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Contributors

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ROSS AND WHITCHURCH RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL

ANNUAL REPORT
OF THE
MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH
FOR THE YEAR

1962





ROSS AND WHITCHURCH RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to submit my Annual Report for the year 1962, in accordance with Article 15(4) and (5) of the Public Health Officers Regulations, 1959 and Circular 1/63 of the Ministry of Health.

Mr. G.E. Hardy, who held the appointment of Chief Public Health Inspector, Architect and Surveyor to the Council for over thirty years, retired at the end of September. Mr. C.W.J. Manley, Additional Public Health Inspector, was promoted to Chief Public Health Inspector on 1st October.

In 1962, there was a small fall in the number of live births and a small increase in the number of deaths in the resident population. The estimated mid-year population showed a small reduction on the 1961 census population. The incidence of acute notifiable disease was very low.

The Report contains no comment to which I wish the attention of the Council to be directed, but gives a summary of the work carried out by the Department during the year.

I take this opportunity to thank Mr. W.H. Austin, Engineer and Manager to the Herefordshire Water Board, for information respecting the public water supplies within the Rural District. Also, I acknowledge assistance given to me in the preparation of this Report and in the discharge of my duties throughout the year by Mr. H.B. Reynolds, Clerk to the Council; Mr. G.E. Hardy, former Public Health Inspector and Surveyor; Mr. C.W.J. Manley, Public Health Inspector; Mr. E.O. Christopher, Rating Officer, and Mr. L.R. Baldry, Housing Manager.

In conclusion, I take this opportunity of placing on record my appreciation of the support which the Chairman and Members of the Council have given me during the year.

I am,

Your obedient Servant,

William Hogg

Medical Officer of Health

14th August, 1963.

Mr. G. H. ...

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 14th inst. in connection with ...

Dr. J. H. ...

In 1932, there was a small ...

The report contains no ...

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In conclusion, I ...

Yours faithfully,

[Signature]

Medical Officer of Health

14th August, 1932

ROSS AND WHITCHURCH RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL

STAFF OF THE PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

William Hogg, M.B., B.S., M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.P.H., F.R.S.H.

CLERK TO THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

Miss A.O. Gale

Telephone:

Chepstow House,

Ross-on-Wye 2214.

Ross-on-Wye.

PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR, SANITARY SURVEYOR AND
HOUSING DESIGNATED OFFICER

Mr. G.E. Hardy, L.R.I.B.A., A.R.S.H., M.S.I.A. (Resigned 30.9.62)

ADDITIONAL PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR

Mr. C.W.J. Manley, M.R.S.I., M.S.I.A., M.R.I.P.&Hy. (Appointed
Chief Public Health Inspector 1.10.62)

ASSISTANT TO ARCHITECT AND SURVEYOR (Part-time for Public Health
Purposes)

Mr. B.C. Chamberlain (Appointed Surveyor-Designate 1.10.62)

CLERK TO PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR AND SURVEYOR

Mr. O.J. Scruby

Telephone:-

Woodside,

Ross-on-Wye 2391

Ross-on-Wye.

MEMBERS OF THE COUNCIL AND PARISHES REPRESENTED

1 9 6 2

Chairman - Mr. B.C. Hackett, J.P.

Vice-Chairman - Mr. L. Drayson Russill

Mrs. M.M. Gardner	...	Aston Ingham
Mr. L. Drayson Russill	...	Ballingham
Mr. J.H. Scudamore, J.P.	...	Brampton Abbots
Mr. B.C. Hackett, J.P.	...	Bridstow
Mr. G.L. Clay, J.P.	...	Brockhampton
Mr. G.G. Bevan	...	Foy
Brigadier R.F. Waller	...	Ganarew
Mr. T.G. Richards	...	Gerway
Mr. J.L. Trafford	...	Goodrich
Major P. Smith	...	Harewood End and Llandinabo
Mrs. M.J. Williamson	...	Hentland
Mr. T. Scott	...	Hope Mansel
Major H.S. Alfrey, J.P.	...	How Caple and Sollershope
Mr. R.J. Jenkins	...	Kings Caple
Mr. B.H. Savidge	...	Lea
Mr. K.W. Barter	...	Linton
Mr. J.B. Sainsbury	...	Linton
Mr. J.F. Maclean	...	Llangarron
Mr. F.G. Scudamore	...	Llangarron
Lt. Cdr. G. Glenton	...	Llanrothal
Mr. H.A. Gundy	...	Llanwarne
Mr. G.W. Banfield	...	Marstow
Mr. S.R. Garner	...	Pencoyd
Mr. A. Cole	...	Peterstow
Mr. H.T. Allen	...	Ross Rural
Mrs. M. Allen	...	Ross Rural
Mr. J.H. Davies	...	St. Weonards
Mr. E.P.C. Whittall	...	Sellack
Mr. M. Howarth	...	Tretire and Michaelchurch
Mr. A.T. Powell	...	Upton Bishop
Mr. A.E. Thomson	...	Upton Bishop
Mr. W. Chinn	...	Walford
Mrs. A.E. Hill	...	Walford
Mr. J.H. Vaughan	...	Welsh Bicknor
Mr. W.R. Morgan	...	Welsh Newton
Mr. C.J.B. Jones	...	Weston-under-Penyard
Mr. D.A. Harper	...	Weston-under-Penyard
Mr. H.S. Cumbley	...	Whitchurch
Mr. W.R. Bessex	...	Whitchurch
Mr. R.F. Cotton	...	Yatton

SECTION A - STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE AREA

Area (in acres)	=	72,105
Number of inhabited houses (31.12.62)	=	3,707
Rateable Value	=	£71,304
Sum represented by a penny rate	=	£271.8.10d.
Registrar General's estimated mid-year population	=	11,440
Area comparability factor (births)	=	1.14
Area comparability factor (deaths)	=	0.88

Vital StatisticsLive Births

Number of live births	=	171
Live birth rate per 1000 population (crude)	=	14.9
Illegitimate live births per cent of total live births	=	8.2

Stillbirths

Number of stillbirths	=	1
Rate per 1000 total live and still births	=	5.8
Total live and still births	=	172
Infant deaths (under 1 year)	=	4

Infant Mortality Rates

Total infant deaths per 1000 total live births	=	23.4
Legitimate Infant deaths per 1000 legitimate live births	=	12.7
Illegitimate Infant deaths per 1000 illegitimate live births	=	142.8
Neonatal mortality rate (deaths under 4 weeks per 1000 total live births)	=	11.7
Early neonatal mortality rate (deaths under 1 week per 1000 total live births)	=	5.8
Perinatal mortality rate (stillbirths and deaths under 1 week combined per 1000 total live and still births)	=	11.6

Maternal Mortality (including abortion)

Number of maternal deaths	=	Nil
Rate per 1000 total live and still births	=	Nil

The Ross and Whitchurch Rural District lies in the south of the County of Hereford, surrounding the Urban District of Ross-on-Wye. The area is entirely rural in character, and the scenery of the Wye Valley attracts visitors.

Limestone quarries are worked at Linton and Whitchurch. All types of farming are found within the Rural District.

Population

The Registrar General's estimated mid-year population of the Rural District for 1962 is 11,440 - this is 78 less than the 1961 census population, but 80 more than the estimated population for 1961.

On the estimated population, the average number of persons per acre is 0.16. The average number of persons per inhabited house is 3.1 and the number of inhabited houses per acre is 0.05 or an average of one occupied house per 19.45 acres.

The natural increase of population, that is the excess of live births over deaths was 29.

Births

The number of live births registered as having occurred within the Rural District during the year is 171 (90 males and 81 females) and the crude live birth rate is 14.9 per 1000 of the estimated population. The area comparability factor is 1.14 and applying this to the crude birth rate, the adjusted live birth rate is 17.0 per 1000 estimated population. The live birth rate for England and Wales for the year is 18.0 per 1000 population. The ratio of male/female live births is 1.1. In 1961, there were 178 live births in the Rural District.

The number of illegitimate live births which occurred is 14 (12 male and 2 female). The illegitimate live births form 8.2% of the total live births.

Stillbirths

One stillbirth occurred, four less than in the previous year. The stillbirth rate is 5.8 per 1000 total births.

The stillbirth rate for England and Wales for 1962 is 18.1 per 1000 total (live and still) births.

Deaths

The number of deaths recorded as having occurred in the Rural District during the year is 142 (74 males and 68 females). In 1961 there were 147 deaths attributed to the Rural District. This total is obtained after deducting the number of deaths of non-residents which occurred within the Rural District and adding the number of deaths of residents which took place in other areas. The ratio of male/female deaths is 1.09.

The crude death rate for the District for the year is 12.4 per 1000 estimated population, and applying the area comparability factor of 0.88 the corrected death rate is 10.9 per 1000 estimated population. The death rate for England and Wales for 1962 is 11.9 per 1000 population.

Table of Causes of Death, according to Sex and Mortality Rates

List No.	Cause of Death	Male	Female	Persons	Corrected D.R. per 1000 est. Population
1.	Tuberculosis, respiratory.	1	-	1	0.08
9.	Other infective and parasitic diseases.	1	1	2	0.15
10.	Malignant neoplasm, stomach.	1	1	2	0.15
11.	" " lung, bronchus.	7	1	8	0.62
12.	Malignant neoplasm, breast.	-	2	2	0.15
13.	" " uterus.	-	1	1	0.08
14.	Other malignant and lymphatic neoplasms.	3	4	7	0.54
16.	Diabetes.	-	1	1	0.08
17.	Vascular lesions of nervous system.	10	12	22	1.69
18.	Coronary disease, angina.	13	6	19	1.46
19.	Hypertension with heart disease.	3	1	4	0.31
20.	Other heart disease.	10	13	23	1.77
21.	Other circulatory disease.	1	1	2	0.15
23.	Pneumonia.	7	11	18	1.38
24.	Bronchitis.	3	3	6	0.46
25.	Other diseases of respiratory system.	1	-	1	0.08
26.	Ulcer of stomach and duodenum.	1	2	3	0.23
28.	Nephritis and nephrosis.	-	1	1	0.08
29.	Hyperplasia of prostate.	1	-	1	0.08
31.	Congenital malformations.	1	-	1	0.08
32.	Other defined and ill defined diseases.	3	3	6	0.46
33.	Motor vehicle accidents.	2	-	2	0.15
34.	All other accidents.	3	3	6	0.46
35.	Suicide.	2	-	2	0.15
36.	Homicide and operations of War.	-	1	1	0.08
All Causes		74	68	142	10.92

Analysis of death by cause shows the most frequent cause is heart disease (headings 18, 19 and 20), accounting for 46 deaths. The local corrected death rate for all forms of heart disease is 3.5 per 1000 estimated population. In the previous year heart disease accounted for 40 deaths.

Vascular Lesions of the Nervous System

Deaths from strokes amounted to 22, an increase of 5 on this figure for the previous year. The local corrected death rate from this cause was 1.69 per 1000 estimated population.

Cancer Deaths

In 1962 there were 20 deaths attributed to all types of cancer (11 males and 9 females) giving a corrected death rate from cancer of all sites of 1.54 per 1000 estimated population. In 1961 there were 31 deaths attributed to cancer. The death rate of all forms of cancer for England and Wales for 1962 is 2.18 per 1000 population.

Infant Mortality

The number of babies under one year of age who died during the year was 4 (males). The local infant mortality rate for 1962 is 23.4 per 1000 live births and this rate for England and Wales is 21.4 per 1000 live births.

Neonatal Mortality

One infant death occurred within the first four weeks of life.

Deaths from Acute Notifiable Infectious Disease

Eighteen deaths were attributed to pneumonia - the only acute notifiable disease which caused death. The corrected death rate for the Rural District for 1962 from acute pneumonia is 1.38 per 1000 estimated population. In the previous year 12 deaths were attributed to pneumonia.

Tuberculosis Deaths

One death was attributed to respiratory tuberculosis. The tuberculosis (all forms) death rate for England and Wales is 0.066 per 1000 population for 1962.

SECTION B - GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES OF THE AREAPublic Health Laboratory

The facilities available to the District at the Public Health Laboratory, Hereford remain unchanged.

The following table gives the number of investigations made on behalf of the Department during the year:-

Sputum	=	1
Faeces	=	16
Swabs	=	2
Urine	=	1
Water (bacteriological)	=	202
Ice Cream	=	42
Milk (phosphatase test)	=	55
Milk (methylene blue test)	=	66
Milk (biological)	=	1

Five samples of sewage effluent and one sample of water were submitted to the Worcestershire County Analysts for chemical examination.

Public Mortuary

The Council has facilities for the reception of bodies from Rural District at the Public Mortuary, Ross-on-Wye.

Hospitals

There are no hospitals situated within the Rural District, which is served by hospitals at Hereford, Ross-on-Wye, Gloucester and Monmouth.

Ambulances

Ambulances are provided in the adjacent towns of Hereford, Ross-on-Wye, Gloucester and Monmouth, for the use of persons residing within the Rural District.

Disposal of the Dead - National Assistance Act 1948. Section 50

One burial was carried out by the Council under this section during the year.

Care of the Aged and Infirm - National Assistance Act, 1948 Section 47

Three investigations were made under this section, all concerned with elderly persons. Admission to hospital was arranged for two of these persons and a County Council home help provided in the third case.

Residential Accommodation for the Aged

Residential accommodation for able bodied aged persons is provided at the Chestnuts, Ross-on-Wye. This Home is provided and managed by the Herefordshire County Council, and can accommodate 42 persons.

The Rural District Council has provided at Fowbridge Gardens, Walford, an estate of 17 bungalows for aged persons with a Warden's flat. The construction of a similar estate at Weston-under-Penyard was commenced during 1961 but was not completed at the close of the year.

SECTION C - SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA

Geology

The District is formed of Old Red Sandstone Rocks of the Devonian System, with an outcrop of limestone along the south eastern boundary from Upton Bishop to Gorsley and Aston Ingham. In the parishes of Walford and Whitchurch, along the southern boundary of the District, there is an outcrop of carboniferous limestone.

The Old Red Sandstone is represented chiefly by red and green sandstones and marl with outcrops of Old Red Conglomerate.

Water

All public water supplies in the Rural District, with the exception of a few public wells and springs, are provided by the Herefordshire Water Board. The Board obtains water for the supplies chiefly from the Castlebrook, Walford and Alton Court, Ross, pumping stations (boreholes in Old Red Sandstones) and the St. Weonard's and Llanwarne Scheme (springs).

During the year, the following extensions of public water mains were constructed by the Board in the Rural District:-

- (1) 3" extension at The Rocks, Llanwarne - September, 1962
- (2) 3" " " Barrel Hill, How Caple - October, 1962

New works to improve public water supply comprised:

- (a) The Llangarron source of water abandoned and supply transferred to Castlebrook - July 1962.
- (b) New borehole and machinery at Castlebrook commissioned August.
- (c) Contract 8 - supplying Welsh Newton Common, Welsh Newton, Broadoak and Llancloudy - commissioned August.
- (d) Inadequate 2" mains at Llangarron replaced with 3" mains - September.
- (e) Three 3" mains at Greytree replaced inadequate $\frac{3}{4}$ " pipe - October.

The number of dwellings within the Rural District supplied from the public water mains (excluding those on metered supplies), at the end of the year is given below:-

<u>Parish</u>	<u>Consumers</u>
Aston Ingham	115
Ballingham	29
Brampton Abbotts	62
Bridstow	180
Brockhampton	23
Foy	36
Ganarew	28
Garway	65
Goodrich	133
Harewood	5
Hentland	104
Hope Mansel	11
How Caple	6
Kings Caple	31
Lea	25
Linton	151
Llandinabo	5
Llangarron	180
Llanrothal	4
Llanwarne	42
Marstow	67
Pencoyd	18
Peterstow	49
Ross Rural	135
St. Weonards	50
Sellack	65
Sollershope	19
Upton Bishop	53
Walford	327
Welsh Bicknor	10
Welsh Newton	19
Weston	114
Whitchurch	255
Yatton	15
	<u>2431</u>

The number of dwellings connected to the public water mains during 1962 was 310.

During the year 148 samples of water from the Board's mains were sent for analysis. Of these 120 were of Castlebrook water and 95 were of good potable quality. The remaining 25 samples reported as not of good potable quality were from new or extension mains before being put into commission. In addition, 14 samples were taken from the Llancloudy Spring and 6 of these were not of good potable quality, and 3 samples in 14 samples of the Kosty Spring (St. Weonards) supply were not satisfactory.

The number of samples taken from private water supplies was 38, and 14 were found not to be of good potable quality.

A sample of the Castlebrook water was sent for chemical analysis. The examination showed the water to be of good potable quality. This water is very hard water, about 75% of this hardness being temporary. The amount of fluorine present was 0.07 parts per million, which is insufficient to prevent dental decay - the optimum fluorine content for this purpose being 1.0 parts per million. The metal solvency test showed the water to have no special solvent action on aluminium, copper or lead, but that it had a marked aggressive action on iron.

The year 1962 was almost free from complaints of shortage of water. Three dwellings on Howle Hill, Walford and a small area of St. Weonard's parish experienced some shortage.

There are 8 stand pipes on the public water mains still in use.

Drainage and Sewerage

There are short public sewers within the parishes of Lea, Walford, Upton Bishop, Goodrich and Ross Rural. No extensions of public sewers or new works for sewage disposal were carried out during the year.

Three samples of effluent from the Hildersley Sewage Disposal plant were sent for chemical analysis; all of these failed to comply with the Royal Commission standards.

During the year the Public Health Inspectors made 200 drain tests. Eightyfive new drains were provided in connection with dwelling houses and 1 new drain was provided for other premises. No existing drains found to be defective were reconstructed or repaired. The number of inspections made in connection with drainage was 110.

The Council does not undertake the emptying and cleansing of cesspools and septic tanks other than those on the Council's property, which are cleaned by specialist contractors.

Rivers and Streams

No action by the Department or by the Council to prevent or abate river pollution was found to be necessary during the year. The absence of trade effluents and the regular collection of domestic refuse have promoted cleanliness.

Closet Accommodation

It is estimated that 40% of the inhabitants are still obliged to rely upon pail closets and about 50% have the use of water closets. The remaining 10% still have to use privies. The reason for the continued use of conservancy systems is chiefly the lack of piped water supplies, but the position improves each year.

During the year 76 pail closets and 9 privies were converted to water closets. Apart from conversions, 31 new water closets were provided during the year.

The Council does not undertake the emptying and cleansing of privies and pail closets.

No public conveniences are provided by the Council but need for these exists in the Whitchurch area. This parish has a large influx of day visitors during the holiday season.

Public Cleansing

The Council carried out the collection of domestic refuse from all accessible properties throughout the year. About 85% of dwellings are included in the collection, which is carried out by a motor refuse vehicle of 10 cubic yards capacity provided with covers, tipping gear and a crew of 2 men. The collection is supervised by the Public Health Inspector. With only one vehicle it is possible only to make a monthly collection. During the year the vehicle travelled 12,706 miles and conveyed 580 loads - an average of 22 miles per load.

Disposal of the refuse is by tipping at Doward Quarry, Whitchurch, Cwm Maddock, Garway and Deep Dean, Walford, and How Caple.

The Council has no responsibility for street cleansing, this being a duty of the Highway Authority - the Herefordshire County Council.

There are no public baths or washhouses in the Rural District.

Swimming Baths and Pools

From April to September one privately owned swimming pool was open to the public on payment. It is provided with a purification plant and was maintained in a satisfactory condition. The pump circulates 7,000 gallons per hour and is pumping from 8 a.m. to 11 p.m., alternating with 24 hour pumping. Five thousand gallons of pool water are extracted each day and replaced by fresh water.

On 19 occasions samples of pool water were submitted for bacteriological examination, and all samples were satisfactory.

Shops and Offices

Public Health Acts 1936 and 1961

Shops Act 1950 (Sections 38 and 72(2))

The number of shops and offices within the District is small and no action was necessary under these Acts. The number of inspections of shops and offices was 22.

Camping Sites - Public Health Act 1936 Section 269(1)

Caravan Sites and Control of Development Act 1960 Section 3

There were 42 sites used for camping purposes in the Rural District during the year and of these 10 were licensed under Section 3 Caravan Sites and Control of Development Act 1960. It is estimated that the maximum number of campers resident in the area at any one time was 477.

The number of inspections of camping sites carried out during the year was 35 and 58 caravan inspections were made. When sites are inspected attention is given to water supply, sanitary accommodation, refuse disposal and spacing.

The popularity of trailer caravans for camping purposes seems to increase each year.

Eradication of Bed Bugs

Hydrogen Cyanide Regulations (Fumigation of Buildings) Regs. 1951

No dwellings were found to be infested with bed bugs, and no disinfestations were required for this purpose. When need for disinfestation arises this is usually carried out by specialist contractor using hydrogen cyanide.

One notice under the Regulations was received in respect of destruction of poultry following an outbreak of fowl pest.

Common Lodging Houses

There are no common lodging houses within the District.

Diseases of Animals Acts - Anthrax Order 1938

One notification of suspected anthrax in an animal was received. The diagnosis was not confirmed.

Sanitary Inspection of the Area

I am indebted to Mr. C.W.J. Manley, Chief Public Health Inspector for the following tabular statement for the year 1962, furnished in accordance with Article 25(2) Public Health Officers Regulations, 1959:-

Inspections

Accumulations	=	1
Agriculture (S.H. & W. Prov.) Act.	=	64
Animals	=	2
Ashbins and Ashpits	=	7
Bakehouses	=	7
Camping Sites	=	35
Caravans	=	58
Control of Pests	=	280
Dairies	=	12
Drainage	=	110
Drain Tests	=	200
Factories (with mechanical power)	=	61
Food Poisoning	=	6
Food Handling Byelaws	=	24
Food Premises	=	47
Housing	=	108
Hotel and Restaurant Kitchens	=	2
Ice Cream (Registered Premises)	=	58
Infectious Disease	=	17
Licensed Victuallers' Premises	=	4
Nuisances	=	17
Outworkers' Premises	=	3
Overcrowding	=	16
Petroleum Stores	=	28
Refuse Tips	=	50
Schools	=	72
Sewage Disposal Works	=	13
Sewers	=	4
Shops	=	22
Sanitary Conveniences	=	4
Stalls	=	5
Swimming Baths and Pools	=	17
Unsound Food	=	1
Water Supply	=	220
Work Places	=	81

Notices Issued

Informal	=	25
Statutory re Housing	=	2
Statutory under other Acts	=	3

Summary of Defects Remedied

Accumulations removed	=	16
Cesspools and septic tanks cleansed	=	190
Ditches cleared	=	2
Domestic Baths provided	=	64
Drains and Gullies cleared	=	17
Drains repaired	=	5
Drains reconstructed	=	10
New drains provided	=	77
Defective floors repaired	=	23
Defective roofs repaired	=	55
Defective eaves gutters repaired	=	29
Defective brickwork repaired	=	25
Defective Coppers remedied	=	3
Disinfestations after infectious Disease	=	1
Defective windows repaired	=	21
Defective chimneys repaired	=	14
Dampness of floors and walls remedied	=	48
Cisterns cleansed or repaired	=	12
Closets repaired or renewed	=	8
Dairies improved	=	1
New gullies provided	=	10
Gully covers provided	=	8
Inspection chambers repaired	=	2
Old drains sealed	=	15
Paving repaired	=	43
Privies converted to water closets	=	9
Rainwater pipes provided or repaired	=	38
Staircases repaired	=	15
New sinks provided	=	31
Soil pipes repaired	=	6
Sanitary fittings provided	=	72
Stoves repaired	=	4
Moveable dwellings removed	=	7
Ventilation improved	=	18
Wells cleansed or repaired	=	4
Miscellaneous defects remedied	=	25

Agriculture, Safety, Health and Welfare Provisions Act, 1956
Sections 3 and 6

The number of inspections carried out under Section 3 of this Act on farms and agricultural holdings within the District was 64 and all premises complied with the Act. No action by the Council was necessary.

Factories Act 1961

The number of premises registered with the Local Authority as factories remained at 21. All registrations were factories with mechanical power.

Outworkers

There are 5 outworkers registered with the Council. Three inspections were made and conditions found to be satisfactory.

Annual Report of the Medical Officer of Health in respect of the year 1962, for the Rural District of Ross and Whitchurch in the County of Hereford.

PART I OF ACT

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

Premises	Number on Register	Inspections	Written Notices	Occupiers prosecuted
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)
(i) Factories in which Sections 1,2,3,4 and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities	-	-	-	-
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority..	21	61	-	-
(iii) Other Premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding out-workers' premises)..	81	81	-	-
Total	102	142	-	-

2. Cases in which defects were found.

Particulars	Number of cases in which defects were found				No. of cases in which prosecutions were instituted
	Found	Remedied	Referred To H.M. Inspector	By H.M. Inspector	
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)
Sanitary Conveniences (S.7)					
(b) Unsuitable or defective	2	2	-	1	-

Petroleum Regulations

The number of new licences granted for the storage of petroleum spirit was 2, and 1 existing installation for storage was discontinued during the year. At the end of the year there were 77 storage installations on the Council's register.

Prevention of Damage by Pests Act, 1949

This Act is administered on behalf of the constituent Councils by a Joint Committee formed by the three adjoining Rural Districts of Hereford, Ledbury and Ross and Whitchurch. The Joint Committee employs one whole time inspector and two operatives, and enters into contracts with occupiers for keeping premises free from rodents.

The following table shows the work carried out in the Ross and Whitchurch Rural District. The number of inspections made during the year was 167.

	Premises inspected	Total Infestations	Rats		Mice	No. of properties treated	Statutory Not-treats
			Major	Minor			
Local Authorities' Properties	7	12	2	10	-	12	-
Dwelling Houses	52	38	-	35	3	30	-
Agricultural Properties	33	35	2	33	-	728	-
All other (including business) Premises	12	6	-	6	-	12	-
Total	104	91	4	84	3	782	-

SECTION D - HOUSING

During 1962 only three new Council houses, forming part of the Penyard Gardens Estate, Weston-under-Penyard were completed, and the completion of the remaining 18 bungalows on this estate is anticipated shortly.

No Council houses were sold during 1962, so that the total number of Council houses sold at the end of the year remained at 7. No houses were purchased by the Council during the year; the number of dwellings owned by the Council was 358 (9.7% of the occupied houses in the District).

The number of new dwellings completed during the year by private enterprise was 28, distributed in the following parishes:-

Aston Ingham	=	2	St. Weonards	=	1
Brampton Abbots	=	1	Upton Bishop	=	1
Bridstow	=	1	Walford	=	4
Foy	=	1	Welsh Newton	=	1
Llangarron	=	1	Weston-u-Penyard	=	2
Llanwarne	=	5	Whitchurch	=	2
Ross Rural	=	6			

A further 23 houses being erected by private enterprise were incomplete at the end of the year.

Housing Act, 1957. Part IV - Overcrowding

At the beginning of the year 9 dwellings were known to be overcrowded within the meaning of the Act. During 1962, two further cases of overcrowding occurred, but it was possible to secure abatement of 3 cases, involving 29 persons. The number of overcrowded dwellings at the end of the year was 8. In no instance did a recurrence of overcrowding take place when action for abatement had been taken. Some small progress for the relief of overcrowding was thus achieved during the year.

Inspection of Dwelling Houses during the Year

- | | | |
|---|---|-----|
| 1. Total number of dwelling houses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts) | = | 108 |
| 2. Number of dwelling houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation | = | 3 |
| 3. Number of dwelling houses (exclusive of those referred to under preceding sub-head) found not in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation. | = | 58 |

Unfit Houses closed during the Year
Housing Act, 1957

Unfit Houses closed under Sections 16(4), 17(1), 26 and 35(1) Housing Act, 1957	=	2
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Unfit Houses made Fit and Houses in which Defects were Remedied

	By Owner	By Local Authority
After informal action by Local Authority	= 125	-
After formal notice under		
(a) Public Health Acts	= 1	-
(b) Sections 9 and 16 Housing Act 1957	= -	-
Under Section 24 Housing Act, 1957	= -	-

Proceedings under Housing (Financial Provisions) Act 1958
(Part 2) Section 30

The number of grants made by the Local Authority for the improvement of dwellings	=	20
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House Purchase and Housing Act 1959 (Part 2) Section 4

This section provides assistance in the provision of standard amenities in dwellings - that is a fixed bath or shower, a wasbasin, a hot water supply, a water closet, and facilities for storing food. Fortysix standard grants were made by the Council during 1962.

Small Dwellings Acquisition Act 1899
House Purchase and Housing Act, 1959 Section 3

No advances were made by the Council under these Acts during the year.

Housing (Financial Provisions) Act, 1958. Part 2 Section 43

The Council made 22 advances during 1962 to assist persons in house purchase.

SECTION E - INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD

Milk and Dairies (General) Regulations, 1959

The Rural District is a specified area and only designated milk, that is tuberculin tested, pasteurised or sterilised milk may be sold retail within the District.

The number of milk distributors registered with the Council at the end of the year was 11 - one more than in 1961. The number of dairy inspections made was 12. As a result of informal action names of the vendors were placed on four vehicles.

No action was necessary under Regulations 18, 19 or 20.

One sample of tuberculin tested milk was sent for biological examination and found to be satisfactory. Nine samples were found to comply with the Milk (Special Designation) Regulations 1960, whilst 2 samples failed to comply with the Regulations.

Fiftyfive samples of pasteurised milk were sent for examination and all complied with the Regulations.

Food and Drugs Act, 1955. Section 16

There are five bakeries, one factory for preserved meat and one factory for the manufacture of soft drinks registered with the Council under Section 16 of the Food and Drugs Act, 1955. One factory engaged in the manufacture of meat products closed during the year.

No formal action was necessary as a result of inspection of these premises, but informal action secured the cleansing and redecoration of walls, necessary as a result of a fire.

Ice Cream

The number of premises registered with the Local Authority for the manufacture of ice cream was 1, and the number registered for the storage and sale of this food was 40. In addition, three vehicles are registered for storage and sale of ice cream. The number of inspections made of registered premises was 58. Conditions of storage and sale were satisfactory.

There is no manufacture of heat treated ice cream in the Rural District - the manufacturer uses a cold mix.

Fortytwo samples of this food were submitted to the Public Health Laboratory for bacteriological examination during the year, and 37 of these were classified as provisional grade 1.

There was no reason to suspect this food as a cause of acute disease in the population.

Water Cress

This food grows under natural conditions in a number of places in the District. There are no commercial beds within the area, and the sale of water cress is small.

No illness was attributed to the consumption of infected water cress.

Shell Fish

The sale of shellfish appears to be small, and no case of illness was attributed to this food. There are no fishmongers in the Rural District; supplies being obtained from adjacent towns.

Meat

There are no slaughterhouses in use within the area. All meat is obtained by traders from abattoirs of adjacent Districts.

Slaughter of Animals Act, 1958. Section 3

During the year the Council issued 14 licences to slaughtermen under the above mentioned section. Three of these permitted the slaughter of horses in addition to other animals. Seven licences permitted the slaughter of pigs only, and two licences permitted the holders to slaughter pigs and sheep.

Diseases of Animals Acts. Anthrax Order 1938

One notification of anthrax occurring in an animal was received during the year.

Food Hygiene (General) Regulations, 1960

All premises to which these Regulations apply were inspected; the number of inspections was 47. No formal action was necessary under these Regulations.

Food and Drugs Act 1955. Section 15Byelaws as to the Handling, Wrapping and Delivery of Food, and Sale of Food in Open Air

There are no markets held within the Rural District, and the sale of food from stalls is limited. The sale of food from vehicles does take place, and since the adoption of the byelaws attention has been given to vendors' vehicles. During the year 29 inspections were made under these byelaws.

Food and Drugs Act 1955. Section 26 - Food Poisoning

Four notifications of suspected food poisoning were received during the year. Two of these arose in the first quarter and two in the third quarter. Investigation showed that these patients did not suffer from food poisoning.

Unsound Food

The following list gives particulars of food found to be unfit for human consumption and voluntarily surrendered:-

<u>Quantity</u>	<u>Food</u>	<u>Cause of unsoundness</u>
1 Tin (8½ lbs.)	Skinless Cooked Shoulder.	Decomposition.

Food found to be unfit for human consumption is buried on the refuse tips under the supervision of the Public Health Inspector.

No special examination of stocks or particular consignments of food was necessary during the year.

SECTION F. PREVALENCE OF, AND CONTROL OVER, INFECTIOUS DISEASE

During 1962, the occurrence of acute infectious disease in the Rural District was very low, only 40 notifications were received, whilst in the previous year 284 notifications were received. The chief reason for the difference being the reduced incidence of measles. The notification rate for the year was 3.5 per 1000 estimated population.

Throughout the year the Rural District was free from diphtheria, acute poliomyelitis, enteric fevers and scarlet fever.

Confirmed Cases of Acute Infectious Disease in each
Quarter in 1962

Disease	1st Quarter	2nd Quarter	3rd Quarter	4th Quarter	Year
Dysentery	-	-	3	-	3
Pneumonia	-	-	-	1	1
Whooping Cough	-	1	-	-	-
Meningococcal Infection	-	-	-	1	1
Measles	-	2	12	16	30
Erysipelas	-	2	2	-	4
All Diseases	-	5	17	18	40

Measles

Measles was the most prevalent acute notifiable disease, 30 notifications being received. In 1961, there were 251 cases of measles notified in the Rural District. In the first months of the year, the District was free from the disease but notifications commenced in the second quarter and increased as the year advanced. All but three of the cases occurred in parishes west of the River Wye. There were 21 families concerned in the incidence. A clear history of contact with a previous case was obtained in 9 instances. The age group giving most cases was the 5 - 10 years group, females being responsible for 22 cases. The measles notification rate for the Rural District was 2.6 per 1000 estimated population.

Whooping Cough

Only one case of whooping cough was notified. In 1961 there were 26 cases notified.

Erysipelas

Four cases of erysipelas were notified, all being persons over 45 years of age. The local notification rate for the disease was 0.3 per 1000 estimated population.

Dysentery

Three cases of dysentery were notified, all in the third quarter, giving a local notification rate of 0.26 per 1000 estimated population.

Pneumonia

Only one case of pneumonia was notified.

Analysis of notified cases according to certain
Age Groups

Disease	0+	1+	2+	3+	4+	5+	10+	15+	25+	45+	65+	Total
Measles	-	2	4	2	5	15	2	-	-	-	-	30
Pneumonia	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1
Whooping Cough	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
Meningococcal Infection	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	1
Dysentery	-	-	-	1	-	-	1	-	1	-	-	3
Erysipelas	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	3	1	4
All Diseases	1	2	4	3	5	15	3	-	1	4	2	40

Other Infective Diseases

At the beginning of the year mild cases of influenza appeared and glandular fever was present in the Glewstone area in January and February, three cases being confirmed. One patient developed a secondary pneumonia.

In March a number of cases of malaise and vomiting occurred, chiefly in children of school age. This was of short duration and was probably winter vomiting, a disease thought to be caused by a virus. About 16 persons seemed to be involved. A similar outbreak occurred in Linton and about 20 children were affected.

In June there was an outbreak of diarrhoea and vomiting in school children. No cause for this could be traced and it may have been a virus infection.

One case of meningococcal infection was notified in the final quarter of the year. The patient was treated in hospital. It is many years since a meningococcal infection occurred in the District and the infection was probably contracted in London.

Seven secondary contacts of smallpox were supervised for three weeks. All had been vaccinated and remained free from infection.

Tuberculosis

At the beginning of the year there were 93 cases of tuberculosis on the register, 73 being in respect of respiratory disease. During the year 2 cases of respiratory disease and one of non-respiratory disease were added, and of these the non-respiratory case was a new infection.

The number of cases removed from the Register during the year was 5 (respiratory). Four cases of respiratory disease were regarded as having recovered.

One male respiratory case died from the disease.

At the end of the year 91 cases (70 respiratory and 21 non-respiratory) remained on the register.

The 1962 death rate from respiratory tuberculosis for England and Wales is 0.059 per 1000 population.

Tuberculosis
New Cases and Mortality during 1962

Age Groups.	New Infections				Deaths			
	Respiratory.		Non-respiratory		Respiratory.		Non-respiratory.	
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
0+	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
1+	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
5+	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
15+	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-
25+	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
35+	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
45+	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
55+	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
65+	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-
Totals	-	-	1	-	1	-	-	-

At the beginning of the year 21 cases of tuberculosis were present in the district area in January and February. Three cases being confirmed. One patient developed a secondary pneumonia. In March a number of cases of catarrh and vomiting occurred, chiefly in children of school age. This was of short duration and was probably a virus infection. A disease thought to be caused by a virus, known to be common in the district, a similar outbreak occurred in January and about 20 children were affected.

In April there was an outbreak of diarrhoea and vomiting in school children. No cases for this could be traced and it may have been a virus infection.

One case of meningitis occurred in the first quarter of the year. The patient was treated in hospital. It is very likely that a meningococcal infection occurred in the district and the infection was probably contracted in London.

Seven secondary contacts of meningitis were reported for these weeks. All had been vaccinated and received their first injection.

Tuberculosis

At the beginning of the year there were 27 cases of tuberculosis on the register. 7 being in respect of respiratory disease. During the year 2 cases of respiratory disease and one of non-respiratory disease were added, and of these the non-respiratory case was a new infection.

The number of cases removed from the register during the year was 5 (respiratory). Two cases of respiratory disease were regarded as having recovered.

One case respiratory case died from the disease.

At the end of the year 21 cases (10 respiratory and 11 non-respiratory) remained on the register.

The year death rate from respiratory tuberculosis for England and Wales is 0.027 per 1000 population.



