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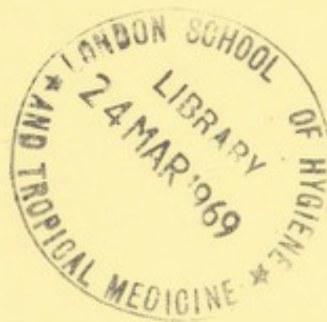
ANNUAL REPORT

of the

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

and the

CHIEF PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR



for the

MUNICIPAL BOROUGH

OF ROMSEY



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ANNUAL REPORT
of the
MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH
for the
MUNICIPAL BOROUGH OF ROMSEY
Year 1967

To the Worshipful the Mayor,
Aldermen and Councillors of the Borough of Romsey.

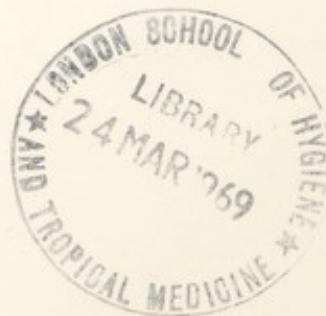
I have the honour to submit for your information and consideration the Annual Report of the health and sanitary circumstances of the Borough of Romsey.

I am grateful to Mr. Bell, your Chief Public Health Inspector, for the preparation of Sections 4 - 10.

I would like to record my appreciation of and thanks for the work of all members of the staff of the public Health Department.

E. JACKSON

Medical Officer of Health



STAFF

Medical Officer of Health (part-time, ½ day per week)	E. Jackson, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.
Chief Public Health Inspector (also Engineer and Surveyor)	W. Bell A.I.A.S., MunB.I., M.A.P.H.I., M.R.S.H.
Additional Public Health Inspector (also Deputy Surveyor)	J. Webster, M.A.P.H.I.
Meat Inspector (part-time)	G. N. Gould, M.R.C.V.S.
Secretary	Miss J. M. Hatch

1. VITAL STATISTICS

Area (in acres)	1,212
Population (as estimated by the Registrar General)	7,660
Rateable Value	£352,816
Product of Penny rate	£ 1,318
Total Number of Council Houses	783
Total Number of Rateable Premises	3,276

Summary of vital statistics for the year 1967 as
supplied by the Registrar General

	1967			1966
	Total	Male	Female	Total
Live Births: Total Registered	164	77	87	145
Legitimate	158	74	84	140
Illegitimate	6	3	3	5
Still Births: Total Registered	2	1	1	2

	1967			1966
	Total	Male	Female	Total
Deaths: Total Registered	88	41	47	82
Maternal Mortality	0	0	0	0
Infant Mortality:				
Deaths of infants under one year of age -				
Total Registered	2	0	2	1
Legitimate	2	0	2	1
Illegitimate	0	0	0	0
Deaths of infants under four weeks of age	2	0	2	1

	Comparative Statistics where available	
	Romsey Borough	England and Wales
Live birth rate per 1,000 estimated population	21.4	17.2
Still Birth rate per 1,000 live and still births	12	14.8
Infant Mortality rate per 1,000 live births	12	18.3
Perinatal Mortality rate per 1,000 live births	24	12.5
Illegitimate live births per cent of total live births	3.6	
Maternal mortality rate per 1,000 live and still births	Nil	
Death rate per 1,000 estimated population	11.5	11.2

Comparability Factors - Births 1.12
 Deaths 0.76

The England and Wales figures shown for comparison appear to indicate that rates in Romsey are different from the rest of the country: the seeming differences are artifacts due to the relatively small numbers.

CAUSES OF DEATH DURING THE YEAR 1967				For Comparison	
	Total	Male	Female	TOTAL 1966	TOTAL 1965
Malignant Neoplasm					
Lung Bronchus	3	2	1	4	2
Breast	1	-	1	2	2
Uterus	1	-	1	1	2
Other Malignant and Lymphatic Neoplasms	8	4	4	11	8
Vascular Lesions of Nervous System	8	2	6	10	10
Coronary Disease, Angina	19	11	8	10	18
Hypertension with Heart Disease	3	-	3	4	0
Other Heart Disease	14	6	8	4	11
Other Circulatory Disease	5	2	3	10	5
Pneumonia	6	3	3	5	4
Bronchitis	6	4	2	9	4
Ulcer of Stomach and Duodenum	1	0	1		
Congenital malformations	1	1	0		
Other Defined and Ill-defined Diseases	7	4	3	8	11
Suicide	2	1	1		
Accidents	3	1	2	1	2
	88	41	47	82	79

Totals for 1965 and 1966 are included for comparison because there is little significance in fluctuations in rates per annum in a population of 7,660.

2. GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES IN THE AREA

(i) The Medical Officer of Health is also the Medical Officer of Health of the Romsey and Stockbridge Rural District Council and a Senior Assistant County Medical Officer and School Medical Officer to the Hampshire County Council. This combined appointment helps to co-ordinate the Medical Services supplied by the County Council as the Local Health Authority, in accordance with Part III of the National Health Service Act, 1946 with the services supplied by the Borough Council and Regional Hospital Board.

(ii) The County Council supply the following services.

(a) Ambulance Service:

An ambulance stationed at Romsey serves the area but is controlled from the County Council Offices at Winchester. Additional ambulances can be sent to the District from the depot at Winchester if required.

(b) Nursing in the Home:

District Nurses are responsible for domiciliary midwifery and home nursing. They keep in close touch with the County Council Health Visitors, the Medical Officer of Health and the General Practitioners in the area. No nursing arrangements or contributions are made by the Borough Council.

The attachment of District Nurses to two Group Medical Practices in the Borough continued in 1967.

The District Nurses are:-

Nurse M. Laycock and Nurse B. D. Sharp,
"Brambles",
Cupernham Lane,
Romsey.
Telephone - Romsey 3302

Nurse Picken
"Kyrenia",
Megana Way,
Braishfield.
Telephone - Braishfield 263.

Nurse Gilks - Telephone Romsey 2116

Attached to practice of Drs. Lalonde, Knight,
Johnson, Johnson and Summerhayes.

Nurse Laycock
Nurse Picken
Nurse Gilks

Attached to practice of Drs. Rankine, Dale and
Wattie,

Nurse Sharp
Nurse Cork

(c) Child Welfare

The County Council employ Health Visitors who visit children from the age of two weeks, when they pass from the care of the District Nurses, until the age of five years when the child enters school. A child welfare clinic is held every Thursday afternoon at the Red Cross Centre, The Gardens.

The Health Visitors are:-

Mrs. M. Pointer "Bryn-Coed", Newtown Road, Sherfield English
(Telephone: Lockerley 377)

Partly attached to practice of Drs. Rankine, Dale and Wattie.

Mrs. M. E. Ward Flat 2, Harefield House, Winchester Hill,
Romsey (Telephone Romsey 3170)

Partly attached to practice of Drs. Lalonde, Knight, Johnson
Johnson and Summerhayes.

Mrs. C. E. Watts "The Spruces", Hook Road, Ampfield
(Telephone Chandlers Ford 3733)

Partly attached to practice of Drs. Lalonde, Knight, Johnson
Johnson and Summerhayes.

(d) Care of Mothers and Young Children:

Ante-natal supervision and dental care are provided for expectant mothers and dental care is provided for mothers in the first year of the baby's life and for children up to school age. Ante-natal clinics are held in the surgeries of the General Medical Practitioners.

(e) Home Help Service

This service is provided for mothers confined at home for those in charge of the elderly, chronic sick etc.

The
Organiser for this area has an office at the Red House, Romsey Road, Eastleigh. Telephone - Eastleigh 2558.

(f) Nurseries and Child Minders Regulation Act 1948

During the year registrations were operative in respect of Mrs. Greasley "Gairloch", Halterworth Lane, Romsey and Mrs. Stokes, "Wynton", Mile Hill, Romsey.

(g) Care of the Elderly

A County Council home for the elderly is situated in Romsey at The Gardens, Winchester Road.

The Red Cross organises the Chiropody service and the meals-on-wheels service.

(h) Vaccination and Immunisation - See later in this report.

(i) Prevention of Illness, Care and After-care

These services are part of the duties of the Medical Officer of Health, Health Visitors and District Nurses.

(iii) Hospital Services

The Wessex Regional Hospital Board supply general Maternity and infectious diseases (including Smallpox and Tuberculosis) hospital services for this area.

General medical and surgical hospital services are provided at Romsey Hospital; Royal South Hants Hospital, Southampton; General Hospital, Southampton, Chest Hospital, Eye Hospital and Children's Hospital, Southampton and The Mount Hospital, Bishopstoke.

Maternity Services are provided at Romsey Hospital and at the Maternity Unit, Southampton General Hospital.

(iv) Laboratory Service

Laboratory facilities are available at the Medical Research Council Laboratories at Southampton and Winchester.

(v) Public Health Services provided by your Council during the year.

(a) Prevention of Accidents

Education of the Public to lessen the incidence of accidents, especially those in the home is undertaken by your Public Health Inspectors and Medical Officer of Health.

The local branch of the Royal Society for the Prevention of Accidents continued work.

The Police continued their very valuable work of training in road safety and proficiency testing of cyclists in the borough schools.

(b) Health Education

Posters and other material from the Central Council for Health Education and Ministry of Health are received and displayed. All possible opportunities for addressing meetings were taken by your Medical Officer of Health and Public Health Inspectors. There is no great public enthusiasm for information about health and in the Borough there appears to be an average public lack of interest in understanding the scientific knowledge on which our health and sanitary services are built.

(vi) National Assistance Act, 1948 - Section 47

No action was taken under this section of the Act but several elderly people, especially those living alone, had many problems with which Health Department staff were asked to help. In all cases your staff were able either to explain, to help physically, or to call in another helping agency: the County Welfare Department Officers were, as usual, most co-operative.

(vii) Work carried out by Voluntary Societies

The Romsey Division of the British Red Cross Society continued activities in all branches of their work and have taken on old people's meals. The Red Cross provides the only subsidised chiropody service for old people in the Borough. Details of the chiropody service are available from the Red Cross Centre, The Gardens, Winchester Road, Romsey.

The St. John Ambulance Brigade continued its activities especially in providing training course and providing first aid personnel for large gatherings at function in the Borough and outside.

(viii) Nursing Home

There is one private nursing home in the Borough.

The Durban Nursing Home,
Woodley Lane, Cupernham.
Telephone - Romsey 2332

3. PREVALENCE OF INFECTIOUS DISEASES AND CONTROL OF INFECTIOUS AND OTHER DISEASES

Notifications of Infectious Diseases received during the year 1967 are tabulated below:-

Notification by Age-groups

	Total Notified	Under 1 Year	1 - 2 Years	3 - 4 Years	5 - 9 Years	10-14 Years	15-44 Years	45-64 Years	65 and over	Fatalities
Scarlet Fever	4	-	-	1	3	-	-	-	-	-
Whooping Cough	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Acute Poliomyelitis	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Paralytic	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Non-Paralytic	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Measles	88	2	25	29	27	4	1	-	-	-
Diphtheria	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Dysentery	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Meningococcal Infection	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Acute Pneumonia	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Enteric Fever	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Erysipelas	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Food Poisoning	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Puerperal Pyrexia	3	-	-	-	-	-	3	-	-	-
Tuberculosis	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Respiratory	1	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-
Non-respiratory	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-

The incidence of notified infectious diseases was low during the year; many cases of measles, whooping cough and diarrhoea are not notified. There was no death from the infectious diseases of childhood.

IMMUNISATION AGAINST DIPHTHERIA, WHOOPING COUGH AND TETANUS

The estimated number of children in the Borough who received diphtheria immunisation during 1967 was as follows:-

Year of Birth	Primary Doses	Reinforcing Doses
1967	42	5
1966	84	34
1965	25	70
1964	4	8
1963	3	51
1958/62	8	14
Others under 16	2	21
	168	203

Vaccination Against Smallpox

Year	Primary Vaccinations				Total Prim-ary	Re-vacc-ination.	Grand Total
	0 - 1 Year	1 - 15 Years	Over 15 Years				
1958	53	15	2		70	15	85
1959	78	7	5		90	20	110
	0-1 Year	1 - 2 Years	2 - 15 Years	Over 15 Years			
1960	43	1	12	9	65	35	100
1961	44	9	8	6	67	24	91
1962	57	19	307	328	711	739	1,450
1963	5	8	3	3	19	33	52
1964	36	8	1	5	50	29	79
1965	40	19	12	4	75	31	106
1966	26	28	5	8	67	33	100
1967	77	58	8	52	195	38	233

The level of primary vaccination of young children is still low. It is now usual to vaccinate children at about the time of the first birthday as side effects and excessive reactions are minimal at that age. The Borough is so close to a great seaport and to an airport that it is most important that all healthy children be vaccinated.

Vaccination against Poliomyelitis

Year	Completed Vaccination	Fourth dose for School Child
1960	795	-
1961	304	241
1962	175	25
1963	71	39
1964	91	27
1965	141	92
1966	172	81
1967	212	82

Many people are inclined to forget the need for vaccination against poliomyelitis since the disease has been very nearly wiped out from the country. There is no doubt that the decrease in incidence is in large part due to vaccination administered during the past few years and it is essential that a high level of vaccination should be maintained. There are still many children who are not taken to a doctor for the three doses of vaccine and the "booster" which is given to school-children.

4. SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE BOROUGH

(a) WATER SUPPLY

The Borough of Romsey lies in the statutory area of the Southampton Corporation Waterworks and the following information was kindly supplied by Mr. C. A. Bradley, B.Sc., M.I.C.E., A.M.I.Mech.E., M.I.W.E., Waterworks Engineer and Manager.

The actual water supplied to Romsey comes from the Timsbury Pumping station which is about three miles to the north of the Borough. At times of peak demand this supply is augmented by water from the Twyford Pumping Station through a 21" diameter steel main which connects into the Timsbury system in Botley Road, near the western boundary of the Cemetery.

The water from the Timsbury Pumping Station is derived from a system of wells and adits in the upper chalk of the Test Valley and before being put into supply is partially softened and treated with chlorine and ammonia. The station is equipped with modern electrically driven pumping plant with diesel driven pumps as standby. Water is pumped from the wells to the treatment works and after treatment it is then further pumped to a service reservoir at Michelmersh whence it gravitates into supply through trunk water mains which pass through the Borough of Romsey.

Water supplied from the Timsbury source even after partial softening is regarded as a moderately hard water. It is a very pure water and weekly samples are taken of both raw and treated water for bacteriological examinations and these samples have always been of a consistently high standard of purity.

The examinations of water are carried out by the Southampton City Analyst and also by the Public Health Laboratory at Winchester. The City Analyst also carried out chemical analysis on quarterly samples of both raw and treated water.

There are in the Borough of Romsey over 29 miles of water mains, varying from 24" diameter to 2" diameter and these mains apart from industrial and other metered supplies afford a piped supply of water to all premises. All domestic consumers have the benefit of the Southampton Corporation's free tap washering service and plumbing repairs on repayment.

(b) DRAINAGE AND SEWAGE DISPOSAL

The whole of the built up portion of the Borough is served by public sewer. With the exception of Budds Lane Industrial estate and a part of Tadburn Road which have small pumping station, all the sewers gravitate to the Saddlers Mill pumping station where sewage is lifted to the disposal works, by water turbine powered centrifugal pump supplemented at peak periods by electrically driven pumps.

Most of the houses in the Borough are now connected to the public sewers and no reports of overflowing cesspools have been received.

The Greenhill Sewage Disposal Works comprise constant velocity grit channels, comminutor, balancing tank, pyramid primary settlement tanks, circular percolating filters and humus tanks. In addition a two tank Simplex sludge digestion plant and some 19,000 square feet of sludge drying beds are provided. Storm water up to three times the dry weather flow is treated by settlement before discharge to a watercourse. The average daily flow of sewage at the treatment works was 692,000 gallons.

Budds Lane pumping station however, developed a leak in the rising main which, because of the high water table and porous nature of the subsoil was repaired with considerable difficulty.

During the year a night survey of the sewerage system was undertaken in an effort to determine the location and extent of sources of infiltration. An Inspector was appointed and inspectorial work started toward the close of the year.

No progress has been made during the year in the construction of messroom accommodation, office and laboratory at Greenhill Sewage Disposal works and as the absence of laboratory facilities for the Sewage Works Manager prevented close chemical control of the final effluent, provision is being made on a temporary basis for this. Such samples of effluent as were sent to outside laboratories for examination and samples taken by the Hampshire River Authority gave generally satisfactory results however.

(c) PUBLIC CLEANSING

A refuse collection service is carried out by direct labour and covers the whole of the District. All premises are visited once per week in normal circumstances and extra collections and trade refuse collections are made where required at more frequent intervals. A charge of 1s. 9d. per bin is made for extra and trade refuse. A 'rear of the house' collection is made in all cases except where the premises have no rear access, when a kerbside collection is carried out.

The number of premises from which refuse is collected increased during the year as many new houses were occupied. The weekly collection was maintained with some difficulty, and the vulnerability of the service to mechanical breakdowns of refuse vehicles was apparent.

A further dual tip refuse ~~wrighter~~ was delivered and put into service in the Spring of 1967.

The use of paper sack collection has continued successfully and new Council properties have continued to be served by this method.

In addition the co-operation of private developers and of occupants of new private houses has been sought in adopting the provision of refuse sack holders in lieu of dustbins and has met with some success. Whenever refuse sack holders are provided the Council has continued to supply the necessary sacks.

Refuse is disposed of on a controlled tip at Casbrook Common operated by the Romsey and Stockbridge Rural District Council, a charge being made by the Rural District Council for this arrangement.

Highways cleansing is carried out by direct labour and all roads are, in normal circumstances, swept weekly with more frequent cleansing in the Town Centre. Some classified roads are cleansed by arrangement with the Hampshire County Council who contribute towards the cost of the service.

(d) INSECT INFESTATION

During the year several treatments were carried out for infestation by various insects.

(e) RODENT CONTROL

During the year 'test baiting' of the sewerage system was undertaken when only minor infestation was found in isolated instances, in each instance subsequent treatment eliminated the infestation.

A total of 84 infestations in domestic and business premises were either notified or located on inspection and all were treated successfully. Domestic premises continued to be treated free of charge whilst business premises were treated on a cost basis.

The Prevention of Damage by Pests Act requires that a periodical survey of the District for rodents be made and whenever possible this obligation is carried out concurrently with inspections made for other purposes.

(f) SMOKE CONTROL

None of the industrial premises in the Borough use raw coal in their heating equipment. There have been no complaints of smoke nuisance in the Borough from either industrial or domestic heating equipment.

5. FACTORIES ACT, 1961

(i) Inspection for purposes of provisions as to health (including inspections made by Public Health Inspectors)

	Number on Register	Number of		
		Inspections	Written Notices	Occupiers Prosecuted
(a) Factories in which Sections 1,2,3,4, and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities.	3	-	-	-
(b) Factories not included in (a) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority	45	9	-	-
(c) Other premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the local Authority (excluding out-workers' premises)	-	-	-	-
	48	9	-	-

(ii) Cases in which defects were found.

	Number of cases in which defects were found				
	Found	Remedied	Referred		Prosecutions
			To H. M. Inspector	By H. M. Inspector	
Sanitary Conveniences					
Section 7 -					
(a) Insufficient	-	-	-	-	-
(b) Unsuitable of defective	-	-	-	-	-
(c) Not separate for Sexes	-	-	-	-	-
Other offences against the Act (not including offences relating to outwork)	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-

(iii) There is one outworker employed in the District.

6. SWIMMING POOL

The Council own and manage the only public swimming pool and paddling pool in the area. The pool which measures 75 feet x 35 feet is uncovered and is provided with adequate washing facilities and changing and clothes storage accommodation.

The pool is filled with mains fresh water which is continuously circulated by pumps through a 'Bell' pressure sand filter, a Wallace and Tiernan's Chlorination plant and a fountain type aerator. The rate of circulation ensures a change of water for the whole of the pool every four hours.

Routine samples of water were sent for bacteriological examination and the results were very satisfactory.

This swimming pool is an asset to the amenities of the Borough and to the health of the inhabitants, particularly the younger generation who make good use of the pool.

7. HOUSING

There were approximately 300 applicants on the Council housing list at the end of the year.

During the year 10 Council built aged persons bungalows were completed at Princes Road, Romsey.

The number of houses built by private enterprise increased during the year as development of the estates progressed and a total of 113 dwellings were completed.

A scheme for the erection of aged person flatlets on the southern side of Love Lane is in the course of preparation.

A number of complaints of housing defects were received and dealt with by your Officers. It was not necessary to serve any Statutory Notices in this connection during the year.

18 applications for improvement grants were received and 11 were approved enabling owners to improve and provide modern amenities for their dwellings with financial assistance.

8. INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD

The number of food premises in the Borough is as follows:-

Bakehouses, Restaurants and Cafes	..	..	..	..	11
School meals kitchens	..	..	..	..	2
Licensed premises, catering	..	..	..	..	3
Licensed premises (not catering other than snacks)					23
Grocery and Provision	..	..	..	..	23
Fish Shop and Butcher	..	..	..	..	1
Butcher	..	..	..	..	6
Greengrocer	..	..	..	..	3
Fried Fish Shops	..	..	..	..	3
Confectionary and Sweets etc.	..	..	..	..	8
Slaughterhouses	..	..	..	..	2
					<u>85</u>

Routine inspection of food premises was carried out in conjunction with inspections under the provisions of the Offices Shops and Railway Premises Act and advice given resulted in improvements generally. Inspections of deposited plans are undertaken, in conjunction with other aspects, for compliance with the Food Hygiene Regulations. Such inspections have resulted in likely contraventions or poor arrangement of amenities being obviated.

A total of 37 premises are registered under Sections 16 and 18 of the Food and Drugs Act, 1955, 29 of these being registered for the storage and sale of ice cream and the remainder for preparation and sale of preserved foods.

Unsound Food Surrendered:-

It was not found necessary to seize any food during the year but the following amount of food was found upon inspection to be unfit for human consumption and surrendered for disposal.

Meat and poultry (other than slaughterhouse)	39 lbs.
Canned meat	51 lbs.
Canned fruit	36 lbs.
Canned Veg.	17 lbs.
Miscellaneous	35 lbs.

Slaughterhouses:-

The inspection of animals slaughtered was carried out by a Veterinary Surgeon appointed by the Council as Meat Inspector, and the following figures are from his report:-

Pigs	2,353
Lambs	1,376
Bullocks	445
Calves	992
Cattle	483
Sheep	57
Sows	83
Others	2
	5,691

The condemnations for the year include the following animals as well as certain offal and parts of carcasses.

Pigs	10
Calves	10
Cattle	8
Sheep	1
Sows	2
	31

9. OFFICES SHOPS AND RAILWAY PREMISES ACT, 1963

The report appended is as required by and submitted to the Ministry of Labour.

"Inspections under the Act were carried out during the year when other duties permitted. Infringements found were generally of a relatively minor nature e.g. the lack of thermometer, no availability of the Abstract of the Act and incomplete First Aid Kit.

Deposited plans for shop rebuilding have been inspected having regard to the Act and inspection of rebuilding works (shops in 3 instances and offices in 1 instance) have been made having regard, amongst other things, to the requirements of the Act.

The number of shops and offices has slightly reduced during the year by being closed and / or demolished."

10. FORMAL SAMPLING

Formal sampling of food and drugs, under the Food and Drugs Act, 1955, is carried out by Mr. J. S. Preston, M.I.W.M.A., Chief Inspector of Weights and Measures, who kindly supplied the following report:-

"During the year ended the 31st December, 1967 44 samples were obtained under the Food and Drugs Act, 1955, consisting of:-

Milk

22 samples including six of Channel Islands, all of which were satisfactory.

Miscellaneous Articles

22 samples of articles other than milk were taken, all of which were ⁱⁿ conformity with the descriptions or standards applicable to them.

General

In conjunction with work under the Food and Drugs Act, attention was given to the related requirements of the Labelling of Food Order and the Pharmacy and Medicines Act in Connection with their application to the labelling and descriptions of food and drugs. No complaints of consequence occurred."