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NEWMARKET RURAL DISTRICT

in the

Administrative County of Cambridgeshire

and Isle of Ely

ANNUAL REPORT

of the

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

Including the

Report of the Chief Public Health Inspector

for

1969

B. W. M. MACARTNEY
B. M. , B. Ch. , D. P. H. , D. C. H.

Medical Officer of Health

Newmarket Rural District Council

Shire Hall

Cambridge

Tel. No. Cambridge 58811





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GENERAL STATISTICAL AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS

Area: Land	80,856 acres
Water	245 acres
Number of Parishes	22
Rateable Value (1.4.70)	£627,686
Sum represented by a penny rate for the year	£2,532
Estimated number of inhabited houses	8,706
Estimated mid-year Home Population	22,630
Census Population 1961	20,879

MEMBERS OF THE COUNCIL

- * J. L. Newman (Chairman)
- * A. F. Gathercole (Vice-Chairman)
- B. M. Ayres
- * E. Cooper Bland
- J. M. Bucknell
- J. H. Budden (for 4 months)
- D. T. Camish
- Rev'd R. J. Davies
- * F. S. Fuller
- * W. J. Gidney
- * Rev'd J. B. Goodchild
- * Mrs. S. Horwood-Smart
- C. P. Hurrell
- * Col. D. R. B. Kaye. D.S.O., J.P.
- A. S. Kent
- * K. P. Leonard (Chairman, Public Health Committee)
- D. K. Maclaren
- * Mrs. G. M. McMinnis-Scott
- J. A. Newport
- * H. Palmer, J.P.
- Mrs. J. O'N. Smith
- Mrs. B. A. Taylor
- * R. B. Taylor
- K. A. Trinder
- M. R. Turner
- * Mrs. H. J. Waddilove
- * L. G. Warren
- R. C. Wells
- * Mrs. M. West

(* Member of Public Health Committee)

STAFF

Medical Officer of Health	B. W. M. Macartney. B.A., B.M., B.Ch., D.P.H., D.C.H., D(Obst.), R.C.O.G.
Chief Public Health Inspector	D. Howells, F.A.P.H.I., A.M.I.P.H.E., M.R.S.H.
Additional Public Health Inspectors	F. H. Mason, A.R.S.H. J. Townsend, A.R.S.H.
Clerk	Mrs. S. E. Morley

To the Chairman and Members of
the Newmarket Rural District Council

Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to present my report for the year 1969, prepared in accordance with Department of Health and Social Security Circular 1/70.

1969 saw the publication of the report of the Royal Commission on Local Government Reform and the Green Paper on the Future Structure of the National Health Service. Whatever action is taken on the recommendations of either of these documents, there is bound to be some, and perhaps fundamental, effect on the public health department of district local authorities. Until the Government declares its hand it is idle to speculate as to the detailed effects. But it is to be hoped that whatever the decision, it will soon be made known, as it is unsettling to both the members, and perhaps even more so, to the staff, to know that they are about to be thrown into the melting pot, without any definite knowledge as to how they are going to come out of it. So far as the Public Health Department is concerned it would be a tragic and perhaps irreparable loss for the officers and staff to lose the intimate contact with the people that they serve which they now enjoy. The district medical officer of health as we know him will disappear; who, if anyone, will exercise his professional and statutory duties is, as far as I can see, left totally undefined. For myself I can only express the hope that whatever the administrative structure it will aid, rather than obstruct, those communications, upon which any efficient public service depends.

Vital Statistics

The population of the district continues to increase, but at a declining rate over the past five years; indeed the increase of 130 is the lowest for ten years, with the exception of 1963 when an increase of 50 represented a net loss from the District of 86, there having been 136 more births than deaths. In the last four or five years both the excess of births over deaths and the net increase by presumed immigration to the District has slowly declined. I have illustrated this in fig. 1. The actual figures are small and conclusions should, therefore, be guarded, but the general trend may possibly be significant. This year I have also illustrated the comparative birth and death rates in graphic form (fig. 2).

Malignant disease was responsible for 16.4% of deaths. Members will again note that a high proportion (20%) of these deaths were due to lung cancer, and on this occasion every case was a man. Fig. 3 illustrates this.

No less than 87 persons died of ischaemic heart disease, that is to say 32% of all deaths in the District in 1969 were due to this cause. I have also shown this in graphic form (Fig. 4). Not too much attention should be paid to annual swings as these are likely to be large, on account of the small numbers involved, the general trend to the figures is, however, likely to have some significance.

7 infants died during the first year of life, 6 of these during the first four weeks and 4 of these were soon after birth. The infant mortality rate is still above the national average, but this is due to the very small number upon which the local rate is based. Again I am happy to report that no woman died in childbirth.

Infectious Disease

Again there is only a small number of notified cases of measles. There were, however, 67 cases of sonne dysentery, 65 of which occurred in a small outbreak in Burwell, mainly among school children. The control of this outbreak involved your public health inspectors in no less than 207 visits and the collection and transmission to the laboratory of 447 specimens and was assisted by the voluntary co-operation of several contacts, who by reason of their food handling occupations could otherwise have presented a hazard. While there must always be a risk of spreading bowel organisms by food and drink, it is probable that the spread of dysentery is also assisted by close personal contact, and it is

for this reason that it is wise to exclude children from school, at any rate until well clear of the diarrhoeal stage, however regrettable this may be from a personal educational point of view.

There was the possibility of an outbreak at Burrough Green. Prompt action was taken on information given to the school health section of the County Health Department and fortunately the incipient outbreak was at once controlled.

The Environment

The report of the Chief Public Health Inspector deals very fully with environmental matters and gives a fair view of the many and varied duties carried out by officers and staff of the department.

It is most satisfactory to note the continued progress of the schemes to provide all parts of the District with modern sewage disposal and treatment and that action is in hand to meet the increasing problem of dealing with the solid end products of such treatment.

The other major disposal problem is that of refuse and it is regrettable that the very considerable efforts of members and staff to achieve a positive step towards a solution have so far been largely frustrated. It is to be hoped that future efforts will receive the encouragement that they not only deserve but desperately need if one of the main polluting products of the affluent society, ever increasing and currently accumulating in the District at the rate of 100 tons a week, is not, almost literally, to bury us alive. The hazards to health of any breakdown in this service should need no exposition and the vast expense of emergency measures must be evident to those better qualified than I am to assess them.

The water supply remains most satisfactory and the explanation of the single complaint of unwholesomeness quoted by the Chief Public Health Inspector from the report of Mr. Sanders, Engineer, Ely, Mildenhall and Newmarket Water Board, is interesting and informative, indicating as it does that there is a great deal more to producing wholesome water than just drilling a hole in the chalk.

I share the concern expressed by the Chief Public Health Inspector about food exposed in delivery vans and travelling shops. The spirit of the regulations is clear but the letter inevitably leaves a number of loopholes. It is perhaps a sorry comment upon the attitudes of our society that in spite of so much concern for the common good, in practice individuals often do not act for the good of their "neighbours" unless compelled to do so.

I wish to record my thanks to Mr. Howells and to the officers and staff of the department for their ready co-operation and the cheerful discharge of their many duties.

I am grateful to the Chairman and members of the Public Health Committee and of the Council for their interest and the stimulus of their comments.

I am, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

B. W. M. MACARTNEY

VITAL STATISTICS FOR THE YEAR
(The mid-year home population is used for
the statistical calculations)

<u>Live Births</u>		<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>	<u>Total</u>
Legitimate		194	158	352
Illegitimate		9	4	13
		<u>203</u>	<u>162</u>	<u>365</u>
Birth rate per thousand estimated population				16.1
Birth rate corrected by comparability factor (1.02)				16.4
Birth rate per thousand population (England and Wales)				16.3
<u>Still Births</u>		<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>	<u>Total</u>
Legitimate		3	1	4
Illegitimate		-	-	-
		<u>3</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>4</u>
Rate per thousand live and still births				10.8
Rate per thousand live and still births (England and Wales)				13.0
<u>Deaths</u>		<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>	<u>Total</u>
		148	126	274
Death rate per thousand estimated population				12.1
Death rate corrected by comparability factor (0.93)				11.2
Death rate per thousand population (England and Wales)				11.9
<u>Infant Mortality</u>	Deaths of infants under one year of age	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>	<u>Total</u>
Legitimate		6(5)	1(1)	7(6)
Illegitimate		-	-	-
(Deaths of infants under four weeks of age are shown in brackets)				
Infant Mortality rate (Infant deaths under one year per thousand live births)				19.5
Infant Mortality rate (England and Wales)				18.1
Neonatal Mortality rate (Infant deaths under four weeks per thousand live births)				16.4
Early Neonatal Mortality rate (Infant deaths under one week per thousand live births)				13.7
Perinatal Mortality rate (Still births and deaths under one week combined per thousand live and still births)				24.4
Legitimate Infant Mortality rate per thousand legitimate live births				19.8
Illegitimate Infant Mortality rate per thousand illegitimate live births				Nil
Illegitimate live births per cent of total live births				3.6%
Maternal deaths (Deaths ascribed to pregnancy, childbirth and abortion)				Nil
Maternal Mortality rate per thousand live and still births				Nil
Deaths from cancer (all ages)				46(45)
Deaths from tuberculosis (all ages)				Nil
Ischaemic Heart Disease				87(76)

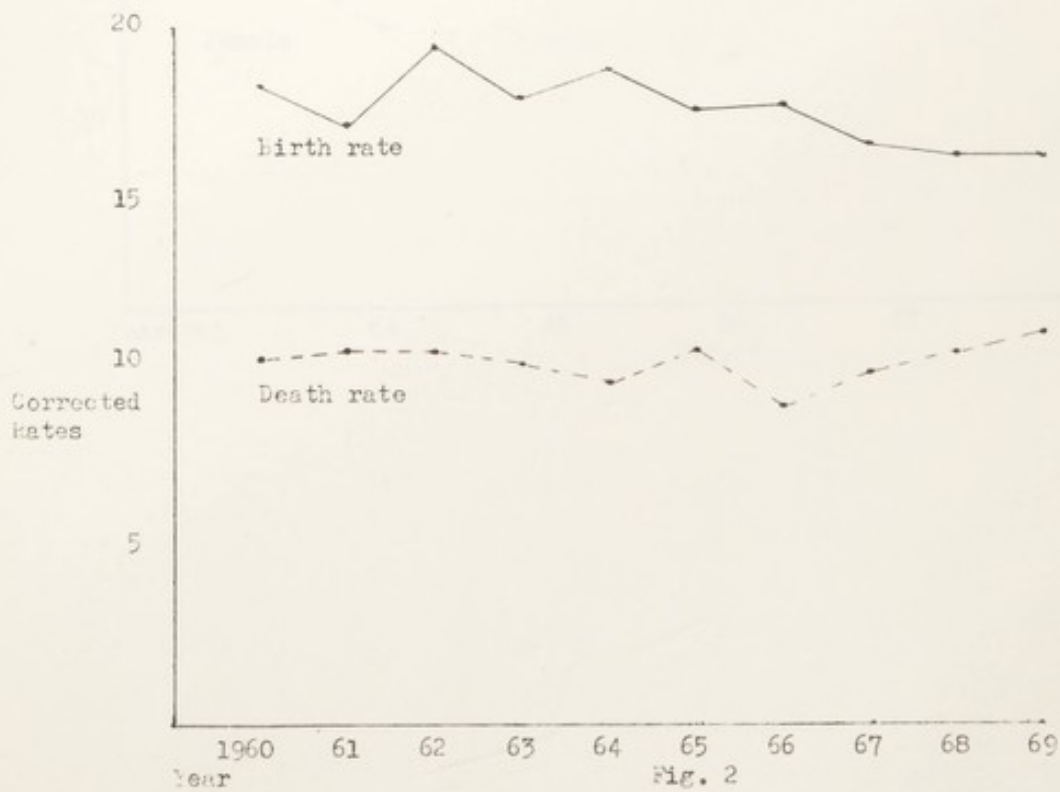
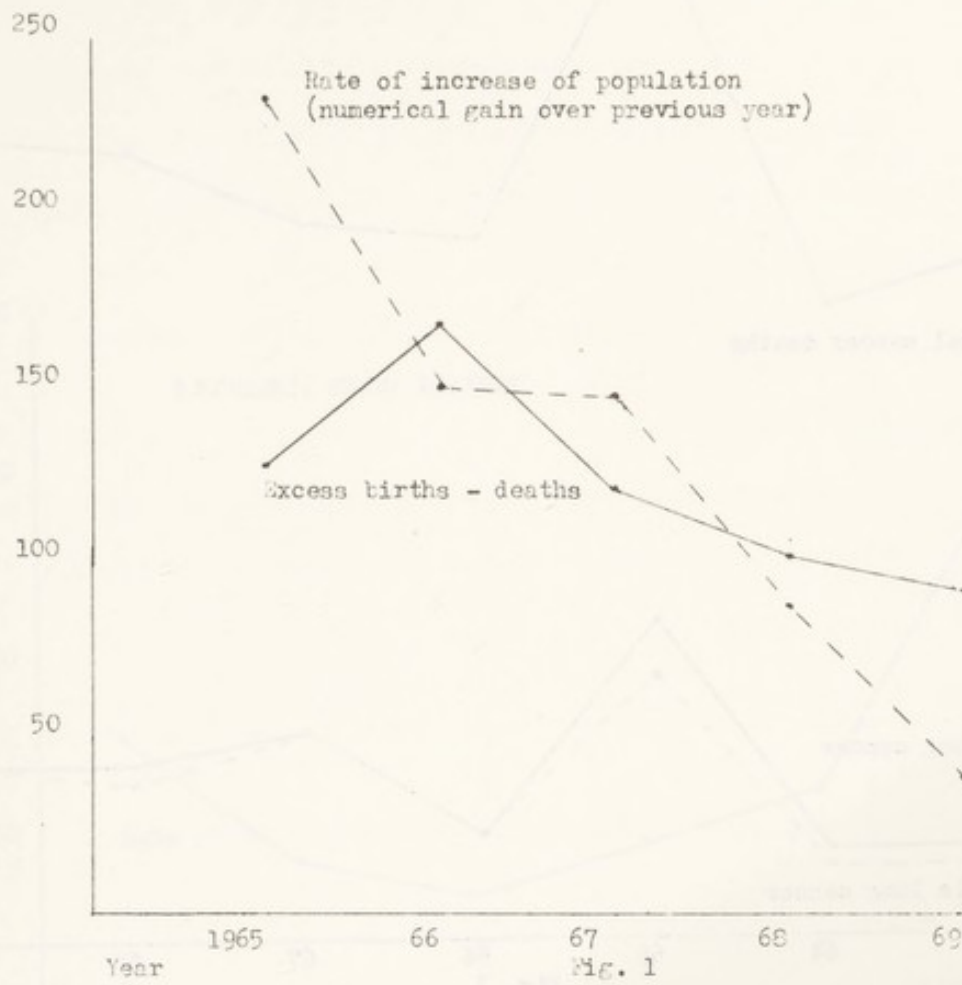
1968 figures in brackets

TABLE CLASSIFYING DEATHS UNDER AGE GROUPS

	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>	<u>Total</u>
Under 4 weeks	5	1	6
4 weeks and under 1 year	1	-	1
1 year and under 5 years	1	-	1
5 years and under 15 years	-	-	-
15 years and under 25 years	2	3	5
25 years and under 35 years	-	1	1
35 years and under 45 years	4	2	6
45 years and under 55 years	4	6	10
55 years and under 65 years	36	8	44
65 years and under 75 years	35	35	70
75 years and over	60	70	130
	<hr/> 148	<hr/> 126	<hr/> 274

CASES OF INFECTIOUS DISEASE NOTIFIED DURING 1969

Age in Years	Infective Hepatitis	Measles	Pulmonary T. B.	Scarlet Fever	Sonne Dysentery	Whooping Cough	Total
Under 1 year	-	-	-	-	-	1	1
1 -	-	4	-	1	3	3	11
2 - 4		13	-	2	13	9	37
5 - 9	1	13	-	5	22	3	44
10 - 14	3	1	-	2	4	-	10
15 - 24	3	-	-	-	3	-	6
25 - 44	1	1	-	-	18	-	20
45 - 64	1	-	2	-	3	-	6
65 and over	-	-	2	-	1	-	3
Age Unknown	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Totals	9	32	4	10	67	16	138



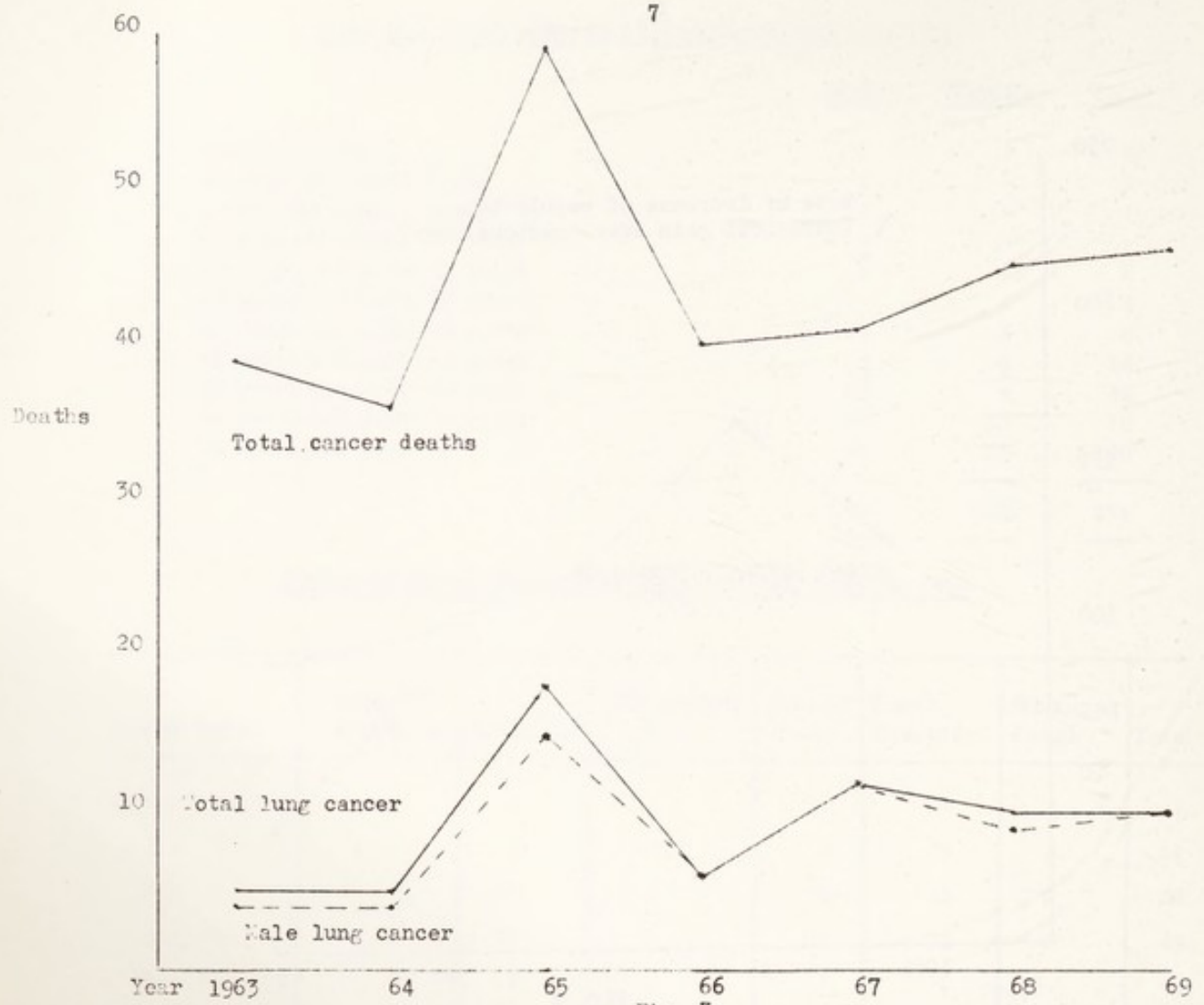


Fig. 3

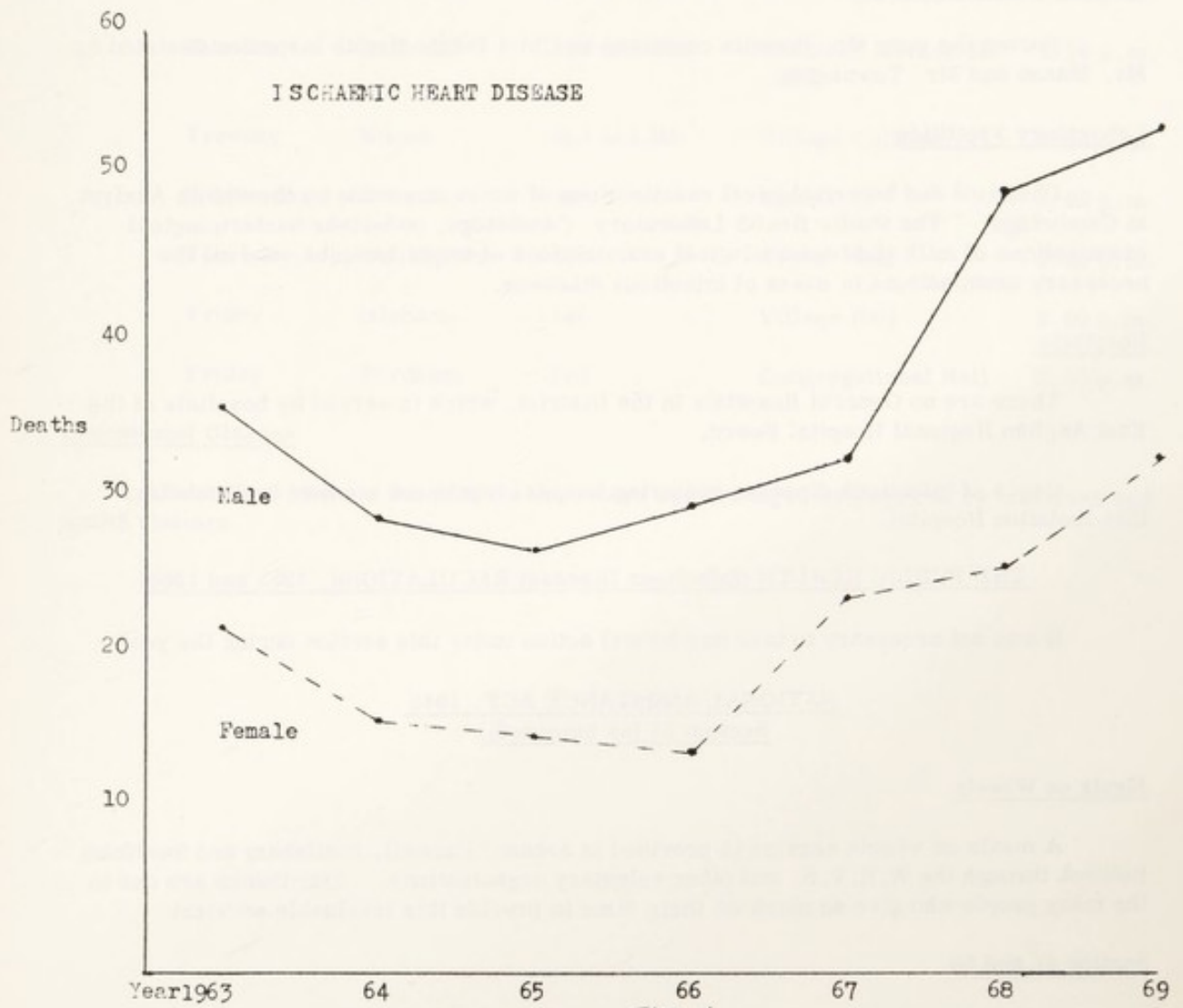


Fig. 4

GENERAL PROVISIONS OF HEALTH SERVICES FOR THE AREA

Medical Officer of Health

Under arrangements made by the Cambridgeshire and Isle of Ely County Council under Section III of the Local Government Act, 1933, the Medical Officer of Health to the Ely Urban District Council, Ely Rural District Council and Newmarket Rural District Council is combined with the appointment of Senior Medical Officer to the County Council by securing for the appointment a full time Medical Officer from 1st September, 1968.

Public Health Inspectors

During the year Mr. Howells continued as Chief Public Health Inspector assisted by Mr. Mason and Mr. Townsend.

Laboratory Facilities

Chemical and bacteriological examinations of water are made by the Public Analyst at Cambridge. The Public Health Laboratory, Cambridge, undertake bacteriological examinations of milk and bacteriological examinations of water samples, and all the necessary examinations in cases of infectious diseases.

Hospitals

There are no General Hospitals in the District, which is served by hospitals of the East Anglian Regional Hospital Board.

Cases of infectious diseases requiring hospital treatment are sent to Cambridge City Isolation Hospital.

THE PUBLIC HEALTH (Infectious Disease) REGULATIONS, 1953 and 1968

It was not necessary to take any formal action under this section during the year.

NATIONAL ASSISTANCE ACT, 1948

Section 31 (as amended)

Meals on Wheels

A meals on wheels service is provided in Soham, Burwell, Bottisham and Swaffham Bulbeck through the W. R. V. S. and other voluntary organisations. Our thanks are due to the many people who give so much of their time to provide this invaluable service.

Section 47 and 50

No action was necessary under these Sections during the year.

APPENDIXNURSING SERVICES FOR NEWMARKET RURAL DISTRICT
PROVIDED BY COUNTY COUNCILAnte Natal Care

At home and at surgeries by General Practitioners and midwives.

Child Health Centres

Tuesday	Bottisham	1st and 3rd	The Surgery	3.00 p. m.
Tuesday	Burwell	2nd and 4th	Gardiner Memorial Hall	2.30 p. m.
Tuesday	Soham	2nd and 4th	Village College	3.00 p. m.
Wednesday	Cheveley	1st	Flint Hall	3.00 p. m.
Thursday	Dullingham	1st	Taylor Hall	3.00 p. m.
Friday	Isleham	1st	Village Hall	3.00 p. m.
Friday	Fordham	3rd	Congregational Hall	3.00 p. m.

Educational Classes

Educational classes for parents and others are arranged as required by midwives and health visitors.

REPORT

of the

CHIEF PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR

D. HOWELLS, F.A.P.H.I., A.M.I.P.H.E., M.R.S.H.,
 Chief Public Health Inspector, Newmarket Rural District Council
 Council Offices, Park Lane, Newmarket.
 Tel. No: Newmarket 2362

REPORT OF THE CHIEF PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR

The following is a summary of the inspections carried out during 1969.

Slaughterhouses and Butchers' Shops	701
Bakehouses	19
Food Premises registered under Section 16, Food and Drugs Act, 1955	305
Canteens and Cafes	80
Licensed Premises	131
Food Vehicles	35
Miscellaneous Food Premises	252
Offices and Shops Act Visits	140
Factories	31
Public Cleansing	385
Infectious Disease Enquiries	222
Drainage and Sewerage	333
Sewage Disposal Plants	7
Caravan Sites	101
Dwellinghouses (including re-visits)	494
Re Improvement Grants	124
Water Supply (excluding visits for sampling)	72
Swimming Pools	136
Nuisances (including re-visits)	175
Noise Abatement	3
Schools	12
Animal Boarding Establishments	4
Clean Air Act	10
Civic Amenities Act	50
Miscellaneous	295
	<hr/> 4,117 <hr/>

Number of Samples taken:-

Drinking Water	85
Ice Cream	-
Specimens Collected	447
Informal Notices Served	41
Statutory Notices Served	-

PARISH STATISTICS

Parish	Acreage	Population (1961 Census)	Rateable Value at 1.4.70	1d. Rate Product 1969/70
			£	£
ASHLEY	2,225	465	8,330	33
BOTTISHAM	2,854	975	49,976	201
BRINKLEY	1,303	204	7,298	30
BURROUGH GREEN	2,272	289	5,133	19
BURWELL	7,010	2,734	135,885	554
CHEVELEY	2,559	1,624	45,883	180
CHIPPENHAM	4,301	366	7,844	31
DULLINGHAM	3,387	520	10,918	44
FORDHAM L. A.)	4,331	1,709	55,899	228
FORDHAM N. L. A.)			422	2
ISLEHAM	5,230	1,392	26,022	104
KENNETT	1,431	340	10,134	40
KIRTLING	3,126	357	5,839	23
LODE	3,133	607	11,852	45
REACH	1,134	269	4,033	16
SNAILWELL	2,034	216	4,906	20
SOHAM	12,999	5,077	138,843	567
STETCHWORTH	2,891	514	15,363	61
SWAFFHAM BULBECK	4,110	633	15,417	62
SWAFFHAM PRIOR	4,889	634	11,926	48
WESTLEY	1,149	165	2,187	8
WICKEN	3,965	655	10,427	42
WOODDITTON	4,768	1,134	33,183	134
GAS)
ELECTRICITY)
DISTRIBUTION			9,966	40)
ELECTRICITY)
GENERATING)
TOTALS	81,101	20,879	627,686	2,532

HOUSINGHouses not included in Clearance Areas

DEMOLITION AND CLOSING ORDERS

(1) Houses demolished as a result of formal or informal procedure under Section 17, Housing Act, 1957	13
(2) Unfit houses closed under Sections 16 and 17, Housing Act, 1957	3
(3) Parts of buildings closed under Section 18, Housing Act, 1957	Nil
(4) Houses on which Demolition Orders were made	4

REPAIRS

HOUSES IN WHICH DEFECTS WERE REMEDIED

(5) After informal action by Local Authority	26
(6) After formal notice under Public Health Acts	
(a) by owners	Nil
(b) by Local Authority	Nil
(7) After formal notice under Housing Act, 1957	
(a) by owner	Nil
(b) by Local Authority	Nil

ACTION TAKEN DURING THE POST-WAR PERIOD

Parish	Demolished		Outstanding Orders on Existing Houses			Parts of Buildings Closed	Purchased by N. R. D. C.	D. O's etc. Cancelled
	Houses	Hutments	D. O's	C. O's	U/T			
ASHLEY	16	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
BOTTISHAM	48	12	-	1	1	-	5	15
BRINKLEY	12	-	-	-	1	-	9	1
BURROUGH GREEN	17	-	-	-	1	-	13	-
BURWELL	56	-	5	2	6	-	-	10
CHEVELEY	15	-	-	3	-	-	-	2
CHIPPENHAM	5	-	2	-	-	-	2	1
DULLINGHAM	31	-	1	-	2	-	8	-
FORDHAM	36	-	2	-	-	-	-	2
ISLEHAM	53	-	8	5	5	-	-	4
KENNETT	8	-	-	-	1	1	-	-
KIRTLING	5	-	-	-	3	-	-	-
LODE	15	-	-	1	1	-	-	3
REACH	11	-	3	1	-	-	-	1
SNAILWELL	8	37	-	1	-	-	-	2
SOHAM	108	-	10	3	4	6	-	5
STETCHWORTH	9	-	-	1	-	-	4	-
SWAFFHAM BULBECK	17	-	4	3	1	-	-	5
SWAFFHAM PRIOR	15	-	8	-	3	-	7	1
WESTLEY WATERLESS	4	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
WICKEN	19	-	1	1	3	-	-	-
WOODDITTON	21	-	2	1	-	-	4	4
TOTAL	529	49	44	23	32	7	52	57

New Dwellings

During the year, 112 dwellings were constructed by private enterprise and the Council built 10 two bedroom old persons' bungalows. At the end of the year 17 grouped old persons' bungalows were under construction at Cheveley.

NEW DWELLINGS CONSTRUCTED DURING THE PAST TEN YEARS

Year	By the Local Authority	By Private Enterprise	Total
1960	37	67	104
1961	68	84	152
1962	36	100	136
1963	33	145	178
1964	64	211	275
1965	62	244	306
1966	42	180	222
1967	45	200	245
1968	8	169	177
1969	10	112	122
Total	405	1,512	1,917

Housing of Old People

It will be noted that this problem is given priority in the Council's building programme.

Council Houses

The building of new Council properties and the management of 2,233 houses was under the control of Mr. M. E. Moore, the Engineer and Surveyor.

A further 8 pre-war Council houses have been provided with bathrooms and 22 were in the course of modernization at the end of the year. This completes the programme of providing 706 dwellings with modern amenities.

Partial central heating has been incorporated in recent improvement schemes.

Housing Improvements - House Purchase and Housing Act, 1959 and Housing Act, 1964

The Improvement Grant scheme is given full publicity by the Health Department, a good supply of booklets are available and personal visits are made to advise owners on schemes which would attract a Standard or Discretionary Grant.

The following statistics are of interest:-

(a)	Discretionary Grants	-	applications received	21
			approved	18
	Standard Grants	-	applications received	36
			approved	36

(b) Number of houses on which improvement grants were paid:-

	<u>1969</u>	<u>1968</u>	<u>1967</u>	<u>1966</u>	<u>1965</u>	<u>1964</u>
Discretionary Grants	25	23	25	33	37	54
Standard Grants	37	41	25	35	44	48

(c) Amount Paid in Grants:-

Discretionary Grants	£8,320	£7,785	£7,920	£10,430	£10,830	£15,180
Standard Grants	£7,799	£8,202	£10,783	£6,315	£7,633	£6,819

(d) Number of Properties improved since the scheme came into operation:-

Discretionary Grants	726
Standard Grants	<u>426</u>
	<u>1,152</u>

(e) Amount Paid on (d):-

Discretionary Grants	£182,164
Standard Grants	£69,348

(f) Average Discretionary Grant during 1969	£333 per house
Average Standard Grant during 1969	£211 per house

The above figures do not include 684 Council dwellings which have been modernised with the aid of grants. No housing improvement areas have been declared.

Housing Act 1969

This Act came into operation on the 25th August, 1969 and, among other things, deals with various types of improvement grants, improvement areas, rents, fitness, repairs and houses in multiple occupation.

A discretionary improvement grant can now amount to a maximum of £1,000 per dwelling or £1,200 in the case of three storey conversions. The maximum standard grant is £200 plus an additional sum, where specified extra works are involved, up to a ceiling of £450. Repairs and replacements which are incidental to improvements now qualify for grant but no grant can exceed 50% of the "approved expense". By the end of the year 8 Discretionary and 5 Standard Grants had been approved under this new Act.

The Chief Public Health Inspector undertakes the responsibility of dealing with all grant applications, cost assessment and the preparation of reports to the Housing Grants Committee.

Caravan Sites and Control of Development Act, 1960

The following information summarises the licensing figures:-

New site licences granted	4
Site licences renewed	5
Site licences expired and not renewed	5
Planning Refusals	2
Total number of licensed sites	38
Total number of vans permitted to occupy licensed sites	78

The two sites at Soham, each licensed for the stationing of 16 residential caravans, are the largest in the area. One site at Lode is licensed for five vans but most sites are occupied by one van only. The larger sites are provided with satisfactory drainage systems, connected to public sewers, but chemical sanitation is accepted in most cases.

Gypsies and Other Travellers

The situation has not materially changed since last year's report. About seven families regularly use unlicensed sites as winter quarters but, having regard to government policy, no pressure has been brought to bear, in accordance with circular 60/67. No gypsy site has been established or designated under the provisions of Part II of the Caravan Sites Act, 1968. The travellers engaged on casual agricultural work are generally exempt from the Caravan Sites and Control of Development Act, 1960.

Rent Control

No applications were received for Certificates of Disrepair under the Rent Act, 1957. Under the provisions of the Housing Act, 1969, a landlord can request the Rent Officer to fix a fair rent for dwellings provided with, or about to be provided with, standard amenities. The documentation is tedious and the whole thing is phased over several years but the end result should prove to be a reasonable investment from the owner's point of view.

Clearance of Unfit Dwellings

The Council is not faced with a slum clearance problem although a considerable number of dwellings fall below present day standards. Thirteen cottages were demolished and three were closed as unfit. Four families were rehoused from unfit dwellings.

INSPECTION OF FOOD AND FOOD PREMISES

Slaughterhouses

There was no change in the slaughtering arrangements and the five licensed establishments adequately coped with the throughput, for consumption within the rural area. There is no licensed slaughterhouse in the adjoining Urban District but the Cambridge slaughterhouses are within easy reach. All carcasses and offal are inspected in accordance with the Meat Inspection Regulations, 1963 and no carcase is allowed to leave the place of slaughter before it is stamped by the public health inspector. Regular visits are made by the Divisional Veterinary Officer.

Carcases and Offal Inspected and Condemned in Whole or in Part during
the Year 1969

	Cattle not cows	Cows	Calves	Pigs not Sows	Sows	Sheep and Lambs	Horses
Number killed and inspected	472	-	2	1,518	17	672	-
<u>All diseases except Tuberculosis and Cysticerci:-</u>							
Whole carcasses condemned	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	111	-	1	114	1	6	-
Percentage of the number inspected affected with disease other than Tuberculosis and Cysticerci	23.5	-	50.0	7.5	5.9	0.9	-
<u>Tuberculosis only:-</u>							
Whole carcasses condemned	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	-	-	-	1	-	-	-
Percentage of the number inspected affected with Tuberculosis	-	-	-	0.07	-	-	-
<u>Cysticercosis:-</u>							
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Carcasses submitted to treat- ment by refrigeration	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Generalised and totally condemned	-	-	-	-	-	-	-

Meat and Offal Condemned

	Bovine	Calves	Pigs	Sheep and Lambs
Hindquarters (part)	-	1	1	-
Heads	2	-	3	-
Lungs	2	-	8	-
Livers	69	-	90	6
$\frac{1}{2}$ Livers	36	-	3	-
Hearts	1	-	18	-
Mesenteries	1	-	1	-
Hocks	-	-	4	-
Trimmings	42 lbs.	-	5 lbs.	-

Other foods condemned as unfit for human consumption:-

2 tins Cooked Ham
3 tins Pork Shoulder
2 tins Corned Beef
2 tins Garden Peas
1 tin Baked Beans
1 tin Grapefruit

Slaughter of Animals Act, 1933-58

Slaughtermen's Licences renewed	-	eighteen
New licences issued	-	none

Not all licensed slaughtermen are actively engaged in slaughtering and some part time men are licensed by other local authorities.

No action was necessary under the Slaughter of Animals (Prevention of Cruelty) Regulations, 1958.

The Meat (Sterilization) Regulations, 1969

These Regulations amended the Regulations of 1960.

With certain exceptions, no unfit meat must leave a slaughterhouse or knacker's yard unless it has been sterilized or consigned to a processor.

The Food Hygiene (General) Regulations, 1960

These Regulations apply to the following premises within the rural area:-

Bakehouses	8
Butchers	13
Grocer and General	55
Fish and Chips	4
Cafes and Snack Bars	4
Sweets and Confectionery	8
School and L. A. Kitchens	11
School Meals	15
Hotels	1
Factory Canteens	4
Licensed Premises	66
Racecourses	2
Supermarkets	1
Miscellaneous	5
	<hr/>
	197

The Food Hygiene (Markets, Stalls and Delivery Vehicles) Regulations, 1966

35 vehicles were inspected and 3 informal notices served under the above Regulations. The sale of open food from an ordinary van is a poor substitute for service in a well equipped shop but rural householders come to rely upon these essential deliveries in the less populated areas. Unwrapped bread continues to be sold from vehicles without washing facilities but confectionery is fortunately finding its way into small cartons with display lids. Trays of cream cakes on delivery vehicles leaves much to be desired and the driving of vehicles with the rear doors open is discouraged.

Ice Cream

Owing to unsatisfactory conditions, one occupier was requested to appear before the Council and show cause why his storage premises should not be removed from the register under Section 19 of the Food and Drugs Act, 1955. Considerable improvements resulted and registration was retained. Ice cream sales vehicles receive regular attention with special emphasis on hand washing facilities.

Registration of Food Premises

The following premises are registered under Section 16 of the Food and Drugs Act, 1955:-

(a)	Sausage and Cooked Meat Premises	23
(b)	Fried Fish Shops	4
(c)	Premises used for the storage and sale of ice cream	81
(d)	Premises used for the manufacture of ice cream	1

Three new registration certificates were issued during the year and 324 visits were made to the above premises.

Milk

All sixteen dairy farms are registered by the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food and there are no registered dairies other than those attached to dairy farms. No action has been necessary under the Milk and Dairies Regulations.

Poultry

There are no poultry processing establishments within the area but most of the butchers dress poultry from time to time. A strongly worded circular was despatched to all persons engaged on occasional evisceration, drawing attention to the importance of hand and equipment hygiene.

The Liquid Egg (Pasteurisation) Regulations, 1963

There are no egg pasteurisation plants in the district and no samples have been submitted to the Alpha-Amylase test.

Licensed Premises

131 visits were made to the 66 licensed premises in the area. Advice is given on projects involving the cooking of meals on licensed premises, with the emphasis on kitchen facilities. Standards have steadily improved but indoor sanitation is by no means available at all public houses.

Bakehouses

19 visits were made to the eight bakehouses in the area. Locally baked bread and confectionery does of course provide a welcome alternative to the factory produced article.

Knacker's Yard

There are no licensed knacker's yards in the area.

Prosecution

Following a complaint relating to the purchase of 6 ozs. of cooked ham, the seller's

premises were visited and one 11 lb. tin of imported cooked ham was seized under the provisions of Section 9 of the Food and Drugs Act, 1955. The seller was fined £20 plus 12 guineas costs.

WATER SUPPLY

We are indebted to Mr. F. W. Sanders, the Engineer to the Ely, Mildenhall and Newmarket Water Board, for his usual comprehensive report on the water supply situation throughout the area. It is interesting to note that the Board met a daily demand of 5 million gallons during July, rising to a peak of $6\frac{1}{4}$ million gallons a day. The supply is wholesome and adequate and samples are regularly submitted to the Laboratory for bacteriological and chemical examination. Some complaints were received from the Dullingham and Stetchworth area and Mr. Sanders' explanation in his report is well worth quoting as follows:-

"A pronounced 'musty' taste and odour from the Lower Links boreholes in February resulted in the source being withdrawn from supply although its bacteriological standards remained high. There was also a considerable change in the characteristics of the water, the non-carbonate hardness in particular increased from 80 p.p.m. Extensive tests were carried out, including dosing the borehole with Sodium Hypochlorite, pumping to waste, throttling the pump in order to draw water from the upper strata only, and varying the pump running times. Earlier in the trials no significant improvement in the quality was apparent, but after 5 weeks or so it was established that the taste, odour and increased hardness returned when the boreholes were tested at their highest level for a few hours, but reasonable quality water could be obtained after rejecting the first few hours of pumping.

The Institute of Geological Sciences carried out an investigation of the source and, in their opinion, the leaching out of the residuals of acid treatment from rarely reached levels in the chalk was the answer to the problem.

The water quality steadily improved with the continued seasonal fall in the water table and the source was eventually restored to supply in June.

The water table is at present some 20 feet lower than the abnormally high level reached during the winter months of 1968/69, with the chemical characteristics back to normal and no trace of taste or odour."

Following last year's report on some contamination of the Isleham boreholes, all drains in the vicinity of the Board's Depot have now been connected to the new sewerage system serving the parish.

The following samples were collected by the public health inspectors and submitted to the Public Health Laboratory:-

Water Sampling during 1969

Sample	Mains Supplies		Private Supplies		Total
	Satisfactory	Unsatisfactory	Satisfactory	Unsatisfactory	
Bacteriological	81	1	-	3	85

Negotiations with the Water Board are in hand with a view to a mains extension being provided to replace the unfit private supplies from a shallow well.

Water Consumption

	Chippenham Pumping Station	Swaffham Prior Pumping Station	Bottisham Pumping Station	Lower Links Pumping Station
Average daily output over year	Gallons 478,078	Gallons 94,390	Gallons 149,833	Gallons 167,887

Typical Results of Analysis of Public Supplies

Test	Chippenham	Swaffham Prior	Bottisham	Lower Links
Physical Characters	Good	Good	Good	Good
Reaction	pH 7.1	pH 8.2	pH 8.0	pH 7.2
Parts per million				
Chloride	20	240	140	19
Ammoniacal Nitrogen	Absent	0.02	0.20	Absent
Albuminoid Nitrogen	Absent	Absent	Absent	Absent
Oxygen absorbed in 3hrs. at 37°C	Nil	Nil	Nil	0.10
Nitrate Nitrogen	8.5	2.6	Absent	7.8
Nitrite Nitrogen	Absent	Absent	Absent	Absent
Poisonous Metals	Absent	Absent	Absent	Absent
Total Hardness	285	80	50	305
Iron	Absent	Absent	Absent	Absent
Fluoride	0.1	0.15	0.25	0.15
Bacteriological Examination				
Coliform organisms in 100 mls	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Number of micro-organisms per ml. developing at 37°C	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Number of micro-organisms per ml. developing at 21°C	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil

DRAINAGE AND SEWERAGE

Excellent progress has been made on sewerage schemes during the post war period and the following notes refer to further negotiations during 1969.

Swaffham Prior and Reach Scheme

Approximately 75% of dwellings on the line of the sewer were connected.

Kirtling Scheme (phase 1)

This scheme was completed and connections were being carried out. Ministry approval has been given to phase 2.

Ashley, Cheveley and Woodditton Scheme

The design is now being finalised and it is anticipated that work will commence in 1970.

Soham Fringe Areas

At the time of writing this report, satisfactory progress was being made on the laying of sewers in these areas.

Wicken and Upware Scheme

This scheme has been submitted to the Ministry and work should commence late in 1970.

Kennett Scheme

Negotiations with the Mildenhall Rural District Council are already under way with a view to a combined scheme being provided to cover Kennett and Kentford villages.

Remaining Parishes

The Council's Engineer has submitted a sewerage programme to the Council with a view to the smaller parishes being sewered in the reasonably near future.

A central sludge dewatering plant will be installed at Burwell.

PUBLIC CLEANSING

Collection of Household Refuse

A major advance in the system of refuse collection took place during the year, following the successful introduction of expendable sacks in the parish of Fordham. Using 18" x 29" x 34" polythene bin liners, the following areas were placed on this system during the months shown:-

Soham	-	February
Newmarket fringe, Ashley, Isleham	-	July
Cheveley Village Woodditton	-	October
Brinkley, Westley Burrough Green, Kirtling	-	December
Fordham	-	System operated since September, 1968

By the end of 1969, approximately 4,600 bin liners were being issued weekly and these households were provided with a back door service to replace the kerbside collection which had previously been in operation. It is anticipated this improved service will be extended to the whole of the district in the fairly near future.

The new S & D 60 cub.yd. "Pakamatic" vehicle, which was licensed in April, dealt with most of the sack collections and, manned by a driver and three loaders, cleared 45 tons per week during the winter months. A "Fore & Aft" 18/25 cub.yd. vehicle coped with the remaining sack collections, along with additional work, and a 35 cub.yd. "Pakamatic" covered the kerbside collections in nine parishes. Apart from isolated properties, a weekly service is provided throughout the area and special arrangements are made at holiday times. The use of British Standard dustbins at all Council houses is an invaluable aid to the operation of the bin liner system.

All men are provided with protective clothing and boots were issued for the first time before the end of the year. Work has started on the building of a new depot at Burwell and this will be shared with the outdoor staff employed by the Engineer and Surveyor.

Productivity

All men engaged on refuse collection are paid a bonus which rises with the number of new dwellings constructed throughout the area. Discussions on Work Study and Productivity Agreements have been attended and two firms of Work Study Consultants have submitted preliminary reports relating to outdoor staff. It is the Council's intention to share the services of a Work Study Officer with other authorities. All men received a 30/- wage increase towards the end of the year, bringing the basic pay for loaders up to £15.10s.0d. for a 40 hour week.

Refuse Disposal

Negotiations continued with a view to the installation of a joint refuse disposal plant within the adjoining Urban District but unfortunately we cannot report that the plant was in operation by the end of the year. From the 20th September, 1969, a temporary arrangement was made with the Newmarket Urban District Council which permits the disposal of 40 tons per week in that Council's tip at Kennett at an agreed charge. This quantity is likely to increase in proportion to the urgency of the matter.

The remaining 60 tons of refuse per week were dumped in the Reach and Woodditton pits where bulldozing is performed by a private contractor, as and when required. Cover soil is not available on site and burning is resorted to at Woodditton. This is an unsatisfactory state of affairs which calls for early positive action.

Pests and rodents on the dumps have been kept under control by the Council's Rodent Officer but a large infestation of rats at one unauthorised dump created a serious challenge which requires constant attention.

Civic Amenities Act, 1967

Fortunately, this rural area is not used as a dumping ground for worn out cars. If a vehicle appears to be abandoned, prompt enquiries are made, owners are traced as far as possible and "wrecks" are carted away by private contractor. No vehicles were taken into store and the following information summarises the action taken:-

Removed by owners on request	6
Removed by Council for destruction	2
Parked on Council car parks - referred to Surveyor	2
On private land - no further action	<u>2</u>
Total cases investigated	<u>12</u>

Bulky household refuse is collected on request and householders are authorised to use the refuse pits at their convenience.

Scrap Metal

In an effort to keep dwellings and their surroundings free from junk, an occasional special collection is made in selected parishes. This service was provided in Burwell, Stetchworth, Dullingham, Chippenham, Kennett and Snailwell. Although this service is very much appreciated by householders, it is doubtful whether it can be continued without confining the collections to domestic waste.

Salvaged Materials

	Year ended 31st March, 1970			Year ended 31st March, 1969		
	T. C. Q.	£	s. d.	T. C. Q.	£	s. d.
Waste Paper	90. 0. 1.	705.	16. 7.	137. 10. 2.	870.	3. 7.
Ferrous Metals				4. 6. 0.	25.	18. 6.
Non-Ferrous Metals	12. 3.	76.	10. -.	13. 2.	33.	15. 0
Rags and Sacking	9. 1. 1.	190.	16. 3.	5. 16. 1.	164.	14. 10.
Sundries		30.	3. 6.			
Miscellaneous Iron	32. 14. 0.	72.	17. 6.	2. 4. 1.	4.	8. 6.
Totals	132. 8. 1.	1076.	3. 10.	150. 10. 2.	1099.	0. 5.

The department is not geared for the salvage of materials on a large scale. Two old hand balers are used for the baling of paper and rags but this work is secondary to refuse collection and disposal. The selling price of waste paper rose to £8.10s.0d. per ton for mixed and £9.0s.0d. for newspaper. All men shared a waste paper bonus of £294.

Cesspool Emptying

A new 1100 gallon cesspool emptier was licensed in August, and the seven year old vehicle was handed over to the Engineer's department for occasional sludge carting.

Clearances during the last five years

Year Ended March	Private		Council			Total Loads
	Cesspools Cleared	Loads	Cesspools Cleared	Sewage Plants	Loads	
1970	807	949	202	494	1,185	2,134
1969	870	1,041	234	484	1,226	2,267
1968	747	919	347	284	1,120	2,039
1967	677	814	427	112	1,251	2,065
1966	609	791	458	145	1,610	2,401

432 annual free clearances were carried out on request in unsewered areas. Further visits are charged at the rate of £1 load but, in sewerred areas, there is a flat charge of £2 per load. The problems associated with the disposal of cesspool contents and sewage plant sludge have not yet been solved but straw composting was put on trial at the Dullingham sewage plant and a filter press is included in the Council's sewerage programme.

Statistics for the year ended 31st March, 1970
compared with previous year

Refuse Collection and Disposal

	March 1970	March 1969
Total Mileage	32,438	34,313
Refuse Collected - loads	1,075	1,337
Net cost of service	£22,371	£19,011 6
Cost per load - collection and disposal	£20.16s.2d.	£14.4s.5d.
Annual cost per 1,000 population	£988.11s.1d.	£852.10s.3d.
Vehicle Costs - including renewals	£5,233	£4,311
Cost per mile	3s.3d.	2s.6d.
Vehicles - actual running costs	£3,044	£2,743
Vehicles - actual running costs cost per mile	1s.10d.	1s.7d.
Fuel consumed:- gallons - Derv	3,961	3,763
Average mileage per gallon	8.19	9.1
Income from salvage sales NETT	£893*	£637 *
* After deducting men's bonus		
6 Including Retirement Gratuity	£631	

Cesspool Emptying

Total Mileage	15,316	15,142
Cost of Service	£3,088	£2,864
Number of loads cleared	2,134	2,267
Cost per load - collection and disposal	£1.8s.11d.	£1.5s.3d.
Fuel consumed - gallons	1,451	1,382
Fuel consumption per load - gallons	0.680	0.609

Chargeable work came under the following headings:-

Private Householders	£ 454
Housing Management	£ 433
Sewerage	£ 688
	<u>£1,575</u>

Deficit to General Rate £1,513

GENERAL INSPECTION OF THE AREA

Offices, Shops and Railway Premises Act, 1963

At the end of the year, 107 premises, employing 365 persons, were entered in the public health department's register, as detailed below:-

Table A - Registrations		
Class of Premises	No. of premises registered during the year	Total number of registered premises at the end of year
Offices	2	27
Retail Shops	2	70
Wholesale Shops, Warehouses	-	2
Catering Establishments open to the public, canteens	-	6
Fuel Storage Depots	-	2
Totals	4	107

B. Number of visits of all kinds to registered premises - 140

Table C - Analysis of Persons Employed in Registered Premises by Workplace	
Class of Workplace	Number of Persons Employed
Offices	113
Retail Shops	192
Wholesale Departments, Warehouses	40
Catering Establishments open to the public	15
Canteens	1
Fuel Storage Depots	4
Total	365
Total Males	149
Total Females	216

Informal notices served during 1969

4

All offices attached to registered factories are excluded from the above figures because the inspection of these premises falls within the duties of H. M. Factory Inspectors.

EXEMPTIONS

No exemption certificates have been applied for during the year.

ACCIDENTS

No accidents were reported during the past year.

PROSECUTIONS

There have been no prosecutions for non-compliance with the Act during the year.

Swimming Baths and Pools

136 visits were made to the 15 school swimming pools in the area and close liaison with head teachers continued. Advice on filtration and chlorination was appreciated and spot checks for residual chlorine and pH indicated that every effort was being made to maintain the pool water in a safe and pleasing condition. Lovibond Comparators are provided at all pools for making daily tests and DPD tablets are invariably used. Water treatment by cyanurates in the form of "Fichlor" was introduced during the year and this method proved to be popular if only for its simplicity.

Prevention of Damage by Pests Act, 1949

The Council's Rodent Officer made 2,618 inspections and reinspections during the year and dealt with 201 infestations. Under the provisions of the Act, the Council has a duty to see that all occupiers of land and buildings take steps to keep their premises free from rats and mice. Although a free service is provided to householders, the Council's Officer is not required to treat all infestations and it becomes necessary to call upon occupiers to take adequate steps to deal with an outbreak on their land. One owner/occupier failed to comply with a notice under Section 4; the work was carried out in default and the cost charged to the owner.

Disinfestation and Disinfection

Occasional complaints are received and the Rodent Officer dealt with the following:-

Flies - 49. Ants - 5.

87 Wasps' nests were destroyed on request. A charge of 5/- is made to private householders for this service.

Both refuse dumps are regularly treated by spraying with a suitable tip dressing.

Pet Animals Act, 1951

No applications were received for licences to keep pet shops.

Infectious Disease

It is not proposed to report on the outbreak of Sonne Dysentery at Burwell in this part of the report but this did involve many hours work by the Public Health Inspectors in the checking of contacts, advisory visits and collection of no less than 443 specimens for delivery to the public health laboratory. Occupiers of food shops were circulated and school kitchen supervisors were encouraged to maintain their usual high standard of hygiene.

Clean Air Act, 1956

Atmospheric pollution is not a hazard in this area but all plans involving the installation of an industrial boiler are examined and chimney height proposals checked in the department. One industrialist agreed to stop the burning of trade waste in the vicinity of dwellings.

Noise Abatement Act, 1960

There is little to report under this heading. Apart from the noise created by traffic diversions through the villages during the summer months, the comparative peace of the countryside has been maintained. No viable complaints were received and no action under the Public Health Act, 1936 was necessary.

Rag Flock and Other Filling Materials Act, 1951

There are no premises registered in the area.

Animal Boarding Establishments Act, 1963

One establishment is licensed for the boarding of 25 dogs and one cattery closed down during the year. The Act does not apply to premises used exclusively for the breeding of dogs and cats but is aimed at the control of establishments used for the boarding of other peoples' animals, usually but not necessarily on payment.

FACTORIES ACT, 1961

Annual Report of the Medical Officer of Health in respect of the year 1969 for the Rural District of Newmarket in the County of Cambridgeshire and Isle of Ely.

Prescribed Particulars of the Administration of the Factories Act, 1961.

Part 1 of the Act

1. Inspections for purposes of provisions as to health:-

Premises (1)	Number on Register (2)	Number of		
		Inspection (3)	Written Notices (4)	Occupiers prosecuted (5)
(1) Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4, & 6 are enforced by Local Authorities (i. e. factories not having mechanical power)	5	4	-	-
(2) Factories not included in (1) in which Section 7 is enforced by the L. A. (i. e. factories having mechanical power)	68	27	1	-
(3) Other premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the L. A. (excluding outworkers' premises)	18	12	-	-
TOTAL	91	43	1	-

2. Cases in which defects were found:-

Particulars (1)	Found (2)	Remedied (3)	Referred		No. of cases in which prosecutions were instituted (6)
			To H. M. Inspector (4)	By H. M. Inspector (5)	
Want of cleanliness (S. 1)	-	-	-	-	-
Overcrowding (S. 2)	-	-	-	-	-
Unreasonable Temp. (S. 3)	-	-	-	-	-
Inadequate Ventilation (S. 4)	-	-	-	-	-
Ineffective Drainage of Floors (S. 6)	-	-	-	-	-
Sanitary Conveniences (S. 7)					
(a) Insufficient	-	-	-	-	-
(b) Unsuitable or defective	1	1	-	-	-
(c) Not separate for sexes	-	-	-	-	-
Other offences against the Act (not including offences relating to Outwork)	-	-	-	-	-
TOTAL	1	1	-	-	-



