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BOROUGH OF OSWESTRY

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# ***Annual Report***

ON THE WORK OF THE

**Public Health Department**

FOR THE YEAR

**1964**





OSWESTRY BOROUGH COUNCIL  
(as at December, 1963)

Councillor Mrs. P.C.M. Symon, J.P.

OSWESTRY

DEPUTY MAYOR

Councillor Mr. J. J. Howells

ALDERMEN

Area (acres) . . . . .	2,180
Population . . . . .	11,940
Inhabited houses according to Rate Book . . . . .	3,856
Rateable Value . . . . .	£466,317
Product of a Penny Rate . . . . . (Est.)	£1,879.0.0

TOWN CLERK

Charles, R.S.



OSWESTRY BOROUGH COUNCIL  
(as at December, 1964)  
-----

MAYOR:

Councillor Mrs. P.C.M. Symon, J.P.

DEPUTY MAYOR:

Councillor D. J. Howells.

ALDERMEN:

Campbell, S.G.D., O.B.E., B.E.M., J.P.  
Edwards, S.H.  
Francis, T.M.  
Hundley, E.M.  
Pritchard, H.E.  
Roberts, W.J., J.P.

COUNCILLORS:

Beauclerk, A.A. De Vere  
Davies, G.A.  
Davies, J.W.T.  
Edwards, C.  
Jackson, C.V.  
Jones, R.D.J.  
Jones, W.G.  
Jones, W.O.  
Llewellyn, P.A.C.  
Morris, A.M.  
Nicholls, H.W.  
Read, J.N.  
Roberts, Mrs.K.G.  
Roberts, R.  
Symon, Mrs. P.C.M., J.P.  
Watkin, W., J.P.  
Wilkes, G.E.

TOWN CLERK:

Cubitt, R.S.

## PUBLIC HEALTH COMMITTEE

### CHAIRMAN:

Alderman T. M. Francis

### ALDERMEN:

Campbell, S.G.D., O.B.E., B.E.M., J.P.  
Francis, T.M.  
Hundley, E.M.

### COUNCILLORS:

Beauclerk, A.A. De Vere  
Davies, J.W.T.  
Howells, D.J.  
Jones, W.O.  
Llewellyn, P.A.C.  
Morris, A.M.  
Read, J.N.  
Roberts, Mrs. K.G.  
Roberts R.  
Watkin, W. J.P.

Junior Clerk:

Miss D. Jones.

Admin. Clerk:

Miss L. Williams.

PUBLIC HEALTH STAFF

-----

Medical Officer of Health:

WILLIAM MOORE, M.B., B.Ch., D.Obst. R.C.O.G., D.T.M., D.P.H.,

Public Health Department, 8, Oswald Road, Oswestry.

Tel: Oswestry 2588

Chief Public Health Inspector:

RONALD J. LEWIS, F.A.P.H.I., CERT. MEAT INSP., DIP. R.I.P.H.H.

Additional Public Health Inspector:

- \* GEOFFREY PLANT, M.A.P.H.I., (CERT. P.H.I.E.B.)
- \* Left March, 1964. Reappointed September, 1964.

Admin. Clerk:

Miss L. Williams.

Junior Clerk:

Miss D. Jones.



# I N D E X

	Page
Foreword by Medical Officer of Health .. .. .	5,6
Vital Statistics .. .. .	7,8
Table - Births, Deaths, Still Births, Infant Mortality, Maternal Mortality .. .. .	9
Table - Causes of Death .. .. .	10
Table - Cancer, Infant Mortality, Neo-natal Mortality .. .. .	11
Table - Notification & Monthly Incidence of Infectious Disease .. .. .	12
Table - Vaccination & Immunisation .. .. .	13-17
Table - Tuberculosis .. .. .	18
Medical Examinations, Clinics, Ambulance Service .. .. .	19,20,21
Home Help Service, National Assistance Act, Hospital Facilities .. .. .	22
Laboratory Facilities, National Blood Transfusion Service .. .. .	23
Sanitary Circumstances - Water Supply .. .. .	24-28
Drainage & Sewerage, Refuse Disposal .. .. .	29
Foreword by Chief Public Health Inspector .. .. .	30,31
Meat Inspection .. .. .	32,33
Unsound Food Condemned .. .. .	34
Food Hygiene .. .. .	35,36
Vermin Control, Cinemas, Licensing Act .. .. .	37
Clean Air - Atmospheric Pollution, Housing - Slum Clearance .. .. .	38-43
Offices, Shop & Railway Premises Act, 1963 .. .. .	44,45,46
Factories Acts .. .. .	47-50

TO THE MAYOR, ALDERMEN, AND COUNCILLORS OF THE

OSWESTRY BOROUGH COUNCIL

-----

Mr. Mayor, Aldermen, Councillors,

I beg to present for your perusal the Annual Report of the work of the Public Health Department for the year 1964.

The report has been presented in the form indicated by the Ministry of Health, which includes the Vital Statistics of the area.

The Live Birth Rate 17.67 per 1,000 population (England & Wales 18.4) shows a slight decrease on 1963 when it was 18.25; 211 babies being born compared with 213 in 1963.

The Still Birth Rate was 18.6 per 1,000 live and still births, (England & Wales 16.3), 18.43 in 1963. The Infant Mortality Rate per 1,000 live births was 14.21 (England & Wales 20.0) as against 14.69 in 1963.

The Death Rate for all ages from all causes was 12.14 per 1,000 population (England & Wales 11.3) compared with 12.59 in 1963. All these figures follow national trends fairly closely.

Later in the report Mr. R. J. Lewis, the chief public health inspector



gives an interesting account of inspection of premises in the Borough,  
and I extend to him my thanks for his able and continued support in the  
compilation of this Annual Report.

I am,

Your obedient Servant,

WILLIAM MOORE,

Medical Officer of Health.

Public Health Department,  
8, Oswald Road,  
OSWESTRY,  
Shropshire.

21st July, 1965.



# EXTRACTS FROM VITAL STATISTICS FOR THE YEAR 1964

<u>Live Births.</u>	Male	Female	Total
Legitimate . . . . .	87	113	200
Illegitimate . . . . .	2	9	11
	<hr/> 89	<hr/> 122	<hr/> 211

Live Birth Rate per 1,000 population . . . . . 17.67

Live Birth Rate after correction by comparability factor . . 17.13

Illegitimate Live Births per cent of total live births . . . 5.50

<u>Still Births.</u>	Male	Female	Total
Legitimate . . . . .	2	2	4
Illegitimate . . . . .	-	-	-
	<hr/> 2	<hr/> 2	<hr/> 4

Still Birth Rate per 1,000 total live and still births . . . 18.6

<u>Total Live and Still Births.</u>	Male	Female	Total
Legitimate . . . . .	89	115	204
Illegitimate . . . . .	2	9	11
	<hr/> 91	<hr/> 124	<hr/> 215

<u>Infant Deaths (deaths under 1 year).</u>	Male	Female	Total
Legitimate . . . . .	2	1	3
Illegitimate . . . . .	-	-	-
	<hr/> 2	<hr/> 1	<hr/> 3

## Infant Mortality Rates.

Total infant deaths per 1,000 total live births . . . 14.21

Legitimate infant deaths per 1,000 legitimate live births 15.0

Illegitimate infant deaths per 1,000 illegitimate  
live births 0.00

Neo-Natal Mortality Rate (deaths under 4 weeks per 1,000  
total live births) . . . . . 9.47

Early Neo-Natal Mortality Rate (deaths under 1 week per  
1,000 total live births) . . . 4.73

Perinatal Mortality Rate (still births and deaths under 1 week  
combined per 1,000 total live and still births . . . . . 23.25

Maternal Mortality (including abortion).

Number of deaths . . . . . Nil

Maternal Mortality Rate per 1,000 live and still births. . 0.00

	Male	Female	Total
<u>Deaths from Measles</u> (all ages) . . . . .	-	-	-
<u>Deaths from Whooping Cough</u> (all ages) . . . . .	-	-	-
<u>Deaths from Diarrhoea</u> (all ages) . . . . .	-	-	-
<u>Deaths from all other causes</u> . . . . .	77	68	145
<u>Death Rate per 1,000 population</u> . . . . .			12.14
<u>Death Rate after correction by comparability factor</u> . . . . .			12.86



BIRTHS, DEATHS, STILL BIRTHS, INFANT MORTALITY, MATERNAL MORTALITY,  
FOR THE YEAR 1964

	Live Births	Birth Rate per 1,000 Pop.	Total Deaths	Death Rate per 1,000 Pop.	Still Births	Still Birth Rate per 1,000 Live and Still Births	Infant Deaths	Infant Mortality Rate per 1,000 Live Births	Maternal Deaths	Maternal Mortality Rate per 1,000 Live and Still Births
OSWESTRY M.B.	211	17.67	145	12.14	4	18.60	3	14.21	-	0.00
COUNTY OF SALOP (1963)	5,571	18.14	3,540	11.53	99	17.5	98	17.6	2	0.35
ENGLAND AND WALES	874,110	18.4	534,556	11.3	14,524	16.3	17,507	20.0	226	0.25



# CAUSES OF DEATH

CAUSE	1964	1963
Tuberculosis, respiratory. . . . .	-	2
Other forms of Tuberculosis. . . . .	-	-
Syphilitic disease . . . . .	-	-
Diphtheria . . . . .	-	-
Whooping Cough . . . . .	-	-
Meningococcal infection . . . . .	-	-
Acute Poliomyelitis . . . . .	-	-
Measles . . . . .	-	-
Other infective and parasitic diseases . . . . .	1	-
Malignant neoplasm, stomach . . . . .	5	4
Malignant neoplasm, lung, bronchus . . . . .	8	7
Malignant neoplasm, breast . . . . .	6	4
Malignant neoplasm, uterus . . . . .	2	3
Other malignant and lymphatic neoplasms . . . . .	14	15
Leukaemia, aleukaemia . . . . .	1	1
Diabetes . . . . .	2	1
Vascular lesions of the nervous system . . . . .	16	20
Coronary disease, angina . . . . .	29	29
Hypertension with heart disease . . . . .	5	3
Other heart disease . . . . .	16	28
Other circulatory disease . . . . .	2	3
Influenza . . . . .	-	1
Pneumonia . . . . .	4	1
Bronchitis . . . . .	8	10
Other diseases of the respiratory system . . . . .	2	-
Ulcer of the stomach and duodenum . . . . .	3	1
Gastritis, enteritis, diarrhoea . . . . .	-	-
Nephritis and Nephrosis . . . . .	2	-
Hyperplasia of prostate . . . . .	1	-
Pregnancy, Childbirth, Abortion . . . . .	-	-
Congenital malformations . . . . .	1	1
Other defined and ill-defined diseases . . . . .	12	11
Motor vehicle accidents . . . . .	2	3
All other accidents. . . . .	3	-
Suicide . . . . .	-	-
Homicide and operations of war . . . . .	-	-
All causes . . . . .	145	147

# CANCER

OSWESTRY M.B.	Deaths		Total	Rate per 1,000 Population
	M.	F.		
	19	17	36	3.01
COUNTY OF SALOP (1963)	335	245	580	1.89
ENGLAND & WALES	56,247	48,451	104,698	2.22

## INFANT MORTALITY

OSWESTRY M.B.	Under 1 day	1 - 7 days	7 days - 1 month	1 - 3 months	3 - 6 months	6 - 9 months	9 - 12 months	Total		Combined total	Infant Mortality Rate per 1,000 Live Births
	M.	M. F.	M.	M. F.	M. F.	M. F.	M. F.	M. F.	M. F.		
	-	-	1	-	-	-	1	-	-	2	

## NEO-NATAL MORTALITY

OSWESTRY M.B.	Deaths of infants under 1 month		Percentage of total infant deaths	Rate per 1,000 Live Births
	M.	F. Total		
	1	1 2	66	9.47



# NOTIFICATION OF INFECTIOUS DISEASE

Age	Dysentery		Measles		Puerperal Pyrexia	Scarlet Fever	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	F.	M.	F.
0-	-	1	1	-	-	-	-
1-	-	-	3	1	-	-	-
2-	-	-	3	5	-	-	-
3-	-	-	3	3	-	-	-
4-	-	-	4	3	-	-	1
5-	-	-	7	7	-	1	1
10-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
15-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
25-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-
45-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
65 & over	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
unknown	-	-	-	2	-	-	-
Total	-	1	21	21	1	1	2

## MONTHLY INCIDENCE OF INFECTIOUS DISEASE

Disease	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	Jun.	Jul.	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.
Dysentery	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Measles	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	11	-	6	14	10
Puerperal Pyrexia	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Scarlet Fever	2	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-



# SCHEDULE P.

Age	Visit	Vaccine	Injection	Internal
1 to 6 months	1	Diphtheria, pertussis, tetanus 1	1	4 to 6 weeks
	2	Diphtheria, pertussis, tetanus 2	2	4 to 6 weeks
	3	Diphtheria, pertussis, tetanus 3	3	
7 to 10 months	4	Poliomyelitis 1 )		
	5	Poliomyelitis 2 ) Oral vaccine		
	6	Poliomyelitis 3 )		4 weeks
18 to 21 months	7	Diphtheria, pertussis, tetanus 4		
		Smallpox during first 2 years but preferably at 12 months.		
School Entry		Poliomyelitis 4; diphtheria, tetanus.		
		Diphtheria, tetanus, smallpox revaccination.		
8 to 12 years		B.C.G. vaccines may be given to children aged 10 years or more, at the discretion of the medical officer of health.		
Over 12 years				

## VACCINATION AND IMMUNISATION

The following tables on vaccination and immunisation are supplied by the courtesy of the Salop County Council Health Department.

### POLIOMYELITIS VACCINATION

The following received their second injections of Salk vaccine or third injections of quadrilin in 1964.

OSWESTRY M.B.	Children born 1964/1943		Children born 1933/1943		Others		Total	
	C.C.	G.P.	C.C.	G.P.	C.C.	G.P.	C.C.	G.P.
	-	23	-	-	-	1	-	24

The following received their third doses of oral or Salk vaccine or fourth injection of quadrilin in 1964.

OSWESTRY M.B.	Children born 1964/1943		Children born 1933/1952		Others	
	C.C.	G.P.	C.C.	G.P.	C.C.	G.P.
	151	57	2	-	4	-

The following received their fourth doses of oral or Salk vaccine in 1964.

OSWESTRY M.B.	Children born 1964/1943		Children born 1933/1942		Others	
	C.C.	G.P.	C.C.	G.P.	C.C.	G.P.
	106	9	-	-	-	-



# DIPHTHERIA IMMUNISATION 1964

OSWESTRY M.B.	Under 5	5-14	Total	Re-inforcing injections
	154	1	155	192

# SMALLPOX VACCINATION 1964

OSWESTRY M.B.	Percentage of children under the age of 1 year vaccinated	Under 1	1	2-4	5-14	Over 14	Total	Revac- cinations
	31.5	46	62	12	13	13	146	29

# WHOOPING COUGH IMMUNISATION 1964

OSWESTRY M.B.	Total Number of Children immunised
	152

# TETANUS IMMUNISATION 1964

OSWESTRY M.B.	Total Number of Children immunised
	212



## B.C.G. VACCINATION OF SCHOOL CHILDREN

The following scheme is operated by the Salop County Council.

B.C.G. vaccination against Tuberculosis is available, with parental consent to:

- (a) School children in the year preceeding their fourteenth birthday;
- (b) children of 14 years who are still at school and students for further education, teacher training colleges, technical colleges and other establishments for further education; and,
- (c) whole school clinics, which may include a few children under 13 years of age for convenience.

The table on page 17 gives the particulars of schools in the Oswestry Borough visited for B.C.G. vaccination purposes during 1964. All positive reactors (to the Mantoux Tests) together with their school and home contacts are routinely followed up and X-rayed.

# B.C.G. VACCINATION 1964

Schools	Refusals	No. of Consents received	No. of Children skin tested	Skin Test Readings		No vaccinated
				Pos.	Neg.	
Oswestry Boys' High School	-	43	43	5	42	41
Oswestry Girls' High School	4	59	57	1	56	56
Oswestry Technical College	-	2	2	-	2	2
Oswestry Boys' Modern School	11	65	61	1	58	57
Oswestry Girls' Modern School	7	74	68	2	64	64
Oswestry Roman Catholic School	-	4	4	-	-	4
<u>Private Schools -</u>						
Bellan House School	1	1	1	-	1	1
Oswestry Grammar School	4	35	35	6	28	28
Queens Park School	-	1	1	-	1	1

A proportion of the pupils come from Oswestry Rural District.



# TUBERCULOSIS 1964

At the end of the year the number of cases on the register showed a total of eighty-one; forty-seven males and thirty-four females.

The Mass Radiography Unit visited the Borough at two-monthly intervals throughout the year.

Details of notification are as follows:-

	Respiratory		Non-respiratory		Total	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
Civilian cases	3	1	-	-	3	1
Service cases	-	-	-	-	-	-
Transfers	-	-	-	1	-	1
TOTAL	3	1	-	1	3	2
Cured	-	-	-	2	-	2
Left District	1	-	-	-	1	-
Deaths	1	-	-	-	1	-

Number of cases on the Register at the end of the year:-

Respiratory		Non-respiratory		Total	
M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
44	23	3	11	47	34

Number of primary notifications during the year . . . 4

Death Rate (Respiratory Tuberculosis) per 1,000 . . . 0.83

Death Rate (Respiratory Tuberculosis) per 1,000 population

England & Wales 0.046



## MEDICAL EXAMINATIONS

Apart from routine medical inspections which I carry out in schools and clinics, I carry out from time to time:-

- (a) Pre-employment Examination of all entrants to local government service employed by Oswestry Borough Council.
- (b) Examination to ascertain the fitness of children (aged 13 years and over) to engage in part-time work outside school hours. The scope and duration of this employment is strictly controlled by law. (Children and Young Persons Act, 1933).
- (c) All entrants to the teaching profession.
- (d) The assessment of the fitness of various individuals to continue their present employment.

## LOCAL HEALTH AUTHORITY CLINICS

Under the National Health Service Act, 1946 the County Council, the local health authority, provide child welfare clinics. The clinic in Oswestry is held in Upper Brook Street every Wednesday from 9.30 a.m. to 12.30 p.m. and from 1.30 p.m. to 4.30 p.m. Immunisation against diphtheria, whooping cough and tetanus are provided, as well as vaccination against smallpox. Facilities are also available for immunisation against poliomyelitis.

Welfare foods - orange juice, cod liver oil preparations, other vitamin preparations, powdered milk and cereals for babies - are all on

sale at the clinics. These welfare foods are also on sale daily except Thursday.

The Clinic is staffed by experienced health visitors who can advise mothers on any problem connected with the rearing, feeding and management of babies and young children. A doctor is always in attendance.

#### DENTAL CLINICS

The Salop County Council provides a dental service for expectant and nursing mothers and for pre-school age and school age children. The aim of the School Dental Service is to ensure that, as far as is practicable, children will leave school without the loss of permanent teeth, free from dental disease and irregularity and trained in the care of their teeth.

The dentist holds frequent weekly sessions in the clinic at Upper Brook Street, Oswestry.

#### CHILD GUIDANCE CLINICS

Two sessions weekly are held in Shrewsbury and two in Wellington. Sessions are also held in all parts of the County as and when the need arises. Shortage of staff has made this aspect of the work more difficult to fulfil. It is hoped that a Child Psychiatrist will be appointed in 1965.



## CLINICS

Tuberculosis: The Chest Physician attends at the Oswestry and District Hospital, every Friday from 1.30 p.m. to 4 p.m., and the Chest Clinic, Copthorne Hospital, Shrewsbury, every Wednesday from 2 p.m. to 4 p.m.

Venereal Disease: Treatment is available at No.1, Belmont, Shrewsbury as follows:-

Females: Monday - 3.30 p.m. to 5.30 p.m.

Thursday - 5 p.m. to 7 p.m.

Males: Tuesday - 6 p.m. to 8 p.m.

Friday - 6 p.m. to 8 p.m.

## AMBULANCE SERVICE

Under the National Health Service Act, it became the duty of the County Council, the local health authority, to make provisions for securing that ambulances and other means of transport are available for the conveyance of persons suffering from illness or mental defectiveness and expectant mothers or nursing mothers, from places in their area to places in or outside their area.

## HOME HELP SERVICE

This service is provided by the Salop County Council as one of its functions under Part III of the National Health Service Act. It helps to maintain the aged and the sick in their homes. This excellent service is run in Oswestry and District by the supervisor Mrs. Crombie who has 22 home helps under her control.

## NATIONAL ASSISTANCE (AMENDMENT) ACT, 1951

Action was taken once under the above Act by the Medical Officer of Health in 1964.

## HOSPITAL FACILITIES

The following hospitals and clinics are administered by the Birmingham Regional Hospital Board which was constituted in accordance with the National Health Service Act.

Oswestry and District Hospital.

The Robert Jones & Agnes Hunt Orthopaedic Hospital, Oswestry.

The Royal Salop Infirmary, Shrewsbury.

Copthorne Hospital, Shrewsbury.

Monkmoor Hospital, Shrewsbury.

The Eye, Ear & Throat Hospital, Shrewsbury.



## LABORATORY FACILITIES

Laboratory facilities are available at the Public Health laboratory, Royal Salop Infirmary, Shrewsbury. The Bacteriologist is Dr. A.C. Jones, the Pathologist, Dr. G. Grant.

This service undertakes work for local authorities free of charge in so far as it is relevant to diagnosis. It is particularly invaluable in the expeditious dealing with the bacteriological examination of food samples.

## NATIONAL BLOOD TRANSFUSION SERVICE

The following figures supplied by the Shropshire branch include donors resident in the Oswestry Rural District. Public spirited members of the community continue to support the twice yearly sessions of this valuable service, but new volunteers are constantly needed to replace those leaving the district or reaching 'retiring age', and to keep pace with the ever increasing demand for blood transfusion as a part of Hospital treatment. Those of us who have received blood transfusions for ourselves or a member of our family, owe a debt of gratitude which no money can repay to these donors.

Attended

244

Bled

230

## SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA

### WATER SUPPLY

I am indebted to the Water Engineer of the West Shropshire Water Board for the following figures on rainfall and water consumption in the area.

Rainfall at the Penygwely Reservoirs for the year was:-

No. 1. = 32.98 inches.

No. 2. = 32.63 inches.

Rainfall at Mount Reservoirs and Filters = 26.78 inches.

Total consumption for the year was = 204,398,000 gallons.

Total for the Palatine Meter = 165,892,000

Total for the Liverpool Supply = 38,506,000

The following figures are supplied with the kind co-operation of the Borough Surveyor.

- |  |                |
|--|----------------|
| (1) Number of premises supplied from public mains:   | 4,360          |
| (2) Number of population supplied from public mains: | 11,954 approx. |
| (a) direct to premises (1) .....                     | 4,358          |
| (2) .....  | 11,947 approx. |
| (b) by means of standpipes (1) .....                 | 2              |
| (2) .....  | 7              |

Thirteen houses have private systems, four have wells and another four are supplied by Liverpool supply. One other house is supplied by Oswestry Rural District supply.



The mains water is supplied by the West Shropshire Water Board from its various sources.

I am indebted to the Water Engineer of the West Shropshire Water Board for the following figures on rainfall and water consumption in the area. Rainfall at the Penksey Reservoir for the year was:-

No. 1. = 32.98 inches.
No. 2. = 32.67 inches.

Rainfall at Mount Reservoir and Elford = 44.56.78 inches.

Total consumption for the year was = 304,398,000 gallons.

Total for the Palatine Water = 165,892,000

Total for the Liverpool Supply = 38,506,000

The following figures are supplied with the kind co-operation of the Borough Engineer.

- |  |                |
|--|----------------|
| (1) Number of premises supplied from public mains:   | 4,360          |
| (2) Number of population supplied from public mains: | 11,924 approx. |
| (a) Direct to premises (1)                           | 4,358          |
| (2)  | 11,947 approx. |
| (b) by means of standpipes (1)                       | 2              |
| (2)  | 7              |

Thirteen houses have private systems, four have wells and another four are supplied by Liverpool supply. One other house is supplied by Oswestry Rural District supply.

## REPORTS OF ANALYSIS

Ref.T/AA/79 (Raw Water)

### CHEMICAL RESULTS IN PARTS PER MILLION

Appearance: Faintly opalescent with a very slight deposit.

Microscopical examination: Mineral and organic debris, few various diatoms.

Turbidity: Less than 3

Colour: 20      Odour: Nil

pH: 7.0      Free Carbon Dioxide: 2

Electric Conductivity: 76      Dissolved Solids dried at 180°C: 55

Chlorine present as Chloride: 9      Alkalinity as Calcium Carbonate: 10

Hardness: Total 30      Carbonate: 10      Non-carbonate: 20

Nitrate Nitrogen: 1.5      Nitrite Nitrogen: less than 0.01

Ammoniacal Nitrogen: 0.000      Oxygen Absorbed: 1.3

Albuminoid Nitrogen: 0.075      Residual Chlorine: ...

Metals: Iron: 0.06; Manganese: 0.04; Zinc, Copper, Lead: absent

### BACTERIOLOGICAL RESULTS

Number of colonies	}	1 day at 37°C.	2 days at 37°C.	3 days at 20-22°C.
developing on Agar		13 per ml.	25 per ml.	80 per ml.
Presumptive Coli-	}	Present in	Absent from	Probable number
form reaction		≠ 1 ml.	0.1 ml.	80 per 100 ml.
Bact. coli. Type I		100 ml.	50 ml.	1 per 100 ml.
Cl. welchii reaction		100 ml.	10 ml.	

≠ Intermediate Types I & II



This sample shows only slight opalescence and carries only a trace of matter in suspension. The water is neutral in reaction, very soft in character, has a comparatively low content of mineral constituents and it is free from metals apart from minute traces of iron and manganese. It shows only slight colour and is of very satisfactory organic quality for a surface water. Bacterial impurity is very moderate. No difficulty would be expected in the treatment of this water for the production of a public supply.

Ref. T/AA/80 (Tap Water)

#### CHEMICAL RESULTS IN PARTS PER MILLION

Appearance: Bright with a very slight deposit.

Microscopical examination: Mineral matter, few various diatoms.

Turbidity: less than 3

Colour: 14

Odour: Nil

pH: 7.7

Free Carbon Dioxide: trace

Electric Conductivity: 95

Dissolved Solids dried at 180°C. 65

Chlorine present as Chloride: 10

Alkalinity as Calcium Carbonate: 14

Hardness: Total: 35

Carbonate: 14

Non-carbonate: 21

Nitrate Nitrogen: 1.7

Nitrite Nitrogen: less than 0.01

Ammoniacal Nitrogen: 0.044

Oxygen Absorbed: 1.2

Albuminoid Nitrogen: 0.063

Residual Chlorine: 0.07

Metals: Iron: 0.0\_ /; Zinc, Copper, Lead, Manganese: absent.

# BACTERIOLOGICAL RESULTS

Number of colonies	1 day at 37°C. 2 days at 37°C. 3 days at 37°C.		
developing on Agar	3 per ml.	5 days per ml.	9 per ml.
Presumptive Coli-	Present in	Absent from	Probable number
form reaction	- ml.	100 ml.	0 per 100 ml.
Bact. coli. Type I	- ml.	100 ml.	0 per 100 ml.
Cl. Welchii reaction	100 ml.	10 ml.	

This sample is practically clear and bright in appearance, on the alkaline side of neutrality and free from metals apart from a negligible trace of iron. The water is soft in character and has a comparatively low content of mineral constituents. It shows only slight colour, is of satisfactory organic quality and of a high standard of bacterial purity.

These results are indicative of a pure and wholesome water suitable for drinking and domestic purposes.



## DRAINAGE AND SEWERAGE

Number of premises connected to public sewers ..... 4,323

Number of premises connected to satisfactory private

sewage disposal works ..... 44

Number of premises without satisfactory means of

sewage disposal ..... 6

## REFUSE DISPOSAL

Number of Wards in the town ..... 6

Number of Wards where refuse is collected ..... 6

Method of collection: Direct labour.

Method of disposal: Controlled tipping.

Tel. No. : Oswestry 2588

WITH THE COMPLIMENTS  
of the  
CHIEF PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR  
OSWESTRY BOROUGH COUNCIL

8, Oswald Road,  
Oswestry.



The No. 1. Oswestry 1881

WITH THE COMPLAINTS  
of the  
CHIEF PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR  
OSWESTRY BOROUGH COUNCIL

A. DAVIES & SONS  
OSWESTRY

REPORT

OF

CHIEF PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR



REPORT

OF

CHIEF PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR

His Worship the Mayor, Aldermen and Councillors,

During 1964 the Aberdeen outbreak of typhoid reminded all who work in environmental health that there can be no relaxing of standards, no letting up on efforts to raise hygiene levels. Modern urban civilisation has created its own problems in much the same way that 19th century industrial urbanisation caused its own public health problems. Imported food contaminated thousands of miles away started a chain of infection that involved a modern supermarket, a modern slicer - and 400 people. One of the less publicised facts about Aberdeen was the shortage of Inspectors in the Health Department.

1964 also saw the introduction of the Offices, Shops & Railway Premises Act - a piece of legislation which has largely been entrusted to local authorities with the proviso that they must be prepared to be 'overseen' and produce detailed statistics. The extra work was covered by increasing the clerical staff and so enabling myself and my assistant greater freedom for outside work.

The 'pigeon menace' reached 'complaining point' during the year - but we did not find a solution to the feathered fiends that roost in the town at night, fouling pavements and window cills and blocking rainwater pipes with their droppings.

This report is titled "The Annual Report on the work of the Public Health Department" - and to the other members of the Department I am



grateful for their unstinted loyalty and support, and carrying their share of the load.

I remain,

Your obedient Servant,

R. J. LEWIS,

Chief Public Health  
Inspector.

## MEAT INSPECTION

Oswestry still maintains its standard of high quality meat - if the animals slaughtered in the town are the criterion. Mainly 2 year old bullocks are killed; if one cow is killed in a year it is unusual. Lambs and yearlings, small porkers and bacon pigs are also mainly killed.

The quality of the animals is reflected in the condemnation figures - the main economic loss being due to *Cysticercus Bovis* infestation (affected carcasses have to be taken to Chester and deep frozen) and to bovine livers condemned because of 'fluke' (fascioliasis).

The virtual elimination of tuberculosis from the cattle figures, and its continuing reduction in the pig figures, is a tribute to the work of veterinary surgeons of private practice and of the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries.



# MEAT INSPECTION

	Cattle excluding Cows	Cows	Calves	Sheep and Lambs	Pigs
Number killed . . . . .	1774	-	8	9006	4050
Number inspected . . . . .	1774	-		9006	4050
ALL DISEASES EXCEPT TUBERCULOSIS					
Whole carcasses condemned . . . . .	-	-	1	7	4
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned . . . . .	327	-	-	93	168
Percentage of the number inspected affected with disease other than Tuberculosis . . . . .	18.43	-	12.5	1.11	4.24
TUBERCULOSIS ONLY					
Whole carcasses condemned . . . . .	-	-	-	-	1
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned . . . . .	1	-	-	-	144
Percentage of the number inspected affected with Tuberculosis . . . . .	0.23	-	-	-	3.58

Cysticercus Bovis generalised (carcase and offal condemned) - Nil  
 " " localised (carcase frozen - 6)  
 " " (head and offal condemned).

# UNSOUND FOOD SURRENDERED OR CONDEMNED

Meat at slaughterhouse	...	...	...	...	...	5,461 lbs.
Meat at retail shops	...	...	...	...	...	Nil
Cooked meat and meat products	...	...	...	...	...	90 lbs.
Canned meats	...	...	...	...	...	1,265 lbs.
Fish	...	...	...	...	...	11 lbs.
Fruit and Vegetables	...	...	...	...	...	118 lbs.
Other Foods	...	...	...	...	...	1,447 lbs.

## FOOD AND DRUGS ACT, 1955

Number of Prosecutions under Section 2	...	...	...	Nil
Number of Prosecutions under Section 8	...	...	...	Nil
Number of complaints of foreign bodies in food	...	...	...	3

<u>Food</u>	<u>Foreign body</u>	<u>Action taken</u>
Chelsea Bun	Piece of String	Warning letter.
Lemon Cheese	Mouse dropping	No infestation found Warning letter.
Pasty	Fly	Warning letter.



## FOOD HYGIENE

Throughout the year routine inspection of all food premises continued steadily with the accent always on maintaining and improving standards. Food traders were co-operative, and no prosecutions were taken.

The retail market now housed in the Powis Hall received weekly attention and stall holders generally maintained a good standard of cleanliness. Handwashing facilities are available at each of the permanent stalls selling food inside the market, and the opening in August of a new public convenience complete with free handwashing facilities, adjacent to the market hall leaves no excuse for negligence to personal hygiene.

Following is a list of food premises under their various categories.

### Bakehouses

- (a) Baking bread and confectionery ..... 3
- (b) Catering & Confectionery ..... 35

Hotels, Cafe's, Snack Bars and Factory Canteens are included in this figure. Most of these premises have refrigerated storage, and use a recognised steriliser-detergent for washing up. A number have dishwashing machines which steam sterilise, or double-unit sterilising sinks.

(c)	<u>Butchers</u> .....	19
(d)	<u>Fish Friers</u> .....	9
(e)	<u>Wet Fish</u> .....	3
(f)	<u>Grocers</u> .....	43
(g)	<u>Greengrocers</u> .....	11
(h)	<u>Sweets</u> .....	24
(i)	<u>Licensed Houses</u> .....	39
(j)	<u>Market Halls</u> (Powis Hall) .....	1
(k)	<u>Mobile Shops</u> - Grocery ..... 3 Greengrocery.....	3
(l)	<u>Milk &amp; Dairies</u>	

Oswestry is a specially designated area; the bulk of milk being processed outside the town and distributed by local dealers. No complaints were received of lack of keeping quality or failures to maintain the high standard of dairy hygiene which is now normally expected.

(m)	<u>Ice cream</u> - Producers ..... Nil Retailers .....	68
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## VIRMIN CONTROL

The elimination of rats in the sewers is a major achievement, and one that would not have seemed possible ten years ago. The town still has scattered rat infestations, which tend to form a pattern showing rats moving in from the fields outside the town, especially along the small streams. Mice infestations are less frequent also, but do rapidly build up in old shops. The making of contracts with various business premises does mean that a percentage of premises are visited regularly and also this percentage immediately telephone in a complaint of infestation, and in this way act as a network of 'look-out posts'.

## CINEMAS

The two Cinemas had their annual inspection and a Certificate issued regarding their cleanliness, ventilation and adequacy of facilities is submitted to the Magistrates.

## LICENSING ACT, 1961

Registered Clubs are inspected at the time of initial registration and thereafter at annual intervals.

## CLEAN AIR ACT, 1956

### (A) INDUSTRIAL

Dark Smoke	Number of prosecutions	
	(a) successful .....	Nil
	(b) unsuccessful .....	Nil
Furnaces (Section 3)	(a) notifications received .....	1
	(b) applications for prior approval ..	1
	(c) number of applications granted ...	1
Grit and dust emissions (Section 5)	(a) number of contraventions .....	Nil
	(b) type of plant involved :-	

Grit and fly ash arrestor required on wood-waste burning boiler of new wood working plant.

Height of chimneys	(a) number of plans submitted .....	1
	(b) number approved .....	1
	(c) number of chimneys erected not complying with approved plans ....	Nil

### (B) DOMESTIC

Number of smoke control areas in operation at 31st December, 1964 .....	Nil
Number of smoke control areas confirmed by Minister but not yet operative at 31st December, 1964 .....	Nil
Number of smoke control areas awaiting confirmation by Ministry at 31st December, 1964 .....	Nil



## ATMOSPHERIC POLLUTION

Oswestry in practice is still 'dark grey', Oswestry in theory is still 'snow white'.

Oswestry Borough Council has continued with its policy of installing underfloor-draught fires in new Council properties.

The readings taken by the air filter apparatus continue to form part of the National Survey of Atmospheric Pollution, and also enable the Department to justify its comments on the level of pollution in the town and its regular publicity of the need to burn smokeless fuels.

## HOUSING

The last quarter of 1964 saw the first occupation of maisonettes and flats on part of the redeveloped site of Clearance Area No.1. This was urban renewal in practical operation. The year also saw the preparation carried out on Clearance Areas No.2 & 3. Area No.2 is a small one, but Areas No.1 & 3 total over 200 houses.

The number of notices served to remedy defects does not indicate the amount of time taken up by this work. Most of them arose from the reluctance of landlords to carry out very necessary repairs, and often without action by the Council there would have been a rapid deterioration in the living conditions and in the condition of the property.

# HOUSING

## HOUSES IN CLEARANCE AREAS AND UNFIT HOUSES ELSEWHERE

RETURN FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER, 1964.

A	HOUSES  DEMOLISHED	IN CLEARANCE AREAS declared under Section 42 of the Hsg. Act, 1957.	Number of HOUSES DEMOLISHED	Unfit for human habitation . . . . .	Nil
				Included by reason of bad arrangement . .	Nil
				On land acquired under Section 43 (2) Housing Act, 1957 . . . . .	Nil
during	PERSONS DISPLACED during year			From houses unfit for human habitation . .	55
				From houses included by reason of bad arrangement . . . . .	Nil
				From houses on land acquired under Section 43 (2) Housing Act, 1957 . . . . .	Nil
year	FAMILIES DISPLACED during year			From houses unfit for human habitation . .	17
				From houses included by reason of bad arrangement . . . . .	Nil
				From houses on land acquired under Section 43 (2) Housing Act, 1957 . . . . .	Nil



A cont.			As a result of formal or informal procedure under Sec.16 or Sec.17 (1) Hsg. Act, 1957 Local Authority owned houses certified unfit by the Medical Officer of Health . . Houses unfit for human habitation where action has been taken under local Acts . . Houses included in unfitness orders made under para 2 of the Second Schedule to the Land Compensation Act, 1961 . . . . .	2  Nil Nil Nil
HOUSES  DEMOLISHED				
	NOT		From houses to be demolished as a result of formal or informal procedure under Sec.16 or Sec.17 (1) Hsg. Act, 1957 . . . From local authority owned houses certified unfit by the Medical Officer of Health . . From houses unfit for human habitation where action has been taken under local Acts . . . . . From houses included in unfitness orders . .	1 Nil Nil Nil
DEMOLISHED	IN			
		CLEARANCE		
during			From houses to be demolished as a result of formal or informal procedure under Sec. 16 or Sec. 17 (1) Hsg. Act, 1957 . . From local authority owned houses certified unfit by the Medical Officer of Health . . From houses unfit for human habitation where action has been taken under local Acts . . . . . From houses included in unfitness orders . .	1 Nil Nil Nil
year		AREAS		
			Number of dwellings included above which were previously reported as closed . . . . .	Nil

B	UNFIT HOUSES	Number of HOUSES	Under Sections 16 (4), 17 (1) and 35 (1) Hsg. Act, 1957 and Section 26 Hsg. Act, 1961	1
			Under Sections 17 (3) and 26 Housing Act, 1957	Nil
	HOUSES CLOSED during year	PERSONS DISPLACED during year	From houses to be closed:- Under Sections 16 (4), 17 (1) and 35 (1) Hsg. Act, 1957 and Section 26 Hsg. Act, 1961	4
			Under Sections 17 (3) and 26 Housing Act, 1957	Nil
	in pursuance of closing orders	FAMILIES DISPLACED during year	From houses to be closed:- Under Sections 16 (4), 17 (1) and 35 (1) Hsg. Act, 1957 and Section 26 Hsg. Act, 1961	1
			Under Sections 17 (3) and 26 Housing Act, 1957	Nil
	or undertakings	PARTS OF BUILDINGS CLOSED under Section 18, Housing Act, 1957:-		
			Number of HOUSES . . . . .	Nil
C	UNFIT HOUSES		Number of PERSONS DISPLACED . . . . .	Nil
	MADE FIT AND		Number of FAMILIES DISPLACED . . . . .	Nil
	HOUSES IN WHICH DEFECTS WERE REMEDIED	After informal action by local authority:-	by owner . . . . .	26
		After formal notice under Public Health Acts:-	(a) by owner . . . . .	3
			(b) by local authority	Nil
		After formal notice under Sections 9 and 16, Housing Act, 1957:-	(a) by owner . . . . .	Nil
		Under Section 24, Housing Act, 1957:-	by owner . . . . .	Nil



D	UNFIT HOUSES IN TEMPORARY USE Housing Act, 1957	POSITION  AT END OF YEAR	Retained  for  Temporary  Accommodation	Under Section 18	Number of houses . . . . Number of separate dwellings contained therein . .	5
				Under Section 17 (2)	Number of houses . . . . Number of separate dwellings contained therein . .	Nil
				Under Section 16	Number of houses . . . . Number of separate dwellings contained therein . .	Nil
				Licensed for temporary accommodation under Section 34 or 53 - Number of houses . . . . .		Nil
E	PURCHASE OF HOUSES BY AGREEMENT	Houses in clearance areas other than those included in confirmed orders or compulsory purchase orders.			Number of houses . . . .	Nil
					Number of occupants . .	Nil

# OFFICES, SHOPS & RAILWAY PREMISES ACT, 1963

## (A) REGISTRATIONS AND GENERAL INSPECTIONS

Class of Premises	Number of premises registered during the year	Number of registered premises at end of year	Number of registered premises receiving a general inspection during the year
1.	2.	3.	4.
Offices	80	80	11
Retail Shops	164	164	16
Wholesale shops, Warehouses	9	9	-
Catering establishments open to the public, canteens	17	17	1
Fuel storage depots	-	-	-
Totals	270	270	28

TOTAL NUMBER OF VISITS OF ALL KINDS BY INSPECTORS TO REGISTERED PREMISES UNDER THE ACT 28

In this Schedule -

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



(B) ANALYSIS OF CONTRAVENTIONS

Contraventions in respect of:	Found	Contraventions in respect of:	Found
Sec.4 Cleanliness	13	Sec.13 Sitting Facilities	-
Sec.5 Overcrowding	2	Sec.14 Seats for sedentary workers	-
Sec.6 Temperature	15	Sec.15 Eating facilities	-
Sec.7 Ventilation	4	Sec.16 Floors, passages, stairs	-
Sec. 8 Lighting	6	Sec.17 Fencing of exposed parts of machinery	1
Sec.9 Sanitary Conveniences	1	Sec.18 Protection of young persons from dangerous machinery	-
Sec.10 Washing facilities	10	Sec.19 Training of persons working at dangerous machinery	-
Sec.11 Supply of drinking water	-	Sec.23 Prohibition of heavy work	-
Sec.12 Accommoda- tion for clothing	3	Sec.24 First Aid - General Provisions	11
		TOTAL	66

(C)	<u>EXEMPTIONS</u>	.....	Nil
(D)	<u>PROSECUTIONS</u>	.....	Nil
(E)	<u>INSPECTORS</u>		
	Number of inspectors appointed under Section 52 (1) or (5) of the Act	.....	2
	Number of other staff employed for most of their time on work in connection with the Act	.....	1
(F)	<u>REPORTED ACCIDENTS</u>	.....	Nil
(G)	<u>ADMINISTRATION</u>		

Lack of promised publicity made registration and administration of requirements of the Act more difficult than they might have been.



# FACTORIES ACT, 1961

## PART I OF THE ACT

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

Premises (1)	Number on Register (2)	Number of		
		Inspections (3)	Written Notices (4)	Occupiers Prosecuted (5)
(i) Factories in which Sections 1,2,3,4 and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities ...	12	6	-	-
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority ....	110	-	-	-
(iii) Other premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding out-workers' premises .....	-	-	-	-
Total .....	122	6	-	-

2 - CASES IN WHICH DEFECTS WERE FOUND.

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

Particulars (1)	Number of cases in which defects were found				Number of cases in which prosecutions were instituted (6)
	Found (2)	Remedied (3)	Referred To H.M. Inspector (4)	By H.M. Inspector (5)	
Want of cleanliness (S.1)	-	-	-	-	-
Overcrowding (S.2)	-	-	-	-	-
Unreasonable temperature(S.3)	-	-	-	-	-
Inadequate ventilation (S.4)	-	-	-	-	-



Particulars  (1)	Number of cases in which defects were found				Number of cases in which prosecutions were instituted  (6)
	Found  (2)	Remedied  (3)	Referred		
			To H.M. Inspector  (4)	By H.M. Inspector  (5)	
Ineffective drainage of floors (S.6) .....	-	-	-	-	-
Sanitary Conveniences (S.7)					
(a) Insufficient .....	-	-	-	-	-
(b) Unsuitable or defective .....	1	-	-	-	-
(c) Not separate for sexes .....	-	-	-	-	-
Other offences against the Act (not including offences relating to Outwork) .....	-	-	-	-	-
Total .....	1	-	-	-	-

# PART VIII OF THE ACT

## Outwork (Sections 133 and 134)

Nature of work (1)	Section 133			Section 134		
	No. of Out-workers in August list required by Section 133(1)(c) (2)	No. of cases of default in sending lists to the Council (3)	No. of prosecutions for failure to supply Lists (4)	No. of instances of work in unwholesome premises (5)	Notices served (6)	Prosecutions (7)
Wearing ) Making apparel ) etc.,	-	-	-	-	-	-
) Cleaning						
) and	-	-	-	-	-	-
) Washing Household linen	-	-	-	-	-	-



Nature of work  (1)	Section 133			Section 134		
	No. of Out-workers in August list required by Section 133(1)(c) (2)	No. of cases of default in sending lists to The Council (3)	No. of prosecu- tions for failure to supply Lists (4)	No. of instances of work in unwhole- some premises (5)	Notices served (6)	Prose- cutions (7)
Lace, lace cur- tains and nets	-	-	-	-	-	-
Curtains and furniture hangings	-	-	-	-	-	-
Furniture and upholstery	-	-	-	-	-	-
Electro-plate	-	-	-	-	-	-
File making	-	-	-	-	-	-
Brass and brass articles	-	-	-	-	-	-
Fur pulling	-	-	-	-	-	-
Iron and Steel cables and chains	-	-	-	-	-	-
Iron and Steel anchors and grapnels	-	-	-	-	-	-
Cart gear	-	-	-	-	-	-
Locks, latches and keys	-	-	-	-	-	-
Umbrellas, etc	-	-	-	-	-	-
Artificial flowers	-	-	-	-	-	-
Nets, other than wire nets	-	-	-	-	-	-
Tents	-	-	-	-	-	-
Sacks	-	-	-	-	-	-
Racquet and tennis balls	-	-	-	-	-	-



Nature of work  (1)	Section 133			Section 134		
	No. of Out-workers in August list required by Section 133(1)(c) (2)	No. of cases of default in sending lists to The Council (3)	No. of prosecu- tions for failure to supply Lists (4)	No. of instances of work in unwhole- some premises (5)	Notices served (6)	Prose- cutions (7)
Paper bags	-	-	-	-	-	-
The making of boxes or other recaptacles or parts thereof made wholly or partially of paper	-	-	-	-	-	-
Brush making	-	-	-	-	-	-
Pea picking	-	-	-	-	-	-
Feather sorting	-	-	-	-	-	-
Carding, etc., of buttons, etc.	-	-	-	-	-	-
Stuffed toys	-	-	-	-	-	-
Basket making	-	-	-	-	-	-
Chocolates and sweetmeats	-	-	-	-	-	-
Cosaques, Christmas stock- ings, etc.	-	-	-	-	-	-
Textile weaving	-	-	-	-	-	-
Lampshades	-	-	-	-	-	-
Total	-	-	-	-	-	-









