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Nottinghamshire County Council

and

Beeston and Stapleford Urban District Council

REPORTS

OF THE

CHIEF INSPECTOR

OF

WEIGHTS AND MEASURES

FOR THE

Year Ended 31st March 1971

Nottinghamshire County Council

and

Beeston and Stapleford Urban District Council

REPORTS

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CHIEF INSPECTOR

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WEIGHTS AND MEASURES

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Year Ended 31st March 1971

Nottinghamshire County Council: Pages 1 to 31

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NOTTINGHAMSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

THE PUBLIC CONTROL COMMITTEE

1971

The Chairman of the County Council:

Alderman Mrs. E.A. Yates, J.P., L.M.R.S.H.

The Vice-Chairman of the County Council:

Alderman Sir Frank Small, C.B.E., D.L., J.P.

The Chairman of the Committee:

Councillor A. Green

The Vice-Chairman of the Committee:

Alderman E. E. Blanchard

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Councillor R. T. Alexander
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Councillor S. Wadsworth
Councillor G. R. Walker
Councillor Mrs. P. R. Watson
Councillor F. H. Whitsun

REPORT OF THE CHIEF INSPECTOR
TO
THE NOTTINGHAMSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

for the Year ended

31st MARCH, 1971

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COUNTY HALL,
WEST BRIDGFORD,
NOTTINGHAM,
NG2 7QP.

I have the honour to submit the following report on the work of my Department during the year ended 31st March, 1971.

The Department was responsible during the year for the enforcement in the whole or parts of the administrative County (as indicated in the text) of the following Acts, Orders and Regulations:

Weights and Measures Act, 1963 and Orders and Regulations made thereunder.

Trade Descriptions Act, 1968.

Food and Drugs Act, 1955.

The Food Standards Orders and Regulations.

The Labelling of Food Regulations.

Milk (Special Designation) Regulations, 1963, 1965.

Milk and Dairies (Channel Islands and South Devon Milk) Regulations, 1956.

Milk and Dairies (Preservatives) Regulations, 1962.

Explosives Acts, 1875 to 1923 and Statutory Orders made thereunder.

The Fabrics (Misdescription) Act, 1913 and Regulations made thereunder.

Fertilisers and Feeding Stuffs Act, 1926.

Fertilisers and Feeding Stuffs Regulations, 1960 to 1964.

Merchandise Marks Orders relating to imported foods.

Agricultural Produce (Grading and Marking) Acts, 1928 and 1931, as amended by the Agriculture (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act, 1963.

The Eggs (Marketing and Storage) Regulations, 1965.

Shops Acts, 1950 and 1965.

Young Persons (Employment) Act, 1938.

Pharmacy and Poisons Act, 1933. (Sale of Poisons by Shopkeepers)

Pharmacy and Medicines Act, 1941. (Sections 8, 9 and 11).

Road Traffic Act, 1960, Section 224 (Inspection of Road Vehicles). Section 221 (Protective Helmets for Motor Cyclists).

The Motor Vehicles (Construction and Use) Regulations. (Weights of Loaded Goods Vehicles).

The Consumer Protection Acts, 1961 and 1971 and Regulations made thereunder.

The following new or amending legislation affecting the work of the Department was enacted during the year:

The Consumer Protection (Amendment) Act 1971.

The Agriculture Act 1970, Part IV (Soil Fertilisers and Animal Feeding Stuffs).

Weights and Measures (Local Standards: Limits of Error) Regulations 1970.

Weights and Measures (Amendment) Regulations 1970.

Cubic Measures (Sand, Ballast and Agricultural Materials) Regulations 1970.

Weights and Measures (Testing and Adjustment Fees) Regulations 1970.

Working Standards and Testing Equipment (Testing and Adjustment) Regulations 1970.

Weights and Measures Act (Amendment of Schedules 5 and 7) Order 1970.

Weights and Measures Act (Amendment of Schedules 1 and 3) Order 1970.

The Weights Regulations 1970.

The Weights and Measures (Equivalents for dealings with drugs) Regulations 1970.

The Weights (Amendment) Regulations 1971.

Cubic Measures (Sand, Ballast and Agricultural Materials) (Amendment) Regulations 1971.

The Electrical Appliances (Colour Code) (Amendment) Regulations 1970.

The Emulsifiers and Stabilisers in Food (Amendment) Regulations 1970.

The Colouring Matter in Food (Amendment) Regulations 1970.

The Soft Drinks (Amendment) Regulations 1970.

The Goods Vehicles (Plating and Testing) (Amendment) Regulations 1970.

The Motor Vehicles (Construction and Use) (Amendment) (No.2) Regulations 1970.

This the twenty-fourth Annual Report I have had the honour and privilege to present to the County Council. Lookin' Back (with apologies to the Nottinghamshire Author of one of the most entertainingly funny books I have ever read) is a pursuit which I have never regarded as being greatly profitable but a recent recommendation by the Institute of Weights and Measures Administration, currently attracting wide interest and support, tempts me to do so. The recommendation shortly is that all the many and varied consumer protection and trade control functions of the larger local authorities should now be brought together in one specialist enforcement department designated by the title Trading Standards Services. It appears that, mainly for historical reasons, in many places responsibility for these services is still scattered over several departments and it may be in point at this time to recall that the advantages and economy of bringing services relating to trading controls together in one department, which are now exercising the minds of the pundits of management and method, were seen and put into effect by the Nottinghamshire County Council over half a century ago! The ancient title of the department has of course long been something of a misnomer and, particularly in this day and age, does little to disclose the considerable variety of services which the authority provides for trader and consumer alike. Indeed, from time to time seekers of our services in relation to, say the dead mouse in the daily pinta or the storage of explosives, have been known to raise their eyebrows when eventually they find the Weights and Measures Department is what they have been looking for. This problem of a descriptive name has been considered before but the difficulty has always been to devise something more appropriate. Trading Standards Services appears to be as good as any so far suggested and better than most.

The past seven years or so have been marked by successive substantial increases in the activities and range of services provided by the Department and in the consequent burdens on the limited staffs already fully occupied with other work. The year under report was no exception. Although staff had been increased to deal with the additional work imposed by the extended Weights and Measures legislation, the Trade Descriptions Act, and the Consumer Advisory Service, we were overtaken by the decimalisation of the currency which made very heavy priority demands on the services of our Inspectors. Conversion of price-computing mechanisms necessitated the retesting by Inspectors of all price-computing weighing and measuring instruments used in trade to ensure, in the interests both of traders and the public, that the conversion had been accurately carried-out. The demands of this priority work again resulted in a marked reduction in our routine annual visitation and inspection of trading premises. The regular visit to trading premises by a knowledgeable and vigilant Inspector is undoubtedly one of the most important features of our work in the interests of both the consumer and the trader. With decimalisation now behind us, it is hoped to resume a more settled pattern of work in the current year and, above all, to approach more nearly to our objective of visiting every trading premises in the County at least once in the year.

Metrication, with all it involves for the Weights and Measures World, is of course around the corner and if the change-over from the present system to metric by the end of 1975 progresses as envisaged, the temporary respite from the extraordinary pressures of the past

few years will not be long lived. Happily, the Department has gradually acquired over a number of years the necessary considerable variety of comparatively expensive instrumental and other equipment and from this point of view, we are now in a position to meet the expected demands of trade and industry in this field.

The investigation of complaints from members of the public about defective goods and services again occupied a substantial and increasing proportion of our time. It was hoped that the previous year saw the numerical peak of consumer complaints but in the year under report they increased by very nearly 200 to a record 802. Some of these complaints were completely unjustified and could be quickly dealt with. An extreme example of these was the newly-wed very young housewife who arrived at the Office in high dudgeon with a packet of perfectly good but ripe Camembert Cheese, complaining that she had been swindled and that the cheese, a special treat for her husband's tea, had "gone bad and smelled horrid" - in fact worse than her husband's socks!

Many of the complaints again concerned purchases of comparatively expensive consumer durables such as washing machines, refrigerators, vacuum cleaners etc. in which the complainant had, perhaps rather gullibly, made a bad buy or at least purchased an article unsuited to his or her needs in an otherwise straightforward deal. It cannot be too strongly emphasised that the Department is unable to help in cases of this kind. No doubt Pre-Shopping Advisory Centres of the kind now being advocated by the Consumer Association would help in preventing this kind of thing. The Association have operated such a Centre as an experiment in the Greater London Area which is said to be regularly used by large numbers of prospective shoppers and to have proved very successful in helping members of the public to avoid unsatisfactory purchases. We do of course offer an advisory service at our West Bridgford, Mansfield and Retford Offices. Unfortunately, most of our enquirers consult us after they have committed themselves in an unsatisfactory transaction rather than before!

In a substantial proportion of the complaints which reach us the complainant has a perfectly justifiable grievance although the gravity varies considerably. Some would never arise at all but for the quite inexcusable ignorance of the product by sales staff and/or a couldn't -care-less attitute on the part of management. Others are the clear results of sharp practice and deliberate deception perpetrated in a variety of ways. Many either fall short of constituting criminal offences under the law as it is at present written or are weak in that the available evidence would be unlikely to provide the standard of proof essential in a criminal prosecution although often sufficient to support an action for a civil remedy. Civil remedy is of course one which must be pursued by the complainant privately and unfortunately the great majority are in no position, financial or otherwise, either to embark on or to take the risk in a legal action. Fortunately, however, the intervention of the Department often results in the complainant receiving suitable amends in appropriate cases. There is, however, a need for some more positive remedy to be readily and cheaply available, with the minimum of formality and financial risk, to the ordinary man or woman-in-the-street

who has suffered a loss as the result of deception or sharp practice by a trader. In this connection the "Small Claims Courts" suggested by the late and lamented Consumer Council as one of the last of their many valuable ideas and projects for the better protection of the consumer, has much to commend it. It is to be hoped that despite the untimely death of the Consumer Council the idea will still receive the serious consideration it deserves and not be discarded with the ashes.

Second-hand motor vehicles again headed the list of complaints from the public with a score of 149. Many concerned codged-up decrepit vehicles fit only for the scrapyard which wily salesmen had passed-off to gullible purchasers by slick sales patter, at the same time carefully avoiding saying or doing anything which amounted to criminal misdescription. We can do little to help in these cases and one can only repeat the advice to prospective purchasers not to buy second-hand cars (and particularly vehicles over four years old) without first having the vehicle (and particularly the underframe or chassis) thoroughly examined by a competent and independent engineer.

In the Food and Drugs Section of our activities, stale and/or mouldy foods and foods containing "foreign bodies", ranging from insects to fish hooks again produced most trouble. There were in all 118 complaints of this nature (14 more than in the previous year). Stale and mouldy foods were almost invariably attributable to lack of system and carelessness in rotating stocks in retail shops, whilst the presence of "foreign bodies" was almost invariably due to human failure at packing and manufacturing plants.

The Department's free testing service for tyre pressure gauges used at garages and on filling station forecourts again showed that many of these instruments are very unreliable. Unfortunately, priority work made it impossible for us to test as many as we would have wished but of those tested no less than 43 per cent were found to be defective. There is little doubt that many of the types commonly in use are not of sufficiently robust construction to stand-up to the kind of usage to which they are subjected. In view of the importance of tyre pressure to road safety and the fact that little seems to be being done voluntarily to improve matters, it is thought that statutory control of the design, construction and performance of these gauges ought now to be considered.

This introduction refers to only a few items in the Department's work and arising out of it, which may be of particular interest. The pages which follow give a summary of our work in all sections of our activities. These are concerned, in one way or another, with the interests of all the inhabitants of this County in their day-to-day transactions in the generality of consumer goods or with their safety. The net cost of all our services in the year under review was less than the equivalent of one-third of a new penny in terms of the County rate.

WEIGHTS AND MEASURES SERVICES

The County Council were responsible for these services throughout the County with the exception of the Borough of Newark-on-Trent and the Urban District of Beeston and Stapleford during the period under report.

The Urban District of Beeston and Stapleford became an independent Weights and Measures Authority on 1st April 1970. By Agreement between the Urban District Council and the County Council the Department continues to carry out the duties on behalf of the Urban District Council and a separate Report is made to the Urban District Council.

The duties of the Department under this heading shortly comprise:-

1. The custody and preservation of the County Local Standards of weight and measure.

2. The testing and official stamping of new and repaired weighing and measuring appliances used or intended for use in trade and industry in the County to ensure that they are fit for such use and conform to the national standards and approved patterns.

3. The regular inspection and testing of weighing and measuring appliances in use at trading and industrial premises in the County.

4. The detection and prevention of fraud and deception in connection with weighing and measuring and generally to protect the public against short weight and measure.

5. The enforcement of the statutes controlling the sale of commodities by weight, measure and number and for this purpose regularly to inspect all premises where such commodities are packed, held for sale or sold.

During the year, your Inspectors tested 78,860 weighing and measuring appliances of which 3,308 (4.19%) were found to be in need of adjustment or otherwise unfit for use. In the majority of cases, the inaccuracies were not serious, and were the result of ordinary wear and tear.

In addition to the facilities for the testing and stamping of weighing and measuring appliances available at the permanent offices at Nottingham, Mansfield and Retford, temporary centres for the convenience of local traders were held at the following places during the year:-

Arnold	Langold
Balderton	Lowdham
Bingham	Mapperley
Carlton	Misterton
East Leake	Ollerton
Eastwood	Southwell
Harby	Sutton-in-Ashfield
Harworth	Sutton-on-Trent
Hucknall	Tuxford
Huthwaite	Walkeringham
Keyworth	Warsop
Kimberley	Worksop
Kirkby-in-Ashfield	

Fixed equipment such as weighbridges, automatic packing machines, egg-grading machines, petrol and oil measuring instruments, etc. are tested on traders' premises. Appliances are also tested and stamped at scalemakers' workshops after being repaired.

The Department provides a special service under the provisions of the 1963 Act for the adjustment of weights and measures which have become incorrect due to wear and tear. During the year 2,671 weights were adjusted by the staff of the Department.

Fees for testing and adjusting weights and measures equipment amounted to £5,720 (£4,933 1969/70).

Detailed statistics are given on pages 23 - 25.

Weighbridge Testing

During the year 171 weighbridges and large platform machines were tested of which 135 were found correct and 36 incorrect.

The weighbridge testing unit again greatly facilitated this work. In addition to dealing with the work in this County, the unit was loaned for 106 (104 in 1969/70) days to other Weights and Measures authorities. These included the Counties of Derby, Kesteven, Leicester and Northampton, the County Boroughs of Barnsley, Burton-on-Trent, Lincoln, Northampton, Nottingham and Sheffield and the Boroughs of Chesterfield and Newark. Although the vehicle and the 40 tons of half-ton roller test weights were provided primarily for the official testing of weighbridges and heavy weighing plant, they have been made available for other approved purposes. There continues to be a considerable and increasing demand for the use of the weights by weighbridge owners and repairers for calibrating new and repaired machines and by industrialists for a variety of purposes such as testing cranes and other machinery. During the year, 1,291 tons of weights were loaned to 134 (116 in 1969/70) hirers and transported for these purposes. The economies in time and manpower which the unit makes possible have thus been made as widely available as official use permits and the income derived from hire charges valuably contributes to the economical operation of the service which is (and has been since its inception) self-supporting. Difficulty continues to be experienced in meeting all the demands for the service. Income from the hire of the unit during the year was £5,083 (£4,697 in 1969/70).

Public Weighbridge Attendants

Under the Weights and Measures Act 1963 no person may attend to a weighing or measuring by public weighing or measuring equipment unless he holds a certificate from a Chief Inspector that he has sufficient knowledge for the proper performance of his duties.

During the year 15 new applicants were examined and granted Certificates.

Department of Trade and Industry Notices of Approval of New Patterns, etc.

Weighing and measuring appliances of certain types, and those embodying novel features, may not be stamped by Inspectors until the pattern has been approved by the Department of Trade and Industry.

During the year, 9 D.T.I. Notices were issued in respect of new patterns of weighing and measuring appliances. The total number of Notices relating to special patterns of weighing and measuring instruments issued by the Department of Trade and Industry for trade use is now 1,507. Many of the patterns embody highly complicated mechanical and electrical devices including electronic computors and television circuits.

Local Standards

The County Local Standards of Weight and Measure are deposited at the County Hall. They have been examined at the statutory intervals and are complete and in good condition.

The copies of the standards used by the Inspectors were compared with the Local Standards at least twice during the year as required by statute and adjusted where necessary. The precision balances, scalebeams and appliances have been periodically examined and repairs and adjustments carried out and replacements provided when necessary. The equipment generally is in satisfactory condition.

The Department now possesses a complete set of metric local standards and considerable progress has been made in providing Inspectors Working Standards in readiness for the expected changeover to the metric system of weights and measures. The provision of this comparatively expensive equipment has been spread over a number of years and sufficient is now held to meet any forseeable requirements.

Inspection of Traders' Premises and Street Traders

In the administrative County (i.e. excluding Newark Municipal Borough and Beeston and Stapleford Urban District), there are 9,231 premises, etc. known to be liable to weights and measures inspection. These comprise the following trades and categories:-

Shops (including Post Offices)	4,022
Farms, Smallholdings and Market Gardens	2,235
Collieries and Quarries	81
Public Houses	652
Petrol and Oil Stations	482
Factories, Railway Stations, Wharves and Carriers' Depots	476
Coal Dealers	369
Hawkers and itinerant vendors trading in the County	697
Miscellaneous, including Public Institutions and Establishments	217
Total	9,231

During the year, 6,356 inspections of one kind or another were made under the Weights and Measures Act by your Inspectors. 16 prosecutions for weights and measures offences were instituted.

The official visitation of trading and industrial premises is probably the most important part of an Inspector's work under the Weights and Measures Act. It is a matter for regret that during the year, the demands of priority duties continued to result in failure to achieve our target of visiting every premises in the County at least once in every year by about 2,900 visits (900 more than in the previous year). The visit provides the opportunity to check the accuracy of trading weighing and measuring appliances under the actual conditions of use and frequently results in small errors, the cumulative effect of which can often be considerable, being corrected before any serious damage is done either to the public or the owner. Perhaps of even more importance, the visit enables the trader to discuss with the Inspector his difficulties and problems and to obtain advice in the many matters affecting trade within the province of the Department. It has always been the policy of the Department to afford every possible assistance to traders in understanding and complying with their obligations and the majority of traders appreciate this attitude. The coming into operation of the Trade Descriptions Act greatly increased the demands on Inspectors' time for advisory assistance to traders and packers of various merchandise.

Detailed statistics are given in the summary on pages 24 - 27.

Particulars of prosecutions are given on page 28.

Inspection of Commodities sold by Weight, Measure or Number

250,946 items of various kinds were examined by your Inspectors, of which number 896 were found to be deficient in weight, measure or number. Most of the deficiencies were small and mainly due to lack of proper care in checking automatic and other weighing and measuring machinery. Some were attributable to evaporation due to the use of unsuitable packing materials and others to prolonged storage, sometimes under unsatisfactory conditions.

A further 943 items were found to be defective in labelling or not made up in prescribed quantities, etc.

Appropriate action was taken in respect of all goods not complying with prescribed requirements.

Although many kinds of foods are required to be packed in simple easily-understood quantities, far too many goods are still permitted to be packed in unfamiliar quantities and in complicated fractions of the ounce and pound which tend to confuse and confound purchasers.

Detailed statistics are given on pages 26 - 27.

Particulars of prosections are given on page 28.

Sale of Petrol and Lubricating Oil

There are 482 premises in the administrative County where petrol, diesel fuel and lubricating oil are sold to motorists and there are 1,964 measuring instruments in use at these premises. Many of these instruments in addition to measuring the fuel also calculate and visibly indicate the price of individual deliveries. The latest development in petrol retailing is the self-service installation in which the pumps on the station are controlled from a central electronically operated controlling and accounting console. The accuracy of these price-calculating mechanisms is checked by Inspectors and they are generally very reliable.

943 new or repaired petrol pumps were tested and sealed by your Inspectors before being put into use. The majority of these tests were necessitated by the conversion of price-computing mechanisms to the decimal system.

419 visits were paid to garages and filling stations. 1,525 petrol pumps and other measuring instruments were tested under the conditions of use and 124 were found to be incorrect or in need of repair. Most of the inaccuracies were not serious and were the result of ordinary wear and tear. Instruments which are found to give inaccurate measure are not allowed to be used until they have been adjusted and approved by an Inspector of Weights and Measures.

The high cost of petrol has made precise measurement and price-calculation essential in the interests of both the garage proprietor and the motoring public. Even small inaccuracies can involve buyer or seller in serious financial loss but it may be reassuring to motorists to know that wear and tear in petrol measuring instruments in most cases tends to cause over-measure.

Checks on declared Octane Values and 'Star' ratings, which reflect the price value of various brands of petrol, were carried out during the year (see page 10).

Testing of Tyre Pressure Gauges

The Department offers a free testing service for Tyre Pressure Gauges when Inspectors visit garages and filling stations for other purposes. The early suspicion that many of these gauges were inaccurate was again fully confirmed by the year's work. Of 159 gauges tested during the year no less than 69 (43%) were found to be defective. This is a deterioration in the position in the previous year when 39% of the gauges tested were found defective. A number of pencil-type pocket gauges were also tested for private motorists who had heard of the service.

Sale of Coal, Coke, Firewood and other Fuels

During the year your Inspectors made 214 inspections in the course of which they checked 5,518 loads, sacks and other quantities of which 33 (0.60%) were deficient in weight. 4 prosecutions in respect of short weight in the sale of solid fuels were instituted.

A number of deliveries were checked for private purchasers who thought that they had received short weight but in few instances was any deficiency disclosed.

Cattle Markets, etc.

The weighing machines used at cattle markets in the County were tested and certified at six-monthly intervals in accordance with statutory requirements.

Sale of Sand, Ballast, etc.

76 vehicles carrying materials for delivery in the County were examined and weighed or measured by your Inspectors. One vehicle was found to be carrying a less quantity than represented but not to an extent warranting prosecution.

Person Weighing Machines used in Child Welfare and School Medical Services

For some years, your Inspectors have, on request, made tests of machines in use in these services and other County establishments. When necessary the Department arranges for the transport and repair of defective machines and advises as to the suitability of new machines and replacements. During the year, 15 machines were found to be so seriously defective as to require overhaul by the contractor or replacement.

The County Council is by far the largest user of person weighing machines in the County (there are currently upwards of 600 machines in use at schools, clinics and other establishments).

Overseas Trainees

The Department afforded training facilities during the year to a trainee-inspector from the Republic of Nigeria, Mr. E.A. Joseph, who joined the Department in September 1969.

TRADE DESCRIPTIONS AND CONSUMER SERVICES

Trade Descriptions Act

This Act is the basis of our services under this heading. It controls false or misleading trading descriptions of a very wide range of goods, services and prices and provides substantial criminal sanctions where its requirements are offended. Perhaps the only commodity of importance to the public which it does not control is 'real' property, i.e. land, including houses, buildings, etc. standing thereon, although it does apply to some services offered in relation to such property.

The enforcement of the Act is a mandatory duty of the Weights and Measures Authority and, in practice, divides into two parts:

1. The duty to exercise vigilance through inspectors to prevent the use of false or misleading descriptions in trade; and

2. To receive and appropriately deal with complaints from members of the public.

The Act and the work of Weights and Measures Authorities under it has had a salutary effect on the retail trade and the industries serving it. Misleading descriptions and similar sharp practices which had become rife in the retail trade and in advertising still occur but on a very greatly reduced scale. It is fair to say that, with notable exceptions, traders and particularly manufacturers, are making great efforts to comply with the many requirements which apply to the description, labelling, etc. of goods. Not the least of your inspectors' burdens, (but one which we welcome as it saves even more work in the long run) are the numerous requests for advice on labelling and description which we receive from manufacturers and traders.

During the year your Inspectors made 1,239 visits of inspection and investigation for the purposes of the Act. Among the wide variety of articles and products examined and tested in the course of this work were 30 samples of various kinds of motor spirit which were tested for Octane Rating. In contrast with earlier experience (when a number of samples were found to be below the declared rating, some seriously so) all the samples were of satisfactory quality. This is a good example of the salutary effect of the Act and its enforcement on the trade and of the protection which it affords to the public.

7 samples of various items of clothing and fabrics were also obtained and tested. These were all found to be of satisfactory quality.

6 prosecutions were instituted and completed during the year. A number of others were pending at the time the year closed.

Consumer Advisory Services

802 complaints were received from members of the public, summarised in the following categories:

Motor vehicles, caravans, motor boats, tyres, accessories, etc.	149
Furniture, furnishing goods, carpets, etc.	30
Petrol, oils, etc.	10
Cut-price offers, trading stamps, overcharging, etc.	88
Television, radio, refrigerators, etc.	12
Heavy bulk goods, e.g. solid and liquid fuels, top soil, turf, etc.	36
House repairs and extensions, central heating, etc.	30
Household appliances, e.g. gas and electric fires, storage heaters, washing machines, food mixers, sewing machines, etc.	29
Clothing and fabrics	35
Package holidays	11
Services, e.g. maintenance and repair contracts, etc.	71
Sports goods, toys, etc.	7
Mail Order goods	15
Food: description and quality	125
Various goods: weight, measure or number	79
Miscellaneous	75

Some of the complaints were clearly of doubtful merit, mostly from persons who had made a bad bargain in an otherwise straightforward deal and could usually be quickly disposed-of. Many however justified full investigation which, in a considerable number of cases proved to be both difficult and time-consuming. Where offences were revealed, prosecutions were instituted where it was considered that the public interest justified this course and in a considerable number of others official warnings were issued. From the complainants' point of view probably the most rewarding feature was that in most cases where it was justified our investigations resulted in civil redress (substantial in some cases!) being obtained.

Consumer Protection Acts

The County Council has a duty to enforce the undermentioned regulations throughout the County with the exception of the Urban District of Beeston and Stapleford (population over 60,000) but by arrangement between the County Council and the Urban District Council your Inspectors also act for that Authority.

A serious defect in this legislation during the year was that there was no provision for passing back criminal responsibility for retail offences to blameworthy manufacturers or importers. The result was that the retailer, who normally bought and sold the article in good faith, was usually the only party against whom a prosecution could be brought. This has now been remedied by an amending Act and it is thought that importers and manufacturers will in future be much more careful than they have been hitherto.

Toys (Safety) Regulations

These regulations impose requirements in relation to toys to prevent or to reduce risk of death or injury to children. Serious accidents have resulted from the use of dangerous materials and the regulations, among other things, prohibit the use of paint containing harmful proportions of lead, arsenic, soluble antimony, barium, cadmium or chromium and the use of celluloid in the construction of toys.

Your Inspectors have made 95 special visits of inspection and examined large numbers of toys offered for sale. 31 suspected items were subjected to analysis. 4 items failed to comply with the regulations. Stocks of the latter were immediately removed from retailers' premises by the importers or manufacturers who undertook to destroy them. The importers or manufacturers were cautioned and a description of the toys circulated to other authorities.

Nightdresses Regulations

Inspections are made in the course of other duties and additionally 7 special inspections of retailers stocks were made to ascertain that the requirements as to inflammable nightwear and labelling were being observed. No unsatisfactory article was found.

FOOD AND DRUGS ACTS

The County Council is the Food and Drugs Authority for the whole of the County except the Borough of Mansfield and the Urban Districts of Beeston and Stapleford and Sutton-in-Ashfield.

During the year, your Inspectors obtained 1,709 samples of various foods and drugs for examination and analysis for compositional quality and the presence of injurious or deleterious ingredients.

Regular routine checks on fruits and vegetables for residues of horticultural poisons were continued during the year and 50 samples obtained in various parts of the county were tested and reported to be satisfactory.

1,121 (1,101 in 1969/70) samples were submitted for a complete formal analysis by the Public Analyst.

The following is a summary of the samples examined during the year:-

Beverages	28	Herbs and Stuffings	6
Butter and Margarine	38	Ice Cream	33
Cakes and Pastries	47	Jams and Preserves	44
Cake Flour and Mixtures	12	Meat Products	189
Cereals	18	Milk	431
Condiments, Pickles and Sauces	53	Milk (Channel Islands) etc.	103
Cooking Oils and Fats	38	Milk, Condensed	20
Cordials and Mineral Waters	44	Pudding and Pudding Mixtures	28
Dried Fruit	22	Raw Meat	19
Drugs, various	63	Sweets	52
Fish Products	46	Table Jellies and Powders	27
Fresh Fruits and Vegetables	50	Wines and Spirits	109
Fruits and Vegetables (canned)	40	Miscellaneous Foods	149

Of those submitted for formal analysis by the Public Analyst the following samples were found to be adulterated, sub-standard or otherwise open to objection:-

Butter and Margarine	1
Condiments, Pickles and Sauces	6
Cordials and Mineral Waters	4
Drugs, Various	3
Fish Products	1
Jams and Preserves	1
Meat Products	19
Milk	3
Sweets	3
Miscellaneous Foods	2

Appropriate action was taken in relation to all articles reported adulterated, sub-standard, etc.

118 complaints regarding defective foods, etc. were received from members of the public during the year. These were mostly concerned with the presence of foreign bodies (e.g. splinters of glass, dead insects, etc.) and stale and mouldy foods. Every complaint of this kind was thoroughly investigated and appropriate action taken. Complaints from members of the public resulted in 12 prosecutions. Details are given on pages 28 - 29.

Milk

The wilful adulteration of milk with water which caused trouble for many years is now practically non-existent in the County. The proportion of naturally poor quality milk has also greatly decreased. The improved wholesale marketing arrangements of recent years, which penalise low quality, are helping to eradicate low quality products.

Channel Islands and South Devon Milk

Milk sold as Jersey, Guernsey, Channel Islands or South Devon must contain a minimum of 4.0% of milk fat. 103 samples have been taken, all of which were satisfactory.

Antibiotic Residues in Milk

109 samples of milk were tested for residues of antibiotics used in the treatment of mastitis in dairy cows. All were found to be satisfactory.

Antibiotics are now widely used in the control of mastitis in cows and lack of reasonable care in their use can result in the contamination of milk. Routine tests for this contamination have been carried out for some time and this is the first year in which I have been able to report that no samples were contaminated with penicillin.

Meat Products

These include sausages, meat pies, canned meats, brawns, pastes, etc. Although there have been improvements in recent years, particularly in relation to canned products, compounded and processed meat foods have given more trouble than any other commodity to food and drugs authorities. This is probably mainly due to the ease with which the skilful food technician can sophisticate the low quality product made with cheap ingredients and the minimum of meat. Good examples of this are the sausage which is sometimes loaded with excessive proportions of fat and the small meat pie in which meat is sometimes far from being the predominant ingredient.

189 meat products of various kinds were checked during the year of which 19 were regarded as being of unsatisfactory compositional quality.

Meat (Treatment) Regulations 1964

19 samples of raw meat were examined for prohibited additives. These additives are mainly of a type which improve the colour and restore the appearance of stale raw meat and include Ascorbic, Erythorbic and Nicotinic acids and Nicotinamide. All were found to be satisfactory.

Chemical Preservatives, Artificial Sweeteners, etc. in Food

A routine check for these additives was carried out on many of the samples obtained. 4 samples contained undeclared or prohibited preservative, and 1 sample contained prohibited colouring. Appropriate action was taken in these cases.

Vitamin content of Food and Drugs

During the year, 12 samples were submitted to the Public Analyst for the determination of claimed vitamin content and were found to be satisfactory.

Labelling and Advertising of Foods

A constant scrutiny of labels, descriptions and advertisements (including television advertisements) of foods offered for sale in the County is maintained by the Inspectors. In a number of cases, manufacturers and packers have been required to amend descriptions and illustrations considered to be misleading as to the nature, substance and quality of goods.

The statutory requirements as to the labelling, description and advertising of food are currently embodied in numerous Orders and Regulations dating back to 1953.

During the year, the Ministry consolidated most of the requirements and strengthened many of them in the consumer's interest, in the Labelling of Food Regulations 1970. In order to give the trade time to comply with the many new requirements the majority of the new Regulations do not come into force until 1st January 1973.

General

I again record my thanks to the Public Analyst, Mr. Hugh Childs, B.Sc., F.R.I.C., the Deputy Public Analyst, Mr. A. O. Jones, M.A., F.R.I.C., and Mr. E. P. Underwood, B.Sc., F.R.I.C., Additional Public Analyst, for their kindly co-operation and valuable assistance during the year. Their expert advice has been sought and freely given on many matters of difficulty, and I acknowledge with gratitude the valuable services they render to the Department in the analysis of many difficult and complex substances.

MILK (SPECIAL DESIGNATION) REGULATIONS

The County Council are responsible for the licensing of all dealers (including processors) in Pasteurised, Sterilised, Untreated (Raw) and Ultra Heat Treated Milk and for the enforcement of the regulations applicable thereto in the area for which they are the food and drugs authority (i.e. the area of the County excluding the Borough of Mansfield and the Urban Districts of Beeston and Stapleford and Sutton-in-Ashfield). The supervision of premises and plant and the necessary sampling are carried out by the Department.

The total number of licensees at 31st March 1971, was 793.

Licensed Processors

There are currently 6 licensed processors in the area, and the quantity of milk treated is approximately 18,000 gallons per day.

All premises were visted at frequent intervals and an examination made of the plant, charts and recording thermometers and other records. During the year 574 samples were taken and submitted to the prescribed tests.

Summary of Sampling

1. - Licensed Processors:

No. samples examined	574
Samples failing to comply:	
Phosphatase (sufficiency of heat-treatment).. ..	1
Methylene Blue (keeping quality)	5

In addition to routine sampling visits, 46 surprise inspections were made at the licensed plants at times when an official visit might not have been expected. These visits are invaluable in securing continuity of good practice by operatives.

Improvements in plant and technique continue to be made and one acknowledges with appreciation the ready response of licensees to the suggestions of inspecting officers.

Considerable attention was again given to the efficiency of milk bottle cleansing and bottle cleansing machines. 336 bottles were bacteriologically examined for cleanliness of which 30 was unsatisfactory. This proportion is rather higher than is normal in this County.

2. - Licensed Retailers and Producer Retailers (other than processors):

	Licensed Retailers	*Producer Retailers*
No. samples examined	794	57
No. failures:		
Phosphatase (sufficiency of heat-treatment)	-	-
Methylene Blue (keeping quality)	25	4
Turbidity (sterilised milk only)	-	-

The Methylene Blue failures of samples taken from licensed retailers were mainly attributable to the storage of milk in retail shops for unduly long periods or under unsatisfactory conditions. Most were due to failure to appreciate the necessity for proper precautions rather than carelessness and all offenders were appropriately advised and warned as to the consequences of further failures.

The Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food, who are the Licensing Authority in the case of Producer Retailers, were notified of the 4 samples from these sources which failed the Methylene Blue test.

The examination of samples and specimens under these Regulations is carried out by the Public Health Laboratory Service.

I again record my appreciation of the services afforded by the Laboratory and, in particular, my thanks to Dr. E. R. Mitchell, the Director of the Nottingham Laboratory and his staff, for their kindly co-operation in this work.

AGRICULTURAL PRODUCE (GRADING AND MARKING) ACTS, 1928 and 1931 and THE EGGS (MARKING AND STORAGE) REGULATIONS, 1965

The Regulations dealing with the marking, storage and sale of preserved eggs provide useful safeguards to the public against the practice, which was prevalent at one time, of passing-off preserved and cold stored eggs as new laid.

One trader is registered for the storage of preserved eggs in the County.

FERTILISERS AND FEEDING STUFFS ACT, 1926

140 samples of animal feeding stuffs and 68 samples of soil fertilisers were taken and analysed for the purpose of testing manufacturers' and dealers' warranties.

13 feeding stuffs and 5 fertilisers failed to comply with warranties. Warnings were issued to the manufacturers in appropriate cases.

Summary of samples taken and analysed during the year:-

Feeding Stuffs

Article	*No. Taken*	*Failed to Comply*		
Cattle Food	21	3	Total samples	140
Ewe and Lamb Ration	1			
Lamb Creep Pellets	1		Failed to comply	
Pig Food	58	3	with declaration	13
Poultry Food	58	7		
Sterilised Feeding Bone Flour	1			

Fertilisers

Article	*No. Taken*	*Failed to Comply*
Bone Meal	2	
Carnation Fertiliser	1	
Chrysanthemum Fertiliser	1	
Compound Fertiliser	9	
General Fertiliser	25	4
Hoof and Horn Fertiliser	1	
John Innes Base	1	
Lawn Fertiliser	4	
Liquid Fertiliser	13	1
Rose and Dahlia Fertiliser	1	
Rose Fertiliser	6	
Sulphate of Ammonia	1	
Sulphate of Potash	2	
Tomato Fertiliser	1	

Total samples	68
Failed to comply with declaration	5

This Act represents the only statutory protection available to farmers and horticulturalists against misrepresentation and harmful ingredients in a considerable range of commodities which are important raw materials of their industry. The basic legislation has been allowed to become out-of-date and in some respects inconsistent with contemporary trading practice but happily few manufacturers and dealers deliberately take advantage of its deficiencies. Despite difficulties, local authorities have continued to do much useful work in maintaining the quality of fertilisers and feeding stuffs.

After many years of difficulties and repeated protests by County Councils and their Association as to the inadequacies of the 1926 Act, it is particularly pleasing to record that the legislation has now been completely revised in Part IV of the Agriculture Act 1970 which received the Royal Assent on 29th May 1970. The new legislation is not yet in force, having been delayed by the necessity to revise the rather complicated Regulations which is an essential preliminary. This work is, however, known to be in the advanced stage and it is to be hoped that the new legislation can be brought into full operation by the end of 1971.

I record my thanks to the County Agricultural Analyst, Mr. Hugh Childs, B.Sc., F.R.I.C., and his Deputy, Mr. A. O. Jones, M.A., F.R.I.C., and my deep appreciation of their ready co-operation and valuable assistance during the year in all matters pertaining to the administration of this Act.

EXPLOSIVES ACTS

These Acts regulate the use, storage and conveyance of explosives in the interests of public safety. Large quantities of explosives are stored and used in the County, chiefly in the mining industry.

In addition to the major stores, 510 (647 in 1969/70) premises are registered for the storage for sale of fireworks. The continued substantial annual reduction in the number of shop-keepers selling fireworks no doubt reflects the growing public realisation of their dangerous properties and the effect of the propaganda by organisations interested in preventing the appalling accidents which children and others sometimes suffer as a result of carelessness in handling fireworks.

Regular inspection of the larger stores has been maintained and generally they are in excellent condition. The constant attention which your Inspectors have given to these stores and their insistence on the strict observance of good practice, both in the security of the

premises and in the handling of explosives, has produced a high level of compliance with the regulations in this County. Unfortunately, as with many other things, persons who constantly handle explosives tend to become contemptuous of their dangerous properties, and it is found that the frequent appearance of an Inspector, particularly when he is least expected, is the most effective method of maintaining good practice.

Considerable attention was again given to the storage of fireworks in shops and warehouses and your Inspectors are particularly vigilant in this connection during the 'fireworks' season. Some shopkeepers and others handling fireworks do not always realise that in bulk they are very dangerous goods. The widespread damage which can be caused by an ignited collection of fireworks has to be seen to be fully realised. The Home Office Reports of H.M. Inspectors of Explosives show that in various parts of the country serious fires and injuries occur every year as a result of lack of care in handling and keeping fireworks. So far as is known, there was no accident in connection with the storage or sale of explosives (including fireworks) in the County during the year.

SHOPS ACTS

YOUNG PERSONS (EMPLOYMENT) ACT

The County Council are responsible for the administration of these Acts in the following districts:-

Urban Districts: Eastwood; Warsop.

Rural Districts: Basford; Bingham; East Retford; Newark; Southwell; Worksop.

Your Inspectors have made 384 visits of inspection. These include inspections during ordinary working hours when records of hours of employment, statutory notices and conditions of employment are checked, and 'surprise' inspections made at night and on Saturday afternoons and Sundays.

The Acts regulate the hours of closing of shops and, to a limited extent, the conditions of employment in shops. In particular, they restrict the hours of employment of persons under 18 and, in conjunction with the Young Persons (Employment) Act prescribe the working hours and conditions of employment of young persons in shops, hotels, clubs, theatres, cinemas and similar places.

5 Orders made by the County Council, and affecting the hours of closing of shops, are in operation.

Much of the work of your Inspectors under these Acts is, of necessity, of an advisory nature. The great majority of shopkeepers do not intentionally contravene the requirements, but the intricacies of the legislation are such that minor infringements do occur and are usually appropriately dealt with by advice and warning by the Inspector. The legislation now falls far short of achieving its original purposes and urgently needs revision particularly in relation to Sunday Trading.

PHARMACY AND POISONS AND PHARMACY AND MEDICINES ACTS

The Department enforces the provisions of these Acts which control the sale by shopkeepers, other than registered chemists, of poisons in Part II of the Poisons List and the labelling and claims made for certain substances recommended as medicines. 376 shopkeepers in the County are registered for the sale of poisons.

The majority of registered shopkeepers deal only in poisons such as household disinfectants and ammonia. Shopkeepers dealing in the more dangerous horticultural and agricultural poisons are regularly visited for the examination of poisons registers and to ensure that the regulations as to storage and sale are strictly observed.

Your Inspectors keep a watchful eye on these matters in the course of their visits to shops for other purposes. During the year, 885 inspections were made under these Acts.

ROAD TRAFFIC ACT, 1960, Section 224 and

The Motor Vehicles (Construction and Use) Regulations, 1966

The statistics of our work during the year indicate that the proportion of overloaded vehicles on our roads is still about the same as last year. Unfortunately staff shortage and the pressure of priority duties again made it impossible to give our usual quota of attention to this work during the year, but it is hoped to improve on this during the year 1971/72.

		(1969/70)
Number of days during year on which routine inspections were carried out	28	(33)
Total time during which routine inspections were carried out during the year	155 hours	(160)
Total Number of Vehicles inspected	977	(1,174)
" " " " weighed	595	(567)
" " " " overloaded in toto or on individual axles or both	226	(258)
" " " " overloading contraventions	311	(351)
" " " " offences prosecuted	143	(141)
" Penalties imposed by Courts	£901	(£892)

The contraventions detected probably still represent a small proportion of the total number of breaches of the law in relation to the laden weight of motor vehicles. Of the 977 (1,174 in 1969/70) vehicles inspected it will be noted that 226 (258 in 1969/70) were overloaded. The Inspectors exercised a discretion, based on visual appearance, in selecting vehicles for inspection and the proportion of overloaded vehicles to the total number inspected (23.13 per cent) is therefore higher than the true average. Making ample allowance for the effect of selective inspection, the true proportion of overloaded vehicles is still serious and probably exceeds 5 per cent of the heavy vehicles on the main roads.

MISCELLANEOUS SERVICES

In addition to our statutory duties, the department affords investigatory and technical services in appropriate matters to other departments of the County Council. These include quantitative checks on road materials and quantitative and qualitative checks on many other commodities supplied to the County Council which is probably the largest individual purchaser of foodstuffs in the County. Other services include certifying weights of motor vehicles for taxation purposes and the testing of person and other weighing machines and arrangements for transport and repair thereof when necessary. In relation to the latter, it is perhaps not generally realised that the County Council is by far the largest user of person weighing machines in the County.

306 goods vehicles were checked-weighed in various parts of the County in connection with the assessment of motor tax. Additional duties totalling £595 were recovered.

Your Inspectors also certify the weight or measure of articles on request by residents and traders in the County. During the year many articles were checked in this way, including coal, coke and various foodstuffs. Similarly, the department also arranges for the expert examination and analysis of various products when considered desirable. In many cases, purchasers' suspicions prove to be unfounded but some disclose malpractices which result in prosecutions.

COUNTY COUNCILS ASSOCIATION

I again had the honour of acting as an advisory officer to the County Councils Association during the year, the fifteenth which I have served in this capacity.

MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE, FISHERIES AND FOOD

STANDING ADVISORY COMMITTEE UNDER THE FERTILISERS AND FEEDING STUFFS ACT

My appointment by the Minister as a member of this Committee and its Sub-Committees continued during the year.

BRITISH STANDARDS INSTITUTION

DOMESTIC COKE COMMITTEE

My appointment as the representative of the County Councils Association on this Committee, which is concerned with formulating standards of quality and performance, continued during the year.

I record my appreciation of the facilities provided by the County Council in connection with the above appointments.

STAFF

I again record my appreciation of the efficiency and zeal with which the Inspectors have performed their many and varied duties and of the loyal co-operation which I have received from all members of the staff of my Department. The work summarised in this Report is a testimony to their efforts, and I cannot speak too highly of the manner in which they have all responded to increasingly heavy demands on their services.

Appointments and Promotions

The following appointments and promotions were made on the dates indicated:

K.A. Greasley (Miss)	Clerk/Typist	1st June 1970
C.E. Parkin	Trainee Assistant (Mansfield)	27th July 1970
G.C. Bakin	Senior Assistant (Trade Descriptions and Consumer Protection)	1st August 1970
I. Robinson (Mrs.)	Clerk/Assistant	7th September 1970
A.F. Poole	Senior Inspector (Trade Descriptions and Consumer Protection)	1st September 1970
R.W. Sneath	Trainee Assistant	14th September 1970
T. Orwin	General Duties Inspector	1st October 1970
B. Lancaster	Inspector's Assistant, Retford	1st January 1971

Resignations

G.A. Welbourn (Miss)	Clerk/Typist	27th May 1970
M.J. Herbert	Trainee Assistant (Mansfield)	19th July 1970
S.J. Welsh	" " (Retford)	4th October 1970
K.A. Greasley (Miss)	Clerk/Typist	2nd December 1970

Examination Successes

G.K. Hoe	Trainee Assistant (Nottingham)	Testamur of The Institute of Weights and Measures
S.J. Welsh	" " (Retford)	-ditto-
S.J. Welsh	" " "	Board of Trade Examination for Inspectors of Weights and Measures

Mr. Welsh (who is now an Inspector with the Lindsey County Council) was awarded the Institute of Weights and Measures Administration Prize for the best performance of any student in his year at the Testamur Examination. This was a considerable achievement reflecting great credit on him personally and to an extent on the staff of our Retford Office, to which he was attached during his training.

Statistical Tables relating to the work of the Department during the year and a Statement of Income and Expenditure are appended hereto.

I offer my thanks to the Chairman and Members of the Public Control Committee for their keen interest and support in all branches of the work of the Department, and to the Clerk of the Council, the County Treasurer and other Chief Officers for their valuable assistance and co-operation in many matters.

T. L. E. GREGORY

Chief Inspector

STATISTICS ETC. REQUIRED BY THE BOARD OF TRADE UNDER SECTION 38 OF THE

WEIGHTS AND MEASURES ACT 1963 FOR THE FINANCIAL YEAR ENDED ON 31st MARCH, 1971

1. Headquarters: County Hall, West Bridgford, Nottingham, NG2 7QP.

Divisional Offices:

Nottingham	County Hall, West Bridgford, Nottingham, NG2 7QP.
Mansfield	County Offices, St. John Street, Mansfield.
Retford	County Offices, Chancery Lane, Retford.

2. STAFF IN POST

Names of Qualified Staff	Stamp Number	Certificate Number	Date appointed to present post
Chief Inspector:			
T.L.E. Gregory, M.B.E., D.P.A., F.I.W.M.A.	-	1783	1st October, 1947
Deputy Chief Inspector:			
J.H. Soar, D.M.A., M.I.W.M.A.	849	2883	22nd January, 1969
Senior Inspector (Administration):			
G.W. Wheatley, M.I.W.M.A.	676	2786	22nd January, 1969
Nottingham Division			
Divisional Inspector:			
E. Naylor, M.I.W.M.A.	673	2291	1st April, 1962
Senior Inspector (Consumer Advisory Section):			
A.F. Poole, M.I.W.M.A.	899	2925	1st September, 1970
Inspectors:			
P.D. Bostock, M.I.W.M.A.	1173	3038	7th August, 1967
G. Akid, M.I.W.M.A.	482	3033	7th August, 1967
R.G. McHattie, M.I.W.M.A.	674	3056	16th April, 1968
T. Orwin, M.I.W.M.A.	1300	3279	1st October, 1970

2. *(continued)*

Names of Qualified Staff	Stamp Number	Certificate Number	Date appointed to present post
Mansfield Division			
Divisional Inspector:			
L.W. Simpson, B.Sc.(Hons.), F.I.W.M.A.	579	1820	1st July, 1946
Inspectors:			
P.E. Templeman, M.I.W.M.A.	675	3181	22nd January, 1969
G. Hall, M.I.W.M.A.	1257	3244	3rd September, 1969
Retford Division			
Divisional Inspector:			
E.H. Marsh, M.I.W.M.A.	494	2160	1st April, 1958
Inspector:			
J. Cowling, M.I.W.M.A.	867	2847	25th May, 1965

Senior Assistant holding Statutory Appointment under the Weights & Measures Act: H.J. Clarke

Assistants holding Statutory Appointment under Statutes other than Weights & Measures Act: G.C. Bakin

J.E.B. Rippingale

H. Smith

Chief Clerk : Mrs. E.M. Trenchard

Clerical Staff : 7

Inspectors' Assistants : 12

STATEMENT OF EXPENDITURE AND INCOME RELATING TO WEIGHTS AND MEASURES ADMINISTRATION FOR THE FINANCIAL YEAR ENDED 31st MARCH 1971

EXPENDITURE	£
Salaries	24,265
Other Expenditure	12,504
Total	£36,769

INCOME	£
Fees:	
Section 11 (3)	
Weights	132
Measures (length)	7
Measures (glass)	-
Measures (other)	-
Weighing Instruments	1,510
Measuring Instruments	3,666
Section 43	
Adjusting	302
Other fees	103
Other Income	-
Total	£5,720

4. ADJUSTING SERVICE provided under Section 43

	Imperial	Metric
Weights adjusted	2,655	16
Measures adjusted	-	-

5. SUMMARY OF INSPECTING AND TESTING WORK

(a) Premises: Section 48 (1) (c)

Number of fixed premises liable to inspection	Number of premises visited at least once	Total number of visits to fixed premises	Total number of visits to mobile premises
9,231	5,042	5,683	673

5. *(continued)* - Summary of Inspecting and testing work

(b) Inspection and testing of trade equipment: Section 48 (1) (a)

(c) Equipment submitted for passing as fit for use for trade: Section 11 (3)

(d) Equipment submitted for test: Section 43 (2) (b)

	Weights		Length Measures		Capacity Measures		Weighing Instruments	Person Weighing Machines	Egg Grading Machines	Petrol, Oil Measuring Instruments	Intox. Liq. Measuring Instruments	Other Measuring Instruments	Cubic Measures
	Imp.	Met.	Imp.	Met.	Imp.	Met.							
(b) Total													
Examined	12873	1050	856	20	32246	280	7493	92	74	1525	6233	13	-
Correct	12746	1045	823	20	32206	280	7179	78	73	1401	6129	12	-
Incorrect	127	5	33	-	40	-	314	14	1	124	104	1	-
(c) Total													
Submitted	2413	3	34	4	8	-	483	-	3	943	2407	2	76
Correct	2408	3	34	4	8	-	477	-	3	936	2401	-	75
Incorrect	5	-	-	-	-	-	6	-	-	7	6	2	1
(d) Total													
Submitted	8348	230	4	-	39	27	759	-	-	-	-	-	-
Correct	5886	229	4	-	39	27	724	-	-	-	-	-	-
Incorrect	2462	1	-	-	-	-	35	-	-	-	-	-	-

5. *(continued)* (e) Inspection of commodities - heavy goods

		Examined but not Tested	Tested	Deficient	Incorrect in other respects
Solid Fuel	Bags	3,470	1,971	33	45
	Loads	51	16	-	-
	Rail Vehicles	-	-	-	-
Wood Fuel	Bags	10	-	-	-
	Loads	-	-	-	-
Sand and Ballast	Loads	4	5	-	-
Other Bulk Loads	Loads	-	1	-	-

5. *(continued)* (f) Inspection of commodities - miscellaneous

	PREPACKED				NON-PREPACKED				No. of Test Purchases
	Examined but not Tested	Tested	Deficient	Incorrect in other respects	Examined but not Tested	Tested	Deficient	Incorrect in other respects	
Meat, Fish, Poultry and items in Sch. 4, Parts I and II	10,449	7,291	39	63	42	195	6	-	-
Bread	-	17,593	156	11	-	6,343	103	-	-
Milk	11,273	978	3	-	-	-	-	-	-
Intoxicating Liquor	4,139	4	-	-	-	41	-	2	51
Fresh Fruits and Vegetables	10,685	8,293	87	323	135	69	1	-	7
Other Foods	74,974	56,180	471	446	25	9,190	1	-	5
Non-food commodities other than in 5(e)	23,317	9,743	25	98	-	1	-	-	1

7. Number of public weighbridges 33. Number of certificates issued during period to attendants of weighbridges 15.

6. PARTICULARS OF PROSECUTIONS

No.	Trade	Nature of Offence	Act and Section	Penalty imposed (Inc.costs)	Petty Sessional Division
				£. s. d.	
1	Butcher	Short weight dressed poultry	Weights and Measures Act 1963 Section 24(1)	8. 0. 0.	Mansfield
2	Soil Retailer	Short weight top soil	" " " Section 24(1)	40.10. 0.	Bingham
3	Journeyman	Short weight solid fuel	" " " Section 24(1)	12.10. 0.	Mansfield
4	"	Failing to deliver consignment note	" " " Section 23(2)	10. 0. 0.	"
5	"	Short weight solid fuel	" " " Section 24(1)	12.10. 0.	"
6	"	Failing to deliver consignment note	" " " Section 23(2)	10. 0. 0.	"
7	Coal Merchants	Short weight solid fuel	" " " Section 24(1)	12.10. 0.	"
8	Journeyman	Short weight solid fuel	" " " Section 24(1)	12.10. 0.	"
9	Market Trader	Short weight orlon yarn	" " " Section 24(1)	16. 6. 0.	Nottingham
10	" "	Short weight orlon yarn	" " " Section 24(1)	10. 0. 0.	"
	" "	Using unstamped weighing machine	" " " Section 11(2)	5. 0. 0.	"
12	" "	Using unjust weighing machine	" " " Section 16	10. 0. 0.	"
13	Potato Merchant	Short weight potatoes	" " " Section 24(1)	Dismissed	"
14	" "	Failing to deliver consignment note	" " " Section 23(2)	10. 0. 0.	"
15	" "	Aiding and abetting in 13 above	" " " Section 24(1)	Dismissed	"
16	Grocer	Pork pie contaminated with mould	Food and Drugs Act 1955 Section 2	15. 0. 0.	"
17	Bakers	Bread rolls contaminated with mould	" " " " "	28. 8. 0.	"
18	Confectioners	Apple pie contaminated with mould	" " " " "	20. 0. 0.	"
19	Dairymen	Milk contaminated with mould	" " " " "	28. 8. 0.	Retford
20	Bakers	Cake containing a metal nail	" " " " "	31. 0. 0.	Nottingham
21	Fish Merchants	Fish fingers containing a metal staple	" " " " "	26. 0. 0.	Retford
22	Confectioners	Chocolate chewing nuts containing fragments of glass	" " " " "	50. 0. 0.	Worksop
23	Multiple Store	Steak and kidney pie containing insect larvae (maggots)	" " " " "	56. 0. 0.	Nottingham

6. Particulars of Prosecutions *(continued)*

No.	Trade	Nature of Offence	Act and Section	Penalty imposed (Inc.costs)	Petty Sessional Division
				£. s. d.	
24	Confectioners	Cornish pasty containing a dead wasp	Food and Drugs Act 1955 Section 2	30. 0. 0.	Nottingham
25	Bakers	Bread containing a dead fly	" " " " "	26. 6. 0.	"
26	"	Bread containing rodent excrement	" " " " "	48. 0. 0.	"
27	Dairymen	Milk containing fragments of glass	" " " " "	26. 0. 0.	Newark
28	Manufacturers	Applying false trade description as to quality of terry squares (babies napkins)	Trade Descriptions Act 1968 Section 1(b)	45. 0. 0.	Worksop
29	Motor Dealer	Selling used motor car with falsified mileage recorder	" " " 1	60.10. 0.	Retford
30	" "	Selling used motor car at a higher price than that a which it was contracted to be sold	" " " 11(2)	50. 0. 0.	"
31	Motor Engineer	Offering to supply used motor car with falsified mileage recorder	" " " 1	41. 0. 0.	Worksop
32	Motor Trader	Supplying used motor car to which a false trade description was applied	" " " 1	35. 0. 0.	Nottingham
33	Fertiliser Dealer	Supplying horse manure to which a false trade description was applied (consisted mainly of straw)	" " " 1(1)	64. 6. 0.	Mansfield
34 to 176	Vehicle Owners and Drivers	Using overloaded vehicles (143 cases)	Road Traffic Act 1960	901. 6. 0.	Nottingham Retford Worksop

SUMMARY OF EXPENDITURE AND INCOME FOR THE YEAR 1970-71

EXPENDITURE

	£	£
Weights and Measures		
Establishment Charges	35,706	
Purchase Repair etc. of Equipment	1,606	
Vehicles - Maintenance, petrol, insurance, etc.	2,270	
Contribution to Renewal and Repairs Fund	700	
Sundries	53	
		40,335
Food and Drugs		
County Analyst-Salary and Fees	5,682	
Purchase of Samples	256	
Purchase of Equipment	22	
Establishment Charges	11,080	
Sundries	53	
		17,093
Explosives Acts		
Establishment Charges		2,374
Shops Acts, etc.		
Establishment Charges		1,586
Pharmacy and Poisons Act		
Establishment Charges		1,585
Consumer Protection Act		
Establishment Charges	791	
Purchase of Samples	12	
Testing of Samples	179	
		982
Total carried forward		£63,955

INCOME

	£	£
Weights and Measures		
Fees and Charges	10,526	
Weighing vehicles for taxation purposes	419	
Charge on Highways Committee for services re overloaded vehicles	1,576	
Sundries	294	
Recharge to other local authorities	6,480	
		19,295
Food and Drugs		
Sundries		105
Explosives Acts		
Fees		591
Shops Acts, etc.		
-		-
Pharmacy and Poisons Act		
Fees		265
Consumer Protection Act		
-		-
Total carried forward		£20,256

SUMMARY OF EXPENDITURE AND INCOME FOR THE YEAR 1970-71 *(Continued)*

EXPENDITURE

	£	£
Total brought forward		63,955
Trade Descriptions Act		
Establishment Expenses	23,739	
Purchase of Samples	42	
Testing of Samples	194	
Sundries	85	
		24,060
Fertilisers & Feeding Stuffs		
County-Analyst Fees	1,628	
Establishment Charges	2,374	
Sundries	57	
		4,059
		92,074

INCOME

	£	£
Total brought forward		20,256
Trade Descriptions Act		
Sundries		73
Fertilisers & Feeding Stuffs		
Sundries		15
		20,344

County Treasurer's Office
County Hall
West Bridgford
Nottingham
A/L/W
18 June 1971

BEESTON AND STAPLEFORD URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL

REPORT

OF THE

CHIEF INSPECTOR

OF

WEIGHTS AND MEASURES

FOR THE

Year Ended 31st March 1971

BEESTON AND STAPLEFORD URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL

GENERAL PURPOSES COMMITTEE

1971

The Chairman of the Committee:

Councillor J. W. Plowman

The Vice-Chairman of the Committee:

Councillor Miss G. E. Bottomley, T.D.

Councillor H. Clifford
Councillor C. E. Gent
Councillor R. Hulland
Councillor Mrs. E. W. Keen
Councillor A. Oldham
Councillor G. Stanley
Councillor J. B. Streeter
Councillor M. G. Wright, C.C.

BEESTON AND STAPLEFORD URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL

REPORT OF THE CHIEF INSPECTOR

OF WEIGHTS AND MEASURES

for the Year ended

31st March, 1971

———————0———————

COUNTY HALL,
WEST BRIDGFORD,
NOTTINGHAM,
NG2 7QP.

I have the honour to submit the following report on the work of your Inspectors and the provision of Weights and Measures, Trade Descriptions and Consumer Advisory Services by my Department during the year.

The Urban District Council became an independent Weights and Measures Authority, under the procedure prescribed by Section 34(4) of the Weights and Measures Act 1963, with effect on 1st April 1970. By virtue of Section 26 of the Trade Descriptions Act 1968, the Urban District Council, as a Weights and Measures Authority, automatically became an independent enforcement authority for the purposes of that Act on the same date.

By Agreement with the County Council, the County Council's Chief Inspector, Deputy Chief Inspector and other Inspectors and Authorised Officers and their equipment and offices, have been made available to the Urban District Council for the discharge of their functions under the two Acts. The Consumer Advisory Service and certain services under Consumer Protection Regulations provided by the County Council's inspectorate, have also been made available in the Urban District.

WEIGHTS AND MEASURES SERVICES

The duties of your inspectors under this heading in the Urban District shortly comprise:

1. The testing and official stamping of new and repaired weighing and measuring appliances used or intended for use in trade and industry to ensure that they are fit for such use and conform to the national standards and approved patterns.

2. The regular inspection and testing of weighing and measuring appliances in use at trading and industrial premises.

3. The detection and prevention of fraud and deception in connection with weighing and measuring and generally to protect the public against short weight and measure.

4. The enforcement of the statutes controlling the sale of commodities by weight, measure and number and for this purpose regularly to inspect all premises where such commodities are packed, held for sale or sold.

During the year, your Inspectors tested 7,415 weighing and measuring appliances of which 650 (8.76%) were found to be in need of adjustment or otherwise unfit for use. In the majority of cases the inaccuracies were not serious and were the result of ordinary wear and tear.

In addition to the facilities for the testing and stamping of weighing and measuring appliances available at the permanent office at West Bridgford, temporary local centres were provided for the convenience of traders at the Beeston Manor School, Church Street, Beeston on 1st and 2nd April 1970 and at the Church Street Methodist School, Stapleford, on 13th and 14th July 1970.

Fixed equipment such as weighbridges, automatic packing machines, egg-grading machines, petrol and oil measuring instruments, etc. are tested on traders' premises.

The Department provides a special service under the provisions of the 1963 Act for the adjustment of weights and measures which have become incorrect due to wear and tear. During the year 234 weights were adjusted by the staff of the Department.

Fees for testing and adjusting weights and measures equipment amounted to £263.

Detailed statistics are given on pages 42 - 44.

Weighbridge Testing

During the year 9 weighbridges were tested with the County Council's heavy testing unit of which 8 were found correct and 1 incorrect. One weighbridge was tested following conversion to the metric system.

Public Weighbridge Attendants

Under the Weights and Measures Act 1963, no person may attend to a weighing or measuring by public weighing or measuring equipment unless he holds a certificate from a Chief Inspector that he has sufficient knowledge for the proper performance of his duties.

6 persons working in the Urban District hold Certificates. No new applicants were examined during the year.

Department of Trade and Industry Notices of Approval of New Patterns, etc.

Weighing and measuring appliances of certain types, and those embodying novel features, may not be stamped by Inspectors until the pattern has been approved by the Department of Trade and Industry.

During the year, 9 D.T.I. Notices were issued in respect of new patterns of weighing and measuring appliances. The total number of Notices relating to special patterns of weighing and measuring instruments issued by the Department of Trade and Industry for trade use is now 1,507. Many of the patterns embody highly complicated mechanical and electrical devices including electronic computors and television circuits.

Local Standards

The reference Standards for weighing and measuring equipment used in the Urban District are the County Local Standards of Weight and Measure deposited at the County Hall. They have been examined at the statutory intervals and are complete and in good condition.

The copies of the standards used by the Inspectors were compared with the Local Standards at least twice during the year, as required by statute, and adjusted where necessary. The precision balances, scalebeams and appliances have been periodically examined and repairs and adjustments carried out and replacements provided when necessary. The equipment generally is in satisfactory condition.

Inspection of Traders' Premises and Street Traders

In the Urban District there are 678 premises, etc. known to be liable to weights and

measures inspection. These comprise the following trades and categories:-

Shops (including Post Offices)	492
Farms, Smallholdings and Market Gardens	5
Quarries	2
Public Houses	39
Petrol and Oil Stations	37
Factories, Railway Stations, Wharves and Carriers' Depots	54
Coal Dealers	16
Hawkers and itinerant vendors trading in the County	12
Miscellaneous, including Public Institutions and Establishments	21
Total	678

During the year 588 inspections of one kind or another were made under the Weights and Measures Act by your Inspectors. 3 prosecutions for weights and measures offences were instituted.

The official visitation of trading and industrial premises is probably the most important part of an Inspector's work under the Weights and Measures Act. The visit provides the opportunity to check the accuracy of trading weighing and measuring appliances under the actual conditions of use and frequently results in small errors, the cumulative effect of which can often be considerable, being corrected before any serious damage is done either to the public or the owner. Perhaps of even more importance, the visit enables the trader to discuss with the Inspector his difficulties and problems and to obtain advice in the many matters affecting trade which come within the province of the Department. It has always been the policy of the Department to afford every possible assistance to traders in understanding and complying with their obligations and the majority of traders appreciate this attitude. The coming into operation of the Trade Descriptions Act has greatly increased the demands on Inspectors' time for advisory assistance to traders and packers of various merchandise.

Detailed statistics are given in the summary on pages 43 - 44.

Inspection of Commodities sold by Weight, Measure or Number

133,524 items of various kinds were examined by your Inspectors, of which number 165 were found to be deficient in weight, measure or number. Most of the deficiencies were small and mainly due to lack of proper care in checking automatic and other weighing and measuring machinery. Some were attributable to evaporation due to the use of unsuitable packing materials and others to prolonged storage, sometimes under unsatisfactory conditions.

A further 308 items were found to be defective in labelling or not made up in prescribed quantities, etc.

Appropriate action was taken in respect of all goods not complying with prescribed requirements.

Detailed statistics are given on pages 45 - 46.

Particulars of Prosecutions are given on page 47.

Sale of Petrol and Lubricating Oil

There are 37 premises in the Urban District where petrol, diesel fuel and lubricating oil are sold to motorists and there are 189 measuring instruments in use at these premises. Many of these instruments in addition to measuring the fuel, also calculate and visibly indicate the price of individual deliveries. The accuracy of these price-calculating mechanisms is checked by Inspectors and they are generally very reliable.

108 new or repaired petrol pumps were tested and sealed by your Inspectors before being

put into use. The majority of these tests were necessitated by the conversion of price-computing mechanisms to the decimal system.

32 visits were paid to garages and filling stations. 205 petrol pumps and other measuring instruments were tested under the conditions of use and 8 were found to be incorrect or in need of repair. Most of the inaccuracies were not serious, and were the result of ordinary wear and tear. Instruments which are found to give inaccurate measure are not allowed to be used until they have been adjusted and approved by an Inspector of Weights and Measures.

The high cost of petrol has made precise measurement essential in the interests of both the garage proprietor and the motoring public. Even small inaccuracies can involve buyer or seller in serious financial loss but it may be reassuring to motorists to know that wear and tear in petrol measuring instruments in most cases tends to cause over-measure.

Checks on declared Octane Values and 'Star' ratings of various brands of petrol were carried out during the year (see page 39)

Testing of Tyre Pressure Gauges

The Department offers a free testing service for Tyre Pressure Gauges when Inspectors visit garages and filling stations for other purposes. The early suspicion that many of these gauges were inaccurate was again fully confirmed by the year's work. Of 32 gauges tested during the year no less than 21 (65%) were found to be defective, some seriously-so. A number of pencil-type pocket gauges were also tested for private motorists who had heard of the service.

Sale of Coal, Coke, Firewood and other Fuels

During the year your Inspectors made 20 inspections in the course of which they checked 337 loads, sacks and other quantities. 3 prosecutions in respect of a short weight delivery of solid fuel were instituted and fines and costs totalling £77.35 imposed.

TRADE DESCRIPTIONS AND CONSUMER SERVICES

Trade Descriptions Act

This Act is the basis of our services under this heading. It controls false or misleading trading descriptions of a very wide range of goods, services and prices and provides substantial criminal sanctions where its requirements are offended. Perhaps the only commodity of importance to the public which it does not control is 'real' property, i.e. land, including houses, buildings, etc. standing thereon, although it does apply to some services offered in relation to such property.

The enforcement of the Act is a mandatory duty of the Weights and Measures Authority and, in practice, divides into two parts:

1. The duty to exercise vigilance through inspectors to prevent the use of false or misleading descriptions in trade; and

2. To receive and appropriately deal with complaints from members of the public.

The Act and the work of Weights and Measures Authorities under it has had a salutary effect on the retail trade and the industries serving it. Misleading descriptions and similar sharp practices which had become rife in the retail trade and in advertising still occur but on a very greatly reduced scale. It is fair to say that, with notable exceptions, traders and particularly manufacturers, are making great efforts to comply with the many requirements which apply to the description, labelling, etc. of goods. Not the least of your Inspectors' burdens, (but one which we welcome as it saves even more work in the long run) are the numerous requests for advice on labelling and description which we receive from manufacturers and traders.

During the year your Inspectors made 249 visits of inspection and investigation for the purposes of the Act.

Among the wide variety of articles and products examined and tested in the course of this work were 7 samples of various kinds of motor spirit which were tested for Octane Rating and 1 petrol/oil mixture for oil content. In contrast with earlier experience (when a number of samples were found to be below the declared rating, some seriously-so) all the samples were of satisfactory quality. This is but one example of the salutary effect of the Act and its enforcement on the trade and of the protection which it affords to the public.

Consumer Advisory Services

95 complaints were received from members of the public, summarised in the following categories:

Motor vehicles, caravans, motor boats, tyres, accessories etc.	26
Furniture, furnishing goods, carpets, etc.	4
Petrol, oils, etc.	2
Cut-price offers, trading stamps, overcharging, etc.	9
Television, radio, refrigerators, etc.	4
Heavy bulk goods, e.g. solid and liquid fuels, top soil, turf etc.	11
House repairs and extensions, central heating, etc.	1
Household appliances, e.g. gas and electrical fires, storage heaters, washing machines, food mixers, sewing machines, etc.	3
Clothing and fabrics	4
Package holidays	-
Services, e.g. maintenance and repair contracts, etc.	8
Sports goods, toys, etc.	2
Mail Order goods	1
Food: description and quality	1
Various goods: weight, measure or number	7
Miscellaneous	12

Some of the complaints were clearly of doubtful merit, mostly from persons who had made a bad bargain in an otherwise straightforward deal and could usually be quickly disposed-of. Many however justified full investigation which, in a considerable number of cases, proved to be both difficult and time-consuming. No case arose in the Urban District in which it was considered that the public interest justified prosecution but a considerable number of official warnings were issued. From the complainants' point of view, probably the most rewarding feature was that, in most cases where it was justified, our investigations resulted in civil redress (substantial in some cases!) being obtained.

Consumer Protection Acts

The County Council has a duty to enforce the undermentioned regulations throughout the County with the exception of the Urban District of Beeston and Stapleford but by arrangement between the County Council and the Urban District Council, your Inspectors also act for the Urban District Council.

A serious defect in this legislation during the year was that there was no provision for passing back criminal responsibility for retail offences to the blameworthy manufacturers or importers. The result was that the retailer, who normally bought and sold the article in good faith, was usually the only party against whom a prosecution could be brought. This has now been remedied by an amending Act and it is thought that importers and manufacturers will be much more careful in the future than they have been hitherto.

Toys (Safety) Regulations

These regulations impose requirements in relation to toys to prevent or to reduce risk of death or injury to children. Serious accidents have resulted from the use of dangerous materials and the regulations prohibit the use of paint containing harmful proportions of lead, arsenic, soluble antimony, barium, cadmium or chromium and the use of celluloid in the construction of toys.

Your Inspectors have made 30 special visits of inspection and examined large numbers of toys offered for sale. 10 suspected items were subjected to analysis. 1 item (children's paint brushes) the shafts of which were painted with lead paint failed to comply with the regulations. Stocks were immediately removed from retailers' premises by the importers who undertook to destroy them. The importers were cautioned and a description of the toys circulated to other authorities.

Nightdresses Regulations

Inspections for this purpose are made in the course of other duties but additionally 4 special inspections of retailers stocks were made to ascertain that the requirements as to inflammable nightwear and labelling were being observed. No unsatisfactory article was found.

STAFF

As indicated earlier in this Report, the Chief and other Inspectors appointed by the County Council for the time being are, by agreement, officers of the Urban District Council for the purposes which are the subject of this Report. Interim reports on our work in the Urban District have been submitted to your General Purposes Committee at three-monthly intervals during the year and either my Deputy or I have attended and presented these reports.

In concluding this my first Annual Report to the Urban District Council, I should like to express our thanks for their interest and support in our work and for the courtesy and kindliness extended to us by the Chairman and Members of the General Purposes Committee, the Clerk of the Council Mr. H.D. Jeffries and other Officers of the Council. In particular, I should like to record my grateful thanks to Mr. Jeffries for his kindly help and wise counsel in many matters which enabled this experiment in co-operation between two authorities to get off to such a good start and to operate efficiently and agreeably

T. L. E. GREGORY

Chief Inspector.

BEESTON AND STAPLEFORD URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL

STATISTICS ETC. REQUIRED BY THE BOARD OF TRADE UNDER SECTION 38 OF THE WEIGHTS AND MEASURES ACT 1963 FOR THE FINANCIAL YEAR ENDED ON 31st MARCH 1971

1. Address of Weights and Measures Office: County Hall, West Bridgford, Nottingham, NG2 7QP.

2. STAFF IN POST

Names of Qualified Staff	Stamp Number	Certificate Number	Date appointed to present post
Chief Inspector:			
T.L.E. Gregory, M.B.E.,D.P.A.,F.I.W.M.A.	-	1783	1st April 1970
Deputy Chief Inspector:			
J.H. Soar, D.M.A.,M.I.W.M.A.	849	2883	1st April 1970

(For particulars of other qualified Inspectors and staff see Annual Report to Nottinghamshire County Council at pages 21 - 22).

3. STATEMENT OF EXPENDITURE AND INCOME RELATING TO WEIGHTS AND MEASURES ADMINISTRATION FOR THE FINANCIAL YEAR ENDED 31st MARCH 1971

EXPENDITURE	£	*INCOME*	£
Salaries (apportionment)	2,777	Fees:	
Other Expenditure (apportionment) ..	1,111	Section 11 (3)	
		Weights	13
		Measures (length)	-
		Measures (glass)..	-
		Measures (other)..	-
		Weighing Instruments..	4
		Measuring Instruments	180
		Section 43	
		Adjusting	25
		Other fees	41
		Other Income	-
Total	£3,888	Total	£263

4. ADJUSTING SERVICE provided under Section 43

	Imperial	Metric
Weights adjusted	233	1
Measures adjusted	-	-

5. SUMMARY OF INSPECTING AND TESTING WORK

(a) Premises: Section 48 (1) (c)

Number of fixed premises liable to inspection	Number of premises visited at least once	Total number of visits to fixed premises	Total number of visits to mobile premises
678	522	543	45

5. *(continued)* - Summary of Inspecting and testing work

(b) Inspection and testing of trade equipment: Section 48 (1) (a)

(c) Equipment submitted for passing as fit for use for trade: Section 11 (3)

(d) Equipment submitted for test: Section 43 (2) (b)

	Weights		Length Measures		Capacity Measures		Weighing Instruments	Person Weighing Machines	Egg Grading Machines	Petrol, Oil Measuring Instruments	Intox. Liq. Measuring Instruments	Other Measuring Instruments	Cubic Measures
	Imp.	Met.	Imp.	Met.	Imp.	Met.							
(b) Total													
Examined	3166	-	106	-	1762	-	686	-	-	97	417	-	-
Correct	2790	-	105	-	1759	-	672	-	-	92	413	-	-
Incorrect	376	-	1		3	-	14	-	-	5	4	-	-
(c) Total													
Submitted	231	-	1	-	-	-	8	-	-	108	8	-	-
Correct	231	-	1	-	-	-	8	-	-	105	.8	-	-
Incorrect	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	3	-	-	-
(d) Total													
Submitted	659	72	1	-	9	-	84	-	-	-	-	-	-
Correct	424	68	1	-	9	-	79	-	-	-	-	-	-
Incorrect	235	4	-	-	-	-	5	-	-	-	-	-	-

5. *(continued)* (e) Inspection of commodities - heavy goods

		Examined but not Tested	Tested	Deficient	Incorrect in other respects
Solid Fuel	Bags	255	77	1	-
	Loads	4	1	-	-
	Rail Vehicles	-	-	-	-
Wood Fuel	Bags	-	-	-	-
	Loads	-	-	-	-
Sand and Ballast	Loads	-	-	-	-
Other Bulk Loads	Loads	-	-	-	-

5. *(continued)* (f) Inspection of commodities - miscellaneous

	PREPACKED				NON-PREPACKED				No. of Test Purchases
	Examined but not Tested	Tested	Deficient	Incorrect in other respects	Examined but not Tested	Tested	Deficient	Incorrect in other respects	
Meat, Fish, Poultry and items in Sch. 4, Parts I and II	2,789	1,248	21	83	-	-	-	-	-
Bread	-	1,663	17	-	-	622	-	-	-
Milk	25	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Intoxicating Liquor	2,331	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Fresh Fruits and Vegetables	1,268	893	78	73	-	-	-	-	-
Other foods	43,506	14,786	18	152	-	-	-	-	-
Non-food commodities other than in 5(e)	53,791	10,261	30	-	-	-	-	-	-

7. Number of public weighbridges 2. Number of certificates issued during period to attendants of weighbridges: Nil.

6. PARTICULARS OF PROSECUTIONS

No.	Trade	Nature of Offence	Act and Section	Penalty imposed (Inc. costs)			Petty Sessional Division
				£	s	d	
1	Coal Merchants	Short weight solid fuel	Weights and Measures Act 1963, Section 24(1)	57	7	0	Nottingham
2	Journeyman	" " " "	" " " " "	10	0	0	"
3	"	" " " "	" " " " "	10	0	0	"
4 to 9	Vehicle Owners and Drivers	Using overloaded vehicles (6 cases)	Road Traffic Act 1960	65	0	0	"