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11
BOROUGH OF



RYDE, I.W.



ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

Medical Officer of Health

FOR THE YEAR 1969

including the separate Report of the
SENIOR PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR

PUBLIC HEALTH COMMITTEE 1969
(as constituted at 22nd May, 1969)

The Mayor - ALDERMAN W. CAPLE

Alderman W.G.F. Sutton, M.R.S., J.P. (Chairman)
Councillor H.E. Morey, B.E.M., F.Inst.L.Ex. (Vice-Chairman)
Councillor J.A. Allen Councillor D.H. Gordon
Councillor Mrs. G.M. Burridge Councillor A.F. Holland
Councillor Major R.T. Butler Councillor Lt. Cdr. L.R. Hollis, R.N.(Rtd.),
Councillor L.S. Cavilla A.C.P., F.R.G.S.
Councillor Mrs. E.A.B. Copper Councillor A.C. Lewis

PUBLIC HEALTH OFFICERS 1969

DR. D.W. QUANTRILL, M.B., Ch.B., M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.P.H.,
D.T.M. & H., D.(Obst.).R.C.O.G.

Office: County Hall, Newport.
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Chief Public Health Inspector
S. DUNMORE, M.R.S.H., M.A.P.H.I.

Additional Public Health Inspector
L.N. JORDAN, M.R.S.H., M.A.P.H.I.

Technical Assistant
N.A. HILLIER, B.E.M.

Clerk
MISS D.G. BOYCE

Rodent Operator
W.A. GOBLE



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PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT,
MUNICIPAL OFFICES,
5 LIND STREET,
RYDE, I.W.

To the Mayor, Aldermen and Councillors,
Ryde Borough Council.

LADIES AND GENTLEMEN,

I have the honour to submit the Annual Report on the health of the District for the year 1969.

There were 295 births and, comparatively, the birth rate for Ryde was the same as the rest of the country (16.3). The illegitimacy rate continued at more than ten per cent of births (12.3) and so far the introduction of "the pill" and legalised abortion have not resulted in any decrease in the number of children born out of wedlock.

The comparative death rate (10.2) was again slightly lower than the rate for England and Wales (11.9) and the infant mortality rate (11.6) was well below the national figure (18.0). There have now been no maternal deaths in the Borough for over ten years, and this, together with certain other statistics relating to birth, suggest that maternal care in the Borough has a very good record.

Infectious diseases were not a significant problem and only forty-six cases of measles were reported. The continued clear record as regards diphtheria and poliomyelitis confirms the value of immunisation. At one time a large proportion of these protective inoculations were given at the County Council clinics but now this task is performed by the family doctor. This new arrangement is working very satisfactorily and the vast majority of children continued to be protected.

The health hazards of holidays abroad became more apparent during the year and many residents of the Borough were seeking pre-holiday immunisation against typhoid fever. The best protection against gastro-intestinal infection in warm climates is still, however, common sense in regard to eating and drinking.

Once again there were complaints about the fouling of pavements by dogs. In a seaside resort this is a matter which causes concern, as the health hazards are obvious. When 'pop' festivals occur the fouling of farms and occasionally gardens by humans cause considerable concern but an even greater danger is the constant fouling by dogs of pavements all over the Island. If new legislation is indicated to control 'pop' fans it is definitely needed to control dogs.

Complaints were also received regarding noise. The majority of residents now appear to accept the noise of hovercraft but still find low flying aircraft including helicopters intolerable.

Pollution of the sea by sewage is undesirable but there is still no evidence that in this area there is a danger to health. However, there must be a limit to the amount of pollution that the Solent can cope with, and ultimately, some alternative method of disposal will be required.

Pollution of the atmosphere by smoke is not normally a problem in Ryde but heavy vehicles are occasionally prone to emitting black diesel fumes and during the year there have been several instances when I have reported the matter to the managements concerned. In each case there was willing co-operation to rectify the matter.

My thanks are again due to the staff of the department for their work and loyalty.

Finally, may I respectfully express to the Chairman and members of the Health Committee my appreciation of their support during the year.

Yours faithfully,

D.W. QUANTRILL

Medical Officer of Health.

STATISTICS

GENERAL

Area in acres	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	7,876
No. of inhabited dwelling houses according to rate books (as at 31.3.70.)	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	8,719
Rateable value (as at 31.3.70.)	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	£887,406
Sum represented by 1d. rate (1969/70)	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	£3,550
Rainfall	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	29.45 inches
Sunshine	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1723.2 hours

EXTRACTS FROM VITAL STATISTICS

Population (Registrar General's figure)	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	22,290
Live Birth rate per 1,000 of the estimated resident population	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	13.2
Comparative factor	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1.23
Comparative Birth Rate	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	16.2
Still Birth rate per 1,000 total (live and still births)	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	3.4
Crude Death Rate per 1,000 of the estimated resident population	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	14.4
Comparative factor	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	0.71
Comparative Death Rate	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	10.2
Maternal Mortality Rate per 1,000 total (live and still births)	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	Nil
Death Rate of Infants under 1 year of age:-								
All infants per 1,000 live births	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	13.6
Legitimate infants per 1,000 legitimate live births	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	11.6
Illegitimate infants per 1,000 illegitimate live births	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	27.0
Deaths from Cancer (all ages)	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	74
Deaths from Measles (all ages)	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	Nil
Deaths from Whooping Cough (all ages)	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	Nil

BIRTHS

The total number of live births was 295 of which 258 were legitimate and 37 illegitimate. The live birth rate was 13.2 per 1,000 living; the birth rate for England and Wales being 16.3.

DEATHS

The total number of deaths was 322 which gives a death rate of 14.4 per 1,000 of the estimated resident population, the death rate for England and Wales being 11.9.

INFANTILE MORTALITY

The Infantile Mortality rate was 13.6 per 1,000 registered live births; the rate for England and Wales generally was 18.0.

CAUSES OF DEATH

<u>Cause</u>									<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>
Enteritis and other diarrhoeal diseases	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	-
Meningococcal Infection	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	-	1
Other infective and parasitic diseases	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	-	1
Malignant neoplasm, buccal cavity	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	-	1
" " , oesophagus	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	2
" " , stomach	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	3	3
" " , intestine	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	4	5
" " , lung, bronchus	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	12	5
" " , breast	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	-	8
" " , uterus	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	-	4
" " , prostate	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	7	-
Leukaemia	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	-
Other malignant neoplasms	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	7	10
Benign and unspecified neoplasms	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	1
Diabetes Mellitus	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	2
Other diseases of blood, etc.	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	-
Other diseases of nervous system, etc.	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	3
Chronic rheumatic heart disease	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	3	2
Hypertensive disease	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	1
Ischaemic heart disease	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	37	29
Other forms of heart disease	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	9	23
Cerebrovascular disease	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	16	29
Other diseases of circulatory system	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	6	8
Influenza	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	-	2
Pneumonia	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	7	13
Bronchitis and Emphysema	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	11	6
Asthma	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	-	1
Peptic Ulcer	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	-
Intestinal obstruction and Hernia	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	4
Cirrhosis of Liver	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	1
Other diseases of digestive system	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	4	1
Nephritis and Nephrosis	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	-	1
Other diseases, genito-urinary system	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	4
Diseases of musculo-skeletal system	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	-	3
Symptoms and ill defined conditions	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	-	1
Motor vehicle accidents	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	-
All other accidents	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	1
Suicide and self-inflicted injuries	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	-	1
All other external causes	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	-	2
All causes									143	179

NOTIFICATIONS OF INFECTIOUS DISEASES RECEIVED DURING THE YEAR 1969

Age Periods	Measles	Scarlet Fever	Whooping Cough	Ophthalmia Neonatorum	Pulmonary Tuberculosis	Tetanus	Acute Meningitis
Under 1 year	-	-	1	1	-	-	-
1 and under 2	6	-	-	-	-	-	1
2 "	11	-	1	-	-	-	-
3 "	8	-	-	-	-	-	-
4 "	8	-	-	-	-	-	-
5 "	9	-	1	-	-	-	-
10 "	2	-	-	-	-	-	-
15 "	-	1	-	-	-	-	-
20 "	1	-	-	-	-	-	-
25 "	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
35 "	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
45 "	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
55 "	-	-	-	-	-	1	-
65 "	-	-	-	-	1	-	-
75 "	-	-	-	-	2	-	-
75 years and over	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Age unknown	1	-	-	-	-	-	-
	46	1	3	1	3	1	1

Other Notifiable Diseases - Nil

PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR'S REPORT

To the Mayor, Aldermen and Councillors,
Ryde Borough Council.

LADIES AND GENTLEMEN,

I have pleasure in submitting my twentieth Annual Report, with the approval of Dr. Quantrill, the Medical Officer of Health.

My report again follows the pattern of previous years in that it is set out in four appropriate sections.

Since this Report for 1969 will not appear in print until 1970, which will be European Conservation Year, and in order to comment upon matters appropriate to pollution and conservation when it is particularly relevant, I have included them in this Report.

I would also express my thanks, as in the past, to the Chairman and members of both the Public Health Committee and the Housing Committee for their continued confidence, and to the Chief Officers and their staffs for their generous co-operation. Mr. Jordan, my Assistant, who is also a twenty year 'veteran' in the Department, has, as always, got through a great volume of work, especially as regards housing - making Improvement Grants his speciality, upon which he is an authority. Mr. Hillier, B.E.M., has the operation of the Offices, Shops and Railway Premises Act now very much under control, and, in addition, he now handles virtually all matters to do with hackney carriage administration and most matters relating to the Shops Act. I am also hoping to arrange for him to take over more of the general office day-to-day administration, which will leave Miss Boyce able to devote more time to other office duties such as specialist typing matters, records and reports, etc. This is to be done to try and prevent a backlog of office work building up, which ever threatens. Mr. Goble has, as always in previous years, dealt effectively with the local rodent problems, and in addition has taken over the major part of other disinfestation work, especially eradicating wasps' nests which crop up over the whole area.

Yours faithfully,

STANLEY DUNMORE

Chief Public Health Inspector.

Section I - Sanitary Circumstances

Complaints

331 (322) general complaints were received and dealt with during the year. This figure does not include complaints concerning rodent infestations.

Water Supply

The I.W. River and Water Authority are the body responsible for the provision of water supplies throughout the Island, and an adequate supply of pure and wholesome water was maintained to all parts of the Borough throughout the year.

No contamination of supplies has occurred.

There are approximately 8,719 inhabited dwellings in the Borough, with a population of 22,290. All houses, etc., are connected direct to the mains supplies and no wells or stand-pipes are in use.

Mains water is supplied to:-

Domestic Premises	8,377
Commercial Premises	1,312
Industrial Undertakings	30
Other Undertakings	15
Entertainment and Recreational Premises	53
Educational and Cultural Premises	20
Crown Premises	18
Miscellaneous	206
	<hr/>
	10,031
	<hr/>

The last available chemical analysis indicated that the fluoride content was less than 0.1 p.p.m.

Drainage Matters

The bulk of the Borough's foul drainage, and much of its surface water, is discharged, untreated, through long outfalls, well beyond low-water mark, into the strong currents of the Solent flowing eastwards into the open sea. The purification works serving St. Helens and Havenstreet have dealt satisfactorily with the sewage of these localities. The constructional and contractual difficulties experienced with the construction of the new sewage disposal works to serve Kitehill and Fishbourne, which brought work to a standstill last year, have been overcome by a local constructional company taking over, and completion

will be effected early next year. The new sewer network is completed. I am required to state whether any areas in the borough are in need of sewage disposal schemes, and I am pleased to report that, except for properties in Corbett Road and the western end of Playstreet Lane, which should be dealt with at an early date, the borough is effectively served. A limited number of isolated properties have septic tanks or cesspools which the Council's mechanical emptier easily copes with. Although the Borough includes large rural areas, bucket closets are virtually non-existent.

The Borough Surveyor's pumping scheme to counter the occasional flooding which occurs in the vicinity of the Strand has been completed, and, so far, when these pumps have come into operation, flood prevention has resulted.

Alterations or new drainage works relative to existing buildings are supervised by myself or Mr. Jordan. Thirty-nine such works have been supervised, including six which necessitated action under Section 24, Public Health Act, 1936.

Public Cleansing

This service is operated by the Borough Surveyor. All districts in the Borough receive at least a once-weekly collection, and a trade refuse collection service is also provided.

An estimated total of 9,500 tons was collected and dumped at the tip near Nettlestone. The Public Health Committee, having already appreciated the limited 'life' of the tip, using crude dumping methods, have progressed with their intention to instal a pulverisation plant at the tip site. The Sandown-Shanklin U.D.C. and the I.W. Rural District Council have been invited to co-operate by also making use of the proposed plant, and have indicated their willingness to do so, and, this being so, the necessary Ministry approvals will be forthcoming. On this assumption, the Committee have gone ahead and called for competitive tenders for a pulverisation plant, and next year should see the end of crude tipping with all its problems.

The tip has received regular checks by the Rodent Operator, and during the summer, exposed surfaces of refuse received regular spraying with suitable insecticides.

Revenue from salvaged paper and cardboard during the year amounted to £1,479, and £251 from the sale of rags and metals. A salvage incentive scheme operates for the Council's refuse collection staff.

Verminous Premises

Disinfestations were carried out 68 premises. Most of the infestations were of a minor nature, none proved difficult to deal with, and all were effectively eradicated. Infestations comprised 19-cockroaches, 31-fleas, 4-ants, 4-flies, 4-beetles and 6-other pests.

97 wasps' nests (almost double the number of last year) were destroyed, as were 6 bees' nests, during the summer and autumn.

Rodent Control

The rodent (rats and mice) destruction service is operated by the Department, which provides a contract service for 64 business premises and a free service for householders. Business premises not having a contract were treated if requested, and charged for work done. Mr. Goble, our Rodent Operator, again dealt efficiently with the necessary destruction work, and some details of what this involved are set out as follows:-

During the year, 519 complaints were received, and 4,221 visits were made for the purposes of treatments and routine inspections.

<u>Council Properties</u>			<u>Dwellinghouses (including Council Houses)</u>			<u>Agricultural Premises</u>			<u>All other premises (including Business Premises)</u>		
Inspected	Infested Rats	Infested Mice	Inspected	Infested Rats	Infested Mice	Inspected	Infested Rats	Infested Mice	Inspected	Infested Rats	Infested Mice
55	14	-	482	322	49	45	29	1	191	39	23

It is very satisfactory to note that, due to measures taken over the past years, the scale of infestation by rats shows a marked reduction, and, although the number of complaints from the public remains at about the same level, the majority of these infestations are of a minor nature, and the relatively few which can be considered serious are confined to certain agricultural holdings and refuse dumps, and, in the latter case, it is confidently hoped that the mounting of an intensified control operation prior to the commencement of the new installation at the main refuse tip should result in a spectacular diminution in the number of rats there.

With the object of saving both in time and materials, a new method of baiting rats is being evaluated, but results so far are insufficient for a full comparison.

The control of mice continues satisfactorily, and here again most infestations are not exceptionally heavy, although it is found that new housing estates built on what was formerly agricultural land are particularly vulnerable through the depredations of field mice, which take up their abode even before houses are completed, and the unpredictable habits of these creatures make for a certain difficulty of control.

In conclusion, it is worth noting that very soon after television programmes depicting the activity of rats, fictional or otherwise, there is a noticeable upsurge in the reports of rat sightings, sometimes giving valuable clues to the location of unsuspected sources of trouble.

Caravans and Camping

There are five caravan sites situated in the Borough, and these all have permanent licences. None of the sites is very large, and all are in full accordance with conditions of licence, and have been operated very efficiently.

There are also five licensed camping sites in the Borough. The sites are well sited, well equipped, and very well operated, as a result of which they are popular and the demand often exceeds the camping space available, which makes me repeat my opinion that more good camping space within the Borough would be taken up if it was available.

The chalet-type holiday establishments (i.e. Warners, Puckpool and St. Clare, the Nodes Holiday Centre and the Pondwell Centre) have, as in past years, had their full quota of guests and have been excellently operated.

No complaints concerning any caravan, camping or chalet establishment have been received.

Swimming Pools

There are no public swimming pools in the Borough. Warners Puckpool and St. Clare have large open-air (one heated) pools, the W.T.A. Hotel and St. John's Road Junior School have small open-air pools and Nodes Holiday Centre has a large covered heated pool. All of these pools are equipped with an adequate chlorination/filtration plant and are well supervised, with the result that, except for one suspicious sample, all samples taken during the period when the pools were in use were reported as being satisfactory.

For several years past, I have had to draw attention to the persistently unsatisfactory bacteriological reports respecting the Council's paddling pool at the Canoe Lake. I am very pleased to report that this problem is now to be dealt with by installing a small chlorination/filtration unit, and this will be in operation next "season".

Offices, Shops and Railway Premises Act, 1963

The total number of premises registered under the Act as at 31st December, 1969 was 418. The number of different kinds registered are as follows:-

Retail Shops	217
Wholesale Premises	18
Catering and Canteens	66
Fuel Depots	-
Offices	117
	<hr/>
	418
	<hr/>

997 visits were made to registered premises.

The total number of persons employed in registered premises was 1,929 - 782 males and 1,147 females.

Five accidents were reported - all in shops. All the accidents were investigated but no breach of the Regulations was disclosed.

No applications have been made for exemptions.

Seventy Informal Notices were served. The majority of deficiencies noted were of a minor nature: damaged or badly worn floor coverings and defective floors gave the greatest cause for concern.

The majority of the hoists and lifts that are known to come within the scope of the Act have been inspected. As a direct result of these inspections one hoist has had the maximum authorised load reduced by 1 cwt., as a safety measure, and a lift has been fitted with additional safety devices. Despite a number of letters which gave ample warning of the introduction of the Hoists and Lifts Regulations, only one form F.54 was available at premises inspected in the last quarter of the year. However, as a result of the visits made, the required forms have now been obtained and completed.

With regard to Hoists and Lifts Regulations, it is felt that the service engineers have not been as helpful as could have been expected. Most lifts and hoists are inspected every three months for insurance purposes, yet none of the service engineers appear to have offered the service of additional inspection and the completion of Form F.54 now required. For example, at two premises visited, the engineers were present, engaged in the routine checks. Both engineers accepted that a requirement for an additional inspection under the new Regulations existed, and were aware of such for some time, but neither had approached the proprietor at earlier visits with an offer to provide the service now required. In both of the above cases it was

necessary for the proprietor to 'phone the head office of the engineering company concerned in order to arrange for the additional service, this at the suggestion of the Offices and Shops Inspector and not at the suggestion of the service engineer as one could have expected.

Five accidents were reported during 1969. All were investigated but no contravention of the Act was discovered.

To summarise - the improvement in the working conditions in premises within the scope of the Act is considerable. However, constant vigilance remains essential to ensure that the improvement is maintained, or ideally, that further improvements are made. For example, little seems to be done to ensure that buildings are regularly maintained, particularly the floors, floor-coverings and the decorative surfaces to walls and ceilings - this has resulted in a considerable number of informal notices being served. The failure to maintain the first-aid box to the required scale has also given rise to the serving of many informal notices during 1969. (Such notices being accompanied by a duplicated list of the required contents of the first-aid box.)

Factories Acts, 1937-59 and 1961

There are 121 (125) premises registered as factories in the Borough, of which 118 (118) have power installed. With the exception of several purpose-built factories which have become established in recent years and engaged in light industry, the great majority of the factories are small.

Common Lodging Houses

There are no registered common lodging houses within the Borough.

Noise Abatement Act

Complaints lodged by residents remains low - five in all, which referred to a specific noise in the vicinity of their properties, and these were investigated, the operators interviewed, and the problem resolved by informal action.

The complaints related to noisy factory machinery, noisy music and cars, and a barking dog.

Air Pollution

In the past, complaints locally concerning offensive smells from industrial processes have been almost nil, but this year did produce a problem following the establishment of a Company in factory premises in a built-up part of the town. The Company manufactures fibre glass boat hulls in quantity. The manufacturing process includes use of polystyrene resins which give off a heavy, unpleasant, "peardrop-like" smell. The extent of the smell in the vicinity of the factory and neighbouring properties is dependent upon the atmospheric air movement, and under still conditions it becomes very objectionable. The process is new in industry, and the answer to the problem is as yet obscure. However, the Council for Small Industries in Rural Areas has now investigated and confidently hopes to come up with an air filtering unit which can be used in the factory to extract the styrene gases from the air, thus improving conditions both inside and outside the factory. I must add that the factory management is very co-operative, and anxious to resolve the nuisance as soon as possible.

Summary of Inspections and Visits

Complaints	...	...	...	...	...	150
Public Health Act	...	...	...	...	...	156
Re-visits to Premises under Notice -						
Public Health Act	...	...	...	...	...	129
Interviews with Owners, Agents,						
Builders, etc.	...	...	...	...	...	554
Work in Progress	...	...	...	...	...	159
Insanitary Houses and Rooms	...	...	...	...	...	43
Verminous Premises or Rooms	...	...	...	...	...	36
National Assistance Act	...	...	...	...	...	13
Infectious Diseases	...	...	...	...	...	1
Drainage Inspections and Tests	...	...	...	...	...	264
Septic Tanks, Cesspools, etc.	...	...	...	...	...	11
Camping Sites, Caravans, Tents and						
Houseboats	...	...	...	...	...	39
Stables, Piggeries, Poultry, etc.	...	...	...	...	...	11
Factories with Power	...	...	...	...	...	47
Factories without Power	...	...	...	...	...	-
Out-Workers' Rooms	...	...	...	...	...	-
Schools	...	...	...	...	...	1
Offices, Shops and Railway Premises Act	...	...	...	...	...	997
Foreshores, Streams, etc.	...	...	...	...	...	13
Vacant Land and Dumps	...	...	...	...	...	47
Common Yards and Passages	...	...	...	...	...	11
Swimming Pools	...	...	...	...	...	24
Clean Air Act - Smoke Nuisances	...	...	...	...	...	20
Rodent Infestations	...	...	...	...	...	6
Dangerous Structures	...	...	...	...	...	8
Offensive Trades	...	...	...	...	...	1
Noise Nuisances	...	...	...	...	...	14
Miscellaneous Visits	...	...	...	...	...	362

Nuisances Abated and Defects Remedied

Drains and Sec. 24, Public Health Act, 1936, Sewers	
Cleared of Obstructions	62
Drains and Sec. 24, Public Health Act, 1936, Sewers	
Provided, Repaired, Reconstructed or Altered	39
Inspection Chambers Provided or Repaired	15
Disposal Plants Installed, Repaired or Cleansed	3
Offensive, etc., Accumulations Removed Including	
Abandoned Motor Vehicles	7
Dirty Premises Cleansed	1
Cellars, etc., Cleared after Flooding	2
Contraventions Remedied in Factories, etc.	2
Contraventions Remedied in Camping Sites, Caravans, etc.	1
Dangerous Structures made Safe or Demolished	2
Animals - Nuisances Abated	2
Noise - Nuisances Abated	1

Section II - Housing

The Council's housing units now number 893, comprising 14 four-bedroomed, 512 three-bedroomed, 229 two-bedroomed, 64 one-bedroomed, and 74 bed/sitting-room units. Late in the year, a start was made to replace the 31 'pre-fabs' in Preston Close with 65 Housing units.

Mr. N. Cooper, the Council's Housing Officer, reported that he had a total of 457 applicants (256 for general housing and 201 for old people). The overall figure shows an increase over last year - particularly the number of applicants for old people's accommodation - and it would seem that building priorities in the immediate future should be directed towards reducing the long waiting list.

The local building industry has maintained, and even increased, last year's high rate of private house building, despite financial restrictions operating for prospective purchasers throughout the year. The Council's Building Inspector (Mr. R. Bartrum) reports that 180 houses were completed and 36 new units were provided as a result of conversions.

With the money market remaining tight, the Council were only able to make 56 Advances under their S.D.A.A. scheme - a very low number compared with those prior to 1967. In addition, 17 Discretionary and 33 Standard Improvement Grants were paid - almost the same numbers as in the previous year. However, late in the year, the 1969 Housing Act came into force, offering considerably improved maxima for both

Discretionary and Standard Grants, and in conjunction with Improvement Grants, also making Repair Grants available. It was apparent before the end of the year that many more applications would now be forthcoming, as indicated by the number of firm enquiries received. The Town Clerk has now transferred the major part of the work involved with Improvement Grants from his to my Department, resulting in considerable extra duties in this branch of our work, the bulk of which is being handled by Mr. Jordan.

During the year, Closing Orders were made in respect of two houses, and five dwellings previously 'closed' were made fit and the Closing Orders, or Undertakings not to Let, cancelled. As regards slum clearance, I have been able to express the view that there is no likelihood of any necessity in the foreseeable future for any further clearance areas. Obviously some individual dwellings will continue to deteriorate to a level of unfitness where they have to be closed or demolished, but we estimate that these are likely to only average five per year.

The Borough's proposed Oakfield Clearance and Redevelopment Scheme, comprising all properties (including 53 dwellinghouses - December, 1969) in the area enclosed by St. John's Hill, School Street, Reed Street and High Street, has made little visible progress except that a few houses have been demolished. However, the Council have now acquired a considerable number of properties within the area, and good progress has been made in re-housing occupiers. The Council have also declared four Clearance Areas (within the Improvement Area) and made a Compulsory Purchase Order in respect of the land not in their ownership. The necessary public notices to this effect were published before the end of the year, and the subsequent legal procedures will follow on.

Inspection of Dwellinghouses during the Year

(1) (a)	Total number of dwellinghouses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts)	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	269
(b)	Number of inspections made for the purpose	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	528

Details of Inspections, Visits, etc.

Complaints	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	110
Public Health Act	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	134
Re-visits to Premises under Notice - Public Health Act	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	109
Housing Acts	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	135
Re-visits to Premises under Notice - Housing Acts	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	150

Interviews with Owners, Agents, Builders, etc.	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	676
Improvement Grants (Standard)	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	107
Improvement Grants (Discretionary)	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	96
Water Samples	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Overcrowding	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
Rent Act	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
Miscellaneous	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	98

Nuisances Abated and Defects Remedied

Chimneys and Stacks Repaired	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Ceilings Repaired, Renewed or Provided	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	3
Dampness Abated	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	32
Doors Repaired or Renewed	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
Eaves, Gutters Repaired, Renewed or Provided	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
Fireplaces Repaired or Renewed or Means of Heating Provided	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Floors Repaired or Renewed	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	23
Roofs Repaired or Renewed	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	13
Sashcords Provided or Repaired	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	4
Stairs Repaired or Renewed	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
Walls (External) Re-pointed or Repaired	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
Walls (Internal) Repaired	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	9
Windows Repaired or Renewed	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	12
Water Supplies Provided or Repaired	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	4
Waste Pipes Cleared, Repaired or Renewed	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
Bathrooms Provided or Repaired	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	29
New W.C.s Provided	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	35
W.C. Compartments Repaired	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	3
W.C. Pedestals Provided	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	35
W.C. Cisterns Provided, Repaired or Renewed	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	3
Wash-hand Basins Provided	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	39
Hot Water Supplies Provided or Extended	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	33
House completely re-conditioned under Housing Act	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	6
House Secured against vandals	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1

Section III - Inspection and Supervision of Food

During the year there have not been any significant changes in the local food industry - i.e. food shops, restaurants, hotels, dairies, etc. These premises have received routine inspections, and in general the proprietors and managers have maintained a satisfactory standard of hygiene in their premises and given good quality service to their customers.

The permanently employed labour force engaged in the local food industry has, generally speaking, maintained good standards in food handling, and on this aspect no complaints have been lodged.

Obviously those employers who, for various reasons, engage temporary seasonal staff carry extra responsibilities in trying to ensure that the extra necessary supervision as required to comply with the Food Regulations is given.

Classification of Food Premises

In accordance with the Ministry of Health Circular 1/67, the table sets out details of food premises subject to the Food Hygiene (General) Regulations, 1960, grouped in categories of trade carried on in them, including information relating to Regulations 16 and 19:-

Category	Total No. of Premises	Fitted to comply with Reg. 16	Reg. 19 Applicable	Fitted to comply with Reg. 19
Bakehouses	10	10	10	10
Fishmongers and Poulterers	8	8	8	8
Butchers	18	18	18	18
Dairies and Milk Distributors	30	-	-	-
Greengrocers and Fruiterers	10	10	10	10
Grocers	58	58	58	58
Restaurants, Cafes, etc.	66	66	66	66
Licensed Premises (Full Licences)	63	63	63	63
Bread and Cake Shops	12	12	12	12
Fried Fish Shops	10	10	10	10
Hotels	23	23	23	23
Private Hotels and Guest Houses	100(a)	(x)	100	(x)
Small Boarding Houses	250(b)	(y)	250	(y)
Clubs	5	-	-	-
Confectioners	25	25	-	-
Totals	688	303	628	278

- (a) Estimated number of premises normally capable of sleeping 10 or more persons.
- (b) Estimated number of premises normally capable of sleeping less than 10 persons - in operation for short periods only.
- (x) Only a limited number of premises have been inspected - due to shortage of time and staff.
- (y) No small boarding-houses have been inspected.

Food Complaints

During the year, twelve complaints concerning food were received, and related to "foreign bodies" being found, or the food not being of the standard or quality the complainant had the right to expect. All the complaints were fully investigated and taken up with the manufacturers concerned, or the retailer if the fault was his. Advice from the Public Health Laboratory Service was also sought as necessary. No legal proceedings were instituted, but all offenders received warnings, and in two cases the Public Health Committee issued severe reprimands and warnings.

The twelve complaints referred to are summarised as follows:-

1. Staple in fish cake.
2. Maggots in ham.
3. Pin in tin of vegetable salad.
4. Caterpillar in tin of peas.
5. Glass in loaf.
6. Fly in loaf.
7. Dirt on milk bottle.
8. Mould in apricot pie.
9. Mould in crumpets.
10. Mould in sausage rolls.
11. Mould in pork pie.
12. Mould in steak & kidney pie.

Meat and Other Foods - Inspection

There are no slaughterhouses within the Borough - supplies of fresh meat come from Newport and nearby mainland counties. There are two meat distribution depots established in the town. Quality of both meat and fish has continued to be good.

The quantities of meat and tinned and packaged foods condemned is less than in past years - the amounts are really quite small and do not call for comment. Foods condemned and destroyed:-

Meat (Home Killed)	...	...	...	...	...	...	52 lb.
Meat (Imported)	...	...	...	...	...	...	20 lb.
Poultry	...	...	...	...	...	...	111 lb.
Bacon	...	...	...	...	...	...	105 lb.
Cooked Meats	...	...	...	...	...	...	151 lb.
Fish	...	...	...	...	...	...	14 lb.
Ground Almonds	...	...	...	...	...	...	3 lb.
Other Foods	...	...	...	...	...	...	3 lb.
Meat, Milk, Fruit, Vegetables							
Fish, etc.	...	...	...	...	...	...	1056 (1463)
							tins and jars.

Contents of 2 refrigerated storage cabinets - breakdowns.
Quantity of partially de-frosted food - delayed in transit.
Large quantity of food damaged by heat & smoke - fire in shop.

Poultry Inspection

- (i) There are two poultry processing establishments within the Borough. One, which breeds most of its young birds, operates throughout the year and also retails most of its business. It is not a large factory and it processes an average of about 300 birds per week. The other is attached to a retail premises, and operates more occasionally, according to demand and at busy seasonal periods.
- (ii) 28 visits were made to the premises.
- (iii) The total number of birds processed was approximately 17,590.
- (iv) The birds processed were chickens, capons, hens, turkeys, ducks and pheasants (in that order of demand).
- (v) 3.5 per cent of the birds were rejected as unfit for human consumption.
- (vi) 1800 lb. of poultry was rejected as unfit for human consumption.
- (vii) Both establishments are adequately equipped. Both the operators of these premises have long experience in the poultry trade, and visits have been limited to periodic inspections. No disease problems occurred - rejections of birds were mainly confined to malformations, i.e. localised abscesses, etc. The operators are selective as regards their sources of supply, and suspect birds are rejected at that stage.

Milk Supplies

All milk sampling for the Borough is undertaken by the I.W. County Council, since they are the responsible Food and Drugs Authority.

40 (37) distributors are registered and 9 (9) premises registered as dairies. All milk sold is designated, the bulk of which is pasteurised and supplied from a factory in Newport, and the remainder is pasteurised in a small plant operated by a local dairyman.

Food and Drugs Act, 1955, Section 16

Premises registered under the above Act and Section, and which comply with the Food Hygiene (General) Regulations, 1960 are:-

Registered for the Manufacture of Sausages and/or Preserved Foods	28
Registered for the Manufacture, Storage/ Sale of Ice Cream	120
	<hr/>
	148
	<hr/>

Ice Cream

119 premises are registered for the storage and sale of ice cream, the majority of which are shops which sell only wrapped ice cream manufactured by the national producers. There are three local manufacturers producing ice cream in small, satisfactorily equipped factories, who sell their products from their local shops and mobile vans which operate throughout the Island, and the national producers have storage depots on the Island, providing an excellent distribution service.

Bakehouses

During the year, a further two bakehouses have closed, reducing the number to eleven now operating, none of which is underground. Except for three firms who manufacture and deliver bread, the bakehouses are small and attached to shop premises.

Licensed Premises

There are 63 premises with full licence operating in the Borough. Although there has been a major brewery ownership change affecting the greater number of premises, this has not to date produced any dramatic changes at the various 'houses'. Management and operation of all the premises has been of a good and satisfactory standard, and no complaints respecting them were lodged.

Details of Inspections, Visits, etc.

Complaints	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	52
Interviews with Owners, Agents, Builders, etc.	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	231
Re-visits to Premises under Notice -								
Food and Drugs Act	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	37
Butchers' Shops	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	32
Fishmongers and Poulterers	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	43
Greengrocers	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	11
Grocers and Other Food Shops	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	42
Bakehouses	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	13
Fried Fish Shops	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	12
Ice Cream Premises	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	17
Restaurants and Kitchens	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	74
Food Stalls and Vehicles	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	45
Licensed Premises	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	69
Food Factories	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	21
Hotels	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	16
Food Inspection	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	50
Milk Distributors	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	12
Food Poisoning Enquiries	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	9
Infestations	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	3
Miscellaneous	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	21

Number of Contraventions Remedied in:-

Butchers Shops and Wholesale Premises	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Greengrocers	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
Grocers and Other Food Shops	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	8
Fried Fish Shops	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	3
Restaurants and Kitchens	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	11
Licensed Premises	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	16
Food Stalls	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	5

Summary of Notices Served (Sections I, II and III)

Public Health Act (Informal)	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	103
Public Health Acts (Formal)	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	6
Housing Acts (Informal)	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	-
Housing Acts (Formal)	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	3
Factories Act	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
Food and Drugs Act	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	33
Offices, Shops and Railway Premises Act	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	70

Section IV - Miscellaneous

Duties carried out in addition to those contained in the Public Health Officers Regulations, 1959, include the following:-

Petroleum (Regulation) Acts, 1928 and 1936

During 1969/70, commencing 1st May, 1969, 41 premises were licensed for the storage of petroleum spirit, total gallonage being 73,500. Fourteen petroleum mixture licences were issued, for a total of 596 gallons. 200 visits were made to the petroleum establishments for the purpose of ascertaining that the Acts and Regulations were being complied with, and to inspect any work in connection with new installations, alterations or repairs.

In March, all proprietors of electrically operated pumps were notified that, as from 1st May, next year, they will be required to have their electrical equipment inspected annually by an approved electrician, and a Certificate submitted with licence applications stating that the equipment fulfils that part of the revised Model Code of Principles of Construction and Licensing Conditions for Petroleum Installations which deals with electrical equipment.

Shops Act - Closing Hours

The Department is responsible for the compliance with 'hours of closing' by shops within the Borough, as required by the Shops Act and several operative Closing Orders made by the Council. Continued supervision has been maintained this year, and 60 visits were made. In addition, some 30 advisory copies of the Shops Act, 1950, were distributed.

Hackney Carriages and Drivers

The local byelaws governing hackney carriages licensed to ply for hire on the Council's stands are administered by the Health Department, and here too increased supervision has been maintained. 75 inspections were made of 52 licensed vehicles, and, following a request by the General Purposes Committee, additional 'snap' inspections to check cleanliness were carried out on 540 vehicles.

82 drivers for these vehicles were also licensed by the Council, and subject to similar surveillance.

Pet Animals Act, 1951

Three pet shops are licensed by the Council. These have received 10 visits and found to be operated in accordance with their licence conditions. The Council required the proprietors to supply pamphlets with animals sold, advising on their care.

Animal Boarding Establishments Act, 1963

The same two establishments as previously licensed have had their licenses renewed since both have continued to be satisfactorily operated and have maintained the required standards. One establishment boards small dogs and cats, and the other takes cats only.

Lectures and other Educational Activities

Mr. Jordan has continued his valued assistance to the I.W. Group Hospital Management Committee by giving a series of lectures and demonstrations on public health subjects which are included in the syllabus of the examination courses taken by the student nurses.

I attended the Annual Conference of Public Health Inspectors and local authority representatives, held at Eastbourne in October, and Mr. Jordan attended a Week-end School held at Oxford in April, organised by the Public Health Inspectors' Association, and a one-day Conference on the Food Regulations held in London during November.

Factories Act, 1961

Report of the Medical Officer of Health in respect of the year
1969 for the Borough of Ryde, in the County of the Isle of Wight.

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

Premises	Number on Register	Number of Inspections	No. of Written notices	No. of Occupiers prosecuted
(i) Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4, and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities	3	-	-	-
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority	118	47	-	-
(iii) Other premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding outworkers' premises)	-	-	-	-
TOTAL	121	47	-	-

2. CASES in which defects were found

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

