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NEWCASTLE-UNDER-LYME
RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL



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ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE
MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH
FOR THE YEAR 1970

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STAFF OF THE PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT

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Certified Meat Inspector.

Deputy Chief Public Health Inspector :

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Certified Meat Inspector.

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NEWCASTLE-UNDER-LYME RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL

ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

FOR THE YEAR 1970.

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have pleasure in presenting to you my Annual Report for 1970.

The mid year population as estimated by the Registrar General showed a fairly substantial increase of 530. Of this number, 58 only were due to excess of births over deaths; but for movement into the District the population would be almost static.

Live births fall marginally as did illegitimate births. In both instances the rate per 1000 remained below the estimated figure for England and Wales. An increase in the number of stillbirths brought the stillbirth rate up to just below the national figure; the very small number still underlines the care given to the expectant mother.

Deaths fell marginally and the uncorrected death rate fell well below the national rate, though a revised and increased area comparability factor resulted in the adjusted death rate being but marginally below the national rate.

Infant deaths doubled from 3 to 6, but all these deaths were due to causes unlikely to respond to any form of therapy and only one would have offered hope of prevention.

Cardio-vascular disease continued to take its toll with coronary disease alone accounting for more than a quarter of all deaths. As I have said before, a change in personal habits of eating and smoking would at least assist in reduction of ill-health and the postponement of death in many cases, thus conferring much benefit on the sufferer and on his family.

Malignant diseases continued to be responsible for almost 20% of all deaths, though in the year under review deaths from lung cancer fell sharply—nothing comforting can be read into this local statistic, however, as the lung cancer epidemic continues to build up nationally. Early diagnosis and treatment offer good pros-

pects of cure in many cancers; indeed pre-cancerous conditions can be diagnosed and treated before a cancer is established. To encourage the use of the diagnostic facilities already available, continuing health education to all age groups is of the greatest value.

The third major group of diseases causing death was that comprising the various diseases of the respiratory system. Deaths from these diseases fell in 1970, a major fall being seen in deaths due to bronchitis. Here again little comfort can be taken from one year's figures however pleasing it may be. As there has been little change in pollution, national habits or in treatment, I must assume that the fine summer and extraordinarily mild autumn and winter were largely responsible.

There was a moderate epidemic of measles during the year. It is rather disappointing to note that there was also a fall in the number of children vaccinated against this preventable disease. It is indeed difficult to understand the apparent indifference with which this unpleasant and at times crippling disease is regarded and the reluctance to accept the simple single injection which is all that is required to confer protection on the child.

During the year there were two major instances of food-born disease, one being a direct spread from an outbreak in an adjoining District, the other arising from a single function in a hostelry and probably due to one infected fowl.

Building activity was much reduced during 1970, completions falling to 93 private dwellings and 5 Council Bungalows. At the end of the year a further 100 private dwellings and 31 Council Dwellings were under construction. In so far as unfit properties were concerned, activity continued at the same level as previously; 41 dwellings were demolished and 5 closed.

No action was required during the year in terms of Section 47, National Assistance Act, 1948.

I wish to record my grateful appreciation of the great help given to me at all times during the year by Mr. G. K. Thorley, Chief Public Health Inspector and by all other members of the staff of the health department.

I am, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

(Signed) J. TOLLAND

Medical Officer of Health.

September, 1971.

Section A

STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE AREA.

Area at 31st December, 1970—39,171 acres.

Rateable Value 1/4/71—£737,356.

Sum represented by the penny rate : (estimated for the year 1971/72) :
£7,153.

Registrar-General's estimate of resident population as at June 30th,
1970 : 20,790.

Number of inhabited houses in the area as at 31st December, 1970 :
6,790.

Table 1 shows the distribution of these houses by parishes :

TABLE 1.

<i>Parish</i>			<i>Parish</i>		
Ashley	..	625	Madeley	.. ..	1,451
Audley	..	2,902	Maer	.. ..	200
Balterley	..	82	Mucklestone	.. ..	136
Betley	..	304	Tyrley	.. ..	267
Chorlton	..	154	Whitmore	.. ..	309
Keele	..	360			

Of the total of 6,790 houses, 1,251 (18%) are Council Houses.

In addition, there were a number of occupied caravans and other forms of dwellings as follows :—

TABLE 2.

<i>Parish</i>			<i>Parish</i>		
Ashley	..	3	Keele	.. ..	1
Audley	..	6	Madeley	.. ..	10
Betley	..	3	Mucklestone	.. ..	2
Chorlton	..	23	Whitmore	.. ..	1

TABLE 3.

Vital Statistics.

				Newcastle-u-Lyme R.D.	England and Wales
				Rates per 1,000 estimated Population	
<i>Live Births :</i>					
Total ..	270	M. 134	F. 136	13.0	16.0
Legitimate ..	261	130	131	12.5	—*
Illegitimate ..	9	4	5	0.4	—*
Illegitimacy Rate per 1,000 total live births				30	80
Comparability factor 0.86					
Therefore the adjusted birth rate is 11.2					

				Rates per 1,000 Total Live and Stillbirths	
<i>Stillbirths :</i>					
Total ..	3	M. 1	F. 2	11	13
Legitimate ..	3	1	2	11	—*
Illegitimate ..	—	—	—		

				Rates per 1,000 estimated Population	
<i>Deaths :</i>					
Total ..	212	M. 91	F. 121	10.2 (Crude)	11.7
				11.6 (Adjusted)	

Comparability factor 1.14

				Rates per 1,000 related Live Births	
<i>Infant Mortality Deaths under One Year of Age</i>					
Total ..	6	M. 2	F. 4	22	18
Legitimate ..	5	2	3	19	17
Illegitimate ..	1	—	1	111	26

				Rate per 1,000 related Live Births	
<i>Neonatal Mortality Deaths under Four Weeks of Age :</i>					
Total ..	5	M. 2	F. 3	19	12
Legitimate ..	4	2	2		
Illegitimate ..	1	—	1		

				Rates per 1,000 related Live and Stillbirths	
<i>Perinatal Mortality Deaths under One Week of Age plus stillbirths</i>					
Total ..	7	M. 2	F. 5	26	23
Legitimate ..	6	2	4		
Illegitimate ..	1	—	1		

* Rates not available

TABLE 4.

Summary of Deaths of Children under One year of Age.

<i>Sex</i>	<i>Cause</i>	<i>Age</i>
F.	Anencephaly : Prematurity (32 weeks)	7 minutes
M.	Intraventricular Haemorrhage : Atalectasis	5 hours
F.	Congenital Toxoplasmosis	7 days
F.	Chromosomal Abnormality	30 minutes
F.	Acute Viraemia	6 weeks
M.	Broncho-pneumonia: Congenital Heart Disease	14 days

Table 5 shows the Infantile Mortality Rate for the last ten years in Newcastle-under-Lyme Rural District and England and Wales. and the average rates during the period.

TABLE 5.

<i>Year</i>		<i>Newcastle-under-Lyme R.D.</i>	<i>England and Wales</i>
1961	..	18	21
1962	..	22	21
1963	..	40	21
1964	..	33	20
1965	..	18	19
1966	..	14	19
1967	..	28	18
1968	..	4	18
1969	..	11	18
1970	..	22	18
Averages	..	21.0	19.3

Employment Conditions.

Below is a summary of the employment conditions during 1970.

During 1970 demands for labour were generally lower than in 1969 in the Newcastle Employment Exchange area and 27% of all jobs found for men and 18% of those for women involved daily travel into the City of Stoke-on-Trent or further.

While a shortage of skilled men and female factory workers persisted, the closure of the Apedale drift mine early in the year led to some redundancy among older mine workers, although the situation in mining improved later in the year and led to increased demands for men. Building and Construction continued quiet and brick and tile manufacturing was affected by this.

Because of the close proximity of all offices in the Newcastle/City of Stoke-on-Trent areas, it became evident that it would be more meaningful to quote unemployment figures for travel to work areas rather than individual Employment Exchanges. These varied between 2.7% in January 1970 and 2.5% in December 1970.

Section B

GENERAL PROVISIONS OF THE HEALTH SERVICES FOR THE AREA.

1. Examination of Samples.

Examination of samples of water etc., is carried out by the Public Health Laboratory Service and the Public Analyst, Chemical Laboratory, Stafford.

2. Services provided by the Staffordshire County Council.

(a) The Ambulance Service, Health Visiting, District Home Nursing and Midwifery Services, and Domestic Help Scheme are operated by the Staffordshire County Council.

The Ambulance Depot for the Area is situated at Newcastle Road, Knutton, Newcastle, Staffordshire and the telephone number is Newcastle 69201.

Details of District Nurses, etc., are as follows :—

<i>Name and Address</i>	<i>Appointment</i>	<i>Area Covered</i>	<i>Telephone No.</i>
Nurse B. Jones, 14, Beresford Dale, Madeley	Midwife	Madeley, Keele, Leycett, Scot Hay	Madeley 423
Nurse S. Jones, 18, Furnace Lane, Madeley	District Nurse/ Midwife	do.	Madeley 217
Nurse E. Rhodes, Rose Cottage, Newcastle Road, Betley	District Nurse/ Midwife	Betley, Balterley, Alsagers Bank, Halmerend	Betley 383
Nurse M. G. McKean, 8, Sandy Lane, Red Bull	District Nurse/ Midwife/Health Visitor/School Nurse	Ashley (part) Mucklestone, Tyrley	Hales 214
Nurse G. E. Berrisford, 29, Esselie Av., Ashley	District Nurse/ Midwife/School Nurse/Health Visitor	Ashley (part) Chapel and Hill Chorlton, Maer	Ashley 311
Nurse N. Davies, 16, Leaswood Place, Clayton	District Nurse/ Midwife/Health Visitor/School Nurse	Whitmore	Trentham 58354

<i>Name and Address</i>	<i>Appointment</i>	<i>Area Covered</i>	<i>Telephone No.</i>
Nurse M. E. Graham, The Studio, Church Street, Audley	District Nurse	Audley, Wood Lane, Bignall End	Audley 287
Nurse M. Llewellyn, Wilbrahams Walk, Audley	Midwife	Audley, Wood Lane, Bignall End	Audley 597
Mrs. D. Robinson, 8, Monaco Place, Westlands, Newcastle	Health Visitor	Apedale, Halmerend, Miles Green	
Miss E. H. Podmore, Highway Lane, Keele	Health Visitor	Audley, Bignall End, Wood Lane	
Mrs. D. R. Simner, Plot 23, Heighley Castle Way, Madeley	Health Visitor	Alsagers Bank, Keele, Leycett, Madeley Heath, Scot Hay	Madeley 539
Mrs. E. E. Barker, 12, Old Butt Lane, Talke	Health Visitor	Balterley, Betley, Kidsgrove Madeley	3746

(b) In addition, the County Council operates the under-mentioned Infant Welfare Centres :—

Infant Welfare Centres :—

<i>Centre</i>	<i>Sessions</i>	<i>Doctor in Attendance</i>
Village Hall, Ashley	Fortnightly Tuesdays, 2 – 4 p.m.	Doctor E. Dabrowicki

<i>Centre</i>	<i>Sessions</i>	<i>Doctor in Attendance</i>
Council Offices, Audley	Tuesdays, 2 – 4 p.m.	Dr. E. M. Prendiville
Central Methodist School, Halmerend	Fortnightly Wednesdays 2 – 5 p.m.	Dr. E. M. Prendiville
Old Church School, Church Bank, Keele	Tuesdays, 2 – 4 p.m.	Doctor C. Wilcox
Village Hall, Furnace Lane, Madeley	Thursdays, 2 – 5 p.m.	Dr. E. M. Prendiville

(c) The scheme for vaccination and immunisation of children against Poliomyelitis, Diphtheria, Whooping Cough, Tetanus, Measles and Smallpox is carried out by the County Council.

The following details give the number of children immunised during 1970.

TABLE 6.

**Immunisation & Vaccination
carried out in Newcastle Rural District, 1970**

Smallpox Vaccination	..	..	..	118	
Smallpox Re-vaccination	..	..	..	14	
Triple (Diphtheria, Pertussis & Tetanus combined)	230				Primary Courses
Triple (Diphtheria, Pertussis & Tetanus combined)	109				Booster Injections
Diphtheria & Tetanus combined	..	..	..	19	Primary Courses
Diphtheria & Tetanus combined	..	..	..	121	Booster Injections
Tetanus only	..	..	..	46	Primary Courses
Tetanus only	..	..	..	47	Booster Injections
Poliomyelitis (oral vaccine)	..	..	..	230	Primary Courses
Poliomyelitis (oral vaccine)	..	..	..	232	Booster Doses
Measles Vaccination	..	..	..	172	

3. Hospitals.

The District is served by hospitals in Newcastle and Stoke-on-Trent administered by the North Staffordshire Hospital Management Committee.

Section C

PREVALENCE OF AND CONTROL OVER INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

Notification of Infectious Diseases

Under the provisions of the Health Services and Public Health Act, 1968, and relevant Regulations, amendments were made to the list of diseases to be notified to the Medical Officer of Health.

The Infectious diseases now to be notified are:—

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

Notification of the diseases listed below is no longer required:—

Acute influenzal pneumonia	Erysipelas
Acute primary pneumonia	Membranous croup
Acute rheumatism	puerperal pyrexia

Responsibility for notifying a case or suspected case of food poisoning or infectious disease rests exclusively on the medical practitioner attending the patient unless he believes that another practitioner has already notified the case.

The fee payable to a medical practitioner for the notification of a case of infectious disease has been increased from the two shillings and sixpence laid down in the Public Health Act 1936 to five shillings.

The following table shows the number of cases notified during the last five years.

TABLE 7.

	1966	1967	1968	1969	1970
Scarlet Fever	13	24	2	1	2
Whooping Cough	—	42	—	1	24
Measles	17	291	19	52	162
Paratyphoid Fevers	1	—	—	—	—
Dysentery	8	1	—	—	30
Meningococcal Infection	—	—	—	—	—
Food-poisoning	3	3	11	2	20
Tuberculosis					
Pulmonary	5	3	2	—	1
Non-Pulmonary	—	—	1	—	1
Infective Hepatitis	—	—	2	—	1

TUBERCULOSIS

TABLE 8.

Incidence and numbers of Deaths during the last Ten Years.

Year	NEW CASES		DEATHS	
	<i>Respiratory</i>	<i>Non-Respiratory</i>	<i>Respiratory</i>	<i>Non-Respiratory</i>
1961 ..	7	3	—	—
1962 ..	2	—	—	1
1963 ..	3	1	1	—
1964 ..	3	—	2	—
1965 ..	4	—	2	—
1966 ..	5	—	—	—
1967 ..	3	—	1	—
1968 ..	2	1	—	—
1969 ..	—	—	1	—
1970 ..	1	1	—	—

TABLE 9.

Number of Tuberculosis Cases on Register
31st December, 1970

<i>Total Cases</i>	<i>Pulmonary</i>		<i>Total</i>	<i>M.</i>	<i>Non-Pulmonary</i>	
	<i>M.</i>	<i>F.</i>			<i>F.</i>	<i>Total</i>
113	52	37	89	12	12	24

With modern methods of treatment, Tuberculosis is less of a medical problem but remains a grave social problem, with particular regard to the questions of suitable housing of active and infective cases.

TABLE 10.
CAUSES OF DEATH
In Newcastle-under-Lyme Rural District 1970

	M	F
Total All Causes	91	121
Other Infective and Parasitic Diseases	—	2
Malignant Neoplasm—Buccal Cavity	—	1
Malignant Neoplasm—Stomach	5	1
Malignant Neoplasm—Intestine	5	3
Malignant Neoplasm—Lung, Bronchus	3	—
Malignant Neoplasm—Breast	—	4
Malignant Neoplasm—Uterus	—	1
Malignant Neoplasm—Prostate	1	—
Leukaemia	1	2
Other Malignant Neoplasms	4	7
Benign and Unspecified Neoplasms	—	1
Diabetes Mellitus	2	1
Other Endocrine etc. Diseases	—	1
Chronic Rheumatic Heart Disease	4	3
Hypertensive Disease	—	2
Ischaemic Heart Disease	29	26
Other Forms of Heart Disease	3	6
Cerebrovascular Disease	12	22
Other Diseases of Circulatory System	2	13
Influenza	—	1
Pneumonia	5	7
Bronchitis and Emphysema	6	1
Asthma	1	—
Other Diseases of Respiratory System	1	3
Peptic Ulcer	1	1
Other Diseases of Digestive System	—	2
Hyperplasia of Prostate	1	—
Diseases of Musculo-Skeletal System	—	1
Congenital Anomalies	1	2
Birth Injury, Difficult Labour etc.	1	—
Motor Vehicle Accidents	1	3
All Other Accidents	2	4

The figures in Table 10 are supplied by the Registrar-General.

Section D

ERECTION OF NEW HOUSES.

Private Building.

93 houses were completed during the year, making a total of 1,627 since the end of the war, and 100 houses were under course of construction at the end of the year.

Council Building.

By the courtesy of the Clerk of the Council, I am enabled to present the requisite statements (Tables 11 and 12).

From Table 12 it may be seen that a total of 1,035 dwellings had been erected since the end of the war.

31 dwellings at Victoria Avenue, were under construction at the end of the year.

Table 11 shows the total number of houses built or acquired by the Council under all the Housing Acts :—

TABLE 11.

Pre-war	210
War time	6
Post-war	1,035
	<hr/>
	1,251
	<hr/>

There were 292 applicants on the housing list at 31st December, 1970.

**TABLE 12—STATEMENT
Of the total number of POST-WAR HOUSES erected as at 31st December, 1970**

No. of Houses completed																
Parish and Site	1/4/46 to 31/12/69		1/1/70 to 31/12/70		Total	Airey	Types			Traditional	No. of Bedrooms				Parish	Totals
	1/4/46 to 31/12/69	1/1/70 to 31/12/70	1/4/46 to 31/12/69	1/1/70 to 31/12/70			Aluminium	Swedish Timber	1		2	3	4			
AUDLEY :																
Halmerend	48	—	—	48	—	—	—	—	48	8	14	26	—			
Wereton ..	325	5	—	330	50	—	—	—	275	34	70	223	3			
Wood Lane	120	—	—	120	—	—	—	—	120	—	54	66	—			
Alsagers Bank	30	—	—	30	—	—	—	—	30	11	11	8	—			
Bignall End	12	—	—	12	—	—	—	—	12	—	4	8	—	AUDLEY	540	
ASHLEY :																
Charnes Road	2	—	—	2	—	—	2	—	—	—	—	2	—			
Sovereign Lane ..	40	—	—	40	24	—	—	—	16	—	8	32	—	ASHLEY	42	
BETLEY :																
Church Lane	2	—	—	2	—	—	—	—	2	—	—	2	—			
East Lawns	63	—	—	63	—	—	—	—	63	—	43	20	—	BETLEY	65	
CHORLTON :																
Chapel Chorlton	6	—	—	6	—	—	—	—	6	—	—	4	2	CHORLTON	6	
KEELE :																
Quarry Bank	8	—	—	8	—	—	—	—	8	—	—	8	—	KEELE	8	
MADELEY :																
Onneley	4	—	—	4	—	—	—	2	2	—	—	4	—			
Furnace Lane	15	—	—	15	—	—	—	—	15	14	1	—	—			
Bevan Place	26	—	—	26	—	26	—	—	—	—	26	—	—			
The Moss	228	—	—	228	22	—	—	—	206	6	98	116	8			
Madeley Heath ..	30	—	—	30	—	—	—	—	30	8	10	12	—	MADELEY	303	
MAER :																
Aston	2	—	—	2	—	—	—	—	2	—	—	2	—	MAER	12	
Blackbrook	10	—	—	10	—	—	—	—	10	—	—	10	—			
MUCKLESTONE :																
Knighton	8	—	—	8	—	—	—	8	—	—	—	8	—	MUCKLESTONE	8	
TYRLEY :																
Almington	8	—	—	8	—	—	—	—	8	—	—	8	—			
Loggerheads	41	—	—	41	—	—	—	—	41	—	24	17	—	TYRLEY	49	
WHITMORE :																
Acton ..	2	—	—	2	—	—	—	—	2	—	—	2	—	WHITMORE	2	
TOTALS	1,030	5	1,035	96	26	12	896	81	363	578	13	TOTAL	1,035			

Section E

TABLE 13.

**Annual Report of the Medical Officer of Health in respect of
the Year 1970 for the Rural District of Newcastle-under-Lyme
in the County of Stafford.**

Prescribed particulars on the administration of the Factories Act,
1961.

PART 1 OF THE ACT.

1. Inspections for purposes of provision as to health (including inspections made by the Public Health Inspector).

	<i>Premises</i>	<i>Number on Register</i>	<i>Inspec- tions</i>	<i>Number of Written Notices</i>	<i>Occupiers Prosecuted</i>
(i)	Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities	—	—	—	—
(ii)	Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority	34	15	—	—
(iii)	Other premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding out-workers premises)	—	—	—	—
	Total	34	15	—	—

2. *Cases in which defects were found.*

(If defects are discovered at the premises on two, three or more separate occasions, they should be reckoned as two, three or more "cases.")

<i>Particulars</i>	<i>Number of cases in which defects were found</i>			<i>Number of cases in which prosecutions were instituted</i>		
	<i>Found</i>	<i>Remedied</i>	<i>for</i>	<i>Inspec- tor</i>	<i>By H.M. Inspec- tor</i>	<i>for</i>
Want of Cleanliness (S.1.)	1	1	—	—	—	—
Overcrowding (S.2.)	—	—	—	—	—	—
Unreasonable temperatures (S.3.)	—	—	—	—	—	—
Inadequate ventilation (S.4.)	—	—	—	—	—	—
Ineffective drainage of floors (S.6.)	—	—	—	—	—	—
Sanitary Conveniences (S.7.)						
(a) Insufficient	1	1	—	—	—	—
(b) Unsuitable or defective	—	—	—	—	—	—
(c) Not separate for sexes	—	—	—	—	—	—
Other offences against the Act (not including offences relating to Outwork)	—	—	—	—	—	—
Total	2	2	—	—	—	—

PART 8 OF THE ACT.

Outwork.

(Sections 110 and 111).

<i>Nature of Work</i>	<i>No. of out-workers in Aug. list required by Section 110 (1) (c)</i>	<i>No. of cases of default in sending list to the Council</i>	<i>No. of prosecu- tions for failing to supply list</i>	<i>No. of instances of work in unwholesome premises</i>	<i>Notices served</i>	<i>Prosecu- tions</i>
Wearing Apparel making, etc.	1	—	—	—	—	—

Mr. G. K. Thorley, Chief Public Health Inspector, reports as follows :—

“The number of factories in the Rural District still remains small and generally speaking there was no cause for complaint in connection with the standard of the accommodation and the working conditions.

There is one modern brick and tile factory in the district, three sand and gravel workings and a factory concerned with the manufacture of bakery equipment and fibreglass materials.

One of the sand and gravel works closed down during the year owing to reduced demand but it is anticipated that this is only a temporary phase.”

Mr. G. K. Thorley, Chief Public Health Inspector, reports as follows :

Section F

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES IN THE AREA.

Water.

The greater part of the District is supplied by the Staffordshire Potteries Water Board and a small area is supplied by the Mid and South-East Cheshire Water Board from the pumping station at Bearstone by a bulk supply to the Staffordshire Potteries Water Board. In addition, there are two other supplies, *viz.* estate mains supply at Whitmore, and the supply from East Shropshire Water Board in Tyrley Parish.

TABLE 14

Summary of Results of Analysis of Water Samples taken in the Area in 1970.

	<i>Bacteriological</i>	
	<i>Satisfactory</i>	<i>Unsatisfactory</i>
<i>Private Supplies :</i>		
Mucklestone Parish	4	5
Total	4	5

In the case of the unsatisfactory samples these were due to a defect in the reservoir and the owner of the supply made arrangements for a new source to be tapped and the reservoir repaired. Subsequent samples were found to be satisfactory.

The Engineer and Manager of the Staffordshire Potteries Water Board has supplied the following information with regard to water supplies from the Board :—

The water is derived from deep wells and boreholes sunk in the New Red Sandstone Rock. During 1970, 115 bacteriological examinations were made, of which 25 were untreated and 90 were of treated water in supply. All bacteriological samples taken were of the highest bacterial purity, no *E. Coli* Type I being found in any sample. All sources are chlorinated or chloraminated.

27 samples were chemically analysed, and all samples were shown to be of the highest quality.

The water supplied to the whole area is moderately hard and the natural fluoride content of the water is not more than 0.05 mg/l.

The water is not plumbo solvent and the organic quality is of the highest standard.

Softening of the water is not undertaken.

The consumption of water for domestic purposes, unmetered trade and waste in the whole of the Board's area of supply for the year 1970 averaged 39 gallons per head per day.

The percentage of the number of houses in the district at the end of the year receiving water from piped mains was, 99.3%.

The number of houses supplied from stand-pipes was 7—Tyrley Parish, and there are 41 supplied from private wells.

With regard to the Ministry of Health's requirements that the number of dwelling houses and population supplied from public mains (a) direct to house, and (b) by means of stand-pipes, should be given, it may be seen from the above that the proportion supplied from stand-pipes is negligible.

Sewerage and Sewage Disposal.

There are six main sewage disposal works in the district and all of these continued to function quite satisfactorily during the year and the standards of effluent produced in most cases equal to that recommended by the Ministry.

It was not found possible to carry out any of the proposed major extensions to the sewers and the sewage disposal works during the year but the scheme for the extensions to the Audley Disposal Works was well in hand and preparations for the extensions to the Madeley Works were under consideration.

Nightsoil Collection and Disposal.

This service is carried out by direct labour and operates throughout all parishes of the Rural District.

The cleansing of septic tanks and cesspools on the Council's smaller housing estates continued to be carried out satisfactorily and also the emptying of private septic tanks.

The Council provide one free service every three years in the case of private houses where a main sewer is not readily available, and otherwise a charge of £1.50 per load is made.

For tanks at business premises and farms there is a minimum service charge of £4.50.

The number of houses without water-closets is decreasing, but rather slowly, and it is hoped that improvements may be effected by way of the increase in the number of conversions carried out, to reduce still further the need for nightsoil collection.

During the year 18 privies were converted to the water-carriage system (8 being connected to sewers and 10 to new septic tanks) and 3 premises which were discharging to private septic tanks, were connected to public sewers.

There are now 281 houses with privy closets.

Refuse Collection and Disposal

The collection of household refuse in all parishes continued satisfactorily and the acquisition of 7½ acres of disused mineral railway line at Leycett eased the problem of disposal. Negotiations were taking place for the purchase of further fairly large tracts of land in other parts of the Rural District for refuse disposal.

One new compression vehicle was purchased during the year.

Rodent Control.

Details of the work carried out in connection with the Prevention of Damage by Pests Act, 1949, are given below (Table 15).

Disinfestation throughout the year by the Council's rodent operative at tip-sites, schools, canteens and other premises continued to show highly satisfactory results. Regular sewer treatments were also carried out.

A free service to domestic premises is now provided by the Council but in the case of business properties and schools, the cost of the work was reclaimed from the owners.

TABLE 15.

<i>Properties other than Sewers</i>				<i>Type of Property</i>	
				<i>Non- Agri- cultural</i>	<i>Agri- cultural</i>
1.	Number of properties in district	..	..	7,208	494
2.	(a) Total number of properties (including nearby premises) inspected following notification	..	..	78	4
	(b) Number infested by (i) Rats	..	..	40	3
	(ii) Mice	..	..	22	1
3.	(a) Total number of properties inspected for rats and/or mice for reasons other than notification	..	..	52	25
	(b) Number infested by (i) Rats	..	..	20	25
	(ii) Mice	..	..	3	2

Section G

HOUSING ACTS.

TABLE 16.

HOUSES IN CLEARANCE AREAS AND UNFIT HOUSES ELSEWHERE

A. HOUSES DEMOLISHED.

In or Adjoining Clearance Areas declared under Section 42 of the Housing Act, 1957.

Unfit for human habitation	Number of Houses	—
	Number of separate dwellings contained therein	—
Included by means of bad arrangement	Number of houses	—
	Number of separate dwellings contained therein	—
On land aquired under Section 43 (2) Housing Act, 1957	Number of houses	—
	Number of separate dwellings contained therein	—

Not in or Adjoining Clearance Areas.

As a result of formal or informal procedure under Section 16 or Section 17 (1) Housing Act, 1957	Number of houses	37
	Number of separate dwellings contained therein	37
Local authority owned houses certified unfit by the Medical Officer of Health	Number of houses	4
	Number of separate dwellings contained therein	4
Houses unfit for human habitation where action had been taken under local Acts	Number of houses	—
	Number of separate dwellings contained therein	—
Houses included in unfitness orders made under paragraph 2 of the Second Schedule to the Land Compensation Act, 1961	Number of houses	—
	Number of separate dwellings contained therein	—
Number of houses included above which were previously reported as closed	In or adjoining Clearance Areas	—
	Not in or adjoining Clearance Areas	31

B. UNFIT HOUSES CLOSED in pursuance of closing orders or undertakings.

Under Section 16 (4), 17 (1) and 35 (1) Housing Act, 1957 and Section 26 Housing Act, 1961	Number of houses	5
	Number of separate dwellings contained therein	5
Under Sections 17 (3) and 26 Housing Acts, 1957	Number of houses	—
	Number of separate dwellings contained therein	—
PARTS OF BUILDINGS CLOSED under Section 18 Housing Act, 1957	Number of dwellings	—

C. Number of PERSONS DISPLACED.

From houses to be demolished in or adjoining clearance areas	—
From houses to be demolished not in or adjoining clearance areas	14
From houses to be closed	4
From parts of buildings to be closed	—

D. Number of FAMILIES DISPLACED.

From houses to be demolished in or adjoining clearance areas	—
From houses to be demolished not in or adjoining clearance areas	4
From houses to be closed	2
From parts of buildings to be closed	—

E. UNFIT HOUSES MADE FIT.

After informal action by local authority	by owner	38
After formal notice under Section 9 and 16, Housing Act, 1957	(a) by owner	—
	(b) by local authority	—
After formal notice under Public Health Acts		—
After modification or revocation of a clearance order under Section 21, Housing Act, 1961		—
After determination of a demolition order under Section 24, Housing Act, 1957		—
After determination of a closing order under Section 27, Housing Act, 1961		—

F. HOUSES IN WHICH DEFECTS WERE REMEDIED.

(Other than unfit houses made fit.)

After formal notice under Public Health Acts	—
---	---

G. UNFIT HOUSES IN TEMPORARY USE (Housing Act, 1957)
Retained for temporary accommodation.

Under Section 48	Number of houses	—
	Number of separate dwellings contained therein	—
Under Section 17 (2)	Number of houses	—
	Number of separate dwellings contained there in	—
Under Section 46	Number of houses	—
	Number of separate dwellings contained therein	—
Licensed for temporary accommodation under Section 34 or 53—No. of houses		—

H. PURCHASE OF HOUSES BY AGREEMENT.

Houses in clearance areas other than those included in confirmed orders or compulsory purchase orders	Number of houses	—
	Number of occupants	—

RENT ACT, 1957.
FIRST SCHEDULE
CERTIFICATES OF DISREPAIR.

There were no applications for certificates of Disrepair during 1970.

OVERCROWDING.

The number of known cases of overcrowding and near overcrowding relieved during the year by rehousing in Council Houses was 5.

**IMPROVEMENT GRANTS.
HOUSING ACTS, 1959—1969.**

The improvement grant system continued to be operated satisfactorily and I give below details of discretionary and standard grant applications dealt with during the year :—

Standard Grants.

TABLE 17.

					<i>Owner/ Occupiers</i>	<i>Tenanted</i>			
1.	Number of applications received	..			42	11			
	" " " Approved	..			41	11			
	" " " Refused	..			1	—			
2.	Number of dwellings improved	..			20	1			
3.	Amount paid in grants	..	..	..			£	s.	d.
							4,569	15	4
4.	Average grant per house	..	..	..			217	12	2
5.	Number of amenities provided								
	(a) fixed bath	..	..	..	..	..	..		17
	(b) shower	..	..	..	..	..	..		—
	(c) wash hand basin	..	..	..	..	..	..		18
	(d) hot water supply (to any fittings)				..	..	..		18
	(e) water closet (1) within dwelling				..	..	..		19
	(2) accessible from dwelling					..	..		—
6.	Total amount paid in grants since commencement of Act	..	..	..	..	..	£48,977	7s.	11d.

Discretionary Grants.

TABLE 18.

	<i>Owner/ Occupiers</i>	<i>Tenanted</i>
1. Number of applications Received	30	3
2. " " " Approved	29	3
3. " " " Refused ..	1	—
4. Number of dwellings improved ..	18	8
5. Amount paid in grants.. ..	£10,715	5s. 10d.
6. Average grant per house	£412	2s. 6d.
7. Total amount paid in grants since commencement of Act	£110,626	5s. 10d.

Considerable change was brought into the scheme for improvement grants by the coming into force on 25th August of the Housing Act, 1969.

Provision was made for increased amounts of grant both standard and discretionary, for grants towards repair works associated with improvement; grants to provide dwellings by conversion and special grants for basic improvements to shared houses.

Section H

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD.

Meat.

There is one licensed slaughter house operating in the District. Slaughtering was carried out regularly at these premises each week : the number of cattle, sheep and pigs killed up to the end of the year and details of condemned carcasses and offal are shown on Table 19.

Foodstuffs Condemned.

It was found necessary to seize the following foodstuffs during the year :

(i) Carcase meat at slaughter house	4lbs.
(ii) Offal at slaughter house	59lbs.
(iii) Cooked meat and meat products	2lbs.
(iv) Canned Meats	36lbs.
(v) Other canned foods	1lb.
(vi) Other foods	14lbs.

TABLE 19.

Carcases and Offal inspected and condemned in whole or in part

	Cattle Excluding Cows	Cows	Calves	Sheep and Lambs	Pigs	Horses
Number killed (if known)	110	—	—	299	180	—
Number inspected	110	—	—	299	180	—
<i>All diseases except Tuberculosis and Cysticerci</i> Whole carcasses condemned	—	—	—	—	—	—
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	8	—	—	12	2	—
Percentage of the number inspected affected with disease other than tuberculosis cysticerci	7.3	—	—	4	1.1	—
<i>Tuberculosis only :</i> Whole carcasses condemned	—	—	—	—	—	—
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	—	—	—	—	1	—
Percentage of the number inspected affected with tuberculosis	—	—	—	—	0.5	—
<i>Cystercosis</i> Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	—	—	—	—	—	—
Carcases submitted to treatment by refrigeration	—	—	—	—	—	—
Generalised and totally condemned	—	—	—	—	—	—

Food Premises Generally.

Routine inspections of food premises were continued throughout the year, special attention being paid to the maintenance of hygienic conditions in connection with the storage and preparation of foods.

As required by Ministry of Health Circular 1/66 details of the number of food premises in the area, in categories of trade and the position regarding compliance with Regulations 16 & 19, Food Hygiene Regulations 1960 are as follows :—

TABLE 20.			<i>Provided with Hot and Cold Water under Reg. 16 & 19 Wash Basin Sink</i>	
<i>Trade</i>	<i>No. of Premises</i>	<i>No. of Inspections</i>	<i>Basin</i>	<i>Sink</i>
Bakeries	2	4	2	2
Butchers Shops ..	8	66	8	8
Fish and Chip Shops	3	3	3	3
General Grocers	15	15	10	15
Mixed Business ..	84	84	62	84
Cafes	1	3	1	1
M 6 service area ..	1	24	4	*
Totals	114	199	90	113

* Dishwashers provided in both North and Southbound service areas.

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

- (a) Storage and sale of ice-cream—93 (one of whom manufactures and the remainder sell pre-packed ice-cream).
- (b) Preparation or manufacture of sausages or potted, pressed, pickled or preserved food intended for sale—13.

During certain of the inspections referred to above, the notice of shopkeepers and cafe proprietors was drawn to the requirements of the Food Hygiene (General) Regulations, 1960 and action requested where necessary.

There were two complaints regarding foreign matter in food which were reported to the Council, *viz.*: (i) dark coloured sediment in bottle of milk. (ii) bad smell from a quantity of cooked meats. In both cases it was decided that legal action should not be taken.

The service area astride the M.6. motorway continued to operate satisfactorily.

Diseases of Animal Acts.

During the year there were 25 cases of suspected and three of confirmed Anthrax reported. All carcasses were dealt with under the procedure laid down in the Anthrax Order of 1938.

Action was taken and advice given, where necessary, with regard to treatment and disposal of milk at the affected premises.

Section I

Offices, Shops and Railway Premises Act, 1963.

Table 21 below gives details of action taken under the Offices, Shops and Railway Premises Act, 1963 :—

TABLE 21.

A. REGISTRATIONS AND GENERAL INSPECTIONS.

<i>Class of Premises</i>	<i>Number of Premises Registered during the year</i>	<i>Number of registered Premises at end of year</i>	<i>Number of Premises receiving a general inspection during the year</i>
Offices	—	37	16
Retail Shops	1	31	31
Wholesale shops, Warehouses	—	1	—
Catering establishments open to the public, canteens	—	10	10
Fuel storage depots ..	—	2	2
Totals	1	81	59

TOTAL NUMBER OF VISITS OF ALL KINDS BY INSPECTORS TO
REGISTERED PREMISES UNDER THE ACT 87

In this Schedule—

“ general inspection ” means any inspection of premises which to 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 London County Council and the expression
“ premises registered ” shall be construed accordingly.

B. ANALYSIS OF CONTRAVENTIONS.

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

Letters were sent to the owners of the premises instructing them to remedy the defects.

There was one accident reported during the year, *viz.*: an employee who was scalded at a petrol filling station whilst unscrewing a radiator cap.

Theatres Acts, 1843.

Applications for licences were made in respect of four premises during the year and visits and inspections carried out to ensure compliance with the Acts, with regard to lighting, means of escape in case of fire, seating accommodation and sanitary facilities.

Petroleum Acts.

53 visits were made with regard to the installation of new petrol tanks and in connection with applications for renewal of existing petrol storage licences.

Animal Boarding Establishment Act.

Three inspections were carried out at premises registered under The Animals Boarding Establishment Act.

National Assistance Act, 1948.

No action was taken under Section 50, National Assistance Act, 1948.

Caravan Sites and Control of Development Act, 1960.

Twenty-seven inspections were made in connection with licences issued under the Caravan Sites and Control of Development Act, 1960.

Noise Abatement Act, 1960.

There was no complaint made under the Noise Abatement Act, 1960.

Pet Animals Act, 1951.

One licence was issued under the Pet Animals Act, 1951, in respect of a pet shop and one inspection was carried out in respect of the premises.



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