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COUNTY BOROUGH OF READING

**HEALTH AND
SOCIAL SERVICES
IN READING 1969 & 1970**

Part I. Health of the Community



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COUNTY BOROUGH OF READING

ANNUAL REPORT of the
MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH
for the years 1969 & 1970

CONTENTS

Chapter		Page
I	Health and Other Statistics	1
II	National Health Service Act, 1946	6
III	Mental Health Act, 1959	23
IV	Prevalence and Control of Infectious Diseases ...	25
V	National Assistance Act, 1948 Parts III and IV ...	26
VI	Miscellaneous Items	36
VII	Report of the Chief Public Health Inspector ...	39
	Housing	75
	Water	75
	Collection of Refuse and Sewage Disposal ...	79
	Appendix of Statistics for the years 1969 and 1970	82

INDEX

	Page		Page
Abattoirs	50	Cremations	36
Accommodation for Aged and Infirm	26	Cruelty to Animals ...	50
Aircraft Noise	66	Cysticercus Bovis ...	51
Air Pollution Investigation	61	Dairy Cream	54
Ambulance Service ...	19	Dark Smoke	60
Animal Boarding		Day Care of Children ...	10
Establishments Act, 1963	71	Day Care of Children under 5 Years	16
Ante-Natal Clinics ...	7	Day Nursery	10
Antibiotics in milk ...	55	Deaf and Dumb, Welfare of	27
Area	1	Deaths, Cause of and Ages at	83, 84
B.C.G. Vaccination ...	21	Deaths, Death Rates ...	2
Births, Birth-Rates ...	1	Diagnosis of non-Tuberculous Cases	94
Blind, Welfare of	29	Diphtheria	25
Blood Tests	7	Diphtheria Immunisation ...	88, 89
Brucella Abortus	55	Diseases of Animals Act, 1894-1950	51
Care and After-Care ...	21	Disinfection	66
Casualty Animals	50	Disinfestations	66
Certificates of Disrepair ...	48	District Nurse, Responsibility of	14
Cervical Cytology	18	Drinking Water	68
Cesspool Emptying	80	Early Neo-Natal Mortality Rate	2
Charges for Aged and Infirm Accommodation	27	Early Recognition of Handi- capping Conditions ...	6
Chief Public Health Inspector, Report of	39	Employment	36
Child Health Clinics ...	9	Encephalitis, Acute ...	25
Child Minders	16	Entertainment, Places of ...	72
Chimney Heights	61	Expectant Mothers and Young Children, Dental care of	11
Chiropody Service	34	Factories Act, 1961 ...	70
Chronic Bronchitis and Other Chest Diseases	94	Family Planning Association	9
Civic Amenities Act, 1967	81	Family Welfare Clinics ...	10
Clearance Areas	45	Food Administration ...	49
Common Lodging Houses ...	67	Food and Drugs Act, 1955	58
Communications with General Practitioners	12	Food Handling	56
Comparison of Statistics ...	3	Food Hygiene (General) Regulations	58
Compulsory House Improve- ment	46	Food Hygiene Instruction ...	57
Condemned Foodstuffs ...	53		
Congenital Abnormalities	6		
Convalescent Holidays ...	21		
Cost of Services	1		

INDEX (continued)	Page	Page
Food Hygiene (Markets, Stalls and Delivery Vehicle Regulations, 1966) ...	57	Meat Inspection ... 50
Food, Unsound, Destroyed	59	Mental Health Act, 1959 ... 23
Handicapped Persons, Other Classes ...	32	Mental Illness ... 23
Hard of Hearing, Welfare of	28	Merchandise Marks ... 58
Health Education ... 15, 22, 57	57	Meteorological Report ... 5
Health Visiting, Scope of ...	15	Milk and Milk Products ... 53
Home Help Service ...	22	Milk (Special Designation) Regulations, 1963 ... 54
Homes for Old People ...	34	Movable Dwellings ... 67
House Refuse, Collection and Disposal ...	79	National Assistant Act, 1948
Houses in Multiple Occupation	48	Section 21 - Provision of Accommodation ... 26
Houses, Verminous ...	46	Section 22 - Charges for Accommodation 27
Housing ... 45, 75	75	Section 24 - Authority Liable for the Provision of Accommo- dation... 27
Housing Improvements ...	46	Section 25 - Power of Department of Health and Social Security to order the provision of accommodation in urgent cases... 27
Hygiene Education ...	57	Section 26 - Provision of Accommoda- tion in premises main- tained by Voluntary Organisations ... 27
Ice Cream Vehicles, Stalls, etc. ...	55	Section 29 - Welfare of Handicapped Persons ... 27
Illegitimate Births ...	1	Section 31 - Contributions to Voluntary Organisations ... 33
Immunisation ...	19	Section 37 - Registration of Homes for Old People ... 34
Immunisation Figures ... 88, 89	89	Section 47 - Removal to Suitable Premises of People in Need of Care and Pro- tection ... 34
Improvement Areas ...	46	
Improvement Grants and Mortgages ...	48	
Individual Unfit Houses ...	45	
Infant and Maternal Mortality Rates ...	85	
Infant Mortality Rate ...	2	
Infant Welfare Clinics ... 86, 87	87	
Infectious Diseases, table of Notifications ... 95, 97	97	
Installation of New Furnaces	60	
Knackers' Yards ...	53	
Land Charges ...	48	
Liaison with Hospitals ...	13	
Liquid Egg ...	55	
Marriages, Number of ...	1	
Maternal Mortality Rate ...	2	
Meals on Wheels Service...	33	
Measles ...	25	
Measles Immunisation ... 88, 89	89	

INDEX (continued)	Page		Page
National Assistant Act, 1948 (contd.)		Pests	72
Section 48 -		Pet Animals Act, 1951 ...	71
Duty of Councils to pro- vide Temporary Pro- tection for Property of Persons Admitted to Hospitals etc. ...	35	Poliomyelitis	25
Section 50 -		Poliomyelitis Immunisations	88, 89
Burials and Cremations of the Dead	35	Population... ..	1
National Health Service Act, 1946		Post-natal Clinics ...	7
Section		Premature Births and Stillbirths	92
21 - Provision of Health Centres	6	Premature Infants, Care of	10
22 - Care of Expectant and Nursing Mothers and Children Under School Age	6	Prevalence and Control of Infectious Diseases ...	25
23, 24 and 25 -		Prevention of Damage by Pests Act, 1949	72
Community Nursing Services... ..	12	Prevention of Illness, Care and After Care	21
26 - Vaccination and Im- munisation	19	Product of Penny Rate ...	1
27 - Ambulance Service	19	Public Conveniences ...	68
28 - Prevention of Illness, Care and After-care	21	Qualification Certificates...	47
29 - Home Help Service	22	"Quiet Week"	65
N.S.P.C.C.	11	Rag Flock Act, 1951 ...	71
Neo-Natal Mortality Rate...	2	Rateable Value	1
Newbery Lodge	24	Reading Adult Training Centre	24
Noise Abatement Act ...	64	Reading Research Project into the Needs of the Elderly	17
Nuisances	64	Reading Tuberculosis Care Association	21
Nursing Equipment and Apparatus, Provision of...	21	Refuse Disposal	79
Nursing Homes	36	Register of Handicapped Pre- School Children	6
Occupational Therapy Centre	33	Residential Accommodation	26
Offensive and Allied Trades Office, Shop and Railway Premises Act, 1963 ...	69	Riding Establishments Act, 1964	71
Ophthalmic Surgeon, Report of	29	River Water	68
Overcrowding	49	Rodent Control	72
Perinatal Mortality Rate ...	2	Samaritans	23
Persons in Need of Care and Protection	34	Sampling, Food and Drugs Act, 1955	58
		Scarlet Fever	25
		School Milk Supplies ...	54
		School Nursing	15
		Sewage Purification ...	80
		Sewerage	80

INDEX (continued)	Page		Page
Sickness Benefit; Number of New Claims	4	Tuberculosis Notification Table	93
Slaughterhouses	50	Tuberculosis of Animals ...	51
Slaughter of Animals Act, 1958	51	Unmarried Mothers and Children, Care of ...	8
Slipper Baths	81	Vaccination	19
Slum Clearance	45	Venereal Disease	25
Smallpox Vaccination ...	90, 91	Wakefield Lodge	24
Smoke Control Areas ...	62	Water Supply	75
Staff	viii	Welfare Foods	8
Staff Training, Nurses ...	16	Welfare of Blind	29
Statistical Summary ...	1, 82	Welfare of Deaf and Dumb	27
Stillbirths	1	Welfare of Handicapped Persons	27
Street Cleansing	79	Welfare of Hard of Hearing	28
Subnormality	23	Welfare of "other Classes of Handicapped Persons" ...	32
Swimming Baths	67, 81	Whooping Cough Immunisation	88, 89
Tetanus Immunisations ...	88, 89	Whooping Cough	25
Trade Refuse	79		
Training Centres	24		
Tuberculosis	21, 25		
Tuberculosis Death Rate ...	93		

Health Committee

DECEMBER 31st, 1969

THE RIGHT WORSHIPFUL THE MAYOR (Alderman Edith Ella Lovett)

Aldermen:

Alice Jeannette Burrows
(Chairman)

William John Allum

Councillors:

Arthur Henry Baker
Ivy Sylvia Blagrove
George Charles Broadhurst
Arthur Kenneth Clark
(Vice-Chairman)
Margaret Mina Sophia McEwen

Bernard John Morley
Frank Neil Rowberry
Kathleen Lucy Sage
Arthur Edward Saunders-Singer
Jim Townsend
Herbert Williams

Co-opted Members of the Committee:

Dr. Christopher John Booth, MB,
B.Ch., MRCS, LRCP.
Kenneth Jones

Dr. Cyril Francis Wright,
MRCS, LRCP.

DECEMBER 31st, 1970

THE RIGHT WORSHIPFUL THE MAYOR (Councillor Herbert Williams)

Aldermen:

Alice Jeannette Burrows
(Chairman)
Arthur Henry Baker

Edith Morris
Ivy Sylvia Blagrove
Jim Townsend

Councillors:

Arthur Kenneth Clark
(Vice-Chairman)
Margaret Mina Sophia McEwen
Bernard John Morley

Francis Neil Rowberry
Kathleen Lucy Sage
Carl Saunders-Singer
Henry George Wheeler

Co-opted Members of the Committee:

Dr. Christopher John Booth, MB,
B.Ch., MRCS, LRCP.

Dr. Cyril Francis Wright,
MRCS, LRCP.

Staff at December 31st, 1970

Medical Officer of Health:

A. Gatherer, MD, Ch.B, DPH, DIH

Deputy Medical Officer of Health:

D. F. Rowlands, MB, BS, DPH, D.Obst., RCOG.

Senior Assistant Medical Officer of Health and Senior School Medical Officer:

E. A. Fisher, M.Sc., MB, B.Ch., BAO, D.Obst., RCOG.

Assistant Medical Officers of Health and School Medical Officers:

V. Fraser, MB, BS, MRCS, LRCP.

M. G. H. Rogers, MA, MB, B.Ch., DCH, DPH.

A. D. Wedderspoon, MB, BS.

G. P. Flew, MB, BS, LRCP, MRCS. (Deceased 24.2.70)

E. P. H. Parry, BA, MB, BS, LMSSA, DPH.

Medical Officers (Part-time) Maternity and Child Welfare:

A. J. H. Hardy, MRCS, LRCP, MRCOG.

P. W. F. McIlvenna, LRCP, LRCS, LRFPS.

Public Analyst:

F. A. Lyne, B.Sc., FRIC.

Chief Public Health Inspector:

J. Green, FRSH, FAPHI.

Deputy Chief Public Health Inspector:

H. Syrad, ARSH, MAPHI.

Principal Assistant Public Health Inspector (Housing):

A. D. E. Harding, MAPHI.

Public Health Inspectors:

Senior Inspectors:

R. W. Bashford

M. Carter

D. V. C. Cooper

A. J. Cullen

J. Handby

R. W. Marks

R. J. W. Owen (Commenced 1.2.69)

G. T. Parsons

District Public Health Inspectors:

R. C. Gosling

H. Mortimore

K. C. Potts

T. Rosser (Commenced 6.7.70)

Chief Nursing Officer:

Miss E. P. Few, SRN, HV.Admin.Cert. (Resigned 31.3.69)

Miss M. E. Lindars, SRN, SCM, HV.Cert., Queen's Cert. (Commenced 1.6.69)

Staff (continued)

Principal Nursing Officer (Home Nursing):

Miss A. M. Edwards, SRN, SCM, HV, QN. (Resigned 31.7.70)

G. J. W. Hunt, SRN, QN. (Commenced 3.8.70)

Principal Nursing Officer (Health Visiting):

Miss J. Foulds. (Resigned 30.4.70)

Miss E. M. Christopher, SRN, SCM, HV. (Commenced 1.9.70)

Principal Nursing Officer (Midwifery):

Miss E. J. Odell, SRN, SCM.

Nursing Officers:

Health Visitors:	Miss T. Orpin
	Miss B. White
Domiciliary Midwives:	Miss E. Charnell
	Miss V. Garrigan
District Nurses:	Miss M. Park
	Miss G. Welch

Day Nursery:

Hodsoll Road:	Miss S. G. Clarke (Matron)
---------------	----------------------------

Principal Social Worker (Mental Health):

D. L. Rugg

Senior Mental Welfare Officers:

C. E. House	Mrs. J. M. Norwood	Mrs. A. J. Tregillus
-------------	--------------------	----------------------

Mental Welfare Officers:

V. A. Landor	Miss M. Woods	J. Gozdz
--------------	---------------	----------

Administrator:

L. G. Tester, DMA, MILGA.

Domestic Help Service:

Organiser:

Mrs. H. A. Finch

Assistant Organisers:

Miss M. Churchill	Mrs. L. R. Russell	Miss P. A. E. Edwards
-------------------	--------------------	-----------------------

Training Centres:

Adult Training Centre, Bennet Road - Mr. M. Curtis

Junior Training Centre, Wakefield Lodge - Mrs. A. Watkins

Care and Attention Centre, Newbery Lodge - Mrs. T. Bonewell

Staff (continued)

Principal Social Worker:

Miss M. G. E. Ewart

Social Workers:

Mrs. J. D. Snow

Miss E. C. Marsh

B. Truckle

Mrs. M. W. Gibbons

Mrs. E. Davies

Mrs. I. Jarvis

Blind Welfare Officer:

Miss M. L. Lowe

Home Teachers for the Blind:

Mrs. M. E. Hodge

P. Fisher

Industrial Centre Manager:

S. O. Walker

Head Occupational Therapist:

Miss J. Stuart-Hawkins

Occupational Therapists:

Miss M. M. Malony

Mrs. J. Moss

Administrative Assistant (Residential):

D. H. Comerford

Old People's Homes:

"Woodlands"

J. E. Haynes (Superintendent)

Mrs. D. Haynes (Matron)

"Wychcotes" and "Warren House"

Mrs. E. J. Ablett (Superintendent)

"Parkhurst"

Mrs. F. B. McAdam (Superintendent)

"Southern Hill"

Miss A. Y. Keegan (Superintendent)

"Arthur Clark"

Mrs. R. H. Davis (Superintendent)

"Alice Jenkins"

Mrs. E. F. Brooker (Superintendent)

"Edward Hughes"

Miss H. E. Nolan (Superintendent)

Staff (continued)

Old People's Homes (continued):

"Dysons Wood"

Mrs. V. M. Gibbons (Superintendent)

"Alice Burrows"

Mrs. G. R. Meredith (Superintendent)

Bristol and West House,
173/4 Friar Street,
Reading.

To the Chairman and Members of the Health Committee.

Change, it has been said, must not only be expected and accepted, it has to be facilitated. If this is so, then the two years covered by this report have been especially successful. Those of us close to the scene have realised only too well the cost in terms of personal endeavour and individual anxiety of working amidst a constantly shifting scene. The eventual success of major re-organisation will be due as much to the willing effort of the staff involved as to the brilliance of the ideas being implemented. For this reason, I hope this report, added to its predecessors, will record the achievements made and so pay tribute to the massive team effort which goes towards a personal service to those in need.

How can one measure the quality of life in Reading, and the standard of care provided? By reference to the simple vital and social statistics which appear throughout the report, one could either be quietly satisfied by the low death rate, the lack of serious epidemics, the impressive range of facilities provided; or one could be concerned at the infant deaths which could perhaps be lower still, the cancer figures where some at least could have been prevented, the venereal disease figures which show a rising incidence, and the readily apparent short-fall between needs and means.

My own conclusion is that for resources allocated, considerable benefit has been obtained, but in almost every direction, gaps still exist and much more progress can and will be made.

Development was steady and sometimes dramatic in 1969 and 1970. In the health field, perhaps one of the most important areas of growth was that of co-operation between the three branches of the services. In April 1969, a Joint Health Services Committee was formed, bringing together the chairman and chief officers of the local health authorities, executive councils and hospital management committees of the district around Reading. The aim is to facilitate co-ordination of the services and to plan together for the future integration of the health services. The officers meet regularly and the close degree of co-operation which is already existing should greatly assist the re-organisation which is ahead.

Between the family doctors and ourselves there now exists a close and maturing partnership. As outlined in the community nursing section of the report, full attachment of health visitors and nurses to all practices in the town has now been achieved, and the benefits to staff, doctors and patients already clear. The next stage of working together has arisen from the growing interest in health centres, and two groups of doctors are in

regular planning sessions with us to finalise the details for the large health centres due to start building in 1973 and 1974. Already it is obvious that more will be requested, and by early 1972, almost half the doctors in Reading may well be involved in various stages of planning health centres. This adds up to much more than new buildings - it gives a real chance to analyse present systems or working, to consider shared facilities and new services, and to bring about a really new type of community health team approach to the delivery of medical care.

Another area where we are poised for significant advance is family planning. While we have for many years now provided full and free facilities for the local branch of the Family Planning Association, we have greatly developed our directly provided clinic and domiciliary family planning services. We have two doctors and some nurses fully trained in this work, and a significant number of women are referred to us by social workers, health visitors and family doctors. We have also started providing a small amount of financial support to the new hospital service in the maternity unit. But we are still only at the start of a readily accessible and comprehensive family planning service, which will have to come in due course.

We are also in various ways further developing our working relationships with the hospital service. Reference to liaison work by health visitors and to an experiment in the joint provision of community psychiatric nursing will be found in the report. But regular contact and mutual support goes on all the time. For example, we have continued our joint employment of a member of the venereal disease clinic staff, increasing our proportion so that we can undertake further contact tracing work in the community. In common with most parts of the country, we have some rise in the incidence of venereal disease; in order to ensure that head teachers are aware of the health educational importance of this subject, a conference was held for them at which the local situation was clearly outlined by the physician in charge of the special clinic.

Prevention of disease never makes the headlines, but services aimed to promote the health and well being of the community continue. Rubella vaccination became the latest recruit to the list of prospective immunisation procedures, and we were early in the field thanks to some research work undertaken by Dr. Rowlands. The other great weapon of prevention, namely health education, got some attention during the two years but only now have we had the go-ahead financially to establish our Health Education unit.

One aspect of prevention, which could reduce the incidence of the most prevalent disease in the children of Reading, has still made no progress. I refer to the planned modification of the fluoride content of our drinking water to bring the natural content up to the level which could reduce the suffering from dental caries. It is not possible to go ahead as all authorities using the water supply have not yet agreed to fluoridation.

The public health inspectors have had one of their most productive two years. Mr. Green and his senior colleagues have produced a series of review reports which must be almost unique in the country. We have had a review of our air pollution programme; of the pest control work in the town; of housing in multiple occupation; of kitchen hygiene; and of motor vehicle pollution. Two further and outstanding contributions have been in food hygiene, with a survey of frozen food cabinets, which caused national interest, and in a series of reports on noise pollution. In addition, a most imaginative and successful "Quiet Week" brought home to the public the need to consider closely this latest and fast growing pollution menace, noise. There seems little doubt that the standard of environmental health work in our town is extremely high.

On the social services side, the culmination of past planning by the Committee brought several worthwhile projects to reality. Perhaps the most noteworthy was the new Adult Training Centre, which provides places for 120 trainees. In addition, the new day nursery was agreed and should be in operation during 1971. Further planning was undertaken in the field of sheltered housing, where experience rapidly showed the benefits for this type of community support as opposed to full residential care. The programme for purpose built bungalows for the physically handicapped which was laid down in 1962 came to an end with 27 units provided by 1969. A further six year programme was agreed which should provide a further 30 of these special houses. The residential homes continued to operate on the whole successfully, although major problems of shortages of staff continued. The luncheon club for old people was particularly successful and the long term plans of the Committee for a great expansion of day facilities and centres for the elderly are surely very sound. One interesting joint exercise between health, childrens and education departments was the homecraft centre for specially selected groups; this provided special classes for housewives who were in need but also in cookery for some elderly men living on their own.

In general terms, the preparatory plans for the establishment of the new social services department went as far as they could to ensure the maintenance of service during the transitional period. We remain confident that the basic services provided by the joint department in the past will be a useful spring board from which the new department can rapidly make its mark on the social problems of the town.

In concluding this introductory note, I would like to express my own and my colleagues appreciation of the way the Chairman and Committee members worked with us during these busy years. At this time, when the pace of change quickens, we are together reviewing the authority's objectives in health promotion and community care. The staff remain under stress, but their real achievements in the past and their personal qualities give them confidence in the future.

A. GATHERER

Medical Officer of Health

November, 1971

Health and Other Statistics

	1969	1970
Area	9,106 acres	9,106 acres
Population	127,530	127,310
Marriages	1,139	1,312
Rateable Value	£7,878,854	£8,080,504
Product of Penny Rate	£31,972	£32,956
Cost of Services administered by Health Committee and Welfare Services Sub-Committee of the Education Committee		
	£697,329	£817,589

BIRTHS

(1969 figures in brackets)

	1969	1970	Male	Female	Rate
Live and Stillborn	2,472	2,420	1,250 (1,277)	1,170 (1,195)	
Stillborn	23	29	12 (12)	17 (11)	11.98 (9.30) per 1,000 live and stillborn births
Live births	2,449	2,391	1,238 (1,265)	1,153 (1,184)	18.78 (19.20) per 1,000 population
Legitimate live births	2,250	2,201	1,133 (1,160)	1,068 (1,090)	17.29 (17.64) per 1,000 population
Illegitimate live births	199	190	105 (105)	85 (94)	1.49 (1.56) per 1,000 population 7.95 (8.13) per cent of total live births

DEATHS

	1969	1970	Rate (1969 figures in brackets)
Deaths	1,435	1,358	10.67 (11.25) per 1,000 population
Due to the cancers	279	241	- -
Due to Heart and Circulatory System disease (excluding Coronary Artery Disease)	176	168	- -
Due to Coronary Artery Disease	328	320	- -
Due to Vascular lesions of C. N. S.	169	181	- -
Due to Tuberculosis (all forms)	4	1	0.01 (0.03) per 1,000 population
Maternal Mortality	3	1	0.41 (1.21) per 1,000 live and stillbirths
Infant deaths (under 1 year):- Total	50	34	14.22 (20.42) per 1,000 live births
Legitimate	45	31	14.08 (20.00) per 1,000 live births
Illegitimate	5	3	15.79 (25.13) per 1,000 live births
Neo-natal Mortality (under 4 weeks)	35	23	9.62 (14.29) per 1,000 live births
Early Neo-natal Mortality (under 1 week)	32	18	7.53 (13.07) per 1,000 live births
Perinatal Mortality (Still- births and early neo-natal deaths)	55	47	19.42 (22.25) per 1,000 live and stillbirths

Comparison of Statistics with those for
England and Wales
(Reading figures adjusted by Area Comparability Factor)

1969

	Reading	England & Wales	Rate
Live Births	19.39	16.3	Per 1,000 Population
Stillbirths	9.39	13.0	Per 1,000 Total Live and Stillbirths
Deaths (all)	10.91	11.9	Per 1,000 Population
Deaths under 1 year	19.81	18.0	Per 1,000 Live Births

Area Comparability Factor

Births 1.01
Deaths 0.97

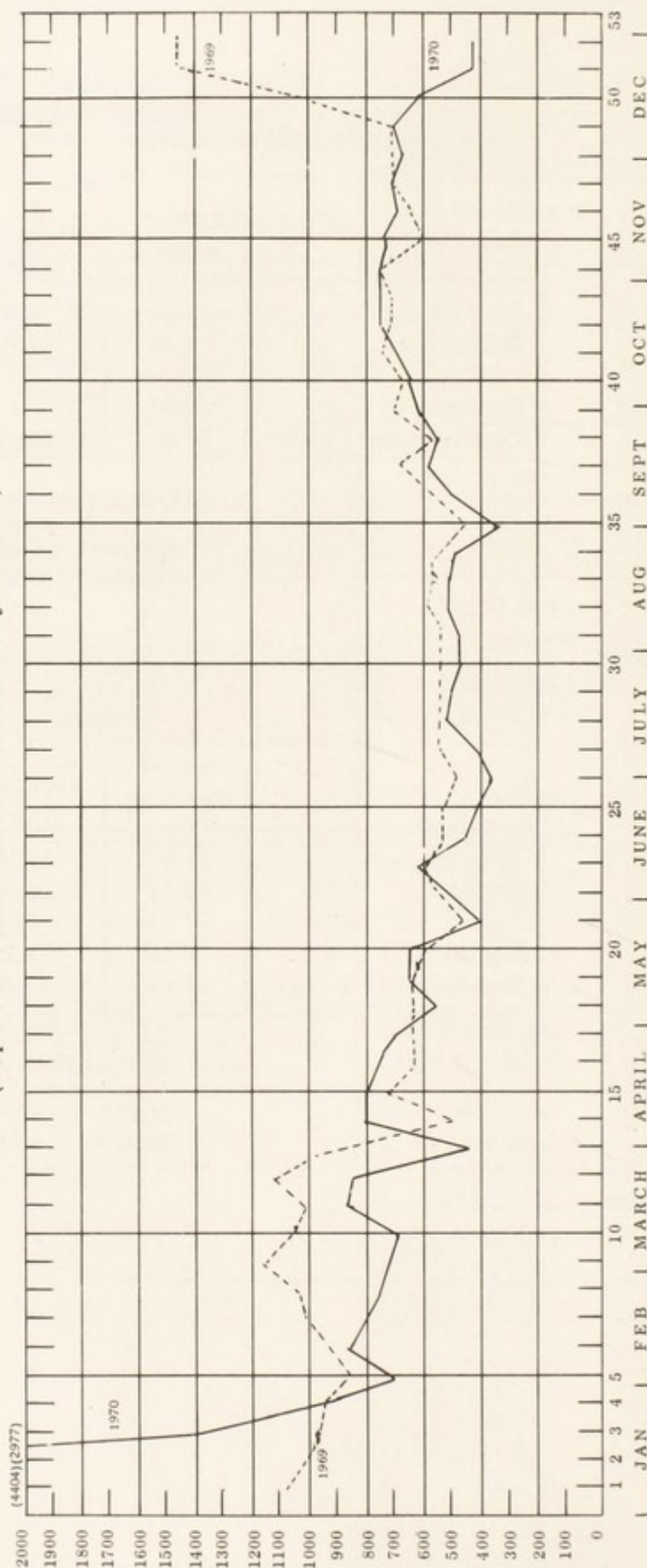
1970

	Reading	England & Wales	Rate
Live Births	18.97	16.0	Per 1,000 Population
Stillbirths	12.10	13.0	Per 1,000 Total Live and Stillbirths
Deaths (all)	10.24	11.7	Per 1,000 Population
Deaths under 1 year	13.65	18.0	Per 1,000 Live Births

Area Comparability Factor

Births 1.01
Deaths 0.96

NUMBER OF NEW CLAIMS FOR SICKNESS BENEFIT PER WEEK, 1969 & 1970
(Department of Health & Social Security Returns)



METEOROLOGICAL REPORT, 1970 (1969 in brackets)

MONTH	Rainfall and Temperature as Recorded at Forbury Gardens					
	Rainfall in Inches	Temperature in ° Fahrenheit				Humidity
		Maximum	Minimum	Mean Maximum	Mean Minimum	
January	4.01 (3.43)	49 (55)	20 (27)	42.61 (46.06)	32.35 (34.07)	94.51 (93.00)
February	2.15 (1.70)	54 (50)	23 (19)	44.60 (38.85)	32.64 (28.53)	87.42 (90.14)
March	1.80 (2.74)	56 (56)	24 (25)	46.83 (44.90)	33.09 (33.67)	86.41 (88.80)
April	2.28 (1.02)	60 (68)	27 (29)	52.10 (52.60)	37.47 (38.23)	83.36 (85.70)
May	0.99 (3.83)	78 (81)	40 (38)	66.45 (62.12)	47.90 (45.61)	82.96 (139.64)
June	2.09 (1.05)	87 (83)	49 (39)	75.06 (63.56)	54.26 (49.43)	82.73 (79.86)
July	2.83 (2.14)	89 (89)	45 (48)	69.03 (70.64)	54.36 (52.22)	86.29 (79.90)
August	2.09 (3.54)	84 (87)	44 (46)	72.13 (72.29)	55.00 (56.06)	89.74 (136.35)
September	2.05 (0.55)	79 (73)	46 (36)	68.85 (66.60)	51.21 (51.83)	91.93 (89.10)
October	0.46 (0.22)	70 (78)	36 (35)	60.33 (63.09)	46.24 (48.25)	91.29 (93.00)
November	6.75 (2.63)	61 (64)	30 (24)	53.24 (48.86)	40.69 (36.00)	94.03 (87.06)
December	1.19 (2.19)	57 (52)	25 (27)	44.78 (34.58)	35.13 (37.13)	92.13 (41.42)
Year	28.69 (25.04)					

National Health Service Act, 1946

SECTION 21. PROVISION OF HEALTH CENTRES

There have been no centres built within this section but discussions are well in hand for Health Centres in the Whitley Street and West Reading areas.

SECTION 22. CARE OF EXPECTANT AND NURSING MOTHERS & CHILDREN UNDER SCHOOL AGE

(a) Early Recognition of Handicapping Conditions

Following the experience gained from keeping a "Risk Register" for many years and its discontinuation (mentioned in the last report), renewed emphasis is being placed on the importance of keeping the progress of all children under close surveillance, so that any handicapping disorders can be recognised early and appropriate action taken. In addition a scheme is being developed, in close consultation with the Paediatric Department of the Royal Berkshire Hospital, for the particularly careful follow-up of those babies who have required special care in the first days of life and who are regarded as being at "high risk" of later handicap. This latter group is likely to comprise about 10% of all live births in the County Borough.

(b) Congenital Abnormalities

In 1969, the number of births in Reading was 2,472 (2,449 live, 23 still), while in 1970, the number of births in Reading was 2,420 (2,391 live, 29 stillborn). In each year some 45 of these babies were born with at least one congenital deformity. Detailed reports of all significant congenital defects are sent to the Registrar General's Office every month.

The following table shows the numbers of the commoner malformations found at birth:-

	<u>1969</u>	<u>1970</u>
Anencephalus	4	5
Spina bifida	3	2
Cardiac malformations	3	3
Cleft lip and/or palate	5	4
Talipes	7	8
Down's Syndrome	2	3
Multiple congenital abnormalities	3	2
Other less common abnormalities	18	18
	—	—
	45	45
	—	—

(c) Register of Handicapped Pre-School Children

The number of pre-school handicapped children appears perhaps to have increased greatly since the last report. The discrepancy in the figures, however, is to be explained by the fact that the diagnosis of handicapping conditions tends to be made much earlier than in previous years. Tests have now been evolved which enable paediatricians and local authority doctors to make confident diagnoses of such conditions as mental retarda-

tion, and cerebral palsy in very young children. It must be added that not all children who are handicapped in the pre-school years will have to be provided for in special schools e.g. many children with congenital heart disease are able to live normal lives as the result of modern surgical techniques.

The following table is a summary of the register of pre-school handicapped children:-

Year of Birth	1965	1966	1967	1968	1969	1970	Total
Skeletal and muscular defects	2	3	2	3	2	2	14
Spina Bifida Hydrocephalus	1	1	-	6	3	-	11
Cerebral Palsy	-	3	2	4	1	1	11
Retarded	13	10	7	5	6	1	42
Down's Syndrome	-	3	4	2	3	3	15
Deaf	-	2	1	-	-	-	3
Blind Partially Sighted	-	2	1	1	-	-	4
Delicate	4	3	1	-	2	1	11
Autistic	-	1	-	-	-	-	1
Lesion - Central Nervous System	1	2	-	-	-	-	3
Heart	3	2	7	5	5	2	24
Total	24	32	25	26	22	10	139

(d) Ante-natal Clinics

During 1969 and 1970 medical care of expectant mothers has been carried out at general practitioners' surgeries and hospital out-patient departments. Patients booked for home confinements have attended clinics run by the local authority and by the domicillary midwives.

(e) Blood Tests

As in previous years venepuncture clinics have been held in order that general practitioners may obtain haemoglobin estimating grouping, Rhesus factor and Khan testing for their patients.

(f) Post-natal Clinics

There has been no necessity for the local authority to run post-natal clinics as the examinations have been carried out either by the patient's own general practitioner or the hospital obstetric staff.

(g) Care of Unmarried Mothers and Children

The authority's responsibilities for this group are carried out for them by the Reading and Bradfield Moral Welfare Association and I am indebted to the Association for the following information.

Summary of cases in Reading area of the Oxford Diocesan Council for Social Work

	<u>1969</u>	<u>1970</u>
Cases dealt with	<u>147</u>	<u>76</u>
New Maternity Cases	69	50
Carried over from previous year	<u>50</u>	<u>7</u>
	<u>119</u>	<u>57</u>

New Cases. Ages of mothers and fathers

Year	Age	14	15	16	17-20	21-30	31-40	40+	Not Known	Total
1969	Mothers	-	4	8	35	20	1	-	1	69
	Fathers	-	1	-	23	22	1	1	21	69
1970	Mothers	-	1	4	30	13	2	-	-	50
	Fathers	-	-	-	7	28	1	-	14	50

New Cases. Marital Status

Year		Single	Married	Widowed	Divorced	Not Known	Total
1969	Mothers	63	4	-	2	-	69
	Fathers	41	9	-	1	18	69
1970	Mothers	49	-	-	1	-	50
	Fathers	33	11	-	-	6	50

(h) Welfare Foods

The arrangements for the distribution of welfare foods continued satisfactorily at our premises at No. 1 London Street. The following table gives details:-

	<u>1969</u>	<u>1970</u>
National Dried Milk Half Cream (20oz. tin)	-	-
National Dried Milk Full Cream (20oz. tin)	1,478	748
Orange Juice (bottles)	10,302	10,114
Cod Liver Oil (bottles)	452	367
Vitamin Capsules (packets)	596	598

The following figures relate to the main items distributed from the clinics during the two years and are in addition to the preceding:-

	<u>1969</u>	<u>1970</u>
Proprietary Brands of Dried Milk Half Cream (10oz. packets)	552	641
National Dried Milk Full Cream (20oz. tin)	1,625	1,443
Proprietary Brands of Dried Milk Full Cream (16oz. packets)	28,032	23,375
Ministry of Food Orange Juice (bottles)	33,710	37,099
Proprietary Brands of Fruit Juice (bottles)	25,440	26,882
Ministry of Food Cod Liver Oil (bottles)	1,095	1,057
Ministry of Food Vitamin Capsules (packets)	1,052	1,358
Proprietary Brands of Vitamin Preparations (8 c.c. bottles)	13,860	15,401

(i) Child Health Clinics

Details of attendances at the clinics can be found in the Appendix, tables 3 and 4.

(j) Family Planning Association

The links with the Reading Branch of the Family Planning Association have continued as in previous years. During 1970, the Clinic, formerly at Star Lane premises, was transferred to Queen's Road Clinic where all sessions except I.U.D. are held and the Clinic office is situated. It will be seen from the following statistics that the number of patients attending the Tilehurst Clinic has increased during 1970.

I am indebted to the Branch Administrator for the following information:-

Statistical Schedule relating to the Tilehurst and Reading Clinics

	<u>Tilehurst</u>		<u>Reading</u>	
	<u>1969</u>	<u>1970</u>	<u>1969</u>	<u>1970</u>
Number of patients making at least one visit during year	230	303	3,404	3,644
New patients registered (including pre-marital)	117	110	1,107	1,211
<u>Source from which patient came</u>				
Hospital	-	-	24	23
Local Authority	-	-	16	33
Friend or Patient	61	48	464	423
Family Doctor	22	17	283	246
F.P.A. Transfers	53	67	410	519
Other sources: Press, etc.	34	45	320	486

	<u>Tilehurst</u>		<u>Reading</u>	
	<u>1969</u>	<u>1970</u>	<u>1969</u>	<u>1970</u>
<u>Age at first visit</u>				
Under 20 years	12	11	162	257
20 - 24	32	36	418	430
25 - 29	32	34	225	245
30 - 34	24	13	149	143
Over 34	17	16	153	136
<u>Number of Pregnancies at first visit</u>				
None	40	39	419	667
1	17	20	168	162
2	38	29	216	181
3	17	13	110	106
4	5	6	51	53
5	-	2	27	21
6	-	-	11	8
Over 6	-	-	5	7
<u>Cytology Smears taken</u>	111	85	1,093	861
<u>Clinic sessions held</u>	40	41	346	372
<u>Doctor sessions</u>	40	51	600	684

(k) Family Welfare Clinics

Work in these clinics continued to increase towards the end of 1969, when it became necessary to hold two sessions per week - one in the Whitley Clinic and one in the Norcot Clinic - and in October, 1970 another clinic at Queen's Road was opened.

Most of the patients attend for advice on family planning because they already have a large enough family, to add to which would mean neglect of some of the children as well as increased anxiety due to lack of means.

These clinics seem to be greatly appreciated by the mothers who attend for advice. During 1969/70 attendances were:-

	<u>Whitley</u>		<u>Norcot</u>		<u>Queen's Rd.</u>
	<u>1969</u>	<u>1970</u>	<u>1969</u>	<u>1970</u>	<u>1970</u>
Total number of mothers attending	151	206	78	151	38
Total number of attendances	307	422	163	303	38

(l) Care of Premature Infants see Sections 23, 24 & 25. Community Nursing Services.

(m) Day Care of Children see Sections 23, 24 & 25. Community Nursing Services.

(n) Day Nursery

The Nursery Service has catered for the daily needs of some of the deprived children living in the County Borough of Reading. The Nursery has

been available for every week in the year, excluding weekends and Bank Holidays, from 7.30 a.m. to 6.00 p.m. In 1968, a later opening of 8 a.m. commenced and 'family grouping' of the children came into operation. The children, all with a priority need, came from broken homes and families in difficulty. Children who had been victims of poor housing conditions and those suffering from physical and emotional deprivation were admitted.

The Nursery was unable to cope fully with the pressing need for day care within the Borough. Inadequate premises and equipment restricted the Nursery in reaching its full potential in day care.

Some economic pressures including the increasing needs of children of unsupported mothers and immigrant families have meant that the waiting list has remained high and the utmost care has had to be given on the assessments of priority admissions.

Security and support has been given to many deprived parents and their children. Family breakdowns have been prevented. Many happy, healthy children have benefited from Nursery care. A successful student training programme has been carried out.

The part time care of handicapped children could be considered if staffing and premises permitted.

Due to road works adjacent to the Holybrook House Nursery alternative temporary accommodation was found during 1969, with thanks to all Departments concerned, the Nursery made an uneventful move to Hodsoll Road.

A few staff changes took place during this period but a full complement of staff was maintained whose loyalty and hard work ensured the highest standard of child care in spite of the difficulties of working in temporary premises. The new Nursery is due to be completed in 1971.

(o) N.S.P.C.C.

I am indebted to Mr. R. H. Le Page, the Senior Inspector for the following information on the work of the Society on this period.

The total New Cases dealt with numbered 234, of which 121 were inside the County Borough of Reading.

No court cases were instituted by the N.S.P.C.C. but evidence was given twice, in the Juvenile Court on behalf of the Local Authority.

The relationship between the Local Authority and the Society continued to be of the highest order. It has been a pleasure to work alongside the officials.

Thanks are due to the Health Visitors and also the G.P's. for their help and consideration in solving some of the problems which perpetually happen.

(p) Dental care of Expectant Mothers and Young Children

During 1969 361 pre-school children and 35 mothers attended the clinics for dental treatment and 382 pre-school children and 37 mothers attended in 1970.

Instruction to mothers in the dental care of their young children has continued actively at all dental clinics by the dentist and the oral hygienist. The health visitors and school nurses have given much help in this part of

our work and they have been assiduous in the exhibition of posters and cabinet displays in the main halls at their clinics.

Forms of dental treatment provided

	Expectant and Nursing Mothers		Children aged under five years and not eligible for school dental service	
	<u>1969</u>	<u>1970</u>	<u>1969</u>	<u>1970</u>
Number treated	35	37	361	382
Number of teeth filled	32	36	151	162
Teeth extracted	22	23	108	114
General anaesthetics administered	4	5	55	58
X-rays taken	-	-	-	-
Treated by oral hygienist	6	7	17	18
Fitted with dentures	7	4	-	-

SECTIONS 23, 24 & 25. COMMUNITY NURSING SERVICES The most important aspects of change in recent years have been in the breaking down of barriers between our Nursing, Health Visiting and Midwifery Services, and the forging of closer working links between them and the Family Doctors and the Hospitals.

In 1968 Miss Esme Few was appointed Principal Nursing Officer, with the co-ordination of the Services as one of her main functions, and the three Nursing Services began to work together as a single service. In April 1969 Miss Few left to take up her appointment as Chief Nursing Officer for Buckinghamshire and was succeeded by Miss M. E. Lindars who has continued with this work.

Communications with General Practitioners

In 1966 an informal link of Home Nurses and Health Visitors was made to three Doctor's practices in the town and following the success of this it was decided to make formal working attachments of staff to practices of Doctors who desired this. By the end of 1969 attachments had been made to 12 practices covering over 50% of the populace of Reading.

By the end of 1970 the change was complete; working in geographical areas was discarded and case loads are now allocated according to Doctors' practice lists. There is no doubt that everyone benefits from this system.

The Nursing Staff now frequently see the Doctors, many attend the surgeries daily and participate in regular practice meetings. It is possible

for full discussion with the Doctors on the treatment for their patients and the problems of duplication of visits and conflicting advice are avoided. There has been no doubt that these arrangements of working has not only been of great help to the Doctors and given increased job satisfaction to Nursing Staff but it has also enabled them to provide a better service to patients and their families.

The next logical development was that the Doctors questioned the need for nursing personnel to be halted at the Borough boundary. Team work was inhibited by the necessity of passing information to staff outside the practice team, and confusion arose over advising those who attended surgery sessions. A limited scheme with Berkshire for Cross Boundary visiting on a knock for knock basis involving approximately 6,000 patients on each side of the border was introduced in October 1970 and so far has worked well. Although travelling distances might be thought to be a problem discretion is used over the few patients living at any distance over the boundary and most Doctors are themselves beginning to accept patients only within a limited distance from the surgery within or outside Reading.

Liaison with Hospitals

Much effort has been made to improve communications with the Hospitals and we have achieved a very close degree of co-operation.

A Premature Baby Sister works closely with the Paediatricians at the Royal Berkshire Hospital enabling premature babies to be discharged home under her care earlier than would otherwise be possible. A Health Visitor attends to Paediatric Department for a weekly ward round and there have also been attendances by Health Visitors at the Diabetic Clinic.

Arrangements for follow-up of patients on discharge are made by contact between the Hospital Social Workers and Health Visiting Staff, and there are close links maintained here.

Early in 1970 one of the Health Visitors was appointed for part of her time as Geriatric Liaison Health Visitor. She works closely with the Consultant Geriatricians at Battle Hospital and her work involves attending ward rounds and case discussions at the hospital; she links with General Practitioners; Health Visitors and District Nurses for pre-admission case assessment and the co-ordination of arrangements for following up elderly patients on discharge from hospital.

In the Maternity field a system of planned early discharge of mothers has been carried out in co-operation with the Maternity Hospital and working links have been particularly close.

During 1968 a new scheme was introduced whereby mothers wishing to have their babies in a Maternity Home could book with the Domiciliary Midwife to be delivered in Dellwood by her and return home within a very few hours. This has proved very popular with the mothers who have enjoyed the individual care which it is possible for our staff to give in addition to the facilities of the Home during labour and the delivery of the baby. In 1970 this scheme was extended and a joint clinic was started with Dellwood for booking new patients whether for home confinement or for delivery in the home by our own or the Hospital midwives.

During the second half of 1970 a small pilot scheme was set up by the appointment of a Male Psychiatric Charge Nurse from Fairmile Hospital to work for two days a week in the community. His work involved following up recently discharged psychiatric patients and giving advice and help to our own practice nursing teams. This scheme has demonstrated that a need exists for this type of work and that such an appointment on a full-time basis in the future might do much toward the prevention of breakdown and re-admission among recently discharged psychiatric hospital patients.

Student Nurses from the Royal Berkshire Hospital spend a morning during their training with a District Nurse and two full days seeing other aspects of the work of the Department of Health and Social Services. Students from Fairmile and Borocourt Hospitals also spend one week gaining experience of the Community Services in Reading.

Three study days were given during 1970 for Hospital Nurse Administrators to demonstrate the work of Community Nursing Staff and discuss ways in which closer working links could be established.

Patterns of Work

In addition to improved communications the actual content of the work of staff has developed considerably. In the Nursing and Health Visiting fields the problems of the elderly sick, the lonely and the housebound persist and there is an ever increasing number of geriatric referrals. To assist in the care of these six part-time Trained Nurses were appointed as Health Assistants who make follow-up visits after initial assessment by a Health Visitor or on conclusion of care by District Nurse.

Responsibility of the District Nurse

It has increasingly been realised that bedside nursing of the elderly and sick patients is not enough and that rehabilitation is a very important part of the home nursing work. As the availability of Nursing Staff has gradually improved it has been possible to allow Nurses to spend longer in this time consuming but worthwhile work.

District Nursing Sisters have attended many patients on discharge from Hospital who have required dressings, injections and other nursing care. It has been made possible for the Hospital Central Sterile Supply Department to provide sterilised dressing and treatment packs for the use of our nurses on the District. The use of pre-packed autoclaved instruments and of pre-sterilised disposable equipment by District Nurses is both safer than the old method of home sterilisation and has helped to save valuable nursing time that can be spent with the patients.

The provision of five "ripple" beds and the use of Incontinence Pads are a tremendous help in the nursing of incontinent and terminal cases. Financial help from the Marie Curie Memorial Foundation has been available for Cancer patients since 1967 and generous financial help from the Queen Victoria Institute Trustee Fund has enabled us to provide extra comforts and nourishment for many of our sick poor patients.

Whereas it is important to maintain the highest standard of nursing care for our patients, State Registered Nursing Staff should be employed only for work which requires their professional skill. Many of the routine

nursing procedures can be carried out by State Enrolled Nurses and we are also aware that a large number of elderly and infirm patients, while needing nursing supervision, require only simple personal assistance which can be given by an unqualified assistant under the direction of the trained nurse. It has therefore been our recent policy to recruit these varying grades of staff to our nursing teams.

Scope of Health Visiting

The progression of the role of the Health Visitor from working mainly with mothers and young children to an involvement with families of all age groups has coincided with the trend towards working more closely with the Family Doctor. Referrals now include a larger number of elderly, people with difficulties of middle age and marital problems, teenagers and sick children.

The Health Visitor is concerned with the early detection of physical, mental, social, marital and financial breakdown, and acts in a supporting role at times of crises; for example at the birth of a new baby. She also functions in a teaching capacity as Health Educator to individuals and groups.

The T.B. Health Visitors have continued their specialised work but with the decline of tuberculosis cases there has been an increase in work among patients with other chest diseases.

Health Education

Health Education is carried out by all members of the Community Nursing Staff, but in particular Health Visitors have an important part to play.

The Family Care courses given by Health Visitors have been extended to nine schools and one Health Visitor has given a course in Personal Relationships in Moorlands School. Six Health Visitors have taken courses in Youth Counselling and Personal Relationships with the Education Department. A course in mothercraft is also provided at The Avenue School.

Ante-natal classes are held in preparation for labour by Midwives and in mothercraft by Health Visitors. There are increasing demands on the service for talks to women's groups to give first aid lectures and to provide lectures in courses on Child Development sponsored by W.E.A. to Student Nursery Nurses and to other groups.

Our Child Health Clinics have continued to maintain their popularity and an increasing emphasis has been laid on the education of mothers in aspects of child care and in the observation of child development, with less stress being made on the weighing of babies. We have been increasingly concerned to ensure that Health Visitors attending Child Health Clinics are freed from administrative duties and that they are available to concentrate on their correct function. The work of volunteers and other lay assistants has been much appreciated and it is apparent that more such help will be required in the future.

School Nursing

Health Visitors have continued their close touch with the schools and nursery schools, but all routine work is now done by the School Nurses.

The School Nurses as far as possible are linked with Child Health

Clinics serving the areas in which are the primary schools they attend so that they can be aware of the background of the children they will see in school and get to know their mothers. The School Nurses have taken part in the research projects, notably on Immunological Studies on Rubella on 15 year old girls in Reading, carried out by Dr. Rowlands in 1969. In addition to their school work the School Nurses have assisted at Cervical Cytology and Family Welfare Clinics.

Day Care of Children under 5 years

Health Visitors have been responsible for registering persons under the Nurseries and Child Minders Act, 1948 and the subsequent amendment by the Health Services and Public Health Act, 1968 (Section 60) which came into force on 1st February, 1969. Because of the need to know which children were being minded and to prevent "baby farming" and ensure good care, Reading had already produced its own list of recommended minders for those not bound to register under the Acts. Following the tightening up of regulations there has been a tremendous increase in this work, which has involved one of the Health Visitors almost full-time, and a considerable amount of the time of the Principal Nursing Officer/Health Visiting in the registration of playgroups and nurseries.

Midwifery

In the midwifery field there has been a steady decline in home confinements but this has been off-set by the great increase in the number of patients discharged home early from hospital (within 48 hours of delivery). Midwives are now involving themselves much more in aspects of care and the education of all mothers in the ante-natal and post-natal periods.

A social assessment of the homes of patients as to the suitability for early discharge from hospital has been made so that there could be correct booking arrangements, and the best use of valuable hospital beds.

The figures for the perinatal mortality over the past five years has steadily declined from 30.95 per thousand in 1965 to 19.42. Although this is below the national average it is considered that there is still room for improvement and as the mother and baby spend so little time in hospital the role of the Community Midwives is vital to the provision of good continuing care.

In 1969 midwives took part in a double blind survey of Pethidine and Pentazocine in domiciliary practice which was subsequently published in the Midwives' Chronicle.

Staff Training

In all branches of the Service training commitments are given considerable attention. Four Health Visitors have been trained as Field Work Instructors and have been responsible for practical instruction of students taking the Health Visitor's Course. This course of one year's duration commenced at the Reading College of Technology in 1967.

Since 1968 the Queen's Institute of District Nursing has discontinued to function as an examining body and in the direction of District Nurse Training Courses. The training of Home Nurses has continued in Reading

and our own arrangements have been made for the theoretical instruction and practical teaching; and assessment of students who now sit for the National Certificate in District Nursing. Twenty-six nurses have been awarded the National Certificate since its inception in 1968.

Since the Autumn of 1970 it has been possible to provide a modified course also leading to a certificate for State Enrolled Nurses, and three nurses have been provided with this course.

The C.M.B. Part II Midwifery Training School in Reading continued until June 1970 inspite of changes reflected in the hospitalisation of mothers for delivery. From this time it was decided that our own six months course should discontinue and community care course be provided for a greater number of part II students being seconded to the Borough from the Royal Berkshire Hospital for three months. Our overall teaching commitment has however been no less and a comprehensive community care programme was arranged for 30 students during 1970.

Four students were sponsored to the Health Visiting Course at Reading College of Technology completing their studies in 1969; and two in 1970. All were successful in their examination.

In October 1969 the Working Party on Management in the Local Authority Nursing Services advocated the review of the various existing patterns of nurse management.

Reading had already appointed a Chief Nursing Officer and during 1970 a Line Management Structure has been introduced to the Service involving the appointment of Principal Nursing Officers in each of the three fields of Home Nursing, Health Visiting and Midwifery, with six Nursing Officers at First Line Management level.

It is recognised that senior officers in the formal management structure support trained field staff whose own day to day work involves decision making and organisational skill, and therefore four members of staff now in senior posts have been seconded so far to management courses suitable to their needs. In addition the Day Nursery Matron was released to take a three month course recommended by the Department of Health and Social Security.

In furtherance of the policy of improved communications between the services, nursing staff have been decentralised and the former Q.V.I. Home at Erleigh Road has been opened as a Community Nursing Centre from which all three branches of the service function. Residential accommodation at the back which had been converted into flatlets is let to members of staff and Health Visiting Students.

Among a number of staff changes in 1970 two retirements should be notified and our gratitude extended to Miss A. M. Edwards, Deputy Chief Nursing Officer after 14 years in charge of our Home Nursing Service; also to Miss H. Mortimer who completed 35 years service with the Borough as a Health Visitor.

Reading Research Project into the Needs of the Elderly

The Reading Department of Health and Social Services and the Operational Research Unit in the Department of Applied Statistics at Reading University

are at present experimenting with a new method of identifying the needs of the elderly and of co-ordinating and planning the supply of services to cater for these needs. The project is being financed by the Oxford Regional Hospital Board, the Queen Victoria Institute Fund and the Reading and District Hospital Management Committee.

Aim

The Aim is to develop a method of:-

- (1) visiting all people over 65 with the purpose of establishing a system of priorities in the provision of services to those in need;
- (2) co-ordinating the supply of services;
- (3) assisting those responsible for the planning of future services.

The Pilot Scheme

In July, 1970, we embarked on a pilot scheme to be carried out in an area of Reading containing approximately one-fifth of all persons over 65 in Reading. The area selected being the Caversham side of the river.

The purpose of the pilot scheme is twofold:-

- (1) to investigate whether it is worth adopting such a method in Reading;
- (2) to sort out any practical difficulties which may occur and to reach an efficient method of organisation.

The pilot scheme is expected to last eighteen months. After this time the Borough will decide whether or not to incorporate the method as part of the routine work of the Department of Health and Social Services and, therefore, extend it to cover the whole of Reading.

Two Health Visitors have been appointed to carry out the visiting. They are both based in the department but are also in touch with the General Practitioners. They work in close contact with the attached Health Visitor at each practice. One Health Visitor is covering people belonging to the largest practice in the area. The other is covering those belonging to the other four practices. They each visit roughly 25 people a week.

Cervical Cytology

Cervical cytology clinics were held throughout these years as usual. These sessions take place on Monday afternoons and Thursday evenings at Queen's Road Clinic. It is now four years since the clinics were opened, and women who attended in 1966/67 are now being recalled for a repeat smear.

It will be noted that about a quarter of the smears were taken from patients living outside the Borough.

About 8% - 10% of the patients seen had four or more children. As women of high parity run a somewhat greater risk of cancer of the cervix than those with small families, it is gratifying to note that over 200 of these higher risk patients attended for the test during the two years under consideration.

The following table summarises the work for 1969/70:-

	<u>1969</u>	<u>1970</u>
Total number of smears taken	791	1,394*
Number from outside the Borough	191	331
Number of women with 4 or more children	65	144
Number of positive smears	3	4
Abnormal gynaecological findings reported to G.P's in 1970 (figures not kept for 1969)		126

(* This includes 666 retests and 728 new smears)

SECTION 26. VACCINATION AND IMMUNISATION (EXCLUDING B.C.G.)

Vaccination and immunisation arrangements have continued as in previous years. Mothers are

invited to bring their children to special sessions at infant welfare clinics for these protective procedures. Some of this work is carried out by general practitioners on a sessional basis at clinics. The statistics relating to this service are set out in the Appendix, Tables 5, 5(a), 6, 6(a).

The appointment system in respect of Vaccinations and Immunisations has now been computerised and covers 21 practices consisting of 53 general practitioners. The system provides appointments at both Child Health Clinics and at the surgeries of those general practitioners participating in the scheme. At present about 800 appointments are made each month, and approximately 65% of the Borough general practitioners now participate in the scheme. It is hoped that all general practitioners will eventually come into the scheme.

SECTION 27. AMBULANCE SERVICE

The Ambulance Service was inaugurated in July, 1948, and

is under the operational control of the Transport Manager.

The following table gives particulars of the work carried out since 1962 for Borough and non-Borough duties:-

Year	Journeys	Patients	Mileage
1962	39,107	42,519	185,582
1965	45,061	48,077	205,760
1966	45,802	48,823	217,471
1967	45,266	48,844	213,355
1968	46,842	50,662	226,802
1969	42,284	52,609	232,899
1970	51,440	56,444	242,350

A summary of work carried out during 1969 and 1970 is tabulated below:-

1969

Type of Call	Calls		Patients		Mileage	
	Total All Areas	Non-Rechargeable Cases Only	Total All Areas	Non-Rechargeable Cases Only	Total All Areas	Non-Rechargeable Cases Only
Emergency (999) Calls	2,791	2,170	2,665	1,996	15,675	8,937
Urgent and Non-Urgent	45,297	38,804	49,785	41,500	213,503	139,858
Flying Squad Duties	196	—	159	—	3,721	—
Stretcher Cases	17,182	11,970	19,885	13,223	135,256	69,119
Sitting/Walking Cases	31,102	29,004	32,724	30,633	97,643	79,676

1970

Emergency (999) Calls	3,028	2,332	2,850	2,119	17,338	9,786
Urgent and Non-Urgent	48,200	41,228	53,440	44,557	221,237	141,183
Flying Squad Duties	212	—	154	—	3,775	—
Stretcher Cases	17,816	12,114	21,097	13,418	141,374	68,486
Sitting/Walking Cases	33,624	31,446	35,347	33,258	100,976	82,483

The above figures do not include the considerable number of duties which are received by the Ambulance Service and passed either to the Hospital Car Service or adjacent Ambulance Services. In the majority of these duties, the mileage is charged directly to the Authority financially responsible for the duty and records of this work are not recorded in any of our tabulations.

Ambulance and Hospital Car Service

	Patients			Mileage			Miles Per Patient		
	1968	1969	1970	1968	1969	1970	1968	1969	1970
Ambulance Service	50,662	52,609	56,444	226,802	232,899	242,350	4.48	4.42	4.29
Hospital Car Service	16,771	17,181	16,928	84,388	83,708	84,901	5.04	4.87	5.01
	67,373	69,790	73,372	311,190	316,607	327,251	4.60	4.53	4.46

Ambulance Fleet and Personnel

At the 31st December, 1970, the fleet consisted of 14 dual purpose ambulances and two sitting case ambulances. Two new petrol ambulances went into service in July, 1970.

To meet the requirements of the service there are six Ambulance Regulators and 30 Ambulance Driver/Attendants.

Service Demands

The call out facility for the Borough Midwifery Service between the hours of 8.00 p.m. and 8.00 a.m. via the Borough Ambulance Control Office continues with constant demand. Planned Early Discharges continue each morning from the Royal Berkshire Hospital new Maternity Wing, bookings for discharges later in the day now average 80 patients for each seven day week.

Appreciation

Appreciation is expressed to the following:-

The staff of the British Railways (Reading) for their ready co-operation.

The Hospital Car Service for their continued excellent service.

The British Red Cross Society for their valuable assistance in providing escorts for long journeys.

To the Police and Fire Service for their contribution to the smooth working of the Ambulance Service in emergency conditions.

SECTION 28. PREVENTION OF ILLNESS, CARE & AFTER-CARE

A. Tuberculosis (see also section re Infectious Diseases)

(a) Welfare Work see Sections 23, 24 and 25 Scope of Health Visiting.

(b) The Reading Care Association for Tuberculosis and Diseases.

In their annual report for 1970 the Association indicate that their work in assisting and supporting all measures for the prevention of tuberculosis and diseases of the chest continued as in previous years.

Various fund raising activities took place during this period which enabled grants and financial assistance to be given to ready patients in a variety of ways.

(c) B.C.G. Vaccination(see Annual Report of the Principal School Medical Officer.)

B. Provision of Nursing Equipment and Apparatus

The department continued to provide on loan various items of nursing equipment and apparatus and there was a slight increase in the number of patients helped during the two year period.

C. Provision of Convalescent Holidays

	<u>1969</u>	<u>1970</u>
Patients who benefited by a period of convalescence under the Council's scheme.	33 (30 adults and 3 children)	44 (35 adults and 9 children)
Assisted with travelling expenses only.	26	12
Fares paid for escorts and others accompanying patients.	26	21

	<u>1969</u>	<u>1970</u>
Patients and persons accompanying them, for whom holidays also were arranged but whose maintenance was financed either by themselves or from charitable sources.	70	60

A noteworthy feature of the last-mentioned group was the inclusion of handicapped children from The Avenue Special School: 20 in 1969 and 12 in 1970. Their expenses were paid by the Reading and Valley Round Tables. We express our appreciation of the Round Tables' fund raising efforts and our sincere thanks for such generosity.

Also, our thanks must be recorded for continual support from several charities, amongst which we would especially mention the Reading Dispensary Trust whose assistance has been so readily available to patients known to us.

D. Health Education (see also section re Health Visiting, report of Chief Public Health Inspector, and report of Principal School Medical Officer)

SECTION 29. HOME HELP SERVICE The demand on the service has increased during the period 1969 and 1970. Many of the elderly who could at first manage with two visits per week, are now because of their great age in need of more and longer visits.

Elderly people who live alone when discharged from hospital are also to be found in need of daily help to enable them to continue to live in their own homes.

Sheltered developments which are provided in conjunction with the Housing Committee are supervised by this service, offer double and single units with a Warden who is on call in case of emergency and is responsible for the shopping and collection of pensions and prescriptions for those who are unable to go out.

The Special Laundry Service has continued to provide valuable assistance to households and the Bath Attendant continues to help these handicapped and aged people who are able to take a bath without help.

The number of weekly cases remain in excess of 1,100 although there has been a noticeable drop in the number of applications for help in maternity cases.

Recruitment of suitable staff has remained difficult and it has not always been possible to provide the degree of help which is needed in some cases.

Mental Health Act, 1959

MENTAL ILLNESS During the period covered by the report, progress has been made in consolidating the improvements made during the previous years. The small gains which are made in the struggle against mental disorder are achieved with great effort and it is hoped that the momentum of progress made in the field of mental illness will continue. The treating of the mentally disordered as persons who are "different" and who are generally best cared for away from the community in which they live must be avoided. Progress has been made in the last decade towards accepting but not always treating, the mentally disordered person in the community. Even to maintain the progress during the next decade will require a great deal of effort by those whose task it is to promote this service and the provision of suitable hostel accommodation where required.

Within recent years there has been the growing awareness of the team approach to the problem and working with the Fair Mile Hospital has gone a long way in attaining this. The continued skilled use of drug therapy means that more and more mentally disordered persons can be treated, rehabilitated and continued in the community.

Voluntary support has been received from The Reading Industrial Therapy Organisation which provides an extremely useful service in assisting the mentally disordered patients to resettle in the community. In co-operation with the Thames Valley Mental Health Association, one of the mental welfare officers held fortnightly social meetings for ex-patients of Fair Mile Hospital and other mentally disordered persons.

THE SAMARITANS OF READING I am indebted to the Director of the Samaritans, Rev. A. C. Fryer, for the following information: The Samaritans which moved their centre to Trinity Church Hall, Sidmouth Street in July, 1969, have maintained an unbroken telephone answering service throughout 1969 and 1970.

There has been a considerable turnover of members and there is currently an adequate supply of new applicants and that the average age of the most recent group was 35 years. The Samaritans seem to be encountering more serious problems and they have moved to a more discriminating selection procedure.

During the period ending July, 1969, 779 calls were received and to July, 1970, 802 calls were received.

SUBNORMALITY The case load continues to increase and creates greater problems for social workers. The catchment areas of the subnormality hospitals have been rearranged and now all Reading patients are admitted either to Borocourt Hospital or Wayland Hospital, Bradfield. The hospitals would like the local authority to provide more suitable care for distressed clients.

TRAINING CENTRES

Newbery Lodge

This Centre caters for nine more severely handicapped children who need more intensive physical care. Children from the lodge attend the Cerebral Palsy Unit at Battle Hospital for physiotherapy, and also the Avenue School for swimming. Several children improved considerably and were transferred to Wakefield Lodge and one to Borocourt Hospital. It is pleasing to report that other children have also improved sufficiently for them to transfer eventually to Wakefield Lodge or Borocourt Hospital.

Wakefield Lodge Junior Training Centre

There are 85 pupils attending Wakefield Lodge, an increase of 15 over the 1968 figure. There is an immediate waiting list for children needing schooling and within the next five years the demand will increase.

The teaching staff is gradually being trained and each year someone is sent away for training. Great credit must be given to the teachers whose efforts over many years have brought about the change from Occupation Centres to Training Centres and thus enabling pupils to be considered educable. As from April, 1971, Wakefield Lodge will become a special school within the Education System.

Social activities include weekly visits to the Reading Library, regular swimming instruction, occasional shopping visits, and day excursions arranged throughout the year. Senior children attend Reading Training Centre occasionally to help ease the transition from school environment to the work environment from the age of 16 years.

Many parents and friends take a special interest in Wakefield Lodge and are involved in many social activities. Several large gifts have been presented to the Centre by local Associations and private individuals and all are gratefully accepted.

Reading Adult Training Centre

A new centre for the mentally handicapped adult was completed in October, 1970 and opened by Michael Alison, M.P., Parliamentary Under-Secretary of State for Health. The building is designed to accommodate 120 trainees of both sexes. The accommodation includes a main workshop, woodwork room, packaging room, domestic training room, education room, dining/recreation room and a laundry unit. The meals provided at the centre are supplied by a "top tray" service which is a frozen pre-packed meal. The centre is conveniently situated in a light industrial estate which is ideal both in securing work and providing the right environment for the trainees.

The centre replaces the Beeches Training Centre and both the staff and the trainees are delighted with their new centre. Regular club meetings and outings are held and support for these events continues to come from parents and friends particularly the Parent/Teacher Association.

Prevalence and Control of Infectious Diseases

For Statistics see Appendix Tables 10 and 10(a).

DIPHTHERIA For the twenty-second year in succession there have been no cases of diphtheria.

SCARLET FEVER There were 12 cases of scarlet fever in 1969 and 11 in 1970.

WHOOPING COUGH There were eight cases of whooping cough in 1969 and eight in 1970.

MEASLES There were 312 cases of measles in 1969 and 527 in 1970.

POLIOMYELITIS For the eleventh year in succession no cases of poliomyelitis have been notified in the Borough.

ACUTE ENCEPHALITIS There was one case of acute encephalitis notified in 1970.

TUBERCULOSIS I am indebted to Dr. A. J. Karlsh the Consultant Chest Physician of the Central Chest Clinic, Battle Hospital for the details contained in the Appendix Table 9 of this report.

VENEREAL DISEASE Arrangements have continued with the Royal Berkshire Special Clinic for follow-up visits on behalf of the Authority. I am indebted to Dr. P. W. F. McIlvenna, Physician in charge of the Treatment Centre at the Royal Berkshire Hospital for the following information relating to patients from the Borough who attended for the first time:-

	<u>1969</u>	<u>1970</u>
Total cases of Syphilis	6	7
Total cases of Gonorrhoea	175	159
Total cases of all other conditions	411	458
	<u>592</u>	<u>624</u>

National Assistance Act, 1948, Parts III and IV

SECTION 21. PROVISION OF ACCOMMODATION

The following tables give details relating to the admission to ten aged persons homes provided under Section 21 and the total number of residents as at the 31st December each year.

Number of persons admitted to 12 months ended 31st December, 1970
(1969 figures in brackets)

	Number of admissions (other than for short stay) of persons aged:-							Number of short stay admissions
	Under 30	30-49	50-64	65-74	75-84	85 and over	Total	
Male			1 (4)	16 (18)	22 (28)	11 (16)	50 (66)	31 (10)
Female			1 (1)	23 (21)	59 (54)	53 (36)	136 (112)	70 (69)
Total			2 (5)	39 (39)	81 (82)	64 (52)	186 (178)	101 (79)

Persons in residential accommodation as at 31st December, 1970
(1969 figures in brackets)

Age		Persons (exclusive of staff) residing in									
		Sex	Homes in the possession of the Council whose normal bed complement for residential accommodation is					Joint user premises shared with hospitals		accommodation provided on behalf of the Council in voluntary or private homes	Total
			Under 31	31-50	51-70	71-150	Over 150	In possession of a local authority	In possession of hospitals		
1.	Under 30	M									
2.		F									
3.	30-49	M									
4.		F									
5.	50-64	M		1 (2)	1 (1)						2 (3)
6.		F	(1)	(1)	(1)						(3)
7.	Total Under 65		(1)	1 (3)	1 (2)						2 (6)
8.	65-74	M		32 (35)	7 (6)						39 (41)
9.		F	7 (9)	23 (25)	3 (4)						33 (38)
10.	75-84	M		33 (39)	9 (8)						42 (47)
11.		F	18 (19)	83 (81)	21 (22)						122 (122)
12.	85 and over	M		21 (23)	4 (3)						25 (26)
13.		F	27 (27)	57 (62)	11 (12)						95 (101)
14.	Total 65 & over		52 (55)	249 (265)	55 (55)						356 (375)
15.	Total all ages		52 (56)	250 (268)	56 (57)						358 (381)
16.	No. of homes in which persons reside		3 (3)	6 (6)	1 (1)						10 (10)

The staff situation at residential homes again gave cause for concern but the Matrons are to be congratulated in maintaining the service at a high level despite these difficulties.

The Central Entertainments Committee arrange many fetes, whist drives, etc., and the proceeds from these events has enabled many extra amenities to be provided for the elderly residents.

SECTION 22. CHARGES FOR ACCOMMODATION

The standard charge was increased from £11.11.0d. (£11.55) in 1969, to £11.18.0d. (£11.90) in 1970.

The following amounts were collected on assessments made against residents with the scale in use during the year.

	1969	1970
	£	£
Woodlands	11,929	13,349
Wychcotes	3,011	2,848
Warren House	4,146	4,397
Parkhurst	11,531	12,948
Southern Hill	9,620	9,101
Arthur Clark Home	9,110	8,988
Dysons Wood Hostel	4,557	4,411
Alice Jenkins Home	8,449	9,629
Edward Hughes Home	11,598	12,450
Alice Burrows Home	10,817	11,428
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	£ 84,768	£ 89,549
	<hr/>	<hr/>

SECTION 24. AUTHORITY LIABLE FOR THE PROVISION OF ACCOMMODATION

In all cases where a query has arisen settlement has been reached between authorities concerned.

SECTION 25. POWER OF DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND SOCIAL SECURITY TO ORDER THE PROVISION OF ACCOMMODATION IN URGENT CASES

The co-operation with the Department of Health and

Social Security has continued and the relationship between the officers of both departments has enabled them to assist each other in dealing with cases that have arisen.

SECTION 26. PROVISION OF ACCOMMODATION IN PREMISES MAINTAINED BY VOLUNTARY ORGANISATIONS

The arrangements with voluntary organisations for the provision of accom-

modation for special categories of persons (i.e. blind, cripples, deaf and dumb, epileptic and spastics) have continued as in previous years. Approximately 30 persons are accommodated in this way.

SECTION 29. WELFARE OF HANDICAPPED PERSONS

(a) Deaf and Dumb

The agency arrangements with the Oxford Diocesan Council for the Deaf continues to operate satisfactory. The number of persons on the register as at 31st December, 1970, is as follows:-

(1969 figures in brackets)

Age Group	Deaf Without Speech		Deaf with Speech		Hard of Hearing		Totals
	Males	Females	Males	Females	Males	Females	
16-29	7 (7)	1 (4)	8 (8)	8 (9)	5 (3)	4 (3)	33 (34)
30-49	9 (16)	15 (14)	- (-)	2 (2)	1 (1)	1 (-)	28 (33)
50-64	15 (10)	7 (6)	2 (2)	4 (4)	- (-)	2 (2)	30 (24)
65 & over	6 (5)	6 (6)	2 (3)	- (-)	- (-)	- (1)	14 (15)
Total	37 (38)	29 (30)	12 (13)	14 (15)	6 (4)	7 (6)	105 (106)

The activities of the Deaf Centre continued successfully during 1969 and 1970.

Religious - We have been very pleased to welcome several young members at the services over the past year, and the congregations have become noticeably larger. Special services were held on Christmas Day, Good Friday and Easter Sunday. Our preacher for the Anniversary Service was the Rev. Fr. J. Young, and for our Harvest Festival we welcomed back an old friend, the Rev. G. Firth. We also enjoyed Evening Service at St. Mary Magdalene Church, Tilehurst.

Social - Attendances at the Social Club have been very good, and many special events have been held.

We were very sorry to lose the Treasurer of our Social Club, Mr. Edward Maybanks, who was killed in a road accident.

Ladies Section - The elderly ladies continue to meet fortnightly, and during the winter months the younger women have meetings on alternate Wednesday evenings.

Welfare - Deaf people have been helped during the year in many different ways, and interpreters have been provided in a variety of situations such as at places of employment, Courts, hospitals and Solicitors' offices.

Youth Club - The '79' Youth Club is still prospering. Meetings are held each Friday evening. A dance is held once a month, and many hearing people attend as well as deaf people. At Whitsun the members went camping to the New Forest and thoroughly enjoyed themselves. Several visits have been made to Richmond Ice Rink, and to other Youth Clubs.

(b) Hard of Hearing

I am indebted to Mr. and Mrs. W. J. Hammond, Joint Honorary Secretaries of the Reading and District Hard of Hearing Association, for the following information: The activities of the Association have continued as in previous

years and provides a wide range of social activities for both old and young, and continues to provide a much needed service for this type of handicapped person.

(c) Blind

The Blind Welfare Section of the Department moved to more suitable premises in March, 1969, and this has given an opportunity for expansion of the work which was hitherto not possible.

The years 1969 and 1970 have seen a building-up of the activities in the spacious new Hall and an increasing number of blind persons are attending weekly. If not actually doing handicrafts they enjoy the company of others.

It is now possible to include many partially-sighted people in the activities in the Hall. Transport is a problem but we have enlisted some new drivers and the use of the Council's Minibus is a help. The Association are hoping to obtain a Minibus so that this would always be available for use when required.

Seven articles made by the blind were submitted to the Southern Regional Association, for the "Hands of the Blind Exhibition of Achievement" at the Central Hall, Westminster, in May, 1970, one obtained a Bronze Medal and one was highly commended.

At the end of 1970 there were 187 persons on the Blind Register, 76 male, 111 female, resulting in a decrease of nine on the previous year.

There were, in addition, 123 persons on the partially-sighted register at the end of the year, 45 males, 78 females.

Report of Consultant Ophthalmic Surgeon - The Consultant Ophthalmic Surgeon is Mr. G. T. Willoughby-Cashell, FRCS, and I am obliged to him for the following report: Thirty-two patients were examined for admission to the Blind Register in 1969 and forty-one in 1970. It is interesting to note that the majority of patients examined were over the age of 70.

	Blind		Partially Sighted		Not Blind		Total	
	1969	1970	1969	1970	1969	1970	1969	1970
Cataract	1	1	2	2	2	-	5	3
Glaucoma	3	4	1	1	-	-	4	5
Myopia	2	2	-	1	-	-	2	3
Retinal Conditions	2	5	2	2	-	-	4	7
Degenerative Conditions	6	8	3	4	-	-	9	12
Infective Conditions	3	5	2	1	-	-	5	6
Developmental Conditions	-	2	1	3	-	-	1	5
Cerebral Conditions	1	-	-	-	-	-	1	-
Injury	1	-	-	-	-	-	1	-
	19	27	11	14	2	-	32	41

Ages

	Under 20	20-40	40-60	60-70	70-80	80-100	Totals
1969	-	-	5	6	12	9	32
1970	7	-	4	5	13	12	41

Cataract 1969 - The patient blind from cataract also had a diabetic retinopathy.

Glaucoma 1969 - Of the three patients blind in this category, in addition to glaucoma one had a diabetic retinopathy, one had Fuchs corneal dystrophy and in the third case the left eye had been unsuccessfully operated on. The partially-sighted patient had had cataract in addition to glaucoma. On both eyes a cataract extraction and a drainage operation for glaucoma had been performed, the patient retaining a vision of 6/6 partly in one eye.

Degenerative Conditions 1969 - All patients in this category were suffering from macula degeneration. In one of the blind patients the eyes may have been affected by chloroquine.

Retinal Conditions 1969 - Under this heading one of the blind patients had had a thrombosis in the right eye and had a retinopathy in the left. The other blind patient had a diabetic retinopathy in each eye, secondary glaucoma and cataract. The left cataract extraction had failed to improve the vision due to vitreous haemorrhage and retinopathy. Cataract extraction on the right eye is to be considered.

Of the two partially-sighted patients one had an amblyopic right eye and had had an arterial occlusion in the left and was suffering from hypocalcaemia. The other patient had bilateral disseminated choroiditis, probably specific in origin.

Developmental Conditions 1969 - This patient was suffering from keratoconus and cataract.

Infective Conditions 1969 - One of the blind patients had suffered from kerato iritis due to scarlet fever in the right eye and narrow angle glaucoma. The second patient had suffered from keratitis in the right eye on which a corneal graft had been performed. The left eye had a central retinal artery occlusion. The third patient suffering from iritis in each eye, cataract in the right eye and absolute glaucoma in the left, was examined twice during the year being placed first on the Partially-Sighted Register and later being transferred to the Blind Register. The second partially-sighted patient in this category suffered from keratitis of specific origin and had had a bilateral corneal graft resulting in 6/18 vision in one eye.

Cerebral Conditions 1969 - Though this patient had 6/9 vision in one eye and 6/6 in the other she had a hemianopia due to thrombosis of the posterior cerebral artery.

Injury 1969 - This man fell from scaffolding sustaining serious head injury with subdural haematoma and a fractured skull. He had vitreous haemorrhage and in the left eye, secondary glaucoma.

Cataract 1970 - The patient blind from cataract also had macula degeneration so operation was not recommended. One of the partially-sighted patients also had macula degeneration.

Glaucoma 1970 - In this category one of the blind patients had lost one eye and had cataract and macula degeneration as well as glaucoma in the other. Another patient had been blind in one eye when first seen and one of the other patients, though having fair central vision, had very constricted visual fields. The partially-sighted patient retained 6/24 vision in one eye but had absolute glaucoma in the other.

Myopia 1970 - Under this heading the two blind patients were twins of four years old who had nystagmus and convergent strabismus in addition to the myopia.

Retinal Conditions 1970 - One of these patients had a retinal detachment, occlusion of the central retinal artery and old corneal ulceration; one patient had pigmentary degeneration of the retina, another had a diabetic retinopathy, one had a thrombotic glaucoma in one eye and a central retinal vein thrombosis in the other and one had a retinal haemorrhage in one eye and an opaque cornea following an injury in the other. Of the partially-sighted patients one had a macula hole in one eye and a detached retina in the other. The other patient had a diabetic retinopathy and tobacco amblyopia.

Degenerative Conditions 1970 - All the partially-sighted patients and six of the eight patients blind from this cause suffered from macula degeneration. The other two had corneal dystrophies, one having a reticular type of the condition.

Developmental Conditions 1970 - One of these blind patients had congenital retinal atrophy of the macula in one eye and disciform macula degeneration in the other. The second, a child of seven, had macula abiotrophy. Of the partially-sighted patients one was a child of ten with congenital cataract and myopia in one eye, the other eye being microphthalmic. The second had bilateral coloboma of the optic disc, nystagmus and a detachment of the retina. She was a triplet, the other two having defective vision in one eye. The third patient was a girl of 19 coping extremely well with her congenital nystagmus.

Infective Conditions 1970 - One of these patients was blind from ophthalmia neonatorum. Another had anterior uveitis associated with rheumatoid arthritis. A third had had keratitis due to specific disease - one eye had been removed following a corneal graft and cataract extraction; the other eye retained a small amount of vision with a partially clear graft.

(d) Other Classes of Handicapped PersonsHandicapped Persons assisted during 1970(1969 figures in brackets)

Major handicaps	Age Under 16	Age 16-29	Age 30-49	Age 50-64	Age 65 or over	Total
1. Amputation	2 (-)	1 (-)	- (4)	9 (17)	5 (not known)	17 (21)
2. Arthritis or rheumatism	- (-)	1 (5)	6 (10)	43 (41)	74 " "	124 (56)
3. Congenital malformations or deformities	11 (4)	12 (11)	7 (18)	7 (3)	6 " "	43 (36)
4. Diseases of the digestive and genito-urinary systems, of the heart or circulatory system, of the respiratory system (other than tuberculosis) or of the skin	3 (3)	5 (7)	14 (15)	20 (19)	75 " "	117 (44)
5. Injuries of the head, face, neck, thorax, abdomen, pelvis, or trunk. Injuries or diseases (other than tuberculosis) of the upper and lower limbs and of the spine	2 (1)	7 (7)	7 (14)	15 (18)	21 " "	52 (40)
6. Organic nervous diseases - epilepsy, disseminated sclerosis, poliomyelitis, hemiplegia, sciatica, etc.	6 (10)	14 (30)	49 (45)	57 (69)	44 " "	170 (154)
7. Neuroses, psychoses, and other nervous and mental disorders not included in line 6	- (-)	1 (1)	1 (4)	1 (1)	20 " "	23 (6)
8. Tuberculosis (respiratory)	- (-)	- (-)	1 (2)	- (-)	- " "	1 (2)
9. Tuberculosis (non-respiratory)	- (-)	- (-)	1 (-)	1 (-)	- " "	2 (-)
10. Diseases and injuries not specified above	3 (4)	- (7)	- (19)	5 (18)	5 " "	13 (48)
11. Total	27 (22)	41 (68)	86 (131)	158 (186)	250 " "	562 (407)

The total does not include handicapped persons over 65 as these are included in the Geriatric Reports and dealt with.

Housing - Severely disabled persons continue to be re-housed with their families, in specially designed bungalows. Further bungalows have become available during the period ended December, 1970. It is hoped that, with the assistance of the Borough Architect more bungalows embodying special features to assist handicapped persons will become available in the near future.

Convalescent Holidays - Convalescent holidays continued to be provided to many handicapped persons. The benefits are not only those directly provided to the handicapped person, but also to their relatives. Thanks are due to voluntary organisations for financial assistance in providing this service.

Occupational Therapy Centre

This unit has continued to encourage handicapped people to achieve independence both at the centre and in their own homes.

Patients attend both for industrial work and for craftwork.

The demand for home visits continues to grow and much time was spent making and adapting aids to daily living and ensuring that such aids meet the needs of the handicapped person.

Adaptation of Homes - During the period covered by this report a large number of adaptations to homes have been carried out.

Transport - Assistance in the provision of transport has again been given by the Ambulance and Hospital Car Service. The department's vehicles and specially designed ambulances conveyed handicapped persons to and from the Occupational Therapy Centre and were also used for social and recreational purposes.

Social Club - Club activities have continued during the period of this report and the efforts of both staff and voluntary workers are much appreciated.

Practical Assistance in the House - This was available to disabled and handicapped persons in the way of the Home Help Service, Meals on Wheels, domiciliary chiropody, nursing staff etc.

SECTION 31. CONTRIBUTIONS TO VOLUNTARY ORGANISATIONS

(a) Meals on Wheels

The following table shows the number of meals supplied:-

			<u>1969</u>	<u>1970</u>
January ...	...	...	2,310	3,078
February ...	...	...	2,196	2,658
March ...	...	...	2,237	2,709
April ...	...	...	2,683	2,799
May ...	...	...	2,800	2,825
June ...	...	...	2,554	2,847
July ...	...	...	3,041	3,199
August ...	...	...	2,833	2,634
September ...	...	...	2,827	3,175
October ...	...	...	3,357	3,334
November ...	...	...	2,982	2,953
December ...	...	...	3,041	3,275
			<hr/>	<hr/>
			32,861	35,486
			<hr/>	<hr/>

The number of meals provided has continued to increase and the service is greatly appreciated by the recipients.

The continued success of the dining club is reflected in the number of meals provided which was 1,947 in 1969 and 2,673 in 1970.

Once again our grateful thanks are due to the County Borough Organiser and members of the W.V.S. for the splendid work they are performing in maintaining this service.

(b) Chiropody Service

Ambulant Patients - The service for ambulant patients continues to be carried out by the Queen Victoria Institute Fund at its clinics. Treatment was given to approximately 850 patients and the average attendance was one in six weeks.

House Bound Patients - Approximately 500 patients received treatment in their own homes by two qualified chiropodists employed by the Council. The frequency of visits depends on the individual requirements of the patient.

SECTION 37. REGISTRATION OF HOMES
FOR OLD PEOPLE

At the end of 1970, ten homes were registered in Reading as providing

accommodation suitable for caring for aged and infirm people. They are as follows:-

107 Connaught Road	...	...	...	4 places
8 Southcote Road	...	...	...	18 "
106 Wokingham Road	...	...	...	7 "
110 Wokingham Road	...	...	...	8 "
Springfield St. Luke	...	...	...	27 "
272 Wokingham Road	...	...	...	2 "
4 College Road	...	...	...	14 "
31 Alexandra Road	...	...	...	6 "
26 Western Elms	...	...	...	10 "
32 Aldexandra Road	...	...	...	13 "

SECTION 47. REMOVAL TO SUITABLE PREMISES
OF PEOPLE IN NEED OF CARE AND PROTECTION

One application to the Court has been heard under

this section. The Order was made and the person concerned was removed to a general hospital. Two other cases were considered but after repeated visits the persons concerned were persuaded to avail themselves of the facilities available for their well being.

SECTION 48. DUTY OF COUNCILS TO PROVIDE
TEMPORARY PROTECTION FOR PROPERTY OF
PERSONS ADMITTED TO HOSPITALS, ETC.

occasioned by the admission of patients to hospitals.
respective officers at hospitals is good.

The work performed
under this section
remains fairly con-
stant and, is usually
Liaison with the re-

SECTION 50. BURIALS AND CREMATIONS
OF THE DEAD

persons (eight male and one female) and in 1970, burial and cremation
arrangements were made for twelve persons (ten male and two female).

In 1969, burial or cre-
mation arrangements
were made for nine

Miscellaneous Items

CREMATION The Medical Officer of Health is the Medical Referee to the Reading Crematorium. The following table shows the number of cremations over the last twenty years:

1950	...	...	...	567
1955	...	...	...	992
1960	...	...	...	1,537
1961	...	...	...	1,720
1962	...	...	...	1,878
1963	...	...	...	2,064
1964	...	...	...	1,637
1965	...	...	...	1,731
1966	...	...	...	1,857
1967	...	...	...	1,837
1968	...	...	...	1,987
1969	...	...	...	1,926
1970	...	...	...	1,996

Of those cremated in 1969 792 (41.1%) were Borough residents and 1,134 (58.9%) came from outside the Borough. Of the residents of the Borough who died 55.1% were cremated.

In 1970, of those cremated 836 (41.9%) were Borough residents and 1,160 (58.1%) came from outside the Borough. Of the residents of the Borough who died 61.5% were cremated.

NURSING HOMES At the end of 1970 there were two Nursing Homes in the Borough:

Dunedin (acute surgical cases)	- 19 beds
Reading University Health Centre	- 24 beds

EMPLOYMENT I am indebted to the Manager, Employment Exchange, Department of Employment and Productivity, for the following report: The estimated number of insured workers in the Reading Employment Exchange area (including Aldermaston) was 96,319 in June, 1969. This represents an increase of 8,733 over the previous year.

(a) The percentages of workers in the main industry groups were:

	%
(1) Professional and Scientific Services	25.7
(2) Distributive Trades	13.4
(3) Miscellaneous Services	10.8
(4) Engineering and Electrical Goods Manufacture	14.3
(5) Building and Civil Engineering	4.9
(6) Food, Drink and Tobacco Manufacture	4.4
(7) Transport and Communications	5.9
(8) Insurance, Banking and Finance	5.0
(9) Government Services (National and Local)	4.3
(10) Printing and Publishing	2.9
(11) Timber, Furniture and Shop Fittings	1.7
(12) Agriculture and Horticulture	1.4
(13) Others (small individually)	5.3
	<u>100.0%</u>

(b) Demand for Workers

The overall demands for labour during 1969 and 1970 continued to fall, reflecting the trend of the past few years. There was, however, a continuing shortage of skilled male workers particularly in the engineering trades. Vacancies for unskilled workers have continued to decline. Notified vacancies for women were fewer in 1970 than at corresponding dates in 1969, and appreciably less than in 1968.

The number of outstanding vacancies of all kinds recorded at the Reading Employment Exchange in each of the quarter-months of 1970 were as follows (1969 figures in brackets):-

<u>Men</u>	<u>Women</u>	<u>Total</u>
601 (733)	349 (578)	950 (1,311)
714 (755)	442 (535)	1,156 (1,290)
623 (853)	419 (601)	1,042 (1,454)
618 (585)	334 (363)	952 (948)

(c) Unemployment in the Area

The level of unemployment in 1970 was higher than in 1969, although the figures for the end of 1970 show a slight decrease compared with 1969. The rate of unemployment generally remained at about half the national average.

Details of the number of unemployed persons registered at the Reading Employment Exchange during 1970 are shown below (1969 figures in brackets):-

<u>Men</u>	<u>Women</u>	<u>Total</u>
1,208 (947)	115 (139)	1,323 (1,086)
889 (679)	84 (151)	973 (830)
803 (805)	134 (125)	937 (930)
872 (955)	127 (154)	999 (1,109)

Reading and Central Berks Youth Employment Office had the following average number of young people (aged under 18) on their unemployed register (1969 figures in brackets):-

<u>Boys</u>	<u>Girls</u>
32 (38)	14 (20)

(d) The Placing Work of the Employment Exchange

During 1969 an average of 400 persons were placed in employment each month and in 1970 this figure fell to 370. Of these totals, in 1969 35% were women, and in 1970 38%. All types of employment were covered.

There has been a drop in the number of disabled persons placed - an average of 32 monthly in 1969 and 28 monthly in 1970, a situation which reflects the general pattern of a slightly falling demand. The average number of disabled persons registered as unemployed was, however, lower than during 1968, 122 in each year 1969 and 1970.

During 1970 the office dealing with Professional and Executive and Commercial registrants was relocated at 31a Chain Street, Reading. The

siting and layout of the new premises is considered to be much better than hitherto, and the service afforded to those of Professional or Executive standards has improved - 263 were placed in 1970 compared to the 1969 figure of 244.

The Adult Occupational Guidance Service referred to in our 1967/68 report has been expanded. There are now 41 Guidance Units in the country and about 40,000 persons are interviewed annually, 1,200 of these by officers at the Reading Unit. Two in every three clients are aged between 18 and 24, many possessing high educational qualifications. Many Ex-Regular members of the Armed Forces, married women returning to employment, and redundant workers have been helped.

Report of the Chief Public Health Inspector

MR. J. GREEN, FRSH, FAPHI, Chief Public Health Inspector, reports as follows:

The Report this year covers the period 1969/70. 1970 is also the end of a decade, so comment will be made here and there in the report to indicate the progress which has been made in certain aspects of the work over the last ten years or so.

Probably the most important event during the period under review, was the publication of the Government's proposals for the re-organisation of Local Government in England (Command 4584), which followed the issue in 1968 and 1970 of two Green Papers outlining similar proposals relating to the structure of the National Health Service. The central theme of the National Health Service proposals was the need to weld together at every level the three parts of the National Health Service so as to form a comprehensive integrated service. The plans for Local Government are based on a two-tier system - County Councils and District Councils. The public health inspection services which include food and drugs, slum clearance, house and area improvement, clean air and environmental health, are to remain a local authority service. The proposals at this stage show a vague but arbitrary division of the public health inspection service between the County Council and District Council levels. It should be said that whilst the exercise of functions allocated to County level must have regard to all matters affecting the environment, public health inspection work is closely associated with the grass roots of Local Government and with people, and if it is to continue to work effectively, it must be administered substantially at District Council level. It is also in the interests of the service to ensure that environmental health and associated duties are not fragmented.

Also of importance was the declaration that 1970 should be European Conservation Year, organised under the guidance of the Council of Europe. The event's main purpose was to agree on policies which will help to preserve the quality of our environment and to find the best ways of putting them into action. At the same time, to make conservation problems clear to everyone so as to gain support for the measures needed to deal with them.

The Council decided that the best way of supporting European Conservation Year was to pursue vigorously the work it had been doing in the environmental health field for over 100 years, but to complement this with a special effort to present to the community as a whole the growing problem of noise, and to suggest ways and means by which it could be alleviated. This took the form of the Reading "Quiet Week" which is discussed in more detail in the body of the report.

With regard to housing, at the end of the period under review, 590 houses remained in the slum clearance programme, of which 55 were unoccupied or disused. In order to re-appraise the housing situation in the town, it was decided to carry out a sample survey on Denington Report lines. This covered the whole of the housing stock in the Borough, rented and owner/occupied, and Corporation and privately owned. The results showed that about 1,100 houses in the town would need to be dealt with by way of clearance or individual unfit action in the ensuing years, and that a

further 1,800 houses were unfit but capable of repair. Bearing in mind that about 700 houses unfit but capable of repair are situated in or closely adjoining areas likely to be affected by clearance or redevelopment, the ultimate figure for clearance is of the order of 1,800 houses. These properties are situated mainly in four parts of the town - around Orts Road, Great Knollys Street, Whitley Street and in Coley.

In addition, about 10,000 houses in the town are lacking in one or more of the essential amenities - bath, internal W.C., hot water, wash basin. We have, of course, pursued the implementation of the improvement provisions of the Housing Act since 1962, including compulsory improvement, on an individual and area basis, and have achieved a fair degree of success. However, there are still many substantial houses in the town capable of giving a long and useful life, which may come to an early demise if improvement and rehabilitation cannot be effected soon. The Government have recognised this fact and the Housing Act, 1969, introduced further measures for securing housing improvement, and also made provision for improving the general environment around houses on the basis of environmental improvement areas. At the same time, improvement grants were substantially increased from £400 to £1,000 and it is now possible to include certain repair works associated with improvements for grant purposes. In addition, the Rent Acts have been amended so that where controlled houses are improved and brought up to a satisfactory state of repair, they may be transferred from the "controlled" to the "fair rent" system.

However, despite these extensive new measures, far too little progress has been made and the situation is being further examined to see what more can be done to push this work along.

By the end of 1970 we had a record of some 640 houses which are used for multi-occupation. It is known there are more than these, indeed the sample survey indicated a figure of about 1,100. In December, 1970, the Council decided to introduce a registration scheme for the regulation and control of houses in multi-occupation. The first area to be subject to the registration scheme will be a part of the town bounded on the east by Greyfriars Road and Friar Street, the Inner Distribution Road and Wolseley Street; on the south by Berkeley Avenue, and on the north and west by the railway line. The idea is to control the manner and extent by which houses change from single to multi-occupation, by making it necessary for landlords to obtain the Council's permission before changing the use of their house in this way. Where change is accepted, the scheme will ensure that the people who are going to live there will have living conditions of a satisfactory standard and that the change will not unduly affect the amenities of the neighbourhood. The existing houses in multi-occupation will also be required to be registered with the Council, and living and amenity standards will be applied to these too.

It is accepted that some of the larger types of houses in the town are no longer entirely suitable for the needs of one family. At the same time, many are soundly constructed and, properly used and maintained, still have a very useful life. For economic or other reasons, they may need to be adapted for use in a more appropriate way, say by dividing into flats or otherwise re-arranging, to provide separate accommodation for more than one household. One of the main objects of the multi-occupation scheme is

to encourage the utilisation of the housing stock in the best possible way, and advice will be given as to how this can be done.

The last decade has seen considerable advancement and change in various aspects of food production and distribution. Slaughterhouses in the town have been reduced from three in 1960 to one in 1969/70. This has had the effect of centralising slaughtering and meat inspection, enabling more efficient operation. Slaughtering is now more mechanised and it is expected that there will be an expansion in throughput next year to meet the needs of a new meat packaging plant which is now under construction. The preparation of meat joints and pre-packaging at a central establishment, together with systems of more complete forms of temperature control, is likely to form the pattern for the meat trade in the future, and it seems as if Reading will be a centre from which the practice will spread.

There were continuing improvements at the Abattoirs during 1969/70.

The meat inspection service which was re-organised some five years' ago, is working satisfactorily. Whilst there is a certain ebb and flow in meat inspection duties due to seasonal kill and variations, the system of deployment of Authorised Meat Inspectors on other work is enabling the organisation to operate reasonably well. However, it may be necessary to make adjustments to the system to meet slaughtering and other changes.

The department continues to take part in animal disease surveys and other work being carried out by Universities and other establishments, and Reading is looked upon as a valuable practical meat inspection training centre for public health officers and others. It has been agreed in principle that provision should be made in the long-term for better training facilities at the Abattoirs, and discussions have taken place to see if these facilities can be co-ordinated with similar provisions for the meat trade. However, until the policies of the Local Government Training Board and the Meat Industries Training Board can be more clearly determined, it is not likely that much further progress will be made.

The period under review has also seen considerable development in containerised food distribution. This is certainly a method for the future as, efficiently run, it reduces the need for food handling between the sources of production and the wholesale depots; it assists in maintaining food quality and clearly is in the interests of food hygiene. The system does, however, diversify inspection in that increased quantities of many types of food are passing straight through the ports which, in the past, have been the traditional food control points, direct to the distribution depots. As a result, responsibility for the inspection of this imported food is passing from the ports to the respective area authorities. The last few years have seen an appreciable rise in containerised consignments to Reading, thereby increasing the demands on the meat and food inspection service. Of course, new methods bring new problems and it is pleasing to see that the British Standards Institution is evaluating package performance to the new system. We look forward to any assistance they may be able to give in this field.

A modern form of environmental pollution is that caused by pesticides. The organo-chlorine pesticides developed during and after the last War and proved to be the most useful weapon yet against many forms of insect

and other pests, have been subjected to careful investigation in the last few years. Part of these investigations took the form of a nation-wide survey of foodstuffs organised by the Association of Public Analysts and the Local Authority organisations, in order to determine how far pesticides were present in food. Reading participated in this work. Preliminary results showed that, nationally, 15% of the samples contained organo-chlorine residues above the reporting limit, and that of the three major groups of organo-chlorine compounds, lindane occurred in the greatest number of samples. It is expected that a further report will be issued in 1971. D.D.T. is now banned from use in the home garden or for vapourisers, and the Advisory Committee on pesticides and other toxic chemicals has advised against Aldrine and Dieldrine in addition to D.D.T. It seems paradoxical that substances in some ways hailed to be of such benefit to mankind, in the space of a few years should be shown to be such a hazard to health. These developments clearly demonstrate the need for constant vigilance on the part of Health Authorities, and that the possible long-term public health consequences of new innovations should always be borne in mind.

Whilst legislation will always be required to assist in improving standards, by the very nature of things, legislation always falls behind standards of good practice. If we are to substantially improve things, therefore, we depend a great deal on health education. Indeed, without the co-operation of the individual, even basic standards can be difficult to maintain. It is twenty years since there was a national campaign for better food hygiene and a resurgence of activity in this field is long overdue. Whilst we have endeavoured for many years to establish food hygiene courses, we have only had limited success. However, with the establishment of the Industrial Training Board there now seems to be a change in climate, particularly so far as the larger food establishments are concerned, and there is improved scope for increased activity in this field. There is an increasing awareness, too, of the health, welfare and safety provisions of the Offices, Shops and Railway Premises Act. Experience gained since the Act came into operation in 1964 indicates that advice and instruction to workers would be well worthwhile, particularly on accident prevention. Far too many accidents occur due to carelessness on the part of workers and the lack of knowledge and appreciation among employers of the need for attention to matters of safety. Provision certainly needs to be made for widening our health, welfare and safety educational activities, and to include other environmental matters which contribute to well-being, for example noise prevention, food hygiene in the home, air pollution and rodent and pest control, etc. It is hoped that it will be possible to do more by way of education during the ensuing years.

The duties relating to the Offices, Shops and Railway Premises Act were allocated to the Department in 1965. All premises registered under the Act have been inspected. Generally, there has been a reasonable standard of conformity with the Act. In most cases where defects or deficiencies have been found, matters have been put right without the need for formal proceedings. Such prosecutions it has been found necessary to

institute, concern lack of guards to dangerous machinery and one or two general matters. Since the introduction of the Act, numerous orders have extended in scope and particularised requirements relating to lifts and hoists and dangerous machinery, first-aid, sanitary accommodation, etc. As far as possible, all new premises are checked at the planning stage by the examination of plans and, where necessary, discussion with architects, owners and occupiers. It is fair to say that the introduction of the Act itself has improved the environment in registered premises by raising the standards of lighting, heating, sanitary facilities, welfare and safety, much on the initiative of the owners and occupiers of premises themselves.

Since the introduction of the Noise Abatement Act work relating to noise nuisance has increased considerably. Since 1960 we have advanced from the basic position of investigating complaints and enforcement, to one where codes of practice have been devised to deal with particular problems, and means of noise suppression to certain types of appliances and in connection with particular operations, have become widely accepted. There is no longer any reasonable excuse for creating unmitigated noise and the law relating to noise is being brought into line accordingly. Sections relating to noise have been included in the Reading Corporation Act, 1970.

On the industrial side, more attention has been given to dealing with noise at source. Some firms now require machinery manufacturers to supply goods which conform to accepted noise levels and have a greater regard to the noise factor when designing and constructing factories and similar places. There is increasing effort too in developing noise consciousness on the part of workers in noisy industries, with special mention of the need for hearing conservation programmes amongst workers in these industries. The development along these lines cannot come too soon as the problem is mounting and once a situation has become established it is all the more difficult to deal with.

With the general build-up of air traffic and the re-routing of aircraft on certain air lines from London airport, Reading is becoming increasingly affected by aircraft noise which, of course, falls outside the scope of the Noise Abatement Act. There is mounting pressure from the general public for action to reduce aircraft noise and Authorities in the area have now formed a Local Authority Aircraft Noise Council to co-ordinate effort in this field. The Reading Authority has joined with others in monitoring exercises in an attempt to assess noise nuisance conditions on the ground. Attention is also being drawn to the noise problem arising from motor traffic.

With regard to air pollution control, the principle of clean air has long been accepted by the general public, indeed people now request that smoke control measures be applied to their particular areas. The main answer to the elimination of smoke is to proceed with smoke control areas so that the inefficient burning of raw, bituminous coal on the open fire, is eliminated. The Council agreed a smoke control programme capable of achieving complete control by 1984. It is hoped that it may be possible to complete the programme well before this time. Limiting factors to the speed with which this can be achieved are the costs of fireplace adaptation

and the provision of adequate supplies of smokeless fuels. Whilst there have been difficulties in certain parts of the country with supplies of solid smokeless fuels, the development of supplies of natural gas and its distribution throughout the country, together with the wider use of oil fuels in connection with domestic heating, should enable this work to continue unabated. Indeed, quite apart from smoke control, the change from solid to the piped fuels is increasing as the consumer more readily appreciates the convenience of these modern fuels with efficient appliances and very easy means of control.

Both nationally and locally there has been a significant decrease in visible pollution of smoke, soot and tarry hydrocarbons since smoke control measures were introduced. Whilst the main contribution to cleaner air comes from domestic smoke control, greater efficiency in industry is also helping to minimise the smoke problem. Now that the principle has been gained on health grounds, the advantages of a cleaner atmosphere has become apparent in other ways - direct savings from cleaner fabrics and buildings, improved lighting, etc. An unknown factor is the extent to which the public well-being has been improved.

A developing problem on the air pollution side, of course, is the increasing pollution from road vehicles, and with the prospects of vastly increased numbers of vehicles on the roads, it is time that action was taken in this matter. As with other forms of public nuisance, the best answer is elimination at source. Some improvement can be achieved by designing engines capable of operating efficiently without the use of polluting fuel additives. Devices are available, and indeed are fitted to cars for export, capable of reducing exhaust fumes, and it is time that action was taken in this way here. More important, however, when one considers the apparent inevitability of overwhelming numbers of petrol-burning engines, is the need to develop power units capable of operating on more satisfactory fuels, and which produce a minimum of pollutants. It is essential that adequate resources should be available for research and development of power units of this kind.

The period under review has been a very busy time for the department and, once again, I am most grateful to all members of the staff for their diligence and support which has enabled the work of the department to proceed despite some difficulties.

1. Housing

CLEARANCE AREAS The following 73 houses were included in Clearance Areas and Compulsory Purchase Orders during 1969:

94 & 96 Kennet Side 123/129 & 133/159 King's Road, Reading	Clearance Areas Nos. 1/69 & 2/69 (Kennet Side & King's Road) CPO 1970
1/17 & 2/8 Parnell Street 1/15 & 2/28 Bright Street 1/35 Willow Street	Clearance Area No. 3/69 (Parnell Street, Bright Street & Willow Street) CPO 1969

and during 1970, the Minister of Housing and Local Government held a Public Local Inquiry and subsequently confirmed the Compulsory Purchase Orders.

The undermentioned 181 houses, previously included in Clearance Areas and Compulsory Purchase Orders, now confirmed, were demolished during 1969 and 1970.

8/26 Bedford Road & 3/27 Trinity Place	Clearance Area No. 4/65 (Bedford Road & Trinity Place) CPO 1965
83/119 Great Knollys Street	Part of Clearance Area No. 10/65 (Great Knollys Street, North Street & Weldale Street) CPO 1965
1/15 & 2/16 Alpha Street 3/35, 4/36 & 44/48 Mount Street 8/28 & 34 Spring Gardens 1/5 Waldeck Street 3/7 & 2/6 Waterloo Road	Part of Clearance Area No. 4/66 (Mount Street, Spring Gardens & Waterloo Road) CPO 1966
15/51 Mundesley Street	Part of Clearance Area No. 1/67 (Mundesley Street & Orchard Street) CPO 1967
1/43 & 4/50 Letcombe Street	Clearance Areas Nos. 1/68 & 2/68 (Letcombe Street) CPO 1968

INDIVIDUAL UNFIT HOUSES The following 43 houses were represented under Section 16 of the Housing Act, 1957 as being unfit for human habitation and not repairable at reasonable expense:

51 Albert Road; 20 Arthur Road; 1 Barnstaple Street; 9 Blakes Cottages; 26 Bright Street; 9 & 55 Brunswick Street, 73 Cardiff Road; 59 Castle Street; 46 Chapel Hill; 35 Charles Street; 102 Cumberland Road; 2 Dalkeith Place; 12 Ffoulkes Street; 9, 11 & 13 Fishers Cottages; 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12 & 13 Jubilee Square; 332 Kennet Side; 12 Lower Armour Road; 85 Mount Pleasant; 60 Mount Street; 18 Newark Street; 52 & 82 Spring Gardens; 69, 131, 133, 135 & 137 Southampton Street; 24 Sun Street; 15 & 23 Waterloo Road; 58 & 64 Weldale Street; 96 Wolseley Street.

In the case of 73 Cardiff Road an Undertaking to render the house fit was accepted. Demolition Orders were made in respect of the houses in Jubilee Square and Lower Armour Road. Closing Orders were made in respect of the remaining 33 houses.

Nos. 60, 62, 64 & 66 Southampton Street, houses owned by the Local Authority, were certified unfit.

The undermentioned 42 houses, already subject to formal action under the Housing Act, 1957, were demolished during 1969 and 1970:

46 Bridge Street	Certified Unfit 1968
9 Brook Street	Closing Order 1968
17 Brook Street	Certified Unfit 1967
18 Brook Street West	Certified Unfit 1968
21 Brunswick Street	Closing Order 1967
8 Caxton Street	Closing Order 1957
47 Crown Street	Closing Order 1968
84 Edgehill Street	Closing Order 1968
6/13 (consec.) Jubilee Square	Demolition Orders 1969
6/22 Katesgrove Lane	Certified Unfit 1961
51/67 Katesgrove Lane	Certified Unfit 1961
12 Lower Armour Road	Demolition Order 1969
73/83 Weldale Street	Closing Orders 1968
98 Wolseley Street	Closing Order 1962

Following the execution of extensive works of repair by the owners, the undermentioned 11 houses were made fit and the Closing Orders previously made, were revoked:

27 & 51 Albert Road; 1 Awbrey Terrace; 1 Barnstaple Street;
85 & 87 Mount Pleasant; 3 Orchard Street; 76 Orts Road;
68 Rupert Street; 5 Tudor Road and 83 Wolseley Street.

COMPULSORY IMPROVEMENT

(a) Dwellings outside Improvement Areas

Representations were received from the tenants of 123 dwellings during 1969 and 1970, requesting the Local Authority to exercise its compulsory powers to secure improvements, thus making a total of 306 such representations since the introduction of the Housing Act, 1964.

Of the cases dealt with during 1969 and 1970, action was refused in six instances, as the dwellings did not have the requisite 15 year "life". In 11 instances, Immediate Improvement Notices were served and in 67 cases Undertakings to carry out the necessary improvements were obtained from the "persons having control", mostly as a result of informal negotiations.

A total of 38 dwellings were improved to the full standard during 1969 and 1970 as a result of action under Section 19 of the Housing Act, 1964.

(b) Improvement Areas

By the end of 1970, both Improvement Area No. 1, 1964 (Liverpool Road, London Road, Manchester Road and Radstock Road) and Improvement Area

No. 2, 1966 (Belmont Road, Cranbury Road, Elm Park Road, Oxford Road and Prince of Wales Avenue) had expired. The overall effect of the action taken in these areas has been to raise the level of improvement from 65% to 83% in the case of Area No. 1, and from 38% to 79% in the case of Area No. 2.

All initial formal action was completed in respect of Improvement Area No. 3, 1967 (Belmont Road, Cranbury Road, Elm Park Road, Gloucester Road and Prince of Wales Avenue). Altogether, in this Area, 45 tenanted dwellings lacking amenities were dealt with, resulting in 11 Undertakings being obtained and three Immediate and 31 Suspended Improvement Notices being served. By the end of 1970, seven of these dwellings had been improved.

During the latter part of 1969, the Housing Act, 1969 came into force, introducing new provisions relating to improvement areas. No further areas may now be declared under the compulsory improvement provisions of the Housing Act, 1964. Instead, future areas will be known as General Improvement Areas and are aimed at improving the environment as well as the houses. Subsequently a suitable area, known as 'Newtown', was selected and a scheme for improving the environment was prepared. However, following an exhibition, a public meeting and a house-to-house survey, it was clear that the scheme did not meet with the approval of the majority of the residents and therefore a second scheme has been produced and the area will be formally declared as a General Improvement Area early in 1971. The Area concerned contains 565 dwellings of which about 60% are in need of improvement and/or repair. Some 30 houses, mostly unfit, are to be demolished to provide for additional open space, garages and parking spaces, and through traffic in the area is to be reduced by restricting access and pedestrianising certain streets. The scheme is phased over five years and work on the first phase is due to commence in April, 1971.

QUALIFICATION CERTIFICATES In addition to the new provisions relating to improvement areas, referred to in the preceding section, the Housing Act, 1969 also introduced new and improved provisions for improvement grants and a new system of rents for improved dwellings, which applies as follows:

Where a dwelling which is the subject of a controlled tenancy possesses all the standard amenities, is in good repair and is otherwise fit for human habitation, the landlord may apply to the Local Authority for a qualification certificate which will convert the tenancy into a regulated one and enable the landlord to apply to the Rent Officer for a "fair rent". During 1969 and 1970, 62 such applications were received, but only four qualification certificates were issued as in nearly every case it was necessary to draw the landlord's attention to items of disrepair. In six instances, applications were refused as the dwellings lacked certain standard amenities.

An alternative course of action is available where a controlled, tenanted dwelling does not possess all the standard amenities. Here, a landlord may apply for a qualification certificate by submitting proposals for providing a dwelling with the amenities it lacks and putting it into a

good state of repair, and he may also apply for an improvement grant for this purpose. If the proposals are satisfactory, the Local Authority will issue a certificate of provisional approval which will enable the landlord to apply to the Rent Officer for a "fair rent", in consultation with the tenant. Later, when the works have been carried out, a qualification certificate converting the tenancy into a regulated one, can be issued. During 1969 and 1970, 91 such applications were received, 73 certificates of provisional approval were issued, and 18 qualification certificates were issued.

HOUSES IN MULTIPLE OCCUPATION

During the period under review, 148 new cases were discovered and these were referred, in the first instance, to the Borough Surveyor for consideration as to means of escape from fire, and to receive planning approval. Some 30 properties ceased to be occupied in this way, which resulted in a net increase of 118. Whilst the known cases of multi-occupation in the town numbered approximately 620, it was revealed by the housing sample survey carried out during 1969 that the actual number was certainly more than this, indeed, as mentioned earlier, the housing sample survey indicated that there are about 1,100 houses occupied this way.

Five Direction Orders under the Housing Act, 1961, were made during the period in respect of premises which were considered to be over-occupied. The effect of a Direction Order is to require the owner to "run down" the number of occupants until it is commensurate with the accommodation and facilities available.

A Management Order was made in respect of one property.

Visits were paid to 31 premises which were subject to Corporation Mortgage and in which it was suspected that sub-letting was taking place in breach of the mortgage agreement. In all but two of these cases the mortgagor was found to be sub-letting and these were referred to the Town Clerk for appropriate action.

Clearly, the problem of multi-occupation is increasing and the Housing Committee have decided to introduce a combined informatory and regulatory registration scheme for houses in multi-occupation as soon as circumstances allow.

CERTIFICATES OF DISREPAIR

Two applications were received for Certificates of Disrepair. An undertaking was received in respect of one of these applications and the Certificate was therefore not issued. One application was received from the tenant and one from the landlord for certificates as to the remedying of defects, for which undertakings had been given. The Certificates were granted in both cases.

INFORMATION RE LAND CHARGES, IMPROVEMENT GRANTS, MORTGAGES, ETC.

Information relating to dwellinghouses as regards outstanding notices and possible slum clearance action, was supplied in many cases on official searches of the Land Charges Register - some 7,463 forms being dealt with.

Observations as to future slum clearance proposals and the potential life of dwellinghouses were made in respect of 1,173 applications for local authority mortgages in addition to which very many verbal enquiries were dealt with.

Similar observations were made in respect of 606 applications for improvement grants, many of which were the subject of visits and inspections.

142 properties offered for sale to the local authority were inspected and reported on as to fitness or unfitness, likely clearance action or possible future life, suitability for use as intermediate accommodation and details of necessary repairs.

OVERCROWDING Many complaints regarding unsatisfactory housing conditions, including overcrowding, were investigated and, where necessary, appropriate recommendations were made to the Housing Department.

A Summary of Housing Repair Work under the Housing and Public Health Acts

Number of inspections for the purpose of Housing				
Consolidated Regulations	...	...	...	2,411
Number of general inspections	...	...	...	8,499
Number of Informal Notices served	...	...	...	352
Number of Informal Notices complied with	...	...	...	261
Number of Statutory Notices served under the				
Public Health Act	...	...	...	119
Number of Statutory Notices (Public Health Act)				
complied with by Owners	...	...	...	84
Number of Statutory Notices (Public Health Act)				
complied with by Local Authority	...	...	...	12

2. Food Administration

The many aspects of food administration, which account for a large proportion of the work of the department, are dealt with under the usual sub-headings, as follows:-

- (a) Slaughterhouses and inspection of meat
- (b) Unwholesome food condemned
- (c) Milk
- (d) Food handling
- (e) Sampling, Food and Drugs Act, 1955

(a) SLAUGHTERHOUSES AND
INSPECTION OF MEAT

349,803 animals of all types were
slaughtered and inspected in 1969/70.

The bay used originally as a stunning
pen for the old slaughterhouse has now been converted into a refrigerated
bay. This provides additional refrigerated space for the storage of car-
cases and offal.

Some improvements have been carried out in the beef gut room. The
floor has been relaid and a conveyor belt installed to facilitate the handling
of the stomachs and intestines, thereby improving the hygienic conditions.
Plans are in hand to install maceration units to dispose of these via the
foul sewage system.

Casualty Animals

Some 2,244 animals were sent into the Abattoirs during 1969/70 as
casualties. These are animals sent in because of injury, difficulty of
parturition, suspected injury or sickness. In all these cases, it is necess-
ary to obtain from the owner or veterinarian attending the animal, the
reasons for emergency slaughter, details of symptoms, the treatment
given and particulars of any drugs which may have been administered.

Details of casualties admitted to the slaughterhouses during 1969/70,
are as follows:-

Heifers and steers 109; cows 546; bulls 13; calves 83; sheep 143;
pigs 1,350.

Cruelty to Animals

An important part of the duties of the Inspectors is to enforce the Slaughter
of Animals (Cruelty) Regulations. While it was necessary to draw the
attention of owners to one or two matters concerning these regulations, no
proceedings were instituted during the period under review.

Meat Inspection

The throughput at the Abattoirs was 715,312 inspection units in 1969, and
743,586 inspection units in 1970.

Reading continued as one of 30 slaughtering centres submitting special
statistics relating to the incidence of disease or abnormality in meat.
There was also close liaison with the Divisional Veterinary Officer of the
Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food on mutual problems.

A number of specimens were submitted during the period under review
to the Veterinary Investigation Department, Coley Park, for laboratory
examination. This is a useful service and we are more fortunate than
many authorities in that we have this centre convenient and readily available
to us.

Many requests for practical meat inspection training were received
from Student Public Health Inspectors employed by other authorities, and
from people overseas referred to us by Government and other departments.

As far as possible, attention was given during the period under review
to the inspection of poultry slaughtered and dressed locally for sale.

Meat Inspection Charges

Meat inspection charges are agreed on a contract basis, a system first introduced in 1963.

Tuberculosis

The incidence of Tuberculosis found in various classes of animals is shown in the table below. This shows little change in the degree of incidence over the last four years:

YEAR	Cattle (excluding cows)		Cows		Calves		Pigs	
	Kill	% affected	Kill	% affected	Kill	% affected	Kill	% affected
1948	3,687	12.04	1,631	49.85	4,297	-	10,235	3.89
1967	36,521	0.027	7,599	0.01	11,375	-	61,642	0.27
1968	28,597	0.0017	9,478	0.42	7,880	-	65,342	0.22
1969	28,208	0.001	9,042	0.033	6,037	-	73,083	0.17
1970	30,023	0.001	7,302	0.055	6,014	-	77,588	0.16

Cysticercus Bovis

149 carcasses were found to be affected with *Cysticercus Bovis* either viable or resolved. In 34 instances, carcasses were refrigerated as required by the Meat Inspection Regulations before being passed as fit for human consumption. In other cases, where not more than one degenerate cyst was found, offals were condemned, and after jointing produced no evidence of viable infestation, the meat was released.

Low-temperature refrigeration facilities are satisfactory in Reading. A number of carcasses affected with *Cysticercus Bovis* were sent in from local authority districts outside Reading for the purpose of refrigeration for the prescribed period. It was necessary in these cases to collaborate with the authorities concerned. We arrange for surveillance of the carcasses and after the appropriate treatment, carcasses are finally inspected and passed by our own Inspectors.

Diseases of Animals Acts, 1894 - 1950

Public Health Inspectors qualified in meat inspection are appointed as authorised officers for the purposes of the Diseases of Animals Acts and are responsible for ensuring appropriate disposal of diseased carcasses, and for the disinfection of infected premises.

During 1970, a flame gun was acquired for incineration of diseased carcasses. This will be used in conjunction with the surrounding authorities.

Routine inspection was carried out of piggeries in the town and particular attention was given to the requirements of the Diseases of Animals (Waste Foods) Order, 1957, and the Swine Fever Order, 1963. Three piggeries are registered with the Authority under the former Order which, in general, was reasonably complied with.

Slaughter of Animals Act, 1958

A total of 65 licences to slaughter animals under the provisions of the above Act were issued. The system of issuing a conditional licence to a man newly taking up this work, is still working satisfactorily.

Condemned Meat

Due mainly to tail-biting, the incidence of pyaemia or pyrexia in pigs - mainly porkers - continues to be a problem although there was again a reduction in the number of pigs condemned.

1969

	Cattle excluding Cows	Cows	Calves	Sheep and Lambs	Pigs	Horses
Number killed	28,208	9,042	6,037	52,771	73,053	-
Number inspected	28,208	9,042	6,037	52,771	73,053	-
All diseases except Tuberculosis and Cysticerci. Whole carcasses condemned	10	134	62	99	180	-
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	12,937	7,750	50	6,625	15,414	-
Percentage of the number inspected affected with disease other than Tuberculosis and Cysticerci	45.89	87.19	1.86	12.74	21.35	-
Tuberculosis only: Whole carcasses condemned	-	-	-	-	-	-
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	2	3	-	-	122	-
Percentage of the number inspected affected with Tuberculosis	0.0007	0.033	-	-	0.17	-
Cysticercosis: Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	152	-	-	-	-	-
Carcasses submitted to treatment by refrigeration	22	-	-	-	-	-

1970

	Cattle excluding Cows	Cows	Calves	Sheep and Lambs	Pigs	Horses
Number killed	30,023	7,302	6,014	59,765	77,588	-
Number inspected	30,023	7,302	6,014	59,765	77,588	-
All diseases except Tuberculosis and Cysticerci. Whole carcasses condemned	8	116	53	55	200	-
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	12,463	6,296	33	4,709	14,650	-
Percentage of the number inspected affected with disease other than Tuberculosis and Cysticerci	41.54	87.81	1.43	7.97	19.14	-
Tuberculosis only: Whole carcasses condemned	-	1	-	-	-	-
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	3	3	-	-	126	-
Percentage of the number inspected affected with Tuberculosis	0.001	0.055	-	-	0.16	-
Cysticercosis: Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	145	4	-	-	-	-
Carcasses submitted to treatment by refrigeration	34	1	-	-	-	-

Knacker's Yard

There are now no knacker's yards in the Borough. The last one closed in October, 1969.

(b) UNWHOLESOME FOOD CONDEMNED 809 visits were paid to food establishments during the period for the purpose of inspecting foodstuffs and to condemn that found to be unfit for human consumption. Approximately $30\frac{1}{4}$ tons of food were condemned, of which $4\frac{1}{4}$ tons were due to refrigerator breakdown. 1,126 certificates were issued to the traders concerned.

(c) MILK AND MILK PRODUCTS There are two licensed HTST milk pasteurisation plants, operated by the Reading Co-operative Retail Services Limited at Stanley Grove, and the Dairy Department, Reading University, respectively. The University plant is used primarily for instruction and demonstration purposes for dairy students, but is available for use by the trade at peak periods or in the event of emergency. Bulk collection and delivery to the local dairy is now the rule and is an improvement on the old custom of delivering milk supplies from various farms in individual churns. The milk being transported in insulated tanks, is more efficiently controlled from a tempera-

ture point of view and this should assist in maintaining a satisfactory bacterial quality.

The following licences were issued relating either to new premises or in connection with changes in occupation: 22 Pasteurised; 5 Sterilised; 10 Ultra Heat Treated; 3 Untreated.

Milk Receptacles

A total of 36 milk bottles were submitted to the Public Health Laboratory for examination and were found to be of a satisfactory bacteriological standard.

Samples: Milk (Special Designation) Regulations, 1963

The results of samples submitted to the Public Health Laboratory for examination under this Act, are as follows:

Class of Milk	No. of Samples Tested	Appropriate Tests	Number of Samples		
			Passed	Failed	Void
Pasteurised	668	Phosphatase	668	-	-
		Methylene Blue	601	10	57
Sterilised	185	Turbidity	185	-	-
Untreated	75	Methylene Blue	69	1	5

It will be noted that 10 of the 668 samples of Pasteurised Milk failed the Methylene Blue test. Only one sample of Untreated Milk failed the Methylene Blue test. This sample was obtained from a vending machine and the vendor was given the necessary advice. This vendor has now given up and untreated milk is no longer sold through vending machines in the town.

School Milk

All milk supplied to schools is Pasteurised and the quality continues to be satisfactory. Checks were made under the Milk (Special Designation) Regulations and the Food and Drugs Act.

Dairy Cream

In co-operation with the Public Health Laboratory Service, 109 samples of heat treated cream were obtained from retail confectioner's shops and submitted for examination during the period under review. This is a food for which there are no statutory standards at the present time, but the Methylene Blue test is being used in an endeavour to find a satisfactory method of examination. Where a bacterial count has been reported as being unsatisfactory, advice has been given regarding methods of storage, temperature control, cleansing and sterilisation. The following are the percentages for 1969 and 1970:-

	<u>1969</u>	<u>1970</u>
Satisfactory	49.4%	51.6%
Fairly satisfactory	16.4%	9.7%
Unsatisfactory	34.2%	38.7%

Antibiotics in Milk

Bulk milk supplies before processing, and untreated milk sold locally, were examined for the presence of penicillin. Negative results were reported in all 45 samples tested.

Liquid Egg

13 samples of imported liquid egg were taken, all of which satisfied the Alpha-Amylase test.

Brucella Abortus

A small quantity of untreated milk sold mainly in cartons from vending machines, was checked regularly, as were the bulk tanker deliveries of milk to a local dairy. Of 129 samples submitted for examination for the presence of Brucella Abortus, 102 were reported negative. Appropriate action was taken with regard to the positive samples.

It is understood that the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food will shortly be commencing an eradication scheme for Brucellosis similar to that which was carried out in respect of Tuberculosis some years' ago. Reading is unlikely to be included in the pilot scheme.

Ice Cream

The number of dealers registered for the storage and sale of ice cream at the 31st December, 1970, was 635. Only one establishment manufactures ice cream and the heat treatment plant at these premises was maintained in a satisfactory manner.

155 samples of ice cream were submitted to the Public Health Laboratory for examination during 1969/70, with the following results:-

Provisional Grade 1	-	107
Provisional Grade 2	-	27
Provisional Grade 3	-	12
Provisional Grade 4	-	9

The circumstances relating to the unsatisfactory samples were investigated, when it was found that in these cases the trouble was most likely due to insufficient sterilisation of plant. Appropriate advice was given and, in each instance, subsequent samples have proved satisfactory.

Ice Cream Vehicles, Stalls, etc.

The stalls erected in parks, playing fields and Thames-side, and ice cream vehicles operating in the town, were regularly inspected during the period under review and conditions were found to be fairly satisfactory.

(d) **FOOD HANDLING** 6,011 routine visits were paid to food premises for the purpose of inspection in accordance with the Food and Drugs Act and Regulations made thereunder. It was necessary to maintain a system of priorities and, as far as possible, special attention was given to cafes and restaurants, confectioners, meat and preparation shops and similar places where the more susceptible types of food are prepared and handled. The routine work of inspection was assisted by complaints received from the public relating to various aspects of food handling. Complaints from customers resulting in subsequent inspection and investigation, serve a very useful purpose and impress on traders and food handlers the fact that the public not only observe the practices which go on in food establishments, but are prepared to take action in the matter.

There is no doubt that the standard of design and the equipment of food premises is constantly improving. Stainless steel and plastic materials are making a big contribution to hygiene and the public are demanding higher standards by way of packaging and wrapping. Traders are recognising too, the importance of food handling Codes of Practice which have been issued by the Ministry, and more especially by large food manufacturers and distributors, who, in recent times, have considerably improved their means of communicating good hygienic principles to retailers and food handlers. Two important aspects have been particularly stressed - that of stock rotation, and the proper use of refrigeration.

Food Complaints

Some 152 complaints relating to food were received and investigated during 1969/70. Where complaints were found to be justified, the circumstances were reported to the Health Committee. Instructions to institute legal proceedings were given in two cases. Warnings were given in 27 cases. Details are given below:-

Warnings

- Piece of glass in biscuit
- Matchstick in can of runner beans
- Flies in tin of grapefruit
- Glass in can of garden peas
- Finger dressing in Canadian cheddar cheese
- Extraneous matter in bottle of soft drink
- Mouse in Christmas pudding
- Mouldy loaf
- Piece of metal in apple turnover
- Insect in steak and kidney pie
- Piece of metal in bar of chocolate
- Extraneous matter in can of beer
- Extraneous matter in tin of chopped ham and pork
- Wire in butter
- Wire in loaf
- Metal bolt in can of blackcurrants
- Mouldy loaf

Warnings (continued)

Mouldy steak and kidney pies
Extraneous material in pork sausages
Metal in choc ice
Staple in Brie cheese
Elasticated material in loaf
Metal pin in loaf
Mouldy loaf
Metal in minced meat
Metal in corn flakes
Maggots in muscatels and almonds

Prosecutions

Piece of metal in loaf.	Fined £30 plus £2 costs
Flies and eggs on pork chops (wrapped)	Fined £25 plus £3 costs

Health Education, Student Training, etc.

As in previous years, food hygiene courses were arranged under the auspices of the St. John Ambulance Association which were attended by Supervisors or Cooks in the School Meals Service and others from the Post Office Catering Department, a local store and a hotel. These courses comprised six lectures followed by an oral examination and awards of certificates to the successful candidates. These courses were most successful in spite of the difficulties experienced by some people in attending all of the lectures. Consideration is being given to the possibility of arranging a series of courses in 1971 where the syllabus can be covered in a day and many more people involved in various sections of the food trades could attend. Lectures and/or film shows on food hygiene were also given at a local store and at the Post Office to members of the Catering Department.

In addition to training our own student public health inspectors in the full range of duties, facilities were provided for other student public health inspectors in practical meat inspection, and a considerable amount of time was given to talks and arranging visits for students, including medical students, health visitors, general, district and mental health nurses and midwives.

In most cases, the subject of the talks was the scope of the public health inspectors' work, although some ask for details of the work in one specialised field, usually food administration. A talk was given to a young wives' group on the subject of "Food and Drugs".

FOOD HYGIENE (MARKETS, STALLS & DELIVERY VEHICLES) REGULATIONS, 1966

A number of in-
spections were
made of stalls

and delivery vehicles and, where necessary, advice was given.

FOOD HYGIENE (GENERAL) REGULATIONS, 1960

The numbers of food premises among the more important trades, are as follows:-

- (1) Number of premises
- (2) Number of premises fitted to comply with regulation 16
- (3) Number of premises to which regulation 19 applies
- (4) Number of premises fitted to comply with regulation 19

Type	(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)
Bakehouses	8	8	8	8
Butchers	89	89	89	89
Cafes	123	123	123	123
Cake Shops	28	28	28	28
Fish Shops (Wet)	8	8	8	8
Fish Shops (Fried)	28	28	28	28
Greengrocers	53	53	53	53
Grocers	234	234	234	234
Licensed Premises	122	122	122	122
School Canteens	39	39	39	39
Sweet Shops	123	123	123	123
Works Canteens	58	58	58	58
Supermarkets	31	31	31	31

Merchandise Marks Act

Food premises were regularly checked in connection with the marketing of imported foodstuffs exposed for sale. Some 1,316 visits in 1969/1970 were concerned with this matter. No cases were reported to the Health Committee and no warnings were given.

(e) SAMPLING, FOOD & DRUGS ACT, 1955 690 samples of food and drugs were procured during 1969/70 and submitted to the Public Analyst for analysis and report. The samples covered a cross-section of the food and drugs on sale to the public including fresh cream, Cornish pasties, fruit cordials, butter, vegetable oils, zinc ointment, liver and bacon croquettes, fish cakes, meat and fish pastes, cheese and confectionery.

Of the 690 samples, 13 were reported as being below standard. Details of the unsatisfactory samples, together with particulars of the action taken, are given below:-

**ACTION TAKEN IN RESPECT OF SAMPLES REPORTED
AS ADULTERATED OR BELOW STANDARD**

Case No.	Article	Whether Formal or Informal	Nature of Adulteration	Action Taken
1	Yule log cake	Informal	Contaminated by rodent excreta	Proceedings. Fined £180 + £10 costs. (Included with condition of premises).
2	Beef steak and kidney pie	Informal	Deficient in meat	Follow-up sample satisfactory.
3	Steak and kidney pie	Informal	Deficient in meat	Follow-up sample satisfactory.
4	Cornish pasty	Informal	Deficient in meat	No action.
5	Cornish pasty	Informal	Deficient in meat	Retailer ceased to obtain supplies from bakery.
6	Rum flavoured butter	Informal	Misleading label	Manufacturers amending labels.
7	Kabli Chana	Informal	Misleading label	Letter to manufacturers.
8	Strawberry-ade drink	Informal	Contained yeast colonies	Warning letter issued.
9	Muscateles & almonds	Informal	Contained two maggots	Warning letter issued.
10	Milk (pasteurised)	Informal	3% deficient in solids-not-fat	Follow-up sample satisfactory.
11	Cornish pasty	Informal	Deficient in meat	Warning letter issued.
12	Cornish pasty	Formal	Deficient in meat	Warning letter issued.
13	Pork sausages	Informal	Deficient in meat	Follow-up sample satisfactory.

3. Air Pollution Control

DARK SMOKE No complaints were received during 1969/70 in respect of dark smoke emissions. However, a number of emissions were detected from time to time by casual observation. Upon investigation they were, without exception, due to minor failure or breakdown in firing equipment or plant.

The trend away from manual operation of furnace plant continues in all but the medium and larger installations and with it the possibility of dark smoke emission. In 1969 the first industrial boilers in the town fired on natural gas were commissioned, and undoubtedly the gradual change to this fuel will lessen pollution of the atmosphere by smoke.

INSTALLATION OF NEW FURNACES

New furnaces installed during the period under review were as follows:-

Type of Furnace	Fuel	
	Oil	Gas
Warm air heaters	7	3
Sectional heating boilers	10	2
Steam boilers	15	3
Steel package boilers	4	3
Incinerators	-	2

New furnaces were inspected and checked upon installation. Apart from this aspect of the work, consultation took place with the Town Planning Department and management in many instances, at an early stage of any proposals. Although no statutory limits have, as yet, been laid down by the Minister for rates of grit and dust emission from chimneys, in appropriate cases provision has been made in flues and chimneys of new plant for the insertion of measuring equipment.

Low Level Discharges

With the introduction of the air dilution of flue gases using a bifurcated fan system, many boilers and other appliances such as dry-cleaning machines, have been installed in the town using this method. While the system has much to commend it, experience has shown that it should not be used indiscriminately as an answer to every exhaust gas dispersion problem. Applications have been refused for such installations, particularly in the new shopping precinct-type development where requests to discharge flue gases into unventilated areas and confined spaces, have been made. Tests were carried out on one installation to gain more knowledge on ground level concentrations of carbon dioxide discharged from the installation, the air-flow pattern before dispersion and the effect of products of combustion and heat on nearby vegetation.

CHIMNEY HEIGHTS 1969 saw the introduction of the new provisions of the Clean Air Act, 1968, controlling chimney heights. So far, nine applications have been determined under Section 6 and in most cases prior consultation and discussion was required before mutually acceptable heights could be agreed between all parties concerned. The requirement to determine applications within twenty-eight days can create difficulties.

COMPLAINTS AND OBSERVATIONS A miscellany of complaints was received by the department during 1969/70 relating to grit, dust, fumes and smoke. The total number of complaints was 45, necessitating 376 visits by Inspectors. Several complaints are noteworthy of comment as they are unusual.

A petition was received from residents in the Mason Street area regarding a smoke and fume nuisance arising from diesel-engined multiple unit rail-cars idling in the sidings before going into service. The railway sidings at the point of complaint are elevated to roof height of nearby dwellings and on cold, wintry mornings the fumes drift downwards towards them. Despite considerable time and effort spent in investigating the problem, no effective control could be exercised under clean air legislation and here would seem to be a case where stricter control over statutory undertakers would be justified.

A petition was received concerning a factory in the town in connection with fumes. On bad days, the odours were detectable down wind of the factory for as far as a quarter of a mile. While the nuisance has not been totally abated, a significant reduction has been achieved with the use of chemical injection methods into the flue.

Local grit and dust pollution was being experienced on a light industrial estate from a depot engaged in mechanical coal-handling operations. The handling equipment consisted of conveyors, elevators, screens and graders, together with moveable plant such as mechanical shovels.

Emissions were cut down with the use of water sprays and screening but the greatest measure of control was effected with the use of a vacuum-assisted sweeper which collected yard surface grit and prevented entrainment by the wind.

AIR POLLUTION INVESTIGATION Three multi-point volumetric instruments have been used in Reading for the measurement of smoke and sulphur dioxide concentrations. The site at the Corporation Yard has been discontinued because of the possible effects of the Abattoirs on sulphur dioxide readings and in April, 1969, a new site at the West Reading Library, Oxford Road, was brought into operation. The new station is sited in a mature part of the town, at present unaffected by Smoke Control Orders, and in due course comparisons with the Southcote station sited in an area affected by several Smoke Control Orders, should prove useful.

Average of monthly figures (Microgrammes per cubic metre)

	SMOKE						SULPHUR DIOXIDE					
	1965	1966	1967	1968	1969	1970	1965	1966	1967	1968	1969	1970
Bristol & West House	65	51	31	34	51	82	110	134	89	87	90	98
Southcote Clinic	36	34	21	31	21	52	59	82	42	52	74	82

The main variations on the trend over the last few years are the increase in smoke pollution at Bristol and West House and the increase in SO₂ at Southcote. There is no obvious explanation for these variations, especially so far as Southcote is concerned. There are several possibilities concerning the readings in the town centre - likely increased pollution due to demolition and civil engineering work, and general commercial development in the area. It will be interesting to note the effects when the main works of reconstruction are completed, and to compare the figures generally with those for subsequent years.

Unfortunately, with the absence of results from the Corporation Yard station, direct comparisons between the three stations cannot reasonably be made and we will have to wait until the new station at the West Reading Library has been in operation for some time, to establish the typical concentrations in that area.

SMOKE CONTROL AREAS

The position with smoke control areas at the end of 1970, was as follows:-

No.	Name	Area in Acres	Number of Premises	Stage	Date of Operation
1	Coley Park	106	477	Confirmed	June 1st, 1959
2	Broad Street/Friar Street	15	333	Confirmed	June 1st, 1960
3	Coley Park extension	45	155	Confirmed	December 1st, 1961
4	Burghfield Road	22	174	Confirmed	November 1st, 1961
5	Old Southcote Lodge	114	81	Confirmed	November 1st, 1961
6	Broad Street/Mill Lane	29	278	Confirmed	November 1st, 1961
7	Holybrook Crescent	30	44	Confirmed	November 1st, 1961
8	Cockney Hill/Prospect Park	234	589	Confirmed	November 1st, 1963
9	Southcote	454	1,500	Confirmed	September 1st, 1965
10	Bath Road	290	1,300	Confirmed	November 1st, 1966
11	Tilehurst	520	2,141	Confirmed	September 1st, 1968
12	Friar Street/Castle Street	30	188	Confirmed	July 1st, 1969
13	Norcot	498	2,976	Confirmed	September 1st, 1970
14	East Reading/Abbey Ward	180	659	Confirmed	September 1st, 1971
15	Newtown/Palmer Park	135	967	Awaiting confirma- tion	
16	Dee Road/Tilehurst Road	105	591	Awaiting confirma- tion	
Total		2,807	12,453		

The Reading No. 12 Area came into operation on the 1st July, 1969. It comprised a small area of 30 acres affecting the west side of the main commercial area of the town, which has been partly cleared and is now being redeveloped as a commercial shopping precinct. No domestic fire-place conversions were required. Since the early part of 1969, works of adaptation have been carried out in the much larger Norcot area. The Order was confirmed on the 4th February, 1969, but the date of operation was deferred until September, 1970.

Towards the end of 1969 the Health Committee considered recommendations for a further area. Three possibilities were submitted but the one agreed upon was the East Reading/Abbey Ward Area. The selection of this area departed from the policy of progressively developing smoke control areas from the west and south-west of the Borough. The decision was influenced by possible environmental improvement action in East Reading under the Housing Acts. It was felt that the housing and clean air aspects of environmental improvement should complement each other. The Area was confirmed by the Minister and its date of operation is to be the 1st September, 1971.

In November, 1970, two further Orders were made. The Newtown/Palmer Park Area was complementary to the East Reading/Abbey Ward Area in the east part of the Borough and will effectively introduce smoke control to the area where environmental improvement action under the Housing Acts is running concurrently.

The Dee Road/Tilehurst Road Area adds to existing Smoke Control Areas in the west of the Borough. With the confirmation of both the Orders, over a quarter of the Borough, both in acreage and premises, will be affected by Orders.

Nuisances and Work under the Public Health Acts

During the years 1969/70 the number of general complaints, 1,384, was slightly higher than for the previous two-year period.

The matters concerned covered such problems as dumping of rubbish, nuisances from the keeping of domestic animals; feral pigeons, fly infestations; overcrowding; housing defects; noise and many others. Many informal notices for the abatement of nuisances were served and where the nuisances were not remedied, formal notices were served.

Obstructed and defective sewers and drains were the subject of an increased number of complaints, a total of 1,713 being received involving over 6,000 properties.

There were 420 cases where the owners responsible for clearing the drains took advantage of the emergency sections of the Public Health Act, 1961, under which they may request the Corporation to clear and charge for the cost. This has the effect of expediting drain clearance.

The clearance of public sewers and private drains at the request of owners, was undertaken by the Borough Surveyor's Department and the Building Department, whose work, particularly at weekends, was greatly appreciated by the public.

The employment of a technical assistant has relieved the district public health inspectors of a fair amount of routine drainage work, especially in connection with drainage complaints, and seems to have been well worth-while.

There were complaints again about the dumping of rubbish in various parts of the town. It is difficult to say whether charging for the use of the Corporation Tip has had any effect on this problem. The practice, however, is a nuisance and not only is it detrimental to the amenities of the neighbourhood, but in some instances can be a factor in introducing rodent infestation on the site.

NOISE ABATEMENT ACT Some 749 visits were made during 1969 and 1970 to investigate noise complaints. These complaints fell broadly speaking into three classes and details are shown in the following table:-

(a) nuisances arising from industrial and business premises:	46
(b) nuisances from road works and building sites:	14
(c) domestic type nuisances including parking of vehicles:	20
	<hr/> 80

Details of how we have approached the problem, together with cases and difficulties associated with noise control, are discussed below:-

Publicity

A leaflet on noise control measures drawn up by the Health Department, is available for issue in any case where it is felt that it may be useful. Governmental publications are also available for reference.

A small exhibition on the subject of noise was held in the Central Library and Museum entrance hall early in 1969, to direct public attention to the problems and possible remedies. Posters issued jointly by the

Noise Abatement Society and the Local Government Information Office, are displayed in Council offices and on notice boards in the Borough.

"Quiet Week"

The Reading "Quiet Week", one of Reading's contributions to European Conservation Year, was held from the 9th-15th August, 1970. It started with the idea of a Noise Exhibition but its potential grew and it finally resolved as an all-embracing "Quiet Week". In addition to the Exhibition there were film shows, audiology and social noise surveys, an 'Open Forum' at the University with talks on different aspects of noise and an invitation to public utilities, essential services, industry and commerce, to participate in noise control aspects of conservation.

The main points that arose from the week's activities were as follows:-

- (a) General public concern about the prospect of ever-increasing noise from all sources.
- (b) The need for further education on the causes and effects of noise and ways and means of dealing with them.
- (c) That particular regard be had to noise when considering the proposals affecting the environment such as road and traffic schemes.
- (d) Stricter enforcement of laws relating to vehicle noise, especially motor-cycle noise, is required.
- (e) The ineffectiveness in dealing with noise under the Motor Vehicles (Construction and Use) Regulations, 1969.
- (f) The inclusion of clauses relating to noise in all building and civil engineering contracts should be made universal.
- (g) More attention should be given to the design and layout of factories, offices and other work places with a view to reducing the effects of noisy environments.
- (h) There is a need for more thought to be given to the design, installation, operation and maintenance of potentially noisy equipment in factories, offices and other work places.
- (i) Disturbance due to noise from aircraft is increasing in the Reading area.
- (j) The need for legislation requiring hearing conservation.

Prevention and Research

Examination of plans deposited for Town Planning and Building Regulations approval, bearing in mind possible potential nuisance, is made regularly and, when necessary, the possible effect from any proposed development is investigated. In June, 1969, an investigation into comparative noise levels from different road-breaking equipment was carried out in co-operation with the Borough Surveyor's Department and the various contractors concerned, which subsequently led to the use of hydraulic road breakers by the Highways Department.

The Council have accepted the principle of implementing any reasonable provision which will minimise noise, and appropriate clauses are included in Corporation contracts, and where large scale redevelopment is carried out by the Corporation, noise minimising clauses are included.

Abatement Action

Complaints - Every complaint concerning noise or vibration is investigated, assessed and appropriate action taken. Initially, an informal approach is made to the offender, but if this does not produce the required results, an abatement notice is served.

Routine Observation - Action is taken in many cases without waiting for complaints from the general public as a result of observation made by Public Health Inspectors as part of their normal duties.

Special Cases - Of the cases investigated, the following required statutory action and brief details are as follows:-

- (a) Further individual complaints and petitions were received from residents in a mixed industrial and residential area regarding alleged excessive noise levels emanating from an iron foundry. Special difficulties arose over questions of the best practicable means available for reducing nuisance and the likelihood that the foundry will be re-sited on an industrial estate fairly soon. Informal approaches to the Company concerned produced little improvement and it was decided to take action under the Public Health (Recurring Nuisances) Act, 1969 by issuing a Prohibition Notice.
- (b) Complaints arose from local residents living in close proximity to a private members' club concerning excessive noise from the playing of musical instruments and persons singing. A notice under the Noise Abatement Act, 1960 was served.

Aircraft Noise

Due to the experimental re-routing via Woodley of south-bound aircraft using Heathrow Airport during the summer of 1970, some annoyance was experienced in Reading even though located about 20 miles to the west of the airport. In conjunction with other neighbouring authorities a joint monitoring exercise was carried out to assess the degree of nuisance from aircraft prior to representations being made to the Board of Trade.

Report to the Ministry of Housing and Local Government

In response to Circular 36/69, a special report on Industrial Noise was submitted to the Ministry of Housing and Local Government in August, 1969.

DISINFESTATION, INSANITARY PREMISES AND DISINFECTION

Altogether some 299 complaints were investigated concerning infestation by insect pests. Appropriate treatment was given where practicable and advice as to the most suitable remedial measures was tendered as necessary. There were 83 premises treated

for bed bugs during the period and 113 premises treated for fleas. Other insect pests dealt with included cockroaches, ants, silver fish, red spider and carpet beetles. The Director of the Museum has been most helpful with the identification of some of the more obscure type of insect, in order that we may carry out the proper treatment.

15 verminous persons were dealt with during the period, 10 for body lice and five for scabies. In each case, in addition to the personal treatment, the clothing and bedding were steam disinfected.

A number of insanitary premises required attention and the Domestic Help Service and Welfare Officers were brought in as necessary. As houses were dealt with by way of slum clearance and redevelopment, nuisance was caused by the use of some unoccupied houses by vagrants and other unauthorised persons. Despite the fact that many properties are secured against trespassers by owners, windows and doors are broken down and the properties used as doss houses. In some cases, fittings, floors and doors are damaged so that, apart from being a nuisance, the houses can become dangerous to children. Every effort was made by the Borough Surveyor's Department to secure demolition and clearing of the sites, and where necessary action was taken under the Public Health Acts.

COMMON LODGING HOUSE The hostel, administered by the Salvation Army, has been found to be in a satisfactory condition when visited by the public health inspection staff.

OFFENSIVE TRADES There is now only one offensive trade established within the Borough, that of a rag and bone dealer. 25 visits were paid during the period under review and general conditions associated with the business investigated. Conditions were found to be reasonably satisfactory.

MOVEABLE DWELLINGS There is no change in the privately-owned licensed caravan site situated in the Scours Lane area. A number of applications for permission to station caravans temporarily, mainly from building contractors, were investigated during the period in conjunction with the Planning Department. Both the standard of caravan and the amenities provided for these individual sites has considerably improved over the years, and for the use for which they are intended, are quite good.

SWIMMING BATHS Regular sampling of water from both public and school swimming pools was carried out during the period, 53 samples being taken from the public baths and 82 from schools. Conditions were found to be satisfactory.

The main school baths situated at Reading School, Leighton Park School, St. Joseph's Convent, Kendrick Girls' School, Queen Anne's Girls' School and the Abbey Girls' School, continued in operation. All have automatic filtration and chlorine dosage plants installed.

Learner pools at the following schools continued in use - Caversham Park Primary School, Grove School, the No. IX School, Ashmead, Southcote Primary, Coley Primary, St. John's, Geoffrey Field and Grovelands Primary.

DRINKING WATER 51 samples were obtained from private wells used for drinking purposes or in connection with food trading establishments. 105 samples of public mains water were found to be of a satisfactory standard.

RIVER WATER During the period, at the latter end of 1970, when normal operations and treatment at the Manor Farm Sewage Works were seriously threatened by an industrial strike of Council employees, sampling of water courses receiving effluent from the Works was intensified, and for a period samples and swabs were procured daily.

Understandably, there was a deterioration in the standard of effluent immediately in the vicinity of the sewage works outfall, but results obtained from the Rivers Kennet and Thames, which ultimately receive the effluent, indicated that the pollution factor was satisfactorily contained.

PUBLIC CONVENIENCES Some attention was given to public conveniences. There was the usual problem of vandalism which makes maintenance difficult for the Borough Architect's Department.

5. General

OFFICES, SHOPS & RAILWAY PREMISES ACT, 1963

The total number of visits of all kinds to premises during 1969 and 1970 under the above-mentioned Act, was 5,229.

Particulars relating to the number of premises registered, together with the number of general inspections made to these premises, are given below:-

REGISTRATIONS AND GENERAL INSPECTIONS

Class of premises (1)	Number of premises newly registered during the year (2)		Total number of registered premises at end of year (3)		Number of registered premises receiving one or more general inspections during the year (4)	
	1969	1970	1969	1970	1969	1970
Offices	70	58	806	856	240	98
Retail shops	61	62	950	946	640	408
Wholesale shops, warehouses	7	9	69	75	82	18
Catering establishments open to the public, canteens	25	20	181	183	95	53
Fuel storage depots	-	-	6	6	3	-

Contraventions

Routine inspections again brought to light numerous contraventions of the provisions of the Act. Generally, however, these were not of a serious nature and there was a ready response on the part of occupiers and those concerned in meeting the requirements of the Department. There were no prosecutions under this Act during 1969/70.

Certificates of Exemption

There were no Certificates of Exemption granted during 1969/70.

Accidents

107 accidents were reported over the period 1969/70, none of which were fatal. Enquiries showed the main causes of accidents to be as follows:-

- (a) handling goods;
- (b) falls on or from fixed stairs;
- (c) falls on or from ladders or step ladders;
- (d) falls from one level to another;

- (e) strain through lifting or carrying;
- (f) hand tools;
- (g) falls on same level;
- (h) striking against object or person;
- (i) power driven machinery in motion;
- (j) non-power machinery in motion;
- (k) non-power machinery at rest;
- (l) striking against stationary vehicle;
- (m) burns.

Fencing of dangerous machinery

The section of the Act relating to dangerous machinery involved a great deal of work. Advice was given on the fencing of conveyors, hoists and lifts, pulley-driven machinery and baling machines. Problems relating to waste disposal units, food grating machines, bandsaws and food slicing machines, and sterilising units, which had more than local implications, were referred to the Deputy Superintendent Inspector of Factories with a view to standards being laid down which could be applied at national level.

FACTORIES ACT, 1961 A total of 476 visits were paid by Public Health Inspectors to factories during 1969/70, of which there were 668 on the register. Although a number of contraventions were noted in respect of which appropriate action was taken, conditions generally were reasonably satisfactory.

The list of outworkers received twice yearly from employers in accordance with Section 110 of the Act, returned 94 for 1969 and 61 for 1970, who were principally engaged in making wearing apparel. Of these, 49 were referred to other Local Authorities in 1969/70, 77 being in the Borough in 1969 and 29 in 1970, and the premises were visited and inspected by the Public Health Inspectors.

The plans of proposed factories and similar buildings submitted to the Borough Council for approval under the Building Byelaws, were examined by this Department. Examination of the circumstances in the planning stage is most useful in preventing or anticipating problems arising from particular types of establishment. It enables us also to deal with the fuel and fuel-burning installations in accordance with the provisions of the Clean Air Act.

Attention was paid to the conditions in canteens and kitchens attached to factories in the town, with particular reference to the standard of hygiene, amenities and general conditions.

The tables below give details of inspections of factories and are the particulars contained in the Annual Reports of the Department of Employment and Productivity:-

PREMISES	Number on Register		Inspections		Number of written notices	
	1969	1970	1969	1970	1969	1970
Factories without mechanical power	48	49	24	2	2	-
Factories with mechanical power	597	619	272	178	6	4
	645	668	296	180	8	4

PARTICULARS	Number of cases in which defects were found:							
	Found		Remedied		Referred to H.M. Inspector		Referred by H.M. Inspector	
	1969	1970	1969	1970	1969	1970	1969	1970
Want of Cleanliness	2	1	2	1	-	-	-	-
Sanitary Conveniences:								
Insufficient	4	-	4	-	-	-	-	-
Unsuitable or defective	1	1	1	1	-	-	1	1
Not separate for sexes	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	7	2	7	2	-	-	1	1

ANIMAL BOARDING ESTABLISHMENTS ACT, 1963

One establishment was inspected and approved during the period under review, in accordance with the provisions of the Act.

RIDING ESTABLISHMENTS ACT, 1964

One establishment was inspected and approved in accordance with the provisions of the Act.

RAG FLOCK AND OTHER FILLING MATERIALS ACT, 1951

There are six premises on the register where filling materials listed in Section 32 of the Act are used in the manufacture of bedding and other upholstered articles. 16 inspections were made of these premises and all samples of filling materials submitted for examination by a prescribed analyst, were reported as satisfactory.

PET ANIMALS ACT, 1951

Ten licences were issued under the above Act and a number of routine inspections made of the premises, all of which were reasonably satisfactory.

CLUBS AND PLACES OF PUBLIC ENTERTAINMENT

Clubs and places of public entertainment were subject to inspection, although it is not possible to give the attention one would like to these establishments. The arrangement whereby comment is made on the amenities and general public health aspect of clubs and similar premises before consideration is given to applications for licence by the Licensing Justices, continued satisfactorily. This arrangement ensures that, as far as possible, the health aspects of premises are satisfactory before they come into operation. Except in the case of the special type of premises which have to be registered, action cannot generally be taken under the Food and Drugs Act by the Health Authority until premises are actually occupied.

RODENT CONTROL: PREVENTION OF DAMAGE BY PESTS ACT, 1949

Warfarin has continued to be used for the eradication of rats in Reading. Although Warfarin-resistant rats have been reported from several areas, including one adjoining Reading, there is no evidence so far of any rats in this area developing immunity, but this is something we are keeping very much in mind. Although Warfarin was effective against mice for some time, there has been definite evidence recently that they are becoming more immune to this form of anti-coagulant. We have experimented with alternative substances and have found organochlorine compounds to be very effective in the form of a tracking dust, and alpha-chloralose has been similarly useful in certain circumstances. As a result, we are still able to provide a very effective service for the eradication of both rats and mice.

A great deal of demolition and reconstruction has been going on in the town during the past two years, and this creates additional problems with new premises becoming infested by the migrant mice. Frequent checks are made in such premises so far as our manpower resources will allow, and routine visits are made to the refuse tip and other areas where infestation is likely to occur.

The main sewers received treatment, mostly during the Spring and Autumn each year. There are, of course, old sections in the sewerage system which provide some harbourage for rats, thus making complete eradication impracticable, but these treatments do assist in keeping down the general rat population. Details of the sewer treatment are as follows:-

Manholes tested

404

Manholes showing take

39

The treatment of domestic premises for the eradication of rats and mice is carried out free of charge, but payment is required for work carried out in business premises.

OTHER PESTS

The work of pest control covers a fairly comprehensive list of animal and insect pests including pigeons, wasps, squirrels, bats and the occasional fox, etc.

RODENT CONTROL

PROPERTIES	NON- AGRICULTURAL	AGRICULTURAL
(1) Total number of properties (including nearby premises) inspected following notification	2,850	3
(a) Number found to be infested by rats	1,209	3
(b) Number found to be infested by mice	1,579	-
(2) Total number of properties inspected for rats and/or mice for reasons other than notification	1,040	3
(a) Number found to be infested by rats	-	2
(b) Number found to be infested by mice	-	-

SEWER MAINTENANCE

No. of manholes tested: 404 No. of manholes showing take: 39

Intensified efforts have been made to control the feral pigeons over the past few years. This has been mainly achieved by trapping and, where circumstances allow, shooting. Although trapping is a time-consuming method, it has proved a most successful one and we have established trapping points in and around the town. The situation is not helped by the fact that some members of the public do not appreciate the trouble feral pigeons cause by fouling and damaging buildings, and persist in providing food. Details of the pigeon trapping are as follows:-

1966	...	...	...	200
1967	...	...	...	583
1968	...	...	...	793
1969	...	...	...	887
1970	...	...	...	1,301

There was an increase in the number of wasps nests dealt with in 1970. Hot, dry summers certainly increase the work in this respect. Altogether 409 wasps nests were dealt with during the period under review, compared with 296 during 1967/68.

During the financial years 1968/69 and 1969/70 the chargeable pest control work was £667 and £934 respectively, compared with £391 for 1966/67 and £463 for 1967/68.

Housing

I am indebted to Mr. W. V. Smith, ARIBA, Borough Architect, for the following information: In 1969, 817 dwellings including houses, disabled persons' bungalows; sheltered accommodation for Old Persons with Wardens' houses; flats and maisonettes were completed and handed over to the Council.

Contracts were completed on the following sites:

One hundred and twenty nine dwellings, 85 garages and a two storey car park for 30 cars at Grove Hill Housing Estate, Phase 1; 30 dwellings and 30 garages at Howth Drive, Chequers Way on the Bulmershe Estate; 919 dwellings, 8 shops and 745 garages, including two-storey car parks at the Dee Road Estate; 28 dwellings and 27 garages, Grove Hill House, Phase II.

A contract for eight dwellings, one shop and eight garages at Howth Drive, Bulmershe Estate was let and completed in 1969.

The following contract was let and work started on site:

Ten dwellings at Grove Road, Emmer Green consisting of five bed-sitting room flats on the ground floor for aged persons, with five 3-bedroom four person maisonettes over, together with three single storey shops and seven garages. This was completed during 1970.

During 1970, the question of building to Parker Morris standards was settled, and the plans for the new type houses and flats were prepared. A pilot scheme at Surley Row, Emmer Green consisting of 15 three-bed-roomed houses, and six one-bedroomed flats for aged persons together with 16 garages was let and work started on site.

Water

I am indebted to Mr. J. R. Studholme, AMICE, Chief Engineer of the Thames Valley Water Board, for the following information: The main sources of supply are, 1. the River Kennet, with treatment works at Fobney and Southcote and 2. the wells and boreholes in the chalk at Pangbourne. During 1969 and 1970, there were no problems associated with the water apart from a short period during the summer of 1969, when difficulty was experienced in maintaining pressures in certain parts of Caversham Heights.

Routine sampling of the water was continued during the years 1969 and 1970, and the numbers of samples from each point are set-out below:-

Sample Point	No. of Samples		Sample Point	No. of Samples	
	1969	1970		1969	1970
River Kennet	12	12	Bath Road Reservoir	260	262
Fobney Filtrates	54	55	Emmer Green Res.	3	3
Fobney Final Water	56	53	Emmer Green Tower	6	3
Southcote Final Water	40	59	Tilehurst Reservoir	2	3
Pangbourne Raw Water	40	26	Tilehurst Tower	5	2
Pangbourne Final Water	35	30	Distribution System	73	48

In all therefore, 586 samples were examined during 1969 and 556 in 1970. Typical Analyses of water from the two sources are given below, with results quoted in milligrammes per litre where appropriate.

Chemical	River Kennet Source		Pangbourne Source	
	Raw Water	Final Water	Raw Water	Final Water
Appearance	Slightly opalescent and with a little colour	Clear and bright	Clear and bright	Clear and bright
Colour (Hazen)	Filt. 12	Less than 5	Nil	Nil
Odour	Faint, earthy	None	None	None
Turbidity (Silica Scale)	13	Less than 1	Less than 1	Less than 1
Electrical Conductivity @ 20°C	450	450	520	520
pH	8.1	7.6	7.05	7.05
Free Carbon Dioxide	Trace	3	37	37
Ammoniacal Nitrogen (N)	0.045	0.000	0.000	0.000
Albuminoid Nitrogen (N)	0.140	0.050	0.008	0.005
Nitrite (N)	0.01	Absent	Absent	Absent

Continued

Chemical	River Kennet Source		Pangbourne Source	
	Raw Water	Final Water	Raw Water	Final Water
Permanganate Value 4 hrs. at 27°C	1.40	0.45	0.10	0.10
Iron	0.25	Less than 0.01	Less than 0.01	Less than 0.01
Other Metals	Absent	Absent	Absent	Absent
Carbonate Hardness CaCO ₃	215	210	255	255
Non-Carbonate Hardness CaCO ₃	40	40	40	40
Total Hardness CaCO ₃	255	250	295	295
Chloride (Cl)	16.5	17.2	14.5	14.5
Nitrate (N)	3.2	3.1	6.2	6.2
Sulphate (SO ₄)	24	23	13	13
Calcium (Ca)	98.5	97	116	116
Magnesium (Mg)	2	2	1.2	1.2
Sodium (Na)	11	11	9.3	9.3
Potassium (K)	2.2	2.1	1.3	1.3
Silica (SiO ₂)	12	11	20	20
Phosphate (PO ₄)	0.40	0.35	0.04	0.04
Natural Flouride (F)	0.1	0.1	Less than 0.1	Less than 0.1
Total Dissolved Solids	290	285	345	345
<u>Bacteriological</u> Plate count per ml. on agar				
1 day @ 37°C	1,700	9	1	0
3 days @ 20°C	8,000	7	3	1

Continued

Chemical	River Kennet Source		Pangbourne Source	
	Raw Water	Final Water	Raw Water	Final Water
<u>Coliform Count</u>				
Present in	0.01 mls.	-	-	-
Absent from	0.001 mls.	100 mls.	100 mls.	100 mls.
Probable No. per 100 mls.	7,000	0	0	0
<u>E. Coli (Type 1)</u>				
Present in	0.1 mls.	-	-	-
Absent from	0.01 mls.	100 mls.	100 mls.	100 mls.
Probable No. per 100 mls.	1,300	0	0	0

The number of houses and other premises having domestic occupation in the Borough which are supplied with water by the Board increased by 1,601 to 42,268 during the two-year period to the 31st March, 1970: the one property included in my last report as being supplied by standpipe is now empty and being modernised, whilst the number of properties within the Borough supplied from wells and not having a supply from the Board's mains remains at twelve.

The average daily consumption per head of population throughout the whole of the Board's area of supply continues to rise, the latest figures, for the year ended 31st March, 1970, being 46.2 gallons per head for domestic and 14.9 for non-domestic use giving a total daily average of 61.1 gallons. The metric equivalents are 210.0, 67.7 and 277.7 litres per head per day, respectively.

Improvements and alterations to the distribution system continue to be made, and, whilst no major capital works have been started within the Borough during the period under review, investigations into a proposed new source at Theale to augment supplies to Reading and District in the near future are well advanced, and a trial borehole has been successfully test-pumped.

Collection of Refuse and Sewage Disposal

I am indebted to Mr. K. H. Thorpe, B.Sc.(Eng.), AMICE, MI.Mun.E, AMTPI, Borough Engineer and Surveyor, for the following information.

HOUSE REFUSE COLLECTION House refuse continues on a once weekly basis with additional collections to special premises such as hospitals, multi-storey flats, cafes and food shops in the town. There is a special collection service on a chargeable basis which is made from both domestic and trade premises. The refuse service has been maintained by 14 compression type vehicles, one side loading vehicle and 62 employees.

The following table shows the total estimated quantity of refuse for disposal, (i.e. household plus trade refuse).

Quarter ended	1969		1970	
	Tons	Miles	Tons	Miles
31st March	12,350	25,400	12,850	25,400
30th June	11,950	24,800	12,385	24,800
30th September	11,800	24,800	12,235	24,800
31st December	12,300	25,500	12,800	25,500
TOTALS	48,400	100,500	50,270	100,500

Salvage Collection

There is a free weekly collection of paper and cardboard from approximately 620 trade premises in the Borough. This service is maintained by two vans, two drivers and two mates.

Trade Refuse

Trade refuse is collected at the same time as domestic refuse, and at such other times as arranged between the trader and the Corporation. Facilities are available for traders within the Borough to take their refuse direct to the disposal tip, provided they pay the following charges: Up to and including one ton, 25p, from one ton to six tons, 50p, over six tons, £1.

STREET CLEANSING This service has been carried out by five sweeping gangs of three men each with electric trucks, eight men operating four double beat systems and four men a single beat system. Three of the single beat men operate in the town centre to endeavour to keep it clean. In addition, the main town centre is swept nightly (Saturdays excepted) by a sweeping gang with an electric truck. Two suction sweepers (mechanical) were purchased to supplement the service and these machines operate for 16 hours each day. At night the channels in the main town centre are swept and certain trunk roads. The remaining channels in the Borough are swept on an eight day schedule. Roadside bins are reduced in number and these together with the electric trucks are emptied by a parent vehicle. Overtime is worked on Saturday and Sunday to maintain a reasonable standard of cleanliness.

The following table shows the approximate quantity of sweepings collected within the Borough and the mileage of the vehicles.

Quarter Ended	1969		1970	
	Tons	Miles	Tons	Miles
31st March	950	2,250	1,200	2,250
30th June	900	2,850	1,000	2,850
30th September	850	3,000	1,000	3,000
31st December	800	2,100	1,000	2,100
TOTALS	3,500	10,200	4,200	10,200

Street Gullies

In 1969 a total of 13,800 gullies were emptied and sealed with fresh water by a mechanically operated vehicle. In 1970 a total of 15,000 gullies were emptied. Sediment tanks and oil separator tanks, etc., are cleared for private traders on a rechargeable basis.

CESSPOOL EMPTYING All domestic cesspools more than 100 feet from the main foul sewer are emptied free of charge by an emptying vehicle. Those cesspools within 100 feet of the main sewer are emptied on a chargeable basis. Trade effluent is also dealt with on a chargeable basis from certain factories within the Borough.

SEWAGE PURIFICATION The volume of sewage received during 1969 was 10,410,000 gallons per day while in 1970 it was 10,180,000 gallons per day.

The sludge digestion plant failed in February, 1969, due to an illegal discharge of chloroform. By making good use of experience gained from previous digester failures, a rapid recovery was achieved but the source of the chloroform was not established.

The sludge drying plant was substantially completed and commissioning trials took place in February, 1970, but hand-over and continuous processing was not achieved during 1970.

Construction work on the new sedimentation tanks, biological beds and humus tanks commenced in March, 1969, and completion is expected during 1971.

During the industrial dispute in 1970, no raw sludge was processed and although the final effluent quality deteriorated slightly, all sewage was processed before discharge to the river.

SEWERAGE There were 287 new houses and 93 flats (not including Corporation houses) built and connected to sewers in 1970. No new cesspools were built in 1970 or old cesspools eliminated so that the number of houses not on main drainage remains at 214.

CIVIC AMENITIES ACT, 1967

Under the above Act the following vehicles were dealt with:-

(a) bearing Registration Plates	121
(b) not bearing Registration Plates (i.e. wrecks, shells)	250
(c) surrendered by owners	404
Total of all Vehicles	<u>775</u>

SWIMMING AND SLIPPER BATHS The following is a schedule of attendances at the various swimming and slipper baths within the Borough in 1969 and 1970:-

Name of Pool	Central Swimming Pool	Arthur Hill Memorial Baths	King's Meadow Open-Air Pool	Coley Open-Air Pool	Jesse Terrace Slipper Baths	West Reading Bathing Station
Date Opened	24.7.67.	1911	1902	1910	1954	1935
<u>1969</u> Schools	*78,236	*50,283	840 (14.6.69-1.9.69)	Nil	Nil	Did not open
Swimming	362,023	80,412	11,037	4,037 (12.7.69-31.8.69)	Nil	"
Hot Baths	Nil	5,020	Nil	Nil	8,455	Nil
Totals	440,259	135,715	11,877	4,037	8,455	Nil
<u>1970</u> Schools	83,646	66,701	230 (13.6.70-8.9.70)	Nil	Nil	Did not open
Swimming	350,160	70,045	4,799	2,656 (11.7.70-30.8.70)	Nil	"
Hot Baths	Nil	4,138	Nil	Nil	7,186	"
Totals	433,806	140,884	5,029	2,656	7,186	Nil

*No school attendances during January, 1969.

Two weeks 24th October-6th November, 1970, inclusive - Baths closed during Manual Workers Strike.

December, 1970 - Power Workers black-out.

Arthur Hill Baths closed 21st December, 1970-15th January, 1971, inclusive, for repairs and boiler maintenance.

THE HISTORY OF THE

REIGN OF THE EMPEROR OF THE EAST

FROM THE DEATH OF THE EMPEROR OF THE WEST

TO THE PRESENT TIME

BY THE REV. J. G. BURTON

OF THE UNIVERSITY OF OXFORD

IN TWO VOLUMES

VOLUME THE FIRST

FROM THE DEATH OF THE EMPEROR OF THE WEST

TO THE PRESENT TIME

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OF THE UNIVERSITY OF OXFORD

IN TWO VOLUMES

VOLUME THE SECOND

FROM THE DEATH OF THE EMPEROR OF THE WEST

TO THE PRESENT TIME

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IN TWO VOLUMES

Appendix of Statistics for the years 1969/1970

	Page
Table 1. Causes and Ages at Death 1969	83
1(a). Causes and Ages at Death 1970	84
2. Infant and Maternal Mortality Rates since 1916 ...	85
3. Infant Welfare Clinic Attendances 1970	86
4. Infant Welfare Clinic Attendances 1953-1970 ...	87
5. Immunisation figures 1969	88
5(a). Immunisation figures 1970	89
6. Vaccination figures 1969	90
6(a). Vaccination figures 1970	91
7. Premature Births 1970 and 1969	92
8. Comparative Statistics for Tuberculosis Cases and deaths	93
9. Out-patient statistics of Diseases of the Chest 1969 and 1970	94
10. Cases of Infectious Disease 1969	95
10(a). Cases of Infectious Disease 1970	97

Table 1. CAUSES AND AGES AT DEATH (Registrar-General's Return) 1969

CAUSE OF DEATH	All ages	All ages		Under 4 weeks		4 weeks & under 1 year	AGE IN YEARS												75 and over																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																															
		All ages		Under 4 weeks			AGE IN YEARS																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																											
		M	F	M	F		1-4	5-14	15-24	25-34	35-44	45-54	55-64	65-74	M	F																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																		
B4 Enteritis and Other Diarrhoeal Diseases	Total	2	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-

Table 1a. CAUSES AND AGES AT DEATH (Registrar-General's Return) 1970

CAUSE OF DEATH	All ages	All ages		Under 4 weeks		4 weeks & under 1 year		AGE IN YEARS											
		M		F		M		F		F		M		F		M		F	
		Total	M	F	Total	M	F	Total	M	F	Total	M	F	Total	M	F	Total	M	F
B5 Tuberculosis of Respiratory System...	1	1																	
B18 Other Infective and Parasitic Diseases	2	2																	
B19(1) Malignant Neoplasm, Buccal Cavity, etc.	6	4	2																
B19(2) Malignant Neoplasm, Oesophagus	6	4	2																
B19(3) Malignant Neoplasm, Stomach	26	14	12																
B19(4) Malignant Neoplasm, Intestine	23	9	14																
B19(6) Malignant Neoplasm, Lung, Bronchus	72	51	21																
B19(7) Malignant Neoplasm, Breast	30	30																	
B19(8) Malignant Neoplasm, Uterus	10	10																	
B19(9) Malignant Neoplasm, Prostate	4	4																	
B19(10) Leukaemia	10	7	3																
B19(11) Other Malignant Neoplasms	64	31	33																
B20 Benign and Unspecified Neoplasms	4	1	3																
B21 Diabetes Mellitus	10	6	4																
B46(1) Other Endocrine etc. Diseases	2	2																	
B23 Anaemias	3	2	1																
B46(5) Other Diseases of Nervous System	11	6	5																
B26 Chronic Rheumatic Heart Disease	19	5	14																
B27 Hypertensive Disease	29	18	11																
B28 Ischaemic Heart Disease	320	197	123																
B29 Other Forms of Heart Disease	74	23	51																
B30 Cerebrovascular Disease	181	67	114																
B46(6) Other Diseases of Circulatory System	46	21	25																
B31 Influenza	15	13	2																
B32 Pneumonia	145	67	78																
B33(1) Bronchitis and Emphysema	66	39	27																
B33(2) Asthma	4	2	2																
B46(7) Other Diseases of Respiratory System	9	4	5																
B34 Peptic Ulcer	6	6																	
B36 Intestinal Obstruction and Hernia	9	3	6																
B37 Cirrhosis of Liver	3	1	2																
B46(8) Other Diseases of Digestive System	16	4	14																
B38 Nephritis and Nephrosis	3	2	1																
B39 Hyperplasia of Prostate	4	4																	
B46(9) Other Diseases, Genito-urinary System	12	4	8																
B40 Abortion	1	1																	
B46(10) Diseases of Skin, Subcutaneous Tissue	1	1																	
B46(11) Diseases of Musculo-Skeletal System	4	2	2																
B42 Congenital Anomalies	11	7	4	3	3														
B43 Birth Injury, Difficult Labour, etc.	10	2	8	2	7														
B44 Other Causes of Perinatal Mortality	5	2	3	2	3														
B45 Symptoms and Ill Defined Conditions	8	8																	
BE47 Motor Vehicle Accidents	17	10	7																
BE48 All Other Accidents	37	15	24	2	2														
BE49 Suicide and Self-Inflicted Injuries	8	4	4																
BE50 All Other External Causes	8	5	3																
TOTALS	1,358	667	691	10	13	23	11	6	1	3	4	12	13	34	79	192	373	229	382
		1,358																	611

Table 2. INFANT AND MATERNAL MORTALITY RATES SINCE 1916

Year	Population	No. of Births	Birth rate/ 1,000 population	No. of Infant Deaths	Infant Mortality Rate	Stillbirth Rate	Perinatal Mortality Rate	Maternal Mortality			Total No. of Deaths	Death Rate/ 1,000 Population
								Sepsis	Others	Rate/1,000 Births		
1916	92,563	1,794	19.38	145	80.8	-	-	4	-	2.2	1,230	14.46
1920	95,387	2,278	24.8	152	66.7	-	-	4	7	3.9	1,016	11.04
1925	93,910	1,509	16.07	85	56.3	-	-	2	5	4.6	1,042	11.12
1930	97,050	1,404	14.4	77	54.8	-	-	-	3	2.1	1,114	11.4
1935	99,600	1,475	14.8	76	51.5	-	-	2	1	1.9	1,230	12.3
1940	114,600	1,725	15.0	88	51.0	-	-	-	1	0.5	1,606	14.1
1945	108,830	2,066	18.8	98	47.4	-	-	1	3	1.9	1,400	12.8
1950	115,770	1,761	15.21	46	26.1	22.75	38.84	-	-	-	1,344	11.61
1955	118,100	1,695	14.35	40	23.60	23.00	37.48	-	-	-	1,358	11.5
1960	118,110	2,064	17.48	42	20.35	17.14	29.52	-	1	0.48	1,306	11.06
1961	121,040	2,190	18.09	40	18.26	15.29	25.63	-	-	-	1,393	11.51
1962	121,420	2,210	18.20	45	20.36	19.52	31.06	-	1	0.44	1,508	12.42
1963	121,450	2,330	19.18	45	19.31	22.24	30.21	-	-	-	1,484	12.22
1964	123,310	2,522	20.45	55	21.81	17.15	32.74	-	-	-	1,278	10.36
1965	124,470	2,475	19.88	51	20.61	17.86	30.95	-	1	0.40	1,352	10.86
1966	125,230	2,521	20.13	41	16.26	16.39	24.19	-	3	1.17	1,398	11.16
1967	126,380	2,375	18.79	25	10.53	14.52	21.16	-	-	-	1,318	10.43
1968	127,330	2,380	18.69	40	16.81	16.53	23.97	-	2	0.83	1,428	11.21
1969	127,530	2,449	19.20	50	20.42	9.30	22.25	-	3	1.21	1,435	11.25
1970	127,310	2,391	18.78	34	14.22	11.98	19.42	-	1	0.41	1,358	10.67

Table 3. INFANT WELFARE CLINIC ATTENDANCES - 1970

Clinic	No. Sessions per week	No. Sessions	First Attendances			Total attendances	Average attending
			Under 1 year	1-2	2-5		
Elm Park Hall	2	105	156	174	136	3,895	38
Tilehurst	2	102	276	283	429	6,692	66
Star Lane	2	104	156	168	171	2,631	25
Whitley	2	102	247	281	196	3,907	38
Tyndale Free Church Hall	1	53	84	81	116	1,825	34
West Memorial Institute	2	105	104	149	151	2,439	23
Park Institute	2	99	202	170	147	3,920	40
Emmer Green	1	52	101	145	78	2,339	45
Southcote	2	102	180	175	181	3,386	33
Norcot	1	52	114	93	148	2,108	41
Coley	2	102	104	91	101	2,110	21

Table 4. INFANT WELFARE CLINIC ATTENDANCES SINCE 1953

Year	No. Sessions	New attendances under 1 year	Total attendances
1953	716	1,291	39,694
1954	804	1,427	40,972
1955	845	1,496	39,105
1956	895	1,658	41,356
1957	887	1,686	41,494
1958	910	1,856	40,395
1959	895	1,774	39,207
1960	912	1,827	38,000
1961	905	1,962	39,445
1962	917	1,984	38,861
1963	919	2,033	36,116
1964	1,030	2,225	41,313
1965	1,048	2,167	43,012
1966	1,043	2,332	43,172
1967	1,065	2,302	41,795
1968	1,067	2,346	42,236
1969	1,020	1,803	-
1970	978	1,724	35,252

Table 5. IMMUNISATION FIGURES FOR 1969

CLINIC	SESSIONS	No. of children who completed a course of immunisation against:-	DIPHTHERIA	DIPHTHERIA & WHOOPING COUGH	WHOOPING COUGH	TETANUS	DIPHTHERIA & TETANUS	DIPHTHERIA, WHOOPING COUGH & TETANUS	POLIOMYELITIS	MEASLES	No. of children who received a reinforcing injection against:-	DIPHTHERIA	DIPHTHERIA & WHOOPING COUGH	WHOOPING COUGH	TETANUS	DIPHTHERIA & TETANUS	DIPHTHERIA, WHOOPING COUGH & TETANUS	POLIOMYELITIS	TOTALS
Grovelands	13		-	-	-	3	11	34	57	10		-	-	-	2	90	48	88	343
Whitley	25		-	-	-	-	25	56	132	95		-	-	-	3	173	106	169	759
Tilehurst	24		-	-	-	-	14	35	80	96		-	-	-	7	134	113	123	602
Caversham (Queen's Rd)	11		-	-	-	10	16	14	27	28		-	-	-	-	53	24	68	240
School (Queen's Rd)	24		-	-	-	13	22	36	97	62		-	-	-	14	107	84	110	545
Southcote	14		-	-	-	1	3	26	42	63		-	-	-	2	61	65	59	322
Emmer Green	12		-	-	-	2	2	39	64	35		-	-	-	5	45	60	33	285
Norcot	13		-	-	-	3	11	20	45	34		-	-	-	-	47	45	47	252
Coley	12		-	-	-	2	5	19	34	47		-	-	-	-	59	39	51	256
Carried out by General Practitioners			-	-	-	5	3	429	518	984		-	-	-	61	558	425	938	3921
Computer - Clinics & G.P's.			-	-	-	-	1	141	139	2		-	-	-	-	-	-	-	283
TOTALS			-	-	-	39	113	849	1235	1456		-	-	-	94	1327	1009	1686	7808

Table 5a. IMMUNISATION FIGURES 1970 - MANUAL AND COMPUTER

CLINIC	No. of children who completed a course of immunisation against:	DIPHTHERIA	DIPHTHERIA & WHOOPING COUGH	WHOOPING COUGH	TETANUS	DIPHTHERIA & TETANUS	DIPHTHERIA, WHOOPING COUGH & TETANUS	POLIOMYELITIS	MEASLES	No. of children who received a reinforcing injection against:	DIPHTHERIA	DIPHTHERIA & WHOOPING COUGH	WHOOPING COUGH	TETANUS	DIPHTHERIA & TETANUS	DIPHTHERIA, WHOOPING COUGH & TETANUS	POLIOMYELITIS	TOTALS
Grovelands	-	-	-	-	3	9	63	74	62	-	-	-	-	-	71	24	77	383
Whitley	-	-	-	-	-	31	115	138	127	-	-	-	-	-	189	45	185	830
Tilehurst	-	-	-	-	1	45	172	217	263	-	-	-	-	3	133	39	144	1017
Caversham (Queen's Rd)	-	-	-	-	-	15	25	36	28	-	-	-	-	-	59	12	56	231
School (Queen's Rd)	-	-	-	-	1	11	63	78	67	-	-	-	-	9	98	26	104	457
Southcote	-	-	-	-	-	1	41	44	84	-	-	-	-	1	58	23	61	313
Emmer Green	-	-	-	-	-	2	46	51	49	-	-	-	-	4	35	19	37	243
Norcot	-	-	-	-	-	10	65	76	104	-	-	-	-	-	65	20	63	403
Coley	-	-	-	-	1	2	58	60	95	-	-	-	-	2	64	12	67	361
Carried out by General Practitioners	-	-	-	-	10	7	1378	1350	1623	-	-	-	-	62	628	180	726	5964
TOTALS	-	-	-	-	16	133	2026	2124	2502	-	-	-	-	81	1400	400	1520	10202

Table 6. SMALLPOX VACCINATIONS 1969
(Figures in parentheses denote re-vaccination)

Clinic	Sessions	0-3 months	3-6 months	6-9 months	9-12 months	1 year	2-4 years	5-15 years	Total
Grovelands	13	-	1	-	1	12	1	-	15 (1)
Whitley	25	-	2	3	3	18	12	4	42 (-)
Tilehurst	24	-	-	-	-	75	9	2	86 (4)
Caversham (Queen's Rd)	11	-	-	-	-	27	5	-	32 (-)
School (Queen's Rd)	24	-	-	-	-	52	13	6	71 (4)
Southcote	14	-	-	-	-	26	3	3	32 (1)
Emmer Green	12	-	-	-	-	43	5	-	48 (-)
Norcot	13	-	-	-	-	39	10	7	56 (2)
Coley	12	-	-	-	1	43	6	1	51 (-)
Carried out by General Practitioners		3	1	6	11	456	241	191	909 (143)
Computer - Clinics & G.P's.		-	1	-	3	3	-	-	7 (-)
TOTALS		3	5	9	19	794	305	214	1349 (155)

Table 6(a). SMALLPOX VACCINATIONS 1970
(Figures in parentheses denote re-vaccination)

Clinic	0-3 months	3-6 months	6-9 months	9-12 months	1 Year	2-4 Years	5-15 Years	Total
Grovelands	-	-	-	-	26	7	-	33 (-)
Whitley	1	-	-	-	35	10	3	49 (-)
Tilehurst	-	-	-	1	57	11	-	69 (-)
Caversham (Queen's Rd)	-	-	-	-	10	5	1	16 (-)
School (Queen's Rd)	-	-	-	-	27	9	1	37 (-)
Southcote	-	-	-	1	22	3	-	26 (-)
Emmer Green	-	1	-	-	20	1	-	22 (-)
Norcot	-	-	-	-	30	8	-	38 (2)
Coley	-	-	-	-	36	5	1	42 (1)
Carried out by General Practitioners	1	5	3	1	402	292	63	767 (121)
TOTALS	2	6	3	3	665	351	69	1099 (124)

Table 7. PREMATURE BIRTHS
Number of premature births as adjusted by any notifications transferred in or out of the area

Weight at birth	PREMATURE LIVE BIRTHS 1970 (1969 figures in brackets)												PREMATURE STILLBIRTHS	
	Born at home or in a nursing home													
	Born in hospital				Nursed entirely at home or in a nursing home				Transferred to hospital on or before 28th day					
	Total births	Died			Total births	Died			Total births	Died				
		Within 24 hours of birth	In 1 and under 7 days	In 7 and under 28 days		Within 24 hours of birth	In 1 and under 7 days	In 7 and under 28 days		Within 24 hours of birth	In 1 and under 7 days	In 7 and under 28 days		
1. 2lb.3oz or less	- (5)	- (3)	- (-)	- (-)	- (-)	- (-)	- (-)	- (-)	- (-)	- (-)	- (-)	- (-)	- (-)	- (-)
2. Over 2lb. 3oz up to and inc- luding 3lb. 4oz	15 (16)	1 (5)	- (2)	- (-)	- (-)	- (-)	- (-)	- (-)	- (-)	- (-)	- (-)	- (-)	8 (2)	1 (-)
3. Over 3lb. 4oz up to and inc- luding 4lb. 6oz	30 (30)	2 (3)	1 (4)	- (-)	3 (5)	- (-)	- (-)	- (-)	- (-)	- (-)	- (-)	- (-)	5 (4)	- (2)
4. Over 4lb. 6oz up to and inc- luding 4lb. 15oz	35 (39)	2 (1)	1 (-)	1 (-)	5 (9)	- (1)	- (-)	- (-)	- (-)	- (-)	- (-)	- (-)	3 (1)	- (1)
5. Over 4lb. 15oz up to and inc- luding 5lb. 8oz	69 (58)	1 (-)	1 (-)	- (-)	30 (31)	- (-)	- (-)	- (-)	- (-)	1 (-)	- (-)	- (-)	1 (1)	- (-)
6. Total	149(148)	6 (12)	3 (6)	1 (-)	38 (45)	- (1)	- (-)	- (-)	- (-)	1 (-)	- (-)	- (-)	17 (17)	1 (3)

Table 8. COMPARATIVE FIGURES FOR TUBERCULOSIS CASES AND DEATHS

Year	Population	No. cases notified		Notification Rate/ 100,000 Pop.		No. Deaths		Death Rate/ 1,000 Population	
		Pulmonary	Non-Pulmonary	Pulmonary	Non-Pulmonary	Pulmonary	Non-Pulmonary	Pulmonary	Non-Pulmonary
1940	114,600	117	30	102.09	26.18	74	18	0.66	0.16
1945	108,830	119	16	109.34	14.69	60	12	0.55	0.11
1950	115,700	143	10	123.52	8.64	39	3	0.34	0.03
1955	118,100	131	7	110.92	5.92	9	1	0.07	0.01
1960	118,110	68	7	57.57	5.93	7	-	0.06	-
1965	124,470	47	10	37.76	8.03	4	-	0.03	-
1966	125,230	32	8	25.55	6.39	8	-	0.06	-
1967	126,380	41	9	32.44	7.12	-	1	-	0.01
1968	127,330	40	10	31.41	7.85	4	1	0.03	0.01
1969	127,530	30	6	23.52	4.70	2	2	0.02	0.02
1970	127,310	29	3	22.78	2.36	1	-	0.01	-

Table 9. OUT-PATIENT STATISTICS OF AREA DEPARTMENT OF
DISEASES OF CHEST, 1969 AND 1970 - READING BOROUGH

	1969	1970
Cases of tuberculosis first seen (including notified and observation cases) ...	86	102
Patients notified for the first time ...	36	32
" " of whom were T.B. positive ...	29	27
B.C.G. vaccinations (including schools) ...	213	191
Cases sputum positive during last 12 months ...	31	31
Deaths, all causes, notified cases only ...	17	16
Non-tuberculous cases first diagnosed during year	588	671
Number of clinic sessions held during year ...	463	474
Contacts first seen during year ...	559	489
Contacts notified during year ...	2	1
Notified cases of tuberculosis on clinic register as at 31st December ...	430	349
<u>Summary of Attendances:</u>		
New Cases: Consultations ...	840	855
Contacts ...	559	489
X-ray Clinic ...	3,899	4,400
Total new cases ...	5,298	5,744
Reattendances ...	4,787	4,275
Total Attendances	10,085	10,019

[illegible]

Table 10 (continued)

Notifiable Disease	Number of Cases Notified									
	Age Groups									
	At all ages	Under 1 year	1 and under 3 years	3 and under 5 years	5 and under 10 years	10 and under 15 years	15 and under 25 years	25 and under 45 years	45 and under 65 years	65 and over
Typhus	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Relapsing Fever	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Dysentery	38	5	12	8	3	1	8	1	-	-
Acute Meningitis	6	1	1	-	-	-	1	2	1	-
Anthrax	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Infective Jaundice	17	-	1	1	3	5	2	2	1	-
Leptospirosis	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Tetanus	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Yellow Fever	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Tuberculosis (Pulmonary)	30	-	-	-	2	1	6	13	6	2
Tuberculosis (Non-Pulmonary)	6	-	-	-	-	-	2	3	1	-
TOTALS	432	17	114	110	121	12	22	23	9	4
										-

[illegible]

Table 10a (continued)

Notifiable Disease	Number of Cases Notified											
	Age Groups											Unknown
	At all ages	Under 1 year	1 and under 3 years	3 and under 5 years	5 and under 10 years	10 and under 15 years	15 and under 25 years	25 and under 45 years	45 and under 65 years	65 and over	Unknown	
Typhus	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Relapsing Fever	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Dysentery	2	-	-	-	-	1	-	1	-	-	-	-
Acute Meningitis	2	-	-	-	1	-	-	1	-	-	-	-
Anthrax	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Infective Jaundice	41	-	-	1	11	8	10	8	3	-	-	-
Leptospirosis	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Tetanus	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Yellow Fever	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Tuberculosis (Pulmonary)	29	-	-	-	1	-	2	12	7	7	-	-
Tuberculosis (Non-Pulmonary)	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	-	1	-	-
TOTALS	627	23	125	168	237	15	14	27	10	8	-	-

