible]

Also visits in connection with grants were made.

	1971				1970			
	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4
Houses demolished or closed	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
Compulsory or objections clearance Areas	15.5	12.7	14.0	12.4	18.2	11.3	12.9	12.8

OVERCROWDING

In conclusion this contribution to the Annual Report, I would like to set on record my appreciation of my staff, which has changed considerably as compared with the previous years. The keeping of records and collection of data makes possible this Report - but forgetting the other office work. To the Public Health Inspectors and Meat Inspector I owe my gratitude for their loyalty and hard work - essential ingredients to the work of a relatively small team - which work is made interesting and fruitful for by the encouragement and help given to us by our Medical Officer of Health - Doctor O'Brien.

A. BARGBOOK.