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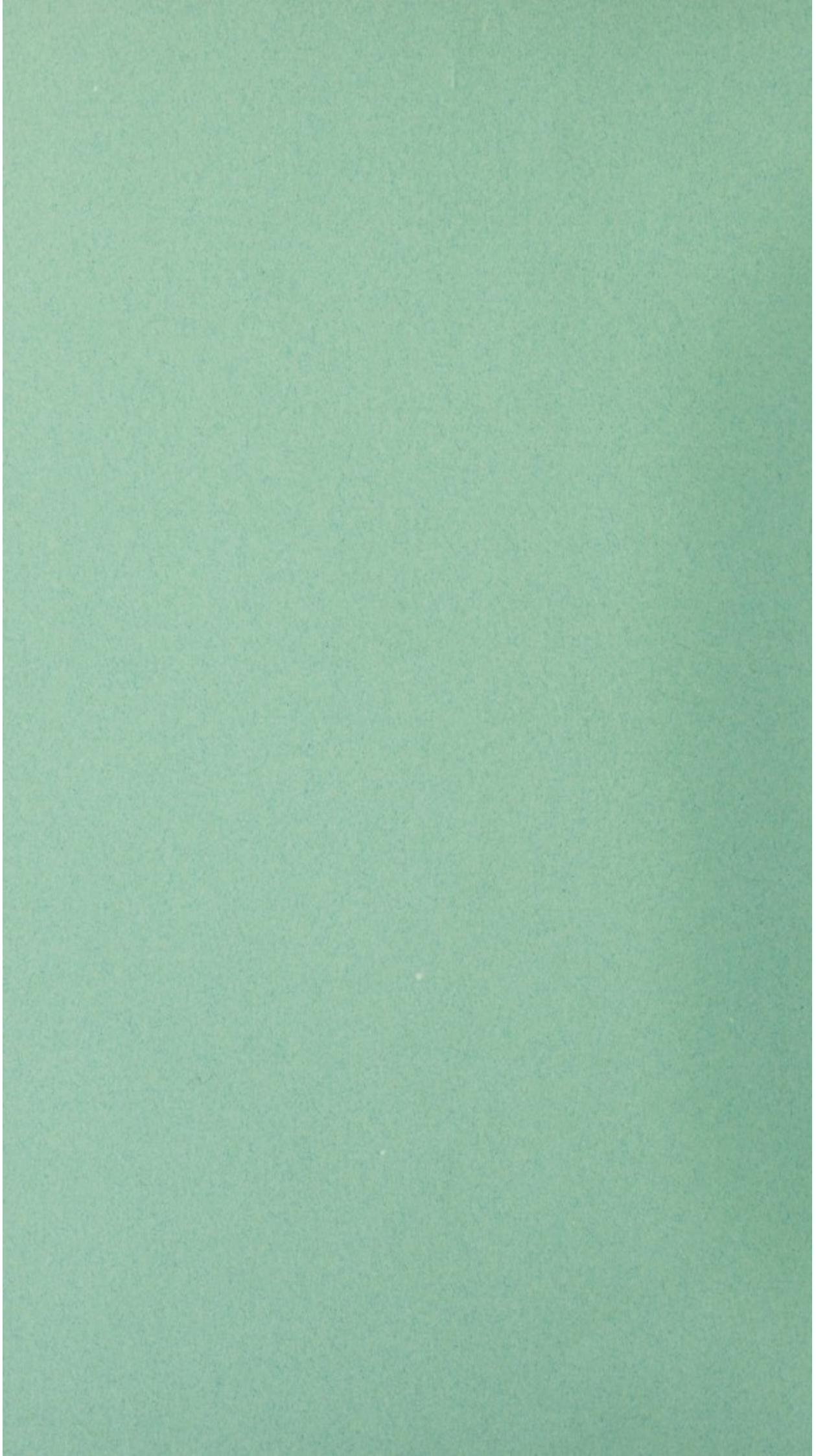
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ROSS AND WHITCHURCH RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL

ANNUAL REPORT
OF THE
MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH
FOR THE YEAR
1964



ROSS AND WHITCHURCH RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to submit my annual Report for the year 1964, in accordance with Article 15(4) and (5) of the Public Health Officers Regulations, 1959 and Circular 1/65 of the Ministry of Health.

In 1964 there were fewer live births in the resident population compared with the previous year. The estimated mid-year population showed a small increase on the 1963 figure and there was a lower incidence of acute notifiable disease.

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. C.W.J. Manley, Chief 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

11th May, 1965

MEMBERS OF THE COUNCIL AND PARISHES REPRESENTED

1 9 6 4

<u>Chairman</u>	-	Mr. B.C. Hackett, J.P.
<u>Vice-Chairman</u>	-	Mr. L. Drayson Russill
Mrs. M.M. Gardner	-	Aston Ingham
Mr. L. Drayson Russill	-	Ballingham
Mr. J.H. Scudamore, J.P.	-	Brampton Abbotts
Mr. B.C. Hackett, J.P.	-	Bridstow
Mr. G.L. Clay, J.P.	-	Brockhampton
Brigadier A.F.L. Clive, J.P.	-	Foy
Brigadier R.P. Waller	-	Ganarew
Mr. E.S.W. Barrell	-	Garway
Mr. J.L. Trafford	-	Goodrich
Major P. Smith	-	Harewood and Llandinabo
Mr. H.A. Gundy	-	Hentland
Mr. T. Scott	-	Hope Mansel
Major H.S. Allfrey, J.P.	-	How Caple and Sollershope
Mr. R.J. Jenkins	-	Kings Caple
Mr. B.H. Savidge	-	Lea
Mr. D.A. Pritchard	-	Linton
Mr. J.B. Sainsbury	-	Linton
Mr. F.C. Maxfield	-	Llangarron
Mr. F.G. Scudamore	-	Llangarron
Lt. Cdr. G. Glenton	-	Llanrothal
Mr. W.G. Williams	-	Llanwarne
Mr. W. Evans	-	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 with Michaelchurch
Mr. R.H. Marsh	-	Upton Bishop
Mr. W.S. Young	-	Upton Bishop
Mr. W. Chinn	-	Walford
Mrs. A.E. Hill	-	Walford
Major J.H. Vaughan	-	Welsh Bicknor
Mr. A. Duberley	-	Welsh Newton
Mr. D.A. Harper	-	Weston-under-Penyard
Mr. C.J.B. Jones	-	Weston-under-Penyard
Mr. W.R. Bessex	-	Whitchurch
Mr. H.S. Cumbley	-	Whitchurch
Mr. R.F. Cotton	-	Yatton

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ASSISTANT PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR

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SECTION A - STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE AREA

Area (in acres)	=	72,105
Number of inhabited houses (31.12.64)	=	3,808
Rateable Value	=	£234,836
Sum represented by a penny rate	=	£882
Registrar General's estimated mid-year population	=	11,640
Area comparability factor (births)	=	1.17
Area comparability factor (deaths)	=	0.92

Vital StatisticsLive Births

Number of Live Births	=	169
Live birth rate per 1000 estimated population (crude)	=	14.5
Illegitimate live births per cent of total live births	=	5.3

Stillbirths

Number of stillbirths	=	2
Rate per 1000 total live and still births	=	11.7
Total live and still births	=	171
Infant deaths (under 1 year)	=	1

Infant Mortality Rates

Total infant deaths per 1000 total live births	=	5.9
Legitimate infant deaths per 1000 legitimate live births	=	6.25
Illegitimate infant deaths per 1000 illegitimate live births	=	Nil
Neo-natal mortality rate (deaths under 4 weeks per 1000 total live births)	=	5.9
Early neo-natal mortality rate (deaths under 1 week per 1000 total live births)	=	5.9
Perinatal mortality rate (stillbirths and deaths under 1 week combined per 1000 total live and still births)	=	17.5

Maternal Mortality (including abortion)

Number of maternal deaths	=	Nil
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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 Whitchurch. All types of farming are found within the Rural District.

Population

The Registrar General's estimated mid-year population of the Rural District is 11,640, an increase of 170 on the figure for 1963. The 1961 Census population was 11,544. Population has shown little change over many years.

The average number of persons per acre is 0.16 and the average number of persons per inhabited house is 3.05. The natural increase of population, that is excess of live births over deaths, is 50.

Births

The number of live births registered as having occurred within the Rural District during the year is 169 (88 males and 81 females) and the crude live birth rate is 14.5 per 1000 of the estimated population. The area comparability factor is 1.17 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 18.4 per 1000 population. The ratio of male/female live births is 1.08. In 1963, there were 187 live births in the Rural District.

The number of illegitimate live births which occurred is 9 (4 male and 5 female). The illegitimate live births form 5.3% of the total live births.

Stillbirths

Two stillbirths occurred, one less than in the previous year. The stillbirth rate is 11.7 per 1000 total births.

The stillbirth rate for England and Wales for 1964 is 16.3 per 1000 total (live and still) births.

Deaths

The number of deaths recorded as having occurred in the Rural District during the year is 119 (73 males and 46 females). In 1963 there were 118 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 1.6.

The crude death rate for the District for the year is 10.2 per 1000 estimated population, and applying the area comparability factor of 0.92 the corrected death rate is 9.4 per 1000 estimated population. The death rate for England and Wales for 1964 is 11.3 per 1000 population.

Table of Deaths according to Sex, and Cause

List No.	Cause of Death	Male	Female	Persons
1.	Tuberculosis, respiratory.	1	-	1
10.	Malignant Neoplasm, stomach.	-	1	1
11.	" " , lung, bronchus.	3	1	4
12.	" " , breast.	-	1	1
14.	Other malignant and lymphatic neoplasms.	7	4	11
15.	Leukaemia, aleukaemia.	2	-	2
16.	Diabetes.	-	1	1
17.	Vascular lesions of nervous system.	14	6	20
18.	Coronary disease, angina.	15	10	25
19.	Hypertension with heart disease.	1	1	2
20.	Other heart disease.	10	5	15
21.	Other circulatory disease	3	4	7
23.	Pneumonia.	1	1	2
24.	Bronchitis.	5	1	6
25.	Other diseases of respiratory system.	2	-	2
29.	Hyperplasia of prostate.	4	-	4
31.	Congenital malformations.	-	1	1
32.	Other defined and ill defined diseases.	2	6	8
33.	Motor vehicle accidents.	1	-	1
34.	All other accidents.	1	2	3
35.	Suicide.	1	1	2
All Causes		73	46	119

Analysis of death by cause shows the most frequent cause is heart disease (headings 18, 19 and 20), accounting for 42 deaths. The corrected death rate from all forms of heart disease is 3.3 per 1,000 estimated population. In the previous year heart disease accounted for 34 deaths.

Vascular Lesions of the Nervous System

Deaths from strokes amounted to 20, the same number as in the previous year.

Cancer Deaths

In 1964, there were 17 deaths attributed to all types of cancer (10 males and 7 females), three less than in the previous year. The corrected death rate for cancer of all sites is 1.3 per 1000 estimated population.

The cancer (all forms) death rate for England and Wales for 1964 is 2.2 per 1000 population.

Infant Mortality

The number of babies under one year of age who died during the year was 1 female, six less than in the previous year. The local infant mortality rate for 1964 is 5.9 per 1000 live births and this rate for England and Wales is 20.0 per 1000 live births. The infant death occurred within the first week of life.

Deaths from Acute Notifiable Infectious Disease

Two deaths were attributed to pneumonia - the only acute notifiable disease which caused death. The corrected death rate for the Rural District for 1964 from acute pneumonia is 0.16 per 1,000 estimated population. In the previous year 8 deaths were attributed to pneumonia.

Tuberculosis Deaths

One death was attributed to tuberculosis. The tuberculosis (all forms) death rate for England and Wales is 0.053 per 1,000 population for 1964.

SECTION B - GENERAL PROVISIONS OF HEALTH SERVICES OF THE AREA

Public 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:-

Swabs	=	5
Faeces	=	9
Water (bacteriological)	=	200
Milk (methylene blue test)	=	85
Milk (phosphatase test)	=	85
Ice Cream	=	90
Other Foods	=	2

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

Public Mortuary

The Council has facilities for the reception of bodies from the 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

No burials were carried out under this section by the Council during the year.

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

Three investigations were made under this section, all concerned elderly persons. Admission to hospital was arranged for each person by informal action.

Residential Accommodation for the Aged

Residential accommodation for active 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, and estate of 17 bungalows for aged persons, with a Warden's flat and a similar estate at Weston-under-Penyard with 27 bungalows.

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 southeastern 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 and Alton Court Pumping Stations (bore holes in Old Red Sandstone), and the St. Weonards and Llanwarne Scheme (springs).

Extensions to public water mains were constructed in the following places:-

Approx.	2885 yds.	3" dia.	main at Barrel Hill, How Caple.
"	34 yds.	3" dia.	main at Old Rectory, Llanwarne.
"	103 yds.	3" dia.	main at Old People's Bungalows, Weston-under-Penyard.
"	98 yds.	3" dia.	main at Beaven's Hill, Kilcot.
"	355 yds.	3" dia.	main at The Poplars, Hoarwithy.
"	220 yds.	3" dia.	main Rock Farm, How Caple.
"	1350 yds.	3" dia.	main at Daffaluke, Glewstone.

During the year, 133 samples of water from the Board's mains were sent for analysis. Three samples were found not to be of good potable quality. These occurred in the last month of the year, when the Board was obliged to augment the Castlebrook supply with water from the brook.

The number of samples taken from private water supplies was 43 and of these 17 were not 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 a very hard water, about 75% of the hardness being temporary. The amount of fluorine present was 0.08 parts per million, which is insufficient to prevent dental decay. The water has a marked aggressive action on iron.

There are 7 standpipes on the public water mains still in use.

In 1964, there was no significant shortage of water in the Rural District.

Drainage and Sewerage

There are short lengths of public sewer within the parishes of Lea, Walford, Upton Bishop, Goodrich and Ross Rural. No extensions of public sewers were carried out during the year.

In June, work commenced on the Wilton Sewerage Scheme in Bridstow parish, which will provide a public sewer and sewage disposal works for about 80 dwellings and the school. At the end of the year considerable progress had been made and the scheme will be in operation during the present year.

The existing sewage disposal works for the Council's housing estate at Weston-under-Penyard was enlarged to deal with eleven additional Council dwellings.

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. A scheme to drain this area into the Ross U.D.C. sewers is in preparation.

During the year the Public Health Inspector made 33 drain tests. Ninetyseven new drains were provided in connection with dwelling houses and 1 for other premises. Three existing drains found to be defective were reconstructed or repaired. The number of inspections made in connection with drainage was 131.

The Council does not undertake the emptying and cleansing of cesspools and septic tanks other than those on the Council's property, which are cleansed 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 of rivers and streams. The Hildersley Sewage scheme when completed will remove a potential source of stream pollution.

Closet Accommodation

It is estimated that about 36% of the inhabitants are still obliged to rely upon pail closets and about 56% have the use of water closets. The remaining 8% have to use privies. The reason for the continued use of conservancy systems is chiefly lack of piped water supplies, but the position improves each year.

During the year 44 pail closets and 14 privies were converted to water closets. Apart from conversions, 33 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 Symonds Yat area. This area 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 90% of dwellings are included in the collection, which is carried out by motor refuse vehicle with covers and tipping gear. A monthly collection is provided at the moment but may become more frequent.

The Council does not undertake the collection of trade refuse.

Disposal of the refuse is by tipping at Doward Quarry, Whitchurch; Cwm Maddock, Garway; How Caple and Weston-under-Penyard.

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 wash-houses 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 24 occasions samples of pool water were submitted for bacteriological examination, and all samples were satisfactory.

Shops and Offices and Railway Premises Act, 1963

Shops Act 1950

The number of shops and offices within the District is very small. The number of visits made during the year to shops was 62.

Registrations

<u>Class of Premises</u>	<u>No. registered at end of year</u>	<u>No inspected during year</u>
Offices	2	2
Retail Shops	4	4
Wholesale shops } Warehouses }	-	-
Catering Establishments } open to the public }	4	4
Canteens		
Fuel Storage Depots	-	-

Persons employed in Registered Premises

<u>Class of Premises</u>	<u>Number employed</u>
Offices	5
Retail Shops	12
Wholesale Shops } Warehouses }	Nil
Catering establishments open to the public	20
Canteens	Nil
Fuel Storage Depots	Nil

Camping Sites - Public Health Act, 1936, Section 269(1)
Caravan Sites and Control of Development Act 1960, Section 3

There were 30 sites used for camping purposes in the Rural District during the year and of these 11 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 450.

The number of inspections of camping sites carried out during the year was 15, and 177 caravan inspections were made. When sites are inspected attention is given to water supply, sanitary accommodation, refuse disposal and spacing.

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 contractors using hydrogen cyanide.

No notices under the Regulations were received in respect of disinfestations with hydrogen cyanide.

Common Lodging Houses

There are no common lodging houses within the District.

Diseases of Animals Acts - Anthrax Order 1938

No notifications of suspected anthrax in animals were received during the year.

Sanitary Inspection of the Area

I am indebted to Mr. C.W.J. Manley, Public Health Inspector for the following statement for the year 1964, furnished in accordance with Article 25(2) Public Health Officers Regulations, 1959:-

Inspections

Accumulations	=	22
Agriculture (S.H. & W.Prov.) Act.	=	88
Animals	=	9
Ashbin and Ashpits	=	4
Bakehouses	=	13
Camping Sites	=	15
Caravans	=	177
Control of Pests	=	11
Dairies	=	25
Drainage	=	131
Drain Tests	=	33
Factories (without mechanical power)	=	4
Factories (with mechanical power)	=	318
Food Poisoning	=	3
Food Handling Byelaws	=	52
Food Premises	=	168
Housing	=	458
Hotel and Restaurant Kitchens	=	20
Ice Cream (Registered Premises)	=	136
Infectious Disease	=	259

Inspections (continued)

Licensed Victuallers' Premises	=	19
Nuisances	=	38
Offensive Smells	=	1
Outworkers Premises	=	2
Overcrowding	=	41
Petroleum Stores	=	32
Refuse Tips	=	95
Schools	=	90
Sewage Disposal Works	=	63
Sewers	=	34
Shops	=	62
Offices, Shops and Railway Premises Act	=	18
Sanitary Conveniences	=	1
Stalls	=	1
Swimming Baths and Pools	=	23
Unsound Food	=	4
Water Supply	=	207
Water Courses	=	5
Work Places	=	10

Notices Issued

Informal	=	36
Statutory re Housing	=	2
Statutory under other Acts	=	Nil

Summary of Defects Remedied

Accumulations removed	=	22
Cesspools and septic tanks cleansed	=	178
Dairies improved	=	1
Ditches cleared	=	2
Domestic Baths provided	=	61
Drains and Gullies cleared	=	10
Drains reconstructed	=	3
New drains provided	=	97
Defective floors repaired	=	23
Defective roofs repaired	=	49
Defective eaves gutters repaired	=	27
Defective brickwork repaired	=	52
Defective Coppers remedied	=	2
Disinfections after infectious disease	=	2
Defective windows repaired	=	29
Defective chimneys repaired	=	14
Dampness of floors and walls remedied	=	38
Cisterns cleansed or repaired	=	12
Closets repaired or renewed	=	6
New gullies provided	=	10
Inspection chambers repaired	=	4
Old drains sealed	=	2
Paving repaired	=	16
Privies converted to water closet	=	14
Rainwater Pipes provided or repaired	=	22
Staircases repaired	=	10
New sinks provided	=	31
Sanitary fittings provided	=	58
Stoves repaired	=	2
Moveable dwellings removed	=	17
Ventilation improved	=	25
Wells cleansed or repaired	=	6
Miscellaneous defects remedied	=	48

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

The number of inspections made during 1964 under Section 3 of this Act of farms and agricultural holdings within the District was 88, covering 42 premises. Of these 14 complied with the Act. Informal action was necessary on 21 occasions and at the end of the year compliance had been secured in 35 instances.

One formal notice under the Act was necessary.

Factories Act 1961

The number of premises registered with the Local Authority increased to 37, all but one being factories with mechanical power. In addition, 63 workplaces were registered. There were 12 new registrations during the year. The number of defects under the Act which were remedied were was 43.

In the previous year, there were five outworkers registered, but this employment ceased before 1964 and there are no outworkers employed in this District.

Annual Report of the Medical Officer of Health in respect of the year 1964 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	1	4	Nil	Nil
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority ..	36	161	2	Nil
(iii) Other Premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding outworkers' premises) ..	63	157	7	Nil
Total	100	322	9	Nil

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)
Want of cleanliness(S.1)	2	1	Nil	Nil	Nil
Unreasonable temperature (S.3)	2	1	Nil	Nil	Nil
Ineffective drainage of floors (S.6)	2	1	Nil	Nil	Nil
Sanitary Conveniences (S.7)					
(a) Insufficient	19	11	Nil	Nil	Nil
(b) Unsuitable or defective	42	29	Nil	1	Nil
Other offences against the Act (not including offences relating to Out-work)	10	Nil	10	Nil	Nil
Total	77	43	10	1	Nil

Petroleum Regulations

The number of new licences granted for the storage of petroleum spirit was 2. One installation for storage was discontinued during the year. At the end of the year there were 87 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 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 during 1964. The number of inspections made during the year was 250.

	Premises inspected	Total Infestations	Rats		Mice	No. of properties treated	Statutory Notices
			Major	Minor			
Local Authorities' Properties	6	15	8	7	-	15	-
Dwelling Houses	75	60	-	56	4	60	-
Agricultural Properties	60	58	3	55	-	620	-
All other (including business) premises	9	9	-	9	1	9	-
Total	150	142	11	127	5	704	-

SECTION D - HOUSING

During 1964, a further 7 bungalows for aged persons, forming part of the Penyard Gardens Estate, Weston-under-Penyard were completed. One cottage owned by the Council was completed and let during 1964.

Seven Council houses were sold during 1964, so that the total number of Council houses sold up to the end of the year was 18. Four houses were purchased by the Council during the year. The number of dwellings owned by the Council at December 1964 was 380 (10% of the occupied houses in the District).

The number of new dwellings completed during the year by private enterprise was 26, distributed in the following parishes:-

Aston Ingham	=	2	Llanwarne	=	2
Ballingham	=	1	Marstow	=	2
Garway	=	1	Ross Rural	=	4
Goodrich	=	1	Upton Bishop	=	2
Hentland	=	2	Walford	=	1
Lea	=	1	Weston-u-Penyard	=	3
Llangarron	=	3	Whitchurch	=	1

A further 34 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 8 dwellings were known to be overcrowded within the meaning of the Act. During 1964, one further case of overcrowding occurred, but it was possible to secure abatement of 5 cases, involving 38 persons. The number of overcrowded dwellings at the end of the year was 4. In no instance did a recurrence of overcrowding take place after action for abatement.

Inspection of Dwelling Houses during the Year

1. Total number of dwelling houses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts) = 458
2. Number of dwelling houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation = 16
3. Number of dwelling houses (exclusive of those referred to under preceding sub-head) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation = 145

Unfit Houses Closed during the Year
Housing Act, 1957

Unfit Houses closed under Sections 16(4), 26,
17(1), 35(1) Housing Act, 1957

= 18

Unfit Houses made Fit and Houses in which Defects were Remedied

	<u>By Owner</u>	<u>By Local Authority</u>
After informal action by Local Authority	= 145	-
After formal notice under Public Health Acts	= 3	-

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

Grants made by the Local Authority for the improvement of dwellings = 31

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 washbasin, a hot water supply, a water closet, and facilities for storing food. Thirtytwo standard grants were made by the Council during 1964.

Housing (Financial Provisions) Act, 1958. Part 2 Section 43
House Purchase and Housing Act, 1959. Section 3

The Council has made 28 advances during 1964 to assist persons in house purchase, under these Acts.

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 10. The number of dairy inspections made was 25. An improvement was obtained at one dairy.

One notice was necessary under Article 20 of the Regulations.

One sample of tuberculin tested milk was sent for examination at the Public Health Laboratory and found to comply with the Milk (Special Designation) Regulations 1960.

Eightyfour samples of pasteurised milk were sent for examination and eight of these failed to comply with the Regulations.

Four samples of T.T. Milk were sent for biological examination; all were found to be satisfactory.

Food and Drugs Act, 1955. Section 16

There are four bakeries, three premises for manufacture of meat products and one factory for the manufacture of soft drinks registered with the Council under Section 16 of the Food and Drugs Act, 1955.

No formal action was necessary as a result of inspection of these premises, but informal action secured the cleansing of walls and ceilings in three premises, and structural repairs in one.

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.

Ice Cream

There are no premises registered with the Local Authority for the manufacture of ice cream. Fortytwo premises were registered for the storage and sale of this food.

The number of inspections made of registered premises was 136. Conditions of storage and sale were satisfactory.

Ninety samples of this food were submitted to the Public Health Laboratory for bacteriological examination during the year, and 74 of these were classified as provisional grade 1 and 7 samples were provisional grade 2.

Nine samples of ice cream were of provisional grade 3. These were obtained from seven retailers but were from one manufacturer. Representations were made, which resulted in the whole of the consignment being withdrawn from sale. Similar action was taken when a consignment was found with defective wrapping.

Shell Fish

The sale of shell fish 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 in other Districts.

Slaughter of Animals Act, 1958. Section 3

During the year the Council issued 9 licences to slaughtermen under the above mentioned section. One of these permitted the slaughter of horses in addition to other animals. Four licences permitted the slaughter of swine only and one licence permitted the holder to slaughter swine and sheep.

Food Hygiene (General) Regulations, 1960

All premises to which these Regulations apply were inspected; the number of inspections made was 168. No formal action was necessary under these Regulations.

One new cafe was opened and a food shop modernised during the year.

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 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 52 inspections were made under these byelaws.

Food and Drugs Act, 1955. Section 26 - Food Poisoning

Three notifications of food poisoning were received during the third quarter of the year. These occurred in one household and were caused by the infection of boiled ham with *Staphylococcus Aureus*. The ham had been kept at room temperature and appeared to have been infected from the nose of one member of the family.

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 x 4 lb. Tin	Pork Luncheon Meat	Blown Tin
1 x 4 lb. Tin	" " "	Defective Tin
1 x 14 $\frac{1}{2}$ lb. Tin	Cooked Ham	Decomposition
1 x 14 $\frac{1}{2}$ lb. Tin	" " "	"

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

A special examination of stocks of corned beef was necessary during the year, as a result of the Aberdeen typhoid fever outbreak. No suspect tins were found in this Rural District.

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

The incidence of acute notifiable disease in 1964 was less than in the previous year, as only 170 notifications were received. The number in 1963 was 260. The 1964 notification rate was 14.6 per 1000 estimated population. This decrease was caused by the lower incidence of measles during 1964. Throughout the year, the Rural District was free from diphtheria, poliomyelitis, enteric fevers and scarlet fever.

Confirmed Cases of Acute Infectious Disease in each Quarter in 1964

<u>Disease</u>	<u>1st Quarter</u>	<u>2nd Quarter</u>	<u>3rd Quarter</u>	<u>4th Quarter</u>	<u>Year</u>
Dysentery	-	2	-	-	2
Pneumonia	2	-	-	1	3
Whooping Cough	18	1	-	-	19
Puerperal Pyrexia	-	-	1	-	1
Measles	57	20	43	22	142
Erysipelas	1	-	1	1	3
All Diseases	78	23	45	24	170

Measles

The number of notifications of measles received was 142 (100 less than in 1963), giving a measles notification rate of 12.2 per 1000 estimated population. The period of maximum incidence was the first quarter of the year, but there was a second smaller rise in the third quarter.

The cases which occurred during 1964 were a continuation of the spread of the disease which occurred in the previous year, and were confined to the western part of the Rural District. The spread of the disease was, therefore, rather slow and the District was never free from measles during 1964.

Eighty dwellings were involved and 43 of these experienced one case, twenty gave rise to 2 cases and the remaining seventeen each experienced 3 or more cases. Most of the patients were children between 5 and 15 years of age. Males and females were equally affected. A clear history of contact with a previous case was obtained in 56 instances.

Analysis of notified cases according to certain Age Groups

Disease	0+	1+	2+	3+	4+	5+	10+	15+	25+	45+	65+	Total
Measles	3	4	13	17	17	68	17	2	1	-	-	142
Pneumonia	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	2	-	-	3
Whooping Cough	2	1	2	2	2	4	3	1	2	-	-	19
Dysentery	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	1	-	2
Erysipelas	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	1	3
Puerperal Pyrexia	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	1
All Diseases	5	5	15	19	19	72	21	5	5	3	1	170

The number of notifications of whooping cough received was 19, almost double the number (18) in 1963. All the cases, except one, occurred in the first two months of the year, the District being free from the infection during the second half year. The whooping cough notification rate was 1.6 per 1000 estimated population. Only 12 families were involved, 7 each experiencing a single case and one giving rise to four cases. Three of the patients were over 15 years of age. There was no geographical localisation of the infection - seven parishes contributed to the total number.

One young patient required hospital treatment.

Pneumonia

Only three cases of pneumonia were notified compared with 4 in 1963. Two deaths were attributed to pneumonia.

Other Acute Notifiable Disease

Three cases of erysipelas were notified and two of Sonne dysentery.

Other Infective Disease

Mumps appeared in the month of March and continued to occur until the end of July. The number of cases was small.

In the first quarter a few children were infected with chicken-pox.

Tuberculosis

At the beginning of the year there were 86 cases of tuberculosis on the register, 65 being in respect of respiratory disease. During the year 2 cases of respiratory disease and one of non-respiratory disease were added; one of these was a new infection.

Three cases of respiratory disease and one of non-respiratory disease were taken off the register during the year. Two cases of respiratory disease were regarded as having recovered.

At the end of the year 85 cases (64 respiratory and 21 non-respiratory) remained on the register.

One death was attributed to respiratory tuberculosis.

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