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**Contributors**

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A.421  
A.405



**THE**  
**HEALTH**  
**OF**  
**SLOUGH**



**1969**



# BOROUGH OF SLOUGH

January to May, 1969

## SERVICES COMMITTEE

*Chairman:*

COUNCILLOR E. LEWIS

*Vice-Chairman:*

COUNCILLOR H.J. NEWMAN

ALDERMAN MRS. J.M.B. GIBSON

ALDERMAN J. RIGBY

*(Mayor) (ex officio)*

COUNCILLOR A.J. BLOOM

COUNCILLOR F.L. HARRIS

COUNCILLOR E. HOGAN

COUNCILLOR A.B. PARRYMORE

COUNCILLOR G.A. PEARCE

COUNCILLOR R. SEYMOUR

*(Deputy Mayor) (ex officio)*

COUNCILLOR MRS. M.M. SHAW

COUNCILLOR A. SIMPSON

COUNCILLOR K. WRIGHT

May to December, 1969

## SERVICES COMMITTEE

*Chairman:*

COUNCILLOR H.J. NEWMAN

*Vice-Chairman:*

COUNCILLOR F.L. HARRIS

ALDERMAN MRS. J.M.B. GIBSON

ALDERMAN J.H.P.L. GOODMAN

*(Mayor) (ex officio)*

ALDERMAN MRS. M.J. MORGAN

ALDERMAN F.S.G. ROOM

COUNCILLOR A.J. BLOOM

COUNCILLOR W. PARNHAM

COUNCILLOR G.A. PEARCE

COUNCILLOR C.A. PENN

COUNCILLOR R.K. POWELL

COUNCILLOR I.S.M. REA

*(Deputy Mayor) (ex officio)*

COUNCILLOR MRS. M.M. SHAW

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH

'HIGHFIELD',

9, BATH ROAD,

SLOUGH.

Telephone: SLOUGH 23881

## PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT STAFF

### Medical Officer of Health:

MACDONALD A. CHARRETT, M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.P.H., F.R.S.H.,

### Deputy Medical Officer of Health:

AUDREY MYANT, M.B., B.S., M.R.C.P., D.P.H.

### Departmental Medical Officers:

JEAN BARKER, B.Sc., M.B., Ch.B., M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P. (resigned 13.6.69)  
ROBERTA EVANS, B.Sc., M.B., Ch.B.  
J. CAROL BUTCHER, M.B., Ch.B. (resigned 8.9.69)  
ERINA HERRICK, M.B., B.S. (appointed 3.11.69)  
A.V. GILLESPIE, M.B., B.Chir., M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P. (appointed 24.11.69)

### Chief Public Health Inspector:

LESLIE A. STROUD, D.P.A., F.R.S.H., F.A.P.H.I. (retired 3. 7.69)  
J. SAGAR, D.P.A., M.A.P.H.I., M.R.S.H. (appointed 4. 7.69)

### Deputy Chief Public Health Inspector:

J. SAGAR, D.P.A., M.A.P.H.I., M.R.S.H. (until 3. 7.69)  
D.A. OWEN, (1,2,3) (appointed 1.12.69)

### Public Health Inspectors – Special Duties:

B.C. UPTON, A.R.S.H., M.A.P.H.I., (1,2,3)  
(*Smoke Control*)  
D.A. OWEN, (1,2,3) (until 31.11.69)  
(*Food and Drugs and Housing Improvement Grants*)  
I.D. PRESTON (1,2)  
(*Offices and Shops*)  
D.W. TOMLIN, (1,2)  
(*Housing – Multiple Occupation*)  
R.B.C. SMITH, M.A.P.H.I. (1,2)  
(*Superintendent/Senior Meat Inspector, Municipal Abattoir*)

### District Public Health Inspectors:

P. BAILEY, (1,2) (resigned 28. 2.69)  
A. FENN, M.A.P.H.I., (1,2,3) (resigned 10. 8.69)  
A.G. WELCH, F.R.S.H., (1,2) (resigned 10.11.69)  
J. LIDDLE, M.A.P.H.I., (1,2,3) (appointed 1. 7.69)  
P.H. LOVELACE, M.A.P.H.I., (1,2,3) (appointed 18. 8.69)  
M.R. PEARCE, M.A.P.H.I., (1,2) (appointed 1. 7.69)

### Pupil Public Health Inspector:

J.F. MARSHALL

### Technical Assistants (Smoke Control):

J.W. DAVIES, A.R.S.H., M.R.P.A.  
R.I. LLOYD

### Technical Assistant (Pest Control):

F.C. QUINN

**Laboratory Technician/Mortuary Attendant:**

C.G. WOOD

**Administrative Assistants:**

R. BORRETT (resigned 1.10.69)  
T.A.W. BUCHANAN (appointed 18.11.69)  
MRS. J.C. BAYLISS

**Home Safety Officer:**

R.P. JONES

**Administrative Assistant (Meals on Wheels):**

MISS K.E. FELSTEAD

**Clerical Staff – Medical Officer of Health's Section:**

MISS D.M. DRYE (resigned 31. 7.69)  
MRS. S. MARSH  
MISS M.S. ARNETT (resigned 25. 4.69)  
MISS A. GREENOUGH  
MRS. M.G. BENTLEY  
MRS. D. HALLETT  
MRS. M.P. COOK (resigned 17.11.69)  
MISS S. RAO  
MRS. N.H. BATES  
MISS J.A. MAY (resigned 10.10.69)  
MRS. D. SMART (resigned 15. 8.69)  
MISS L.A. HARRIES (appointed 7. 7.69)  
MISS J.E. COOK (appointed 10. 3.69)  
MRS. S.E. SMITH (appointed 25. 8.69)  
MRS. K. ALLEN (appointed 6. 9.69)  
MRS. E.M. KNIGHT (appointed 24.11.69)  
MRS. K.D. CALVERT (appointed 1. 4.69)  
MRS. M.E. COWLAND (appointed 1. 8.69)

**Clerical Staff – Chief Public Health Inspector's Section:**

MISS M. REITH (resigned 7. 9.69)  
MISS E.P. WILLIAMS  
MISS L. HOWE  
MISS J.L. FRASER (appointed 4. 8.69)

**Area Welfare Officer:**

H.L.G. HEATH

**Deputy Area Welfare Officer:**

P. WALKINGTON

**Social Workers:**

|                      |                      |
|----------------------|----------------------|
| MRS. L.V. RUTTERFORD |                      |
| MRS. P.G. BATTERBY   |                      |
| G.B. DENBY           |                      |
| MRS. M.J. HALLIDAY   |                      |
| A. JONES             |                      |
| MRS. F.M. MACHIN     |                      |
| MISS A. MARSDEN      | (resigned 31.10.69)  |
| T. HERON             |                      |
| MISS S.L.W. BARBOUR  |                      |
| MISS A. VALENTINE    |                      |
| MRS. L.M. WONG       |                      |
| MISS P.A. MELVILLE   | (Trainee)            |
| D. GEEN              | (appointed 4. 8.69)  |
| MRS. M. ROWDON       | (appointed 15. 9.69) |
| MISS W. CLARK        | (appointed 29.12.69) |
| MISS M. COSTELLO     | (appointed 2. 9.69)  |

**Social Workers for the Blind:**

MRS. R.R. BRUNNER  
MISS E.L. JEPPE

**Trainee Social Worker for the Blind:**

MISS J.S. ROBERTS  
*(transferred to High Wycombe September 1969)*

**Home Help Organiser:**  
MRS. E.A. GORMAN

**Assistant Home Help Organisers:**

MRS. E. FARNELL  
MRS. E.M. WHITE

**Veterinary Surgeon:**  
J.E. GARLAND, J.P., M.R.C.V.S.

**Public Analyst:**  
ERIC VOELCKER, A.R.C.S., F.I.C.

**KEY TO QUALIFICATIONS**

1. Certificate of the Inspectors Joint Board as Public Health Inspector.
2. Certificate of Royal Society of Health as Inspector of Meat and Other Foods.
3. Certificate of Royal Society of Health as Smoke Inspector.

HEALTH DEPARTMENT,  
"HIGHFIELD",  
9, BATH ROAD,  
SLOUGH.

*To the Worshipful the Mayor, Aldermen and Councillors of the Borough of Slough*

MR. MAYOR, LADIES AND GENTLEMEN,

This is the twenty-first annual report which I have had the duty to compile, the first one covering the year 1949 during which my predecessor, Dr. G.M. Hobbin, who died in August 1969, had been in office. I completed my twenty years in this town in April of this year, 1970.

If one looks back over a year or two there seems to have been little change in the circumstances or health of a community unless there has been the misfortune of an epidemic but a period of two decades shows very considerable alteration in the patterns of life and death.

For most of the period there has been rapid growth of population, partly by natural increase, but more especially by immigration both from home and overseas by people who have seen the opportunities for work and the chance to make a good life in the town. This continued influx has created many problems, not least of which is the multi-occupation of houses, a circumstance which is reported upon very fully by the Chief Public Health Inspector. The information given by Mr. Sagar is from knowledge and not from speculation, as Slough is one of the few towns where there is a continual survey of housing conditions taking place.

Food hygiene takes a very high place in the department's activities and with the extension of convenience foods much greater reliance has to be placed by the public upon manufacturers of foods and upon the health departments who watch over the preparation and cleanliness of the products.

The Borough Council has been proceeding with the policy of extending clean air zones over the past decade, but national shortage of smokeless fuels will inevitably cause a slowing-down of this — it is to be hoped that this set-back will only be short-lived.

Twenty years ago infectious diseases took considerable room in this Annual Report, but for natural reasons and because of immunisation many of the previous scourges have almost disappeared — they will stay away if we continue to take their threat seriously and proceed with our vaccination programmes. On the other hand

little mention was made of lung cancer and heart disease, which now seem to have reached almost epidemic proportions.

The past year has seen the proliferation of reports upon many aspects of life and the organisation of the health services and local government are among those likely to be changed. What the future will hold is impossible to predict, but it is certain that the continued need for public support for public services is absolutely essential as you, Mr. Mayor, and the members of your Council have realised over the years. Without your support the officers would find their task not only difficult but disheartening, and efficiency would inevitably suffer.

I would be failing in my duty if I did not end by drawing your attention to the way in which all your officers have served you during the past year and to add my personal appreciation for all the help which they have so willingly given to provide a health service worthy of the name.

I remain, Mr. Mayor, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,

**MACDONALD A. CHARRETT,**  
*Medical Officer of Health.*

## ANNUAL REPORT FOR 1969

## SUMMARY OF STATISTICS

## GENERAL STATISTICS

|  |             |
|--|-------------|
| Area ... ..  | 6,202 acres |
| Population: Registrar General's Estimate for mid 1969 ... ..         | 92,750      |
| Number of dwelling houses, including flats at 1st April, 1969 ... .. | 25,775      |
| Rateable value as at 1st April, 1969 ... ..                          | £7,752,510  |
| Estimated Product of Penny Rate 1969/70 ... ..                       | £31,750     |

## EXTRACTS FROM VITAL STATISTICS FOR THE YEAR 1969

| Live Births:        | Males      | Females    | Total        |
|---------------------|------------|------------|--------------|
| Legitimate ... ..   | 790        | 763        | 1,553        |
| Illegitimate ... .. | 70         | 70         | 140          |
| <b>Total</b>        | <b>860</b> | <b>833</b> | <b>1,693</b> |

Crude Birth Rate (per 1,000 population) ... .. 18.3

Corrected Birth Rate (allowing for sex and age  
of the population) ... .. 17.2  
(Comparability factor 0.94)

National Birth Rate ... .. 16.3

Ratio of local Birth Rate to National Rate ... .. 1.06:1

Illegitimate live births were 8% of total live births

| Still Births:       | Males     | Females  | Total     |
|---------------------|-----------|----------|-----------|
| Legitimate ... ..   | 9         | 9        | 18        |
| Illegitimate ... .. | 2         | 0        | 2         |
| <b>Total</b>        | <b>11</b> | <b>9</b> | <b>20</b> |

Total of live and still births ... .. 1,713

Still Birth Rate per 1,000 total births ... .. 12.0

Still Birth Rate per 1,000 population ... .. 0.21

National Still Birth Rate per 1,000 total births ... .. 13.0

## Peri-Natal Mortality: (Still Births and Deaths of Infants under 1 week of age)

|                     | Males     | Females   | Total     |
|---------------------|-----------|-----------|-----------|
| Deaths ... ..       | 13        | 7         | 20        |
| Still Births ... .. | 11        | 9         | 20        |
| <b>Total</b>        | <b>24</b> | <b>16</b> | <b>40</b> |

**Peri-Natal Mortality (cont'd.):**

Rate per 1,000 total live and still births —

|          |    |
|----------|----|
| SLOUGH   | 23 |
| NATIONAL | 23 |

**Neo-Natal Mortality: (Deaths of Infants under 4 weeks of age)**

| Deaths:             | Males     | Females   | Total     |
|---------------------|-----------|-----------|-----------|
| Legitimate ... ..   | 13        | 9         | 22        |
| Illegitimate ... .. | 3         | 1         | 4         |
| <b>Total</b>        | <b>16</b> | <b>10</b> | <b>26</b> |

Rate for all infants under 4 weeks of age per 1,000 live births —

|          |    |
|----------|----|
| SLOUGH   | 15 |
| NATIONAL | 12 |

**Infant Mortality: (Deaths of Infants under 1 year of age)**

| Deaths:             | Males     | Females   | Total     |
|---------------------|-----------|-----------|-----------|
| Legitimate ... ..   | 17        | 11        | 28        |
| Illegitimate ... .. | 3         | 2         | 5         |
| <b>Total</b>        | <b>20</b> | <b>13</b> | <b>33</b> |

Rate per 1,000 live births ... .. 19

National Rate per 1,000 live births ... .. 18

Ratio of Local Rate to National Rate ... .. 1.05:1

**Maternal Deaths:**

No. of women dying in, or as a consequence of pregnancy ... .. NIL

| Deaths:   | Males | Females | Total |
|---|-------|---------|-------|
|   | 429   | 338     | 767   |
| Crude death rate per 1,000 population ... ..                            |       | 8.3     |       |
| Corrected Death Rate (allowing for sex and age<br>of population) ... .. |       | 11.7    |       |
| (Comparability factor 1.41)   |       |         |       |
| National Death Rate per 1,000 population ... ..                         |       | 11.9    |       |
| Ratio of Local Death Rate to National Rate ... ..                       |       | 0.98:1  |       |

| Other Deaths:             | Males | Females | Total | Rate per 1,000<br>Population |
|---------------------------|-------|---------|-------|------------------------------|
| Cancer ... ..             | 117   | 98      | 215   | 2.32                         |
| Pulmonary T.B. ... ..     | -     | 2       | 2     | 0.021                        |
| Non-Pulmonary T.B. ... .. | 1     | 1       | 2     | 0.021                        |

## I. VITAL STATISTICS

### BIRTHS

Somewhat surprisingly there were 57 more live births in 1969 than there had been in 1968 – 31 were boys and 26 were girls.

I say surprisingly because not only has there been a tendency for the birth rate to fall during the past five or six years but because the ratio of the local rate to the National rate rose instead of falling; the ratio of 1.06:1 was the second highest recorded. The National rate fell quite sharply to 16.3 and is the lowest for quite a number of years.

There was a slight rise in the general population of the town during the year and the 57 additional births represented an increase of 0.5 births per thousand population and the total of 1,693 live births is equivalent to 17.2 live births per thousand population.

| <i>Year</i> | <i>Corrected Birth Rate, Slough (1)</i> | <i>Birth Rate England &amp; Wales (2)</i> | <i>Ratio Slough : England/Wales (3)</i> |
|-------------|---|---|---|
| 1960        | 16.74                                   | 17.1                                      | 0.98 : 1                                |
| 1961        | 17.62                                   | 17.4                                      | 1.01 : 1                                |
| 1962        | 18.25                                   | 18.0                                      | 1.01 : 1                                |
| 1963        | 18.91                                   | 18.2                                      | 1.04 : 1                                |
| 1964        | 20.2                                    | 18.4                                      | 1.10 : 1                                |
| 1965        | 18.4                                    | 18.1                                      | 1.02 : 1                                |
| 1966        | 17.7                                    | 17.7                                      | 1.00 : 1                                |
| 1967        | 17.5                                    | 17.2                                      | 1.02 : 1                                |
| 1968        | 16.73                                   | 16.9                                      | 0.99 : 1                                |
| 1969        | 17.2                                    | 16.3                                      | 1.06 : 1                                |

### ILLEGITIMACY

Once again there was a decline in the number of illegitimate births. Whereas there had been 148 illegitimate births out of a total of 1,661 births (live and still) in 1968 there were only 140 out of 1,713 in 1969.

This represents a rate of 8.0 per cent illegitimate births in 1969 and a comparison with previous years can be seen in the table immediately overleaf.

|      |     |      |
|------|-----|------|
| 1960 | ... | 5.68 |
| 1961 | ... | 5.69 |
| 1962 | ... | 7.73 |
| 1963 | ... | 8.56 |
| 1964 | ... | 7.99 |
| 1965 | ... | 9.01 |
| 1966 | ... | 9.38 |
| 1967 | ... | 9.33 |
| 1968 | ... | 9.05 |
| 1969 | ... | 8.0  |

### STILL BIRTHS

There were 20 stillbirths during the year under review and this is five fewer than there had been in 1968 with 52 more births. The table shows that the figure of 1969 is much nearer to that attained in the majority of the preceding 10 years and, at 12.0 per thousand total births is considerably below the rate for 1968.

|      |     |      |
|------|-----|------|
| 1960 | ... | 12.5 |
| 1961 | ... | 10.5 |
| 1962 | ... | 16.8 |
| 1963 | ... | 13.4 |
| 1964 | ... | 11.9 |
| 1965 | ... | 11.2 |
| 1966 | ... | 12.3 |
| 1967 | ... | 13.0 |
| 1968 | ... | 15.0 |
| 1969 | ... | 12.0 |

If readers will turn to the table on peri-natal mortality this gives a much better picture of community standards than does the stillbirth rate by itself – many children who now survive for a short while, and indeed some who live for a very long while would not have survived at all a few years ago. This means that although the infant mortality rate may show a very slight fall or even a rise at the same time as the stillbirth rate is falling there may be an overall improvement in the survival rate of children at or around birth.

## PERI-NATAL MORTALITY

While there were more deaths in the first week of life in 1969 than there had been in 1968 — 19 compared with 15 — there were only twenty stillbirths during the period compared with twenty-five a year earlier. This means that only 39 pregnancies out of a total of 1,713 failed to produce children who lived more than a week; that is to say a peri-natal mortality rate of 23 per 1,000 total births. This rate is the same as the rate for England and Wales as a whole.

The table shows that there has been a slight reduction over the past decade but no major break-through has been achieved. It is possible we are approaching a minimum below which we cannot go but as there are a few countries where the rate is lower than ours we should not rest content unless we at least equal their achievements.

|      |     |       |
|------|-----|-------|
| 1960 | ... | 28.3  |
| 1961 | ... | 26.6  |
| 1962 | ... | 24.4  |
| 1963 | ... | 25.05 |
| 1964 | ... | 24.9  |
| 1965 | ... | 17.1  |
| 1966 | ... | 22.7  |
| 1967 | ... | 26.2  |
| 1968 | ... | 24.1  |
| 1969 | ... | 23.0  |

The maternity liaison committee which exists as a forum for discussion of problems associated with the services available to mothers and young babies met once or twice during the year. This body, consisting of people working in the medical and allied professions in hospitals and the community, discusses the services from many different aspects and so provides mutually agreed lines upon which future improvements may be made.

## NEO-NATAL MORTALITY

Neo-natal deaths are those occurring within 4 weeks of birth. This number is usually almost the same as those living only for a week; in other words most children surviving one week usually survive for one month. In 1969, however, although there were 19 deaths under one week of age, the total under one month was 25. The neo-natal mortality rate in Slough in 1969 is based on the Registrar General's figures which gave the number of neo-natal deaths as 26. Quite often

there is a discrepancy between the local figures and those issued by the Registrar General, whose machinery must pass on to the following period after a short while instead of waiting, as I can, until later in the year. From the Registrar General's information the Slough neo-natal mortality rate was 15.0 per thousand live births compared with the national figure of 12.0.

### INFANT MORTALITY

It is disappointing to have to record that although there was a slight reduction in the peri-natal mortality, the number of infants dying, according to the Registrar General's figures, under one year of age showed a considerable jump from 23 in 1968 to 33 in 1969; of these 20 were boys and 13 were girls.

Although another 2 deaths were really due to congenital abnormalities, there was again a small number who died from acute infection of the respiratory tract. Cases of death from this cause in young infants are always disturbing particularly as most children have, until a very short time before, seemed perfectly healthy. The following pages give the causes of death in much greater detail.

| CAUSES OF DEATH OF INFANTS UNDER ONE YEAR OF AGE                     |   |             |             |             |                             |              |              |                              |              |              |              |                |                             |
|--|---|-------------|-------------|-------------|-----------------------------|--------------|--------------|------------------------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|----------------|-----------------------------|
| CAUSES OF DEATH  | UNDER<br>1 DAY                            | 1-2<br>DAYS | 3-5<br>DAYS | 6-7<br>DAYS | TOTAL<br>UNDER<br>1<br>WEEK | 1-2<br>WEEKS | 3-4<br>WEEKS | TOTAL<br>UNDER<br>1<br>MONTH | 1-3<br>MTHS. | 4-6<br>MTHS. | 7-9<br>MTHS. | 10-12<br>MTHS. | TOTAL<br>UNDER<br>1<br>YEAR |
|  | Other forms of heart disease<br>420 - 429 | -           | -           | -           | -                           | -            | -            | -                            | -            | -            | -            | 1              | -                           |
| Cerebro vascular disease<br>430 - 438                                | -   | -           | -           | -           | -                           | -            | -            | -                            | -            | 1            | -            | -              | 1                           |
| Acute respiratory infection<br>460 - 466                             | -   | -           | 1           | -           | 1                           | -            | 1            | 2                            | 1            | 2            | -            | -              | 5                           |
| Pneumonia 480 - 486. Bronchitis<br>Emphysema and Asthma<br>490 - 493 | -   | -           | 1           | -           | 1                           | -            | 1            | 2                            | 1            | 1            | -            | -              | 5                           |
| Congenital abnormalities<br>740 - 759                                | 3   | -           | 1           | -           | 4                           | 3            | 1            | 8                            | 1            | 1            | -            | -              | 10                          |
| Anoxic and hypoxic conditions<br>not elsewhere classified 776        | 5   | 7           | 1           | -           | 13                          | 1            | -            | 14                           | -            | -            | -            | -              | 14                          |
| Immaturity, Unqualified 777  | 1   | -           | -           | -           | 1                           | -            | -            | 1                            | -            | -            | -            | -              | 1                           |
| <b>TOTAL</b>   | <b>9</b>                                  | <b>7</b>    | <b>3</b>    | <b>-</b>    | <b>19</b>                   | <b>4</b>     | <b>2</b>     | <b>25</b>                    | <b>2</b>     | <b>4</b>     | <b>1</b>     | <b>-</b>       | <b>32</b>                   |
| <b>WHERE DIED</b>  |   |             |             |             |                             |              |              |                              |              |              |              |                |                             |
| Home   | -   | -           | -           | -           | -                           | -            | -            | -                            | 1            | 1            | -            | -              | 2                           |
| Hospitals in this area   | 9   | 5           | 3           | -           | 17                          | 2            | 1            | 20                           | -            | 1            | -            | -              | 21                          |
| Hospitals away from this area  | -   | 2           | -           | -           | 2                           | 2            | 1            | 5                            | 1            | -            | -            | -              | 6                           |
| Found dead on arrival at hospital                                    | -   | -           | -           | -           | -                           | -            | -            | -                            | -            | 2            | 1            | -              | 3                           |
| <b>TOTAL</b>   | <b>9</b>                                  | <b>7</b>    | <b>3</b>    | <b>-</b>    | <b>19</b>                   | <b>4</b>     | <b>2</b>     | <b>25</b>                    | <b>2</b>     | <b>4</b>     | <b>1</b>     | <b>-</b>       | <b>32</b>                   |

**Other Forms of Heart Disease 420-429**

- 7 months — Endocardial fibrosis — Dead on arrival at Princess Alice Hospital, Eastbourne.  
Coroner's post-mortem (424.9)

**Cerebro-Vascular Disease 430-438**

- 5 months — Spontaneous subdural haemorrhage. Found dead on arrival at Wexham Park Hospital.  
Coroner's post-mortem (431)

**Acute Respiratory Infection 460-466. Pneumonia 480-486  
Bronchitis, Emphysema and Asthma 490-493**

- 4 months — Acute laryngo-tracheo-bronchitis — Home.  
Coroner's post-mortem (466)
- 3 months — Bronchopneumonia. Ventricular septal defect and mongolism was a contributory cause —  
Home. Coroner's post-mortem (485)
- 6 months — Bronchopneumonia. — Wexham Park Hospital —  
Coroner's post-mortem (485)
- 5 days — Neo-natal pneumonia. — Canadian Red Cross  
Hospital (486)
- 3 weeks — Pneumonia and emphysema. — Wexham Park  
Hospital. Coroner's post-mortem (486)

**Congenital Abnormalities 740-759**

- Under 24 hours — Anencephaly + large occipital meningomyelocele.  
Upton Hospital (740)
- 2 weeks — Septicaemia and ascending meningitis  
(spitzholter valve) due to myelomeningocele  
and hydrocephalus. Westminster Children's  
Hospital (741.0)
- 3 days — Bronchopneumonia due to septicaemia due to  
meningomyelocele. Associated polycystic  
kidneys, arthrogyphosis and multiplex  
congenita. Upton Hospital (741.9)
- 4 months — Cardiac failure due to congenital heart disease.  
Found dead on arrival at Wexham Park  
Hospital. Coroner's post-mortem (746.9)
- 1 week — Bronchopneumonia due to oesophageal atresia,  
associated with Down's syndrome.  
Upton Hospital (750.2)

**Congenital Abnormalities 740-759 (cont'd.)**

- 1 month – Chronic sepsis due to anorectal atresia and ventricular septal defect associated with ureteric obstruction. Great Ormond Street Hospital (751.2)
- Under 24 hours – Cardio-respiratory failure due to diaphragmatic hernia associated with unspecified congenital heart disease. Upton Hospital (756.8)
- 3 weeks – Cachexia due to gastroschisis. Westminster Children's Hospital (758.8)
- 2 weeks – Peritonitis due to operation for congenital abnormality. Great Ormond Street Hospital (758.9)
- Under 24 hours – Multiple congenital abnormalities. Upton Hospital (759.9)

**Anoxic and Hypoxic Conditions not elsewhere classified 776**

- 3 days – Pneumonia (neonatal) due to aspiration syndrome. Upton Hospital (776.0)
- 1 week – Aspiration syndrome due to pneumonia (organism *E.coli*). Upton Hospital (776.0)
- Under 24 hours – Respiratory distress syndrome due to hyaline membrane disease associated with prematurity. Canadian Red Cross Hospital (776.1)
- Under 24 hours – Bilateral pneumothorax. Upton Hospital (776.2)
- Under 24 hours – Respiratory distress syndrome due to prematurity of 26 weeks gestation. Upton Hospital (776.2)
- 1 day – Respiratory distress syndrome due to prematurity of 26 weeks. Upton Hospital (776.2)
- 1 day – Prematurity due to R.D.S. and congenital heart disease associated with collapse. Canadian Red Cross Hospital (776.2)
- 1 day – Respiratory distress syndrome due to early born G.A. 32 weeks. Hammersmith Hospital (776.2)
- 1 day – Respiratory distress syndrome due to prematurity. Royal Berkshire Hospital (776.2)
- Under 24 hours – Breech and asphyxia for one hour after delivery at home. Bilateral hydronephrosis discovered at post-mortem. Upton Hospital (776.9)

**Anoxic and Hypoxic Conditions (cont'd.)**

- Under 24 hours — Pulmonary atelectasis due to prematurity of 28 weeks. Upton Hospital (776.9)
- 1 day — Atelectasis due to meconium aspiration due to foetal distress in labour. Upton Hospital (776.9)
- 1 day — Atelectasis of lungs, associated with prematurity. Upton Hospital (776.9)
- 2 days — Respiratory distress syndrome due to prematurity of 26 weeks, with associated intraventricular haemorrhage. Upton Hospital (776.9)

**Immaturity, Unqualified 777**

- Under 24 hours — Prematurity associated with intra-uterine pneumonia. Canadian Red Cross Hospital (777)

## DEATHS

There is usually little variation in the number of deaths, and therefore the death rate, from year to year. In 1969, 21 more people died than in the previous year; 767 compared with 743. There was a greater number of males than females dying; 429 compared with 338. In order to be able to compare one area in the country to another and to compare any of these with the national figure, the Registrar General produces a comparability factor which allows for differences in local sex and age distribution. A younger population therefore needs a higher comparability figure as less deaths are likely to occur in younger age groups, whereas a town inhabited largely by the elderly needs a lower comparability figure to prevent its seeming a less healthy environment. The comparability factor in Slough has quite understandably always been fairly high but the Registrar General who had raised the figure from 1.41 to 1.43 in 1968 put it back again to 1.41 for 1969. On this calculation, Slough's corrected rate is just under the rate for the country as a whole.

| DEATH RATE - SLOUGH |                         |                             |                      |
|---------------------|-------------------------|-----------------------------|----------------------|
| <i>Year</i>         | <i>Crude Death Rate</i> | <i>Corrected Death Rate</i> | <i>National Rate</i> |
| 1960                | 8.6                     | 11.7                        | 11.5                 |
| 1961                | 7.9                     | 11.1                        | 12.0                 |
| 1962                | 7.9                     | 11.1                        | 11.9                 |
| 1963                | 8.9                     | 12.6                        | 12.2                 |
| 1964                | 7.6                     | 10.8                        | 11.3                 |
| 1965                | 7.6                     | 10.8                        | 11.5                 |
| 1966                | 8.3                     | 11.8                        | 11.7                 |
| 1967                | 8.7                     | 12.3                        | 11.2                 |
| 1968                | 8.1                     | 11.6                        | 11.9                 |
| 1969                | 8.3                     | 11.7                        | 11.9                 |

| CAUSE OF DEATH                         | 1968 | 1969 |
|--|------|------|
| Heart Disease                          | 217  | 243  |
| Cancer                                 | 161  | 215  |
| Pneumonia and Bronchitis               | 103  | 85   |
| Vascular lesions of the nervous system | 80   | 68   |
| Other circulatory disease              | 21   | 30   |
| Accidents - all types                  | 28   | 24   |

The six main causes of death remain the same as in previous years but other circulatory diseases with 30 deaths moved up into fifth place above accidents from which 24 deaths occurred.

| CAUSES OF DEATH     |   | <i>Males</i> | <i>Females</i> |
|---------------------|---|--------------|----------------|
| B5                  | Tuberculosis of respiratory system      | -            | 2              |
| B6                  | Other Tuberculosis, incl. late effects  | 1            | 1              |
| B18                 | Other infective and parasitic diseases  | -            | 1              |
| B19(1)              | Malignant neoplasm, buccal cavity, etc. | 2            | 1              |
| B19(2)              | Malignant neoplasm, oesophagus          | 3            | -              |
| B19(3)              | Malignant neoplasm, stomach             | 14           | 10             |
| B19(4)              | Malignant neoplasm, intestine           | 13           | 12             |
| B19(5)              | Malignant neoplasm, larynx              | 1            | -              |
| B19(6)              | Malignant neoplasm, lung, bronchus      | 51           | 12             |
| B19(7)              | Malignant neoplasm, breast              | -            | 26             |
| B19(8)              | Malignant neoplasm, uterus              | -            | 14             |
| B19(9)              | Malignant neoplasm, prostate            | 6            | -              |
| B19(10)             | Leukaemia                               | 4            | 4              |
| B19(11)             | Other malignant neoplasms               | 23           | 19             |
| B20                 | Benign and unspecified neoplasms        | -            | 1              |
| B21                 | Diabetes Mellitus                       | 2            | 4              |
| B46(1)              | Other endocrine etc. diseases           | -            | 1              |
| B23                 | Anaemias                                | 1            | 3              |
| B46(2)              | Other diseases of blood, etc.           | -            | 1              |
| B46(4)              | Other diseases of nervous system, etc.  | 5            | 4              |
| B26                 | Chronic rheumatic heart disease         | 5            | 4              |
| B27                 | Hypertensive disease                    | 9            | 7              |
| B28                 | Ischaemic heart disease                 | 111          | 57             |
| B29                 | Other forms of heart disease            | 18           | 32             |
| B30                 | Cerebrovascular disease                 | 30           | 38             |
| B46(5)              | Other diseases of circulatory system    | 17           | 13             |
| B31                 | Influenza                               | 2            | -              |
| B32                 | Pneumonia                               | 27           | 23             |
| B33(1)              | Bronchitis and emphysema                | 29           | 6              |
| B33(2)              | Asthma                                  | 2            | 1              |
| B46(6)              | Other diseases of respiratory system    | 3            | 4              |
| B34                 | Peptic Ulcer                            | 3            | 1              |
| B36                 | Intestinal obstruction and hernia       | 4            | -              |
| B37                 | Cirrhosis of liver                      | 1            | 1              |
| B46(7)              | Other diseases of digestive system      | 1            | 3              |
| B38                 | Nephritis and nephrosis                 | 1            | 1              |
| B46(8)              | Other disease, genito-urinary system    | -            | 1              |
| B46(10)             | Diseases of musculo-skeletal system     | -            | 2              |
| B42                 | Congenital anomalies                    | 6            | 9              |
| B43                 | Birth injury, difficult labour, etc.    | 9            | 5              |
| B45                 | Symptoms and ill defined conditions     | 1            | 1              |
| BE47                | Motor vehicle accidents                 | 7            | 2              |
| BE48                | All other accidents                     | 9            | 6              |
| BE49                | Suicide and self-inflicted injuries     | 4            | 2              |
| BE50                | Other external causes                   | 4            | 4              |
| TOTAL OF ALL CAUSES |   | 429          | 338            |

The numbers missing from the table opposite, for which no deaths occurred are as follows:-

|     |  |
|-----|--|
| B1  | Cholera  |
| B2  | Typhoid fever  |
| B3  | Bacillary dysentery and amoebiasis   |
| B4  | Enteritis and other diarrhoeal diseases  |
| B7  | Plague   |
| B8  | Diphtheria   |
| B9  | Whooping Cough   |
| B10 | Streptococcal sore throat and scarlet fever  |
| B11 | Meningococcal infection  |
| B12 | Acute poliomyelitis  |
| B13 | Small pox  |
| B14 | Measles  |
| B15 | Typhus and other rickettsioses   |
| B16 | Malaria  |
| B17 | Syphilis and its sequelae  |
| B22 | Avitaminoses and other nutritional deficiency  |
| B24 | Meningitis   |
| B25 | Active rheumatic fever   |
| B35 | Appendicitis   |
| B39 | Hyperplasia of prostate  |
| B40 | Abortion   |
| B41 | Other complications of pregnancy, childbirth and the puerperium. Delivery without mention of complication. |

The next table shows the Causes of Death in 1968 and gives a comparison, where possible, with those occurring during 1969. The numbers in brackets refer to the new classification already shown above.

| CAUSES OF DEATH |  | 1968 |     | 1969 |     |
|-----------------|--|------|-----|------|-----|
|                 |  | M    | F   | M    | F   |
| 1.              | Tuberculosis, respiratory ... .. (B.5)                   | 2    | 1   | -    | 2   |
| 2.              | Tuberculosis, other ... .. (B.6)                         | 2    | -   | 1    | 1   |
| 3.              | Syphilitic disease ... .. (B.17)                         | -    | -   | -    | -   |
| 4.              | Diphtheria ... .. (B.8)                                  | -    | -   | -    | -   |
| 5.              | Whooping Cough ... .. (B.9)                              | -    | -   | -    | -   |
| 6.              | Meningococcal infection ... .. (B.11)                    | -    | -   | -    | -   |
| 7.              | Acute Poliomyelitis ... .. (B.12)                        | -    | -   | -    | -   |
| 8.              | Measles ... .. (B.14)                                    | -    | -   | -    | -   |
| 9.              | Other infective and parasitic diseases ... ..            |      |     | -    | 1   |
| 10.             | Malignant neoplasm, stomach ... .. (B.19(1))             | 10   | 5   | 14   | 10  |
| 11.             | Malignant neoplasm, lung, bronchus ... .. (B.19(2))      | 35   | 8   | 51   | 12  |
| 12.             | Malignant neoplasm, breast ... .. (B.19(3))              | -    | 15  | -    | 26  |
| 13.             | Malignant neoplasm, uterus ... .. (B.19(4))              |      | 4   |      | 14  |
| 14.             | Other malignant and lymphatic neoplasms ... .. (B.19(6)) | 42   | 40  | 23   | 19  |
| 15.             | Leukaemia and aleukaemia ... .. (B.19(5))                | 2    | -   | 4    | 4   |
| 16.             | Diabetes ... .. (B.21)                                   | 3    | -   | 2    | 4   |
| 17.             | Vascular lesions of the nervous system ... .. (B.30)     | 35   | 54  | 30   | 38  |
| 18.             | Coronary disease, angina ... .. (B.28)                   | 101  | 60  | 111  | 57  |
| 19.             | Hypertension with heart disease ... ..                   |      |     | 9    | 7   |
| 20.             | Other heart disease ... ..                               |      |     | 18   | 32  |
| 21.             | Other circulatory disease ... ..                         |      |     | 17   | 13  |
| 22.             | Influenza ... .. (B.31)                                  | 1    | 1   | 2    | -   |
| 23.             | Pneumonia ... .. (B.32)                                  | 31   | 20  | 27   | 23  |
| 24.             | Bronchitis ... .. (B.33(1))                              | 42   | 10  | 29   | 6   |
| 25.             | Other diseases of the respiratory system ... ..          |      |     | 3    | 4   |
| 26.             | Ulcer of stomach and duodenum ... .. (B.34)              | 4    | -   | 3    | 1   |
| 27.             | Gastritis, enteritis and diarrhoea ... ..                |      |     |      |     |
| 28.             | Nephritis and nephrosis ... .. (B.38)                    | 1    | 2   | 1    | 1   |
| 29.             | Hyperplasia of prostate ... .. (B.39)                    | 1    | -   | -    | -   |
| 30.             | Pregnancy, childbirth, abortion ... ..                   |      |     |      |     |
| 31.             | Congenital malformations ... .. (B.42)                   | 3    | 3   | 6    | 9   |
| 32.             | Other defined and ill-defined disease ... ..             |      |     | 1    | 1   |
| 33.             | Motor vehicle accidents ... .. (BE.47)                   | 12   | 2   | 7    | 2   |
| 34.             | All other accidents ... .. (BE.48)                       | 8    | 6   | 9    | 6   |
| 35.             | Suicide ... .. (BE.49)                                   | 6    | 3   | 4    | 2   |
| 36.             | Homicide and operations of war ... ..                    |      |     |      |     |
| ALL CAUSES ...  |  | 341  | 234 | 372  | 275 |





Finally, shown below are the sub-classifications given by the Registrar-General; these subdivide those international causes which may have particular interest in this country.

|   | <i>Males</i> | <i>Females</i> |
|---|--------------|----------------|
| B19(1) Malignant neoplasm – stomach           | 14           | 10             |
| B19(2) Malignant neoplasm – lung, bronchus    | 51           | 12             |
| B19(3) Malignant neoplasm – breast            | -            | 26             |
| B19(4) Malignant neoplasm – uterus            | -            | 14             |
| B19(5) Leukaemia                              | 4            | 4              |
| B19(6) Other malignant neoplasms, etc.        | 23           | 19             |
| B33(1) Bronchitis and emphysema               | 29           | 6              |
| B33(2) Asthma                                 | 2            | 1              |
| B46(1) Other endocrine etc. disease           | -            | 1              |
| B46(4) Other diseases of nervous system, etc. | 5            | 4              |
| B46(5) Other diseases of circulatory system   | 17           | 13             |
| B46(6) Other diseases of respiratory system   | 3            | 4              |
| B46(7) Other diseases of digestive system     | 1            | 3              |
| B46(8) Other diseases, genito-urinary system  | -            | 1              |

#### SEX AND AGE DISTRIBUTION OF DEATHS

| <i>Ages at Death in Years</i> | <i>Males</i> | <i>Females</i> | <i>Total</i>          |
|-------------------------------|--------------|----------------|-----------------------|
| Under 1                       | 20           | 13             | 33                    |
| 1 – 4                         | 3            | 1              | 4                     |
| 5 – 14                        | 3            | 2              | 5                     |
| 15 – 24                       | 4            | 3              | 7                     |
| 25 – 44                       | 16           | 14             | 30                    |
| 45 – 64                       | 138          | 87             | 225                   |
| 65 – 74                       | 119          | 74             | 193                   |
| 75 plus                       | 126          | 144            | 270                   |
| TOTAL                         | 429          | 338            | <del>767</del><br>767 |

Of the ~~667~~<sup>767</sup> deaths, 463 (~~69.4%~~<sup>60.4%</sup>) were in people over the age of 65 compared with 59.6% in 1968, 60.7% in 1967, 58.6% in 1966, 62% in 1965 and 56.1% in 1964. The proportion dying after their 75th birthday was 40.5% compared with 34.7% in

1968 and 35.8% in 1967. Once again the table above shows the very great disparity between the deaths of males and females between the ages of 45 – 74.

### INQUESTS

Thirty-three inquests were held upon residents of the Borough during 1969 and the causes of death recorded by the various registrars of births and deaths, following coroners' certificates, were as follows:-

|                                 | <i>Males</i> | <i>Females</i> | <i>Total</i> |
|---------------------------------|--------------|----------------|--------------|
| <b>Natural Causes</b>           | 2            | -              | 2            |
| <b>Accidents:</b>               |              |                |              |
| Falls                           | 1            | 4              | 5            |
| Aircraft crash                  | 1            | -              | 1            |
| Explosions                      | 1            | -              | 1            |
| Road accidents                  | 6            | 2              | 8            |
| Drowning                        | 2            | 1              | 3            |
| Suffocation due to food         | 1            | -              | 1            |
| Burns                           | -            | 1              | 1            |
| <b>Suicide:</b>                 |              |                |              |
| Carbon-monoxide poisoning       | 2            | -              | 2            |
| Hanging                         | 1            | -              | 1            |
| <b>Open Verdict:</b>            |              |                |              |
| Inhalation of vomit             | 1            | -              | 1            |
| Drowning                        | 1            | 1              | 2            |
| Injury caused by another person | 1            | -              | 1            |
| Burns                           | 1            | -              | 1            |
| Barbiturate poisoning           | -            | 2              | 2            |
| <b>Homicide:</b>                |              |                |              |
| Stab wounds                     | -            | 1              | 1            |
| Blunt instrument                | 1            | -              | 1            |
|                                 | <b>22</b>    | <b>12</b>      | <b>34</b>    |

### POPULATION

The Registrar-General gave it as his opinion that the population of Slough on 30th June, 1969 was 92,750, whereas it had been 92,070 the previous year. During that twelve months there was a natural increase of 926. As the population only

grew by 680 the implication is that there was a net emigration from the town of 246 during the year. The impression from living in the town is that there has been a steady growth rather than the widely fluctuating figures indicated by the following table. The Registrar-General must obviously take many factors into consideration when making his estimates but presumably a computation which is nearly accurate will occur with the census due in 1971.

| <i>Year</i> | <i>Natural Increase<br/>(births less deaths)</i> | <i>Immigration or<br/>Emigration (-)</i> | <i>Population</i> |
|-------------|--|--|-------------------|
| 1956        | 430  | 820                                      | 69,190            |
| 1957        | 497  | 1,873                                    | 71,560            |
| 1958        | 705  | 1,355                                    | 73,620            |
| 1959        | 617  | 1,213                                    | 75,450            |
| 1960        | 760  | 1,200                                    | 77,410            |
| 1961        | 958  | 2,322                                    | 80,690            |
| 1962        | 1,035  | 975                                      | 82,700            |
| 1963        | 948  | 562                                      | 84,210            |
| 1964        | 1,183  | - 493                                    | 84,900            |
| 1965        | 1,022  | - 302                                    | 85,620            |
| 1966        | 898  | - 828                                    | 85,690            |
| 1967        | 858  | 312                                      | 86,860            |
| 1968        | 893  | 4,317                                    | 92,070            |
| 1969        | 926  | - 246                                    | 92,750            |

## II. GENERAL HEALTH SERVICE

### Street Cleansing

Mechanical sweeping machines are still in use to keep the roads tidy, and the pathways continue to be swept manually.

Although a slight improvement had been achieved, it was felt that the task of sweeping could be considerably alleviated by better litter behaviour by the general public.

### Street Gulleys

All gulleys within the Borough are cleansed at least twice a year with the use of two machines.

### Refuse Collection and Disposal

An even higher standard of refuse collection and disposal was attained during the year.

I should like to remind you that special collections can be arranged (on receipt of a post card to the Engineer) if anyone has large or bulky items to dispose of. This is a free service and saves ditches, vacant plots, public parks and other people's gardens becoming cluttered with unwanted rubbish.

The use of the Refuse Pulverising Plant helped to achieve a high standard of disposal. This Plant provides a central site where refuse collection vehicles from Windsor and Eton, in addition to Slough, may unload in an ideal situation. Bulky household items, such as settees, sideboards, chairs, etc., are incinerated under controlled conditions. Ordinary household waste is pulverised in hammer mills after tins have been removed by magnetic separators. Tins are baled and sold to the steel industry. The refuse, after passing through the hammer mills, is loaded on to large articulated vehicles and then transported to the tip site for disposal. The material produced at the Plant is more uniform in character than crude refuse, only shredded paper can normally be distinguished, and it is not attractive to flies, birds, rats and other vermin. It does not smell, it beds down more evenly and, except in very strong wind, is not blown about. It is an ideal material for land-fill purposes and for ground improvement. Pulverised refuse can, therefore, be disposed of without causing offence and consequently it is possible to tip the large quantities which are collected at sites where planning consent can be readily obtained and the loss of amenity is minimal.

## Salvage

With the introduction of the Pulverisation Plant, the sale of salvage metals has increased in volume, thus providing a large amount of income.

The total for the year 1969/70 is as follows:-

|             |          |   |        |          |
|-------------|----------|---|--------|----------|
| Baled Tins  | 473 tons | — | £2,278 | (£1,231) |
| Scrap Metal | 180 tons | — | £1,218 | (£313)   |
| Waste Paper | 253 tons | — | £2,533 | (£2,898) |

N.B. The figures in brackets are for 1968/69.

## Civic Amenities Act, 1967

This Act enables residents of the Borough to dispose of domestic and garden refuse, free of charge, at the Pulverisation Plant. The Act also covers the disposal of derelict and abandoned vehicles, whether they are deposited on the Highway or Private Land.

## Unwanted Vehicles

In 1969/70 263 vehicles were removed and a further 171 were deposited by owners at the Pulverisation Plant. The Council will remove unwanted vehicles at a charge of £3. However, it will not cost anything if such vehicles are taken to the plant by yourself. Remember, though, there are tax formalities to be dealt with — the Borough Engineer will advise you on this.

## Water

### *Middle Thames Water Board*

The Chief Engineer to the Board, Mr. G.S. Baker kindly supplied me with the information that another 259 dwellings within the Borough were connected to the mains during 1969.

Details of the number of samples submitted for examination in respect of the sources which supply the Borough with water are as follows:-

| Source       | Number of Samples |          |
|--------------|-------------------|----------|
|              | Bacteriological   | Chemical |
| Cuckoo Weir  | 39                | 3        |
| Datchet      | 65                | 5        |
| Taplow       | 64                | 52       |
| Taplow Court | 64                | 62       |

#### Slough Estates

There was no change in the water supply or system during 1969. Results of analyses which were kindly supplied to me by the Chief Engineer, Mr. A. Froggatt, showed the water to be consistently clear and bright.

#### Pet Animals Act, 1951

#### Riding Establishments Act, 1939

#### Animal Boarding Establishments Act, 1963

Mr. J.E. Garland, the Council's Veterinary Surgeon, continues to ensure that the conditions of the above Acts are strictly maintained.

The Standard of pet shops, animal boarding establishments and riding establishments remained at a high level due mainly, of course, to the visits made by Mr. Garland throughout the year.

#### STAFF MEDICAL EXAMINATIONS

The table below shows the medical work associated with the appointment of new staff to the Borough Council, Slough Committee for Education, and the Bucks County Council in this area.

|   | 1964 | 1965 | 1966 | 1967 | 1968 | 1969 |
|---|------|------|------|------|------|------|
| Officers of Slough Borough Council                      | 97   | 117  | 115  | 71   | 29   | 24   |
| Officers of the Bucks County Council                    | 21   | 24   | 17   | 27   | 41   | 42   |
| Teachers' Training Colleges and teaching for first time | 72   | 89   | 101  | 101  | 129  | 130  |
| Medical Questionnaires                                  |      |      |      |      |      |      |
| Bucks County Council                                    | 242  | 141  | 250  | 261  | 259  | 230  |
| Slough Borough Council                                  |      |      |      |      | 43   | 87   |

## LABORATORY

There was a marked decrease in the number of examinations carried out in the laboratory during the year, as can be seen in the table below.

|   | 1966  | 1967  | 1968  | 1969                              |
|---|-------|-------|-------|-----------------------------------|
|   | 1,176 | 1,110 | 1,215 | 784 examinations                  |
| Faeces for typhoid/coli/dysentery group       |       |       |       | 5 — all negative                  |
| Urine for routine examination                 |       |       |       | 165                               |
| Haemoglobin estimations                       |       |       |       | —                                 |
| Blood Counts                                  |       |       |       | 12                                |
| <b>Milk Samples:</b>                          |       |       |       | <i>All passed as satisfactory</i> |
| (a) Phosphatase test                          |       |       |       | 165                               |
| (b) Methylene Blue test                       |       |       |       | 178                               |
| (c) Turbidity test                            |       |       |       | 10                                |
| (d) Chemical tests for fats, solids and water |       |       |       | 144                               |
| <b>Samples of Fresh Cream:</b>                |       |       |       | 17                                |
| <b>Water Samples:</b>                         |       |       |       |                                   |
| (a) Drinking water                            |       |       |       | 14                                |
| (b) Swimming bath water                       |       |       |       | 42                                |
| <b>Ice Cream:</b>                             |       |       |       |                                   |
| (a) Chemical tests                            |       |       |       | 14                                |
| (b) Bacteriological tests                     |       |       |       | 18                                |

ALL GRADE I

## MORTUARY

The number of post-mortems in 1969 was the highest figure recorded over the last 10 years.

| 1960 | 1961 | 1962 | 1963 | 1964 | 1965 | 1966 | 1967 | 1968 | 1969 |
|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|
| 125  | 135  | 138  | 133  | 157  | 174  | 192  | 200  | 175  | 208  |

## CREMATORIUM

I would like to express my thanks again this year for the help given to me, as Medical Referee, and to my deputies, by the Superintendent and Staff of the Crematorium.

The number of cremations showed a further slight increase this year. 1,390 cremations during 1969 was about 80 more than in 1968, compared with 1,162 in 1967.

## HOME HELP SERVICE

The following table shows that there was a considerable increase in the number of people helped during 1969, particularly the aged and infirm.

| Number of Home Helps as at<br>31st December:-      | 1965 | 1966 | 1967 | 1968 | 1969 |
|--|------|------|------|------|------|
| Part-time  | 79   | 82   | 93   | 71   | 78   |
| Number of Good Neighbours as at<br>31st December:- | 20   | 22   | 29   | 17   | 19   |
| Number of Cases who received help:-                |      |      |      |      |      |
| (a) Acute Sick                                     | 69   | 44   | 38   | 48   | 42   |
| (b) Chronic Sick                                   | 52   | 37   | 52   | 79   | 85   |
| (c) Aged and Infirm                                | 473  | 538  | 582  | 603  | 680  |
| (d) Tuberculosis                                   | 1    | -    | -    | -    | -    |
| (e) Maternity                                      | 58   | 55   | 45   | 30   | 34   |
| (f) Good Neighbours                                | 17   | 34   | 35   | 31   | 33   |
| (g) Problem Families                               | 4    | 2    | -    | -    | 2    |
| (h) Mentally Disordered                            | 3    | 1    | 3    | 2    | 3    |

## MEALS ON WHEELS

Since October 1967, 200 meals per day continued to be delivered throughout 1968 and 1969. In June 1969 the Luncheon Club commenced; 50 meals were delivered in bulk once a week to the British Red Cross Hall, Osborne Street, Slough, where they were served by the W.R.V.S.

|                                | 1967   | 1968   | 1969   |
|--------------------------------|--------|--------|--------|
| Meals delivered                | 39,846 | 49,185 | 49,164 |
| Luncheon Club commenced 5.6.69 |        |        | 808    |



## MONTHLY INCIDENCE OF NOTIFIABLE INFECTIOUS DISEASES

|                             | JAN. | FEB. | MAR. | APL. | MAY | JUNE | JULY | AUG. | SEPT. | OCT. | NOV. | DEC. | TOTAL |
|-----------------------------|------|------|------|------|-----|------|------|------|-------|------|------|------|-------|
| Dysentery                   | -    | -    | -    | -    | -   | -    | -    | -    | -     | 1    | -    | -    | 1     |
| Food Poisoning              | 4    | -    | -    | -    | -   | -    | -    | -    | -     | -    | 1    | -    | 5     |
| Measles                     | 83   | 92   | 98   | 113  | 106 | 100  | 29   | 22   | -     | 1    | 4    | -    | 646   |
| Scarlet Fever               | -    | 5    | -    | 1    | 1   | -    | 1    | 2    | -     | 2    | 1    | -    | 13    |
| Tuberculosis - Pulmonary    | 1    | 3    | 4    | 4    | 4   | 5    | 2    | 1    | 1     | 1    | 1    | 2    | 29    |
| Non-Pulmonary               | -    | 1    | 3    | 1    | 2   | 2    | 2    | 1    | 2     | -    | 5    | -    | 19    |
| Whooping Cough              | -    | -    | -    | -    | -   | -    | -    | -    | -     | -    | -    | -    | -     |
| Malaria (contracted abroad) | -    | -    | -    | -    | -   | -    | 1    | -    | -     | -    | -    | -    | 1     |
| Infective Jaundice          | -    | -    | -    | -    | 1   | -    | -    | -    | -     | -    | -    | -    | 1     |
| Typhoid Fever               | -    | -    | -    | -    | -   | 1    | -    | 1    | -     | -    | -    | -    | 2     |
| Paratyphoid Fever           | -    | -    | -    | -    | -   | -    | -    | -    | -     | -    | 1    | -    | 1     |



## INFECTIOUS DISEASES

### MEASLES

About 650 notifications of measles were received during the year and this is a number which is roughly half way between an epidemic and a non-epidemic year. The first of the three tables indicates that a change in the pattern of measles outbreaks is occurring and this may be due to vaccination which became available during 1969. Because of problems in the production of vaccine, a halt in immunisation lasted for a period of some months, and this may lead to a confused picture for a year or two until vaccination has been regular and accepted for a longer continued period.

### OTHER INFECTIOUS DISEASES EXCLUDING TUBERCULOSIS

A further reference to the tables on the preceding pages will show that there is little comment to make upon the incidence of other infectious disease in the town except to say that the number of cases remains at a very low level. This does not mean to say that the watchfulness of the Department could be relaxed, in fact, in some ways the problems of control of infectious disease are greater than they have ever been before. More and more people are taking holidays abroad and return to this country with stories of contact with typhoid or para-typhoid or other intestinal conditions — indeed some may even be suffering from the disease or carrying the infection.

Good information about the return of such people and active co-operation between doctors, public health inspectors and health visitors has, so far, enabled us to prevent the spread of any of these conditions.

### VACCINATION AND IMMUNISATION

The following tables show the varying types of immunising agents used during 1969 and the number of protecting procedures administered by general practitioners and doctors on the staff of the Health Department.

Not many years pass without further immunising procedures becoming available. While there is greater protection of individuals against disease, there is the need for greater resources of money, materials and manpower to be used by the preventive services. In 1969 the new immunising agent was that giving protection against measles; no very special campaign was launched, but 957 children were protected. It is still too early, of course, to know what effect there is going to be upon measles epidemics given by the new protection, although it is hoped that large outbreaks which have been such a feature of life every other year

will soon be a thing of the past. Problems associated with the supply of the vaccine caused a considerable hold-up in immunisations during 1970.

The number of immunisations during 1969 were higher than those for 1968. This was expected as those for 1968 had been lower than previously due to re-timing of immunisations, but the figures for 1970 will have to be awaited to see if the use of the computer will have really led to a greater proportion of children receiving immunisation against various diseases.

|  | 1966  | 1967  | 1968  | 1969  |
|--|-------|-------|-------|-------|
| Primary Diphtheria                                     | 4     | 5     | 4     | 2     |
| Primary Tetanus  | 31    | 25    | 9     | 77    |
| Primary Diphtheria/Tetanus                             | 90    | 105   | 89    | 98    |
| Primary Diphtheria/Whooping Cough/<br>Tetanus (triple) | 1,103 | 1,147 | 1,075 | 1,244 |
| Primary Vaccination against Smallpox                   | 1,140 | 1,208 | 630   | 1,107 |
| Boosters – Tetanus                                     | 27    | 73    | 29    | 85    |
| – Triple   | 1,787 | 1,151 | 1,004 | 1,211 |
| – Re-vaccination                                       |       |       |       | 212   |

If one looks at initial, or primary protection against disease then the following comparison may be made.

*Primary Protection*

|                | 1966  | 1967  | 1968  | 1969  |
|----------------|-------|-------|-------|-------|
| Diphtheria     | 1,241 | 1,593 | 1,168 | 1,344 |
| Whooping Cough | 1,147 | 1,484 | 1,075 | 1,244 |
| Tetanus        | 1,268 | 1,614 | 1,173 | 1,419 |
| Smallpox       | 1,140 | 1,208 | 630   | 1,107 |
| Measles        |       |       |       | 957   |

The figures already given refer to the Borough of Slough, but the records of the fight against poliomyelitis are only available for the South Bucks Area – Slough Borough, Eton Urban District and Eton Rural District.

|                              |       |
|------------------------------|-------|
| Primary protection – 3 doses | 1,050 |
| Boosters                     | 1,164 |

## TUBERCULOSIS

### (a) *Pulmonary Tuberculosis.*

The number of new cases notified during 1969 was one lower than in 1968 – 29 against 30. Although there appears to be very little difference in the notifications over the past few years, it must be remembered that the population has been growing quite rapidly and a static number of cases means, in fact, a reduction in the overall rate of incidence of the disease.

Once again it is true to say that a high proportion of the cases occur in people with Asian names but it may well be true that a high proportion of the sufferers contract their disease after arriving in this country. It is certainly true that many children coming from the Indian sub-continent have received B.C.G. vaccination against tuberculosis before arriving.

### (b) *Non-Pulmonary Tuberculosis.*

I have been sorry to see yet a further increase in non-pulmonary tuberculosis which this year reached a total of 19; 11 of which were in males and 8 in females. The majority occur between the ages of 15 and 45.

Once again, the proportion bearing Asian names is high. All of the men and 5 out of 8 of the women were of Asian extraction.

### *Non-Pulmonary Tuberculosis*

|                    | <i>Males</i> | <i>Females</i> |
|--------------------|--------------|----------------|
| Caecum             | -            | -              |
| Cervical glands    | 5            | 2              |
| Axillary Lymphnode | -            | -              |
| T.B. Peritonitis   | 1            | -              |
| Kidney             | -            | 1              |
| Right Elbow        | -            | -              |
| Right Wrist        | 1            | -              |
| Neck glands        | 1            | -              |
| T.B. Bowel         | -            | 2              |
| Abdominal T.B.     | -            | 1              |
| Mediastinal glands | 1            | 2              |
| T.B. Iliac Crest   | 1            | -              |
| Spine              | 1            | -              |
| <b>TOTALS</b>      | <b>11</b>    | <b>8</b>       |

| <i>Age in Years</i> | PULMONARY    |                | NON-PULMONARY |                |
|---------------------|--------------|----------------|---------------|----------------|
|                     | <i>Males</i> | <i>Females</i> | <i>Males</i>  | <i>Females</i> |
| 0 -                 | 1            | -              | -             | -              |
| 1 -                 | -            | -              | -             | -              |
| 15 -                | 7            | 3              | 4             | 2              |
| 25 -                | 1            | 3              | 2             | 2              |
| 35 -                | 1            | 6              | 5             | 2              |
| 45 -                | 4            | 2              | -             | 1              |
| 65 and over         | -            | 1              | -             | 1              |
| <b>TOTALS</b>       | <b>14</b>    | <b>15</b>      | <b>11</b>     | <b>8</b>       |

(b) *Notification Register.*

In spite of the number of new notifications remaining stationary, the total number on the register declines steadily. This is obviously because new methods of treatment eradicate the disease and the chest clinic is able to say that cure has been effected.

| PULMONARY     |             |             |                |             |             |              |             |             |
|---------------|-------------|-------------|----------------|-------------|-------------|--------------|-------------|-------------|
| <i>Males</i>  |             |             | <i>Females</i> |             |             | <i>Total</i> |             |             |
| <i>1967</i>   | <i>1968</i> | <i>1969</i> | <i>1967</i>    | <i>1968</i> | <i>1969</i> | <i>1967</i>  | <i>1968</i> | <i>1969</i> |
| 339           | 332         | 313         | 246            | 238         | 232         | 585          | 570         | 545         |
| NON-PULMONARY |             |             |                |             |             |              |             |             |
| <i>Males</i>  |             |             | <i>Females</i> |             |             | <i>Total</i> |             |             |
| <i>1967</i>   | <i>1968</i> | <i>1969</i> | <i>1967</i>    | <i>1968</i> | <i>1969</i> | <i>1967</i>  | <i>1968</i> | <i>1969</i> |
| 56            | 48          | 41          | 48             | 42          | 37          | 104          | 90          | 78          |

(c) *B.C.G. Vaccinations.*

One thousand, three hundred and fifty-four children were tested for reaction to tuberculosis during 1969 - three less than in 1968. Of these, 1,093 were negative (80.71%) and 261 were positive (19.28%).

A positive reaction is given by those who have had previous experience of tuberculosis and also by those who have had B.C.G. vaccination. Of the 261

children giving a positive reaction no less than 111 had had earlier protection, many of them having come from the Indian sub-continent.

This meant that there were 150 children, or 11.08%, who were referred to the Chest Clinic so that Dr. Brian Thompson and his colleagues could assess the importance or otherwise of the reaction and initiate, where appropriate, subsequent follow-up and treatment. The number of positive reactions with an unknown cause were slightly less than in 1968.

(d) *Deaths from Tuberculosis.*

The following table shows how the number of deaths per thousand of the population has still been falling gradually over the past ten years and that the disease is now a very minor feature in the death tables. Perhaps the time will not be far distant when it fails to feature at all.

DEATHS FROM TUBERCULOSIS

| Year | Population | Pulmonary |         | Non-Pulmonary |         | Pulmonary<br>Death Rate<br>per 1000<br>Population |
|------|------------|-----------|---------|---------------|---------|---|
|      |            | Males     | Females | Males         | Females |   |
| 1960 | 77,410     | 2         | 1       | -             | 1       | 0.04  |
| 1961 | 80,690     | 5         | -       | -             | 1       | 0.06  |
| 1962 | 82,700     | 2         | 2       | -             | -       | 0.048   |
| 1963 | 84,210     | 1         | 2       | -             | -       | 0.036   |
| 1964 | 84,900     | 3         | 1       | -             | -       | 0.047   |
| 1965 | 85,620     | 2         | 2       | -             | -       | 0.047   |
| 1966 | 85,690     | 2         | 2       | -             | -       | 0.047   |
| 1967 | 86,860     | 3         | -       | -             | 1       | 0.035   |
| 1968 | 92,070     | 2         | 1       | 2             | -       | 0.032   |
| 1969 | 92,750     | -         | 2       | 1             | 1       | 0.021   |



## HOME SAFETY

It has been estimated that there are, in Slough, at least 200 home accident cases every month which require hospital treatment, and most of the victims are young children.

It would be easy to visualize the public outcry that would result and the clamour for action that would follow if such a figure were to be mentioned for one of the diseases referred to earlier in this report. What is not so easy to understand is the almost complete indifference to this situation and the resulting lack of consideration for the safety of the family which is shown by so many otherwise intelligent people.

The Home Safety Council have long since recognised this part of their problem and much of their effort is concentrated on trying to overcome this apathy in addition to the more traditional work of disseminating advice on home safety.

The Second Home Safety Quiz Competition for women was concluded on 24th March when the Thomas Gray P.T.A. beat the Slough Central Townswomen's Guild to become the first holders of the Home Safety Trophy, which was so generously donated by the "Slough Observer". Twenty-two clubs entered the competition and it is felt that, as intended, their members learnt a great deal about practical home safety apart from enjoying the contest.

The fourth annual Home Safety Picture Quiz competition took place among the children attending the town's Junior Schools and it is a pleasing indication of the continuing success of this line of approach to be able to report that each year there has been a marked increase in the number of children taking part; the total number of entries this year being 1,250. The theme chosen was "How to help an elderly person avoid a falling accident" and the winner was nine year old Helen Richards of Cippenham Junior School.

The Home Safety Puppet Show visited the infant schools and the response by the children indicated that the message had got home to those who could do so much towards the prevention of tomorrow's accidents — if their parents will let them ! Just as important was the enthusiasm for this campaign shown by the teachers.

The Home Safety Council, with a chain of poster display sites now covering the whole town, was able to undertake a number of poster campaigns in support of the national campaigns being organised by R.O.S.P.A.

Additional publicity was provided by the publication of the Home Safety Council's own handbook entitled, "It couldn't happen to you". This and other literature was distributed on demand.

The Home Safety Officer again co-operated with the Health Education Organiser at visits to Old People's Clubs. He also attended Ante-natal Film Evenings when Home Safety Films were shown and the audiences advised of the problems awaiting them and their expected offspring.

Apart from the more usual run of women's organisations, etc., talks and film shows have been given to candidates taking Home Safety at the Bronze and Silver levels of the Duke of Edinburgh's Award Scheme, the Guides' Accident Prevention Badge and the Brownies' "Safety in the Home" Badge.

The hire copies of the Council's own films 'Dead Easy' and 'Fabrics and Fireguards' have continued to be in demand not only in Slough but elsewhere throughout the country. Five new copies, three of 'Dead Easy' and two of 'Fabrics and Fireguards' were sold to other Local Authorities or responsible organisations, and including yet another print to the Government of New South Wales, Australia.

The year ended as it had began with yet another Home Safety Quiz Competition for Women.

### HEALTH EDUCATION

A considerable amount of health education was undertaken in the Borough during the year with many different kinds of groups.

One of the most popular items was the Home Safety and Health Quiz which was taken to Women's Clubs in the area during the autumn by the Area Health Education Organiser and the Slough Home Safety Officer. A similar quiz has again been taken to Old People's Clubs and proved even more successful than usual following the introduction of a "Quiz Wheel" which brought a greater element of chance into the questions.

Mothers' Clubs continued to flourish and their theme for 1969 was "Problems and Pre-Occupations in Modern Life". This allowed the Clubs to cover a very wide range of health subjects; attendance remained steady throughout the year.

Ante-natal classes remained popular and there was particularly good attendance at each of the films shown to husbands and wives expecting their first baby.

During 1969, two "Study Days" for Home Helps were arranged. These were well attended and proved interesting to the staff concerned. Speakers included Dr. H. Caplan, Consultant Geriatrician, Mr. D. Idris-Evans, County Chiropodist and Miss D. FitzGerald, Area Children's Officer.

Two film reviews for staff were also held during 1969 and approximately 70 people attended on each occasion.

The main themes for the poster campaigns and exhibits in Health Centres, Nursery Schools, etc. during the year were firework safety, water safety, nutrition, and the importance of play for children under 5.

New equipment during the year included an 8 mm. cassette projector and this has proved very useful in child health clinics where it has so far mainly been used to show aspects of home safety and bottle sterilisation.

A series of slides was taken to show the full range of health and welfare services available in the area and it is hoped to show these to various organisations in and around the town.

### **Health Education in Schools**

So far as schools were concerned, the programme of talks and films on dental hygiene and the dangers of smoking were continued as in previous years.

This year, however, the general interest of the schools in sex education programmes has called for the close co-operation of the Health Department in discussions and film shows for staff, for parents and, in a limited number of schools, for the children themselves. An increasing amount of health education of this sort has also been carried out with youth groups within the Borough.

The Area Health Education Organiser has also continued to be responsible for the lectures to 1st and 2nd year Nursery Nurse students who attend Slough College two days per week.

SOUTH BUCKS AREA –  
HEALTH EDUCATION RETURNS  
FOR 1969

**Group Teaching**

| Talks given by:                                 |       | Talks given to:                           |       |
|---|-------|---|-------|
| Health education staff                          | 337   | Ante-natal groups                         | 440   |
| Medical officers                                | 10    | Ante-natal groups attended<br>by husbands | 11    |
| Health visiting, nursing and<br>midwifery staff | 619   | Mothers' clubs                            | 86    |
| Dental staff                                    | 20    | Schoolchildren                            | 211   |
| Other members of the County<br>Council staff    | 49    | Youth groups                              | 24    |
| Outside organisations and<br>lecturers          | 49    | Old People's Clubs                        | 15    |
|   | <hr/> | Parents' groups                           | 60    |
|   | 1,084 | County Council staff                      | 37    |
|   |       | Other groups                              | 35    |
|   |       | Students                                  | 165   |
|   |       |   | <hr/> |
|   |       |   | 1,084 |

The subject matter covered by these talks:

|  |       |
|--|-------|
| Ante-natal instruction                 | 440   |
| Growing up                             | 69    |
| Dental health                          | 52    |
| Mental health                          | 36    |
| Smoking and disease                    | 46    |
| Food and Health                        | 49    |
| Health and welfare services            | 106   |
| First aid and oral resuscitation       | 43    |
| Ante-natal instruction (with husbands) | 11    |
| Home safety                            | 20    |
| Food hygiene                           | 5     |
| Other                                  | 207   |
|  | <hr/> |
|  | 1,084 |



## SECTION B

### HOUSING

#### **Demolition and Closing of Dwellings**

During 1969 10 individual unfit houses were dealt with by means of Demolition orders and Closing orders made by the Council under the Housing Act, 1957.

#### **Repair and Maintenance of Dwelling Houses**

During the year 82 complaints were received by the department with respect to disrepair in dwelling-houses. The District Public Health Inspectors made 2,249 visits to houses for initial inspections and re-inspections to secure compliance with notices served, and to supervise repair works.

In connection with the work under the Housing and Public Health Acts, 23 statutory notices, 315 preliminary notices and 44 requisitions for information as to ownership of premises were served during 1969.

#### **Multiple Occupation**

During the past three years the number of houses in multiple occupation has continued to grow due mostly to the continued influx of immigrants into Slough. It is estimated that there are now approximately 1,500 such houses in the Borough, and it is considered that 70% to 75% of their occupants are Commonwealth Immigrants numbering approximately 10,000 people.

Despite the Government's restriction on immigration there has been no signs of any "let up" in Slough in this respect and our problem continues. It has been found that although there has been great difficulty in obtaining mortgages immigrants have still been buying up older type properties and most of these have in turn gone into multiple occupation. It was said in my report for 1968 that the main reason for this was that owners were finding the repayments and running of the houses so expensive that they were forced to take in lodgers and I see no reason to change this view.

The Council has continued its policy in making "Directions" limiting the number of individuals based on facilities and amenities in the respective houses. Several notices have been served requiring the provision of amenities which are lacking or defective. The department has taken action under the fire-escape provisions of the Housing Act 1961.

There is no doubt that the situation is becoming worse and the Council's policy of locating and controlling multiple occupation will continue to play a very large and important part of the Department's work. One obvious problem is the natural increases in families already living in multiple occupation. Whilst this may in many cases cause a "technical contravention" obviously the Council cannot and would not wish to institute legal proceedings where the number of individuals has increased because of the birth of a child.

In Slough there are very few multi-storey houses which are capable of conversion to several units of accommodation with grant aid. In the main multiple occupation is in the two-storey, five-roomed types of house which is not suitable for dividing into individual units of accommodation. Therefore, the problem of statutory overcrowding is more likely to become apparent in such conditions.

The provision in the Housing Act 1961 for sending notices (every five months in Slough) requiring owners to list individuals living in their houses is still being used but some of the statements have been proven false and there have been several prosecutions resulting from this. Ideally every house where a Direction is in force should be visited every five months to assess the position with respect to:-

1. Contraventions of the Housing Acts.
2. Conditions in the house e.g., repair, cleanliness, amenities etc.
3. Provision of rent books.
4. Harassment of tenants by the owner.

However with the existing staff on this work it is completely impracticable to carry out such an operation. A technical assistant continues to carry out a 100% survey of the Borough and every suspected case is inspected by my specialist officer. This system is proving satisfactory and I am of the opinion that it is the only real way to keep on top of the problem. It is significant to note that on average some 200 new cases of multiple occupation are discovered per year.

I have stressed before that the aim of this Department in connection with multiple occupation and commonwealth immigrants in particular, is to help and assist, not to persecute, and to see that those who occupy such houses do so under the best conditions which can be obtained, and to discover and deal with those who harass their tenants. There is growing evidence of harassment but unfortunately tenants are afraid to cooperate for fear of being put on the street. With the assistance of the International Friendship Council it is hoped that we shall be able to take some definite steps to promote a better understanding between landlords and tenants. However, whilst there is such a shortage of housing in the town people will pay any rent asked and often live under most unsatisfactory conditions.

Despite attempts at adverse publicity the relationship between the immigrants and this department has never been better. After three years in this work my specialist officer has become well known to the immigrant community and I am sure is trusted by them since they have come to appreciate that the objects and aims of the exercise are mainly for their benefit.

During 1969, ten prosecutions were taken for contraventions of Directions involving a total of £125 in fines, two prosecutions for false statements involving £25 in fines and one prosecution for failing to provide the information required involving £10 in fines.

In August 1969 the Housing Act 1969 came into force and there are some significant sections in respect of multi-occupied houses. The definition of multiple occupation has been altered to cover more than "one household". Further power has been given to Local Authorities in respect of means of escape in case of fire so that attic rooms etc., can be closed where it is not practicable to provide fire escapes.

Another very important section in this Act deals with the making of special grants for houses in multiple occupation. This will enable owners to apply for grants for certain amenities if the Local Authority consider they are required due to the number of individuals occupying a house. I am pleased to report that already there have been several enquiries mostly from immigrants to make use of this provision. As far as multi-occupied houses are concerned the main amenities to be considered will be extra baths, water-closets, wash-hand basins with hot and cold water to all points, and the provision of hot water to sinks. I am very hopeful that these new provisions will be a means of helping to improve conditions in houses in multiple occupation.

### **Housing Improvement Grants**

Thirty-nine applications for standard grants were received and approved, nine of them under the Housing Act 1969, and £2,700 was paid in grants. No applications were received for discretionary grants. The sum of £102 was recovered where a house had been sold in breach of the conditions in force for three years following completion of improvements, this being discovered on a routine check.

The number of amenities provided with the aid of grants was as follows:-

TABLE NO. 3

| <i>Baths</i> | <i>Wash Hand Basins</i> | <i>Hot Water Supplies</i> | <i>Indoor W.C.</i> | <i>Food Storage</i> |
|--------------|-------------------------|---------------------------|--------------------|---------------------|
| 17           | 22                      | 25                        | 16                 | 9                   |

No applications were received from tenants requiring the Council to compel landlords to instal amenities in dwellings.

Notices served on owners to carry out repairs to houses in the Montague Road area as a pre-requisite to declaring an improvement area, were not complied with and it was found necessary to carry out the work in default and charge the cost to each owner. The work was carried out by local building contractors under tender to specifications prepared in the Department.

The Housing Act 1969 extended the provisions for grants for improvement and conversion of houses, altered the concept of area improvement, and amended the law relating to rents of houses provided with amenities and in good repair. Owners who had applied for grants under previous legislation but who had not started the work, were invited to re-apply under the new Act to take advantage of its more generous terms but very few took advantage of the offer. Neither was there any immediate upsurge in the number of people applying for grant.

The most noticeable effect locally was the interest shown by landlords in their ability to bring rents out of control under the provisions of the Act, although this interest was demonstrated mainly by the larger firms of agents and property owners. The new system governs the rents of houses brought up to a satisfactory standard. Conditions governing the rents of these houses will not, as previously, be attached to grants. Controlled tenancies will be converted to regulated tenancies where this qualifying standard is attained and the chief responsibility of the Council will be to deal with applications for certificates relating to this standard.

There are two types of case. The first is where the house is to be provided with standard amenities and the second is where all the amenities were present when the Act came into force. In both cases the conditions to bring the tenancy out of control – known as qualifying conditions – are identical, i.e. the house must have all the standard amenities for the exclusive use of the occupants, it must be in good repair having regard to its age, character and locality and it must be fit for human habitation.

A number of difficulties have arisen where the landlords have applied for qualification certificates stating that houses are provided with all amenities and in good repair, but inspections reveal that amenities are lacking and repairs are needed. To avoid abortive applications of this sort I have encouraged owners to inform me initially of the properties for which they intend making application for qualification certificates so that an inspection can be made, necessary repairs scheduled and the appropriate forms sent to them.

The new Act has replaced food storage — the fifth standard amenity — by a sink, a change which will greatly facilitate improvement schemes locally. For a number of years the fact that an improved house must have a food store has posed many difficulties for builders and applicants. In many houses it has been almost impossible to find, in the limited kitchen space, available room for a ventilated food store and often the occupiers have said that they do not want it, will not use it and in any case they have a refrigerator. This resulted in ludicrous arrangements to satisfy the statutory requirement that a food store must be provided to obtain a grant and was in fact nothing more than a token food store, often little more than a box on the wall with a couple of air bricks.

#### **Residential Caravan Sites**

There were 99 residential caravans stationed within the Borough during 1969. These were subject to licences under the Caravan Sites and Control of Development Act 1960. Periodic visits by the staff revealed that conditions on these sites were satisfactory.

#### **Itinerant Caravanners**

Compared with previous years very little trouble arose from "Gypsy" caravans during 1969. There were a few instances where "travellers" occupied odd pieces of land but in such cases their stay was of short duration.

These unwanted and unwelcome visitors pose a problem for local authorities. The land upon which they trespass is fouled and littered with all manner of rubbish.

There is some hope that the provision of sites as envisaged by the Caravan Sites Act 1968 may go some way towards solving an age old problem.

#### **Information re Local Land Charges etc.**

Information as to statutory orders made in respect of dwelling houses and "non-complied-with" notices requiring works of disrepair was supplied in respect of 1,746 properties upon a request for official search of the Land Charges Register.

In addition, particulars as to properties were supplied in all cases in which mortgages were being arranged under the Housing Act, in respect of the purchase of small dwellings. A number of requests for information was dealt with during the year as to whether properties changing hands were included in the Borough Council's Programme of Housing Clearance.

### **Council Housing Estates**

(a) *Allocation of Council Houses.* Inspections were made by the District Public Health Inspectors for the purposes of ascertaining the existence of insanitary or sub-standard conditions of houses occupied by applicants under the Council's Housing Points Scheme, to enable a recommendation for the award of points under this heading to be made.

(b) *Council Housing Estates.* Liaison is maintained with the Housing Department on various matters concerning Council Estates and other Corporation property. Numerous visits of inspection of such properties were made by the District Inspectors in connection with structural defects, rodent control, vermin etc.

## **S E C T I O N     C**

### **SAFEGUARDING OF FOOD SUPPLIES**

#### **Food Hygiene**

The maintenance of clean food handling in the Borough of Slough continues to comprise a major part of the work of public health inspectors in the department. This work is effected in a number of ways. Persons handling food and persons carrying on food businesses are educated in the basic principles of food hygiene and persuaded that this comprises an essential aspect of their trade. The structure of the various premises and the equipment used therein are examined at regular intervals by inspectors on routine visits. The Food Hygiene (General) Regulations 1960 continue to provide the basis for this work, but a "policeman" type attitude is as far as possible avoided. I am very happy to report that this work is made easier by an increasing awareness among the general public of the evils of incorrect handling and manufacture of food. We are also aided by recent television publicity given to specific items, notable among which is the thawing procedure for deep frozen chicken. This is also a subject which the Association of Public Health Inspectors has given some attention, and has urged manufacturers of this product to give easily read instruction on the containers of the poultry so that the food is correctly thawed before cooking. A number of outbreaks of salmonella food poisoning have resulted because the correct procedure was not followed. The Department continues to strive to increase publicity on this subject, and has

addressed many organisations within the general public as well as the food trade and schools. Films and other visual aids are available, and extensive use is made of them. The interest and discussion which follows these lectures is invariably very gratifying.

Besides giving advice on the principles of food hygiene the public health inspectors assist in the selection of equipment for kitchens etc., and cleaning materials and as far as possible advising on those which have a sterilising capacity as well being detergent. The various new developments in food technology are made available to the Department by the journals and magazines of the respective organisations, and attendance at meetings on the subject.

Where food is manufactured, stored, handled or sold on a regular basis from fixed premises, food hygiene is fairly easy to maintain, but there are occasions where such processes are carried on for one day or just a few days, such as fairs or other similar functions. On these occasions and where we are not consulted prior to the installation of premises for the sale of food, facilities are often lacking and it is often too late to provide them. However, it is pleasing to note that where fair companies are moving from district to district, they eventually find it necessary to provide all the items and few problems are met with.

The Food Hygiene (Markets, Stalls and Delivery Vehicles) Regulations of 1966 continue to be enforced on all mobile vehicles, stalls and markets to which they apply. There is a demand for this type of trade, particularly among elderly people, who find it difficult to get to shops. It is felt that no lower standard than that expected in shops should be accepted simply because the food is being transported on wheels; obviously this was the guiding principle in the formulation of the Regulations. I am able to report that in the main such vehicles in the district comply with the Regulations. Such vehicles quite often operate outside normal office or trading hours, examples being hot dog stalls, stationed in the High Street, aimed at people leaving the cinemas, greyhound stadium etc. These are not missed, and inspectors make frequent late visits to these premises to ensure that conditions are as they should be.

The sale of food directed at the Commonwealth immigrant population of Slough still presents a number of problems to inspectors, one of the major ones being the purpose for which the food is sold; this of course will dictate the precautions which are necessary in the handling of the food. If it is going to be cooked by the consumer before use, it will obviously require different handling from a food which is going to be consumed in its raw or pre-cooked state. However, the persons carrying on this type of business in Slough are in the main co-operative and a good deal of work has been done during the year to improve these premises.

The Food Industry is one of the fastest changing industries with which the Department is concerned. The time the housewife spends in the kitchen preparing food has altered from five hours a day ten years ago, to something under one hour today. This has brought about a vast increase in the so-called convenience food industry, often providing very much safer forms of food, because invariably they are wrapped and they have been subjected to some form of processing or preservation. However, a good understanding of these foods by the consumer is necessary, but is not always demonstrated. An example of such new foods are the pasteurised hams. These are hams which are placed in cans, but are not sterilised in the ordinary way and subjected to rather less heat than normal. This means that as they are not sterile products they have to be stored in cool surroundings and kept for very much shorter periods than ordinary canned products.

The avoidance of stale food, mouldy food etc., is a function of food hygiene, and is secured by efficient rotation of stock. Where stocks are more than the very minimum sizes found in shops, a system of coding is essential. The large supermarkets and other retail outlets of food, have known this for some time and have been coding food for many years. Many of them are now adopting the principle of placing a code on the product which indicates the last date which that product should be on sale. This is a very much more efficient method of coding from our point of view than the former method, which was to place the date of production or date of placing on display on the product, which required an assistant to add a certain number of days, depending on the shelf life of the product, which she may or may not have known, onto that number. It would of course be highly desirable from a food hygiene point of view to have the date stamped on these products which could be easily read by both the general public and public health inspectors and others interested in control. However, despite many representations from various interested parties to the food trade urging them to adopt this practice, with few exceptions this has not been done, the reason being of course that consumers will invariably take the freshest of the product and leave those which bear an earlier date. However, it is hoped that with speedier distribution services and very much more careful and efficient stock control, this could eventually come about and only stock bearing one date need ever be stored or displayed on any one particular day.

In conclusion, I would say that food hygiene standards in Slough are good, and now, ten years after the commencement of the Food Hygiene (General) Regulations 1960, is perhaps a good time to review legislation relating to food so that it is up to date with modern food industry practices.

Food premises in Slough come within the following broad classifications:-

|    |   |     |
|----|---|-----|
| 1. | Catering premises, canteen, licensed premises, etc.       | 168 |
| 2. | Food factories, including all food manufacturing premises | 24  |
| 3. | Retail food shops   | 274 |

The number of inspections made by Public Health Inspectors of food premises within the Borough was 1,473.

### Dairies and Milk Supplies

Routine sampling of milk was carried out during the year at the two pasteurisation plants situated within the Borough and at other dealers' premises.

The register of Dairies and Distributors of Milk showed the following Dealers in milk were licensed at the end of 1969.

|    |  |   |    |
|----|--|---|----|
| 1. | Dealers (Pasteurisers) Licences                | — | 2  |
| 2. | <i>Dealers (Pre-packed milk) Licence</i>       |   |    |
|    | (a) Dealers Untreated (Farm Bottled) Licences  | — | 13 |
|    | (b) Dealers (Pasteurised Milk) Licences        | — | 64 |
|    | (c) Dealers (Sterilised Milk) Licences         | — | 47 |
|    | (d) Dealers (Ultra Heat Treated Milk) Licences | — | 8  |

The two pasteurisation plants within the Borough receive milk in bulk from a wide area and at these premises milk is subjected to the High Temperature Short Time process of pasteurisation. One hundred and eighty-eight milk samples were taken during the year and all passed the prescribed tests. No samples of milk were examined for *Brucella abortus*.

Details of samples taken are as follows:-

TABLE NO. 4

| BACTERIOLOGICAL EXAMINATION OF MILK. |                       |
|--------------------------------------|-----------------------|
| <i>Classification</i>                | <i>No. of Samples</i> |
| 1. Pasteurised Milk                  | 163                   |
| 2. Untreated Milk                    | 14                    |
| 3. Sterilised Milk                   | 9                     |
| 4. Ultra Heat Treated Milk           | 2                     |

### Cream

Thirty-five samples of cream were taken at regular intervals throughout the year in order to determine the bacteriological quality of cartons as delivered by milk roundsmen to households within the Borough.

All samples of cream taken were found to be of good bacteriological quality.

### Ice-cream

The number of premises registered for the sale of ice-cream in the Borough is 289. Considerable increase in the sale of ice-cream by itinerant vendors has become apparent in recent years. These vehicles are all carefully inspected and samples of ice-cream are regularly taken for bacteriological examination.

TABLE NO. 5

| METHYLENE BLUE REDUCTION TEST |                |
|-------------------------------|----------------|
| <i>Provisional Grade</i>      | <i>Samples</i> |
| 1) Satisfactory               | 32             |
| 2)                            | -              |
| 3) Unsatisfactory             | -              |
| 4)                            | -              |

### Preparation and Manufacture of Preserved Food

At the end of 1969, 67 premises in the Borough were registered in pursuance of Section 16 of the Food and Drugs Act, 1955, in respect of the manufacture of preserved foods as follows:-

|   |    |
|---|----|
| Canning Factories ... ..                        | 1  |
| Preparation of shell fish ... ..                | 2  |
| Fish Friers ... ..                              | 13 |
| Manufacture of Sausages and Cooked Meats ... .. | 51 |

## Inspection of Meat

One hundred per cent inspection of all carcasses and offals of animals slaughtered at the Municipal Abattoir was achieved by the Inspectors on duty. At the Abattoir there is a permanent staff, at present comprising a Public Health Inspector designated Superintendent/Senior Meat Inspector, an authorised Meat Inspector and two manual workers.

The following figures show the throughput of animals since the Borough Council operated a Municipal Abattoir in 1954. The figures for 1969 are in respect of the new Municipal Abattoir which came into use in October 1968.

TABLE NO. 6

|      | <i>Cattle</i> | <i>Sheep &amp; Lambs</i> | <i>Pigs</i> | <i>Calves</i> | <i>Total</i> |
|------|---------------|--------------------------|-------------|---------------|--------------|
| 1954 | 2,977         | 5,351                    | 3,400       | 1,078         | 12,866       |
| 1955 | 2,040         | 3,721                    | 5,662       | 1,073         | 12,500       |
| 1956 | 1,990         | 3,736                    | 4,854       | 1,135         | 11,715       |
| 1957 | 2,475         | 4,380                    | 6,608       | 1,121         | 14,584       |
| 1958 | 3,370         | 5,585                    | 8,683       | 987           | 18,625       |
| 1959 | 3,393         | 9,733                    | 8,432       | 929           | 22,487       |
| 1960 | 3,764         | 6,898                    | 8,281       | 1,083         | 20,026       |
| 1961 | 4,512         | 10,744                   | 10,256      | 1,234         | 26,746       |
| 1962 | 4,205         | 11,477                   | 13,312      | 1,142         | 30,136       |
| 1963 | 3,873         | 11,970                   | 14,034      | 882           | 30,759       |
| 1964 | 4,143         | 9,237                    | 14,602      | 778           | 28,760       |
| 1965 | 3,991         | 6,643                    | 17,244      | 578           | 30,421       |
| 1966 | 4,731         | 7,522                    | 17,638      | 515           | 30,406       |
| 1967 | 5,582         | 8,045                    | 17,549      | 437           | 31,883       |
| 1968 | 6,026         | 8,828                    | 22,954      | 528           | 38,336       |
| 1969 | 5,631         | 23,500                   | 26,719      | 968           | 56,818       |

## Municipal Abattoir

The new Municipal Abattoir at Cippenham was opened on the 7th October, 1968 and so 1969 was the first complete year during which the premises have been in operation.

The Abattoir, being modern and with a high standard of hygiene maintained, has been visited by parties interested in slaughtering and the meat industry from

many European countries, including Greece, Yugoslavia and Czechoslovakia and from several South American countries. One veterinarian visitor came from Japan.

Parties of students from many colleges in London and the South East have visited the Abattoir and the Department permitted many local authorities to send their student public health inspectors during the year to receive their practical training in meat inspection.

The Borough Council's staff includes a Superintendent/Senior Meat Inspector, one Authorised Meat Inspector and two manual workers. In addition to day to day management and meat inspection there are the duties of maintenance of plant and equipment, the care of animals received into the lairage, cleansing of the lairages, slaughterhalls, equipment and the premises as a whole.

The Abattoir operates daily from 7 a.m. to 5 p.m., Monday to Friday, but these hours are extended when necessary to meet additional slaughtering demands. Slaughtering does not take place at weekends except for the Saturday morning immediately preceding a public holiday if required.

On Saturday morning the premises are open from 7 a.m. until noon for the collection of meat and offal. During these hours extensive maintenance and cleansing are carried out.

If required the premises are opened on a Sunday morning between 10 a.m. and noon for the admission of animals for slaughter on Monday.

One hundred per cent meat inspection of carcasses and offal of all animals slaughtered at the Abattoir is carried out by the meat inspectors in accordance with the Meat Inspection Regulations 1963-1966. The Senior Meat Inspector and the Authorised Meat Inspector are relieved by Public Health Inspectors during sickness or holiday periods.

The handling, slaughtering and dressing of carcasses is undertaken on behalf of the Borough Council by a contractor who employs a dozen or so men for these operations, including the delivery of carcasses and offal to the users at the loading bay.

The slaughtering staff are to be complimented for the efficiency of slaughter, quality of dressing of carcasses and general standard of hygiene as required by the legislation governing slaughtering and hygiene practices to be observed.

Table 6 gives the annual figures of animals slaughtered. The drop in the number of cattle during 1969 was due principally to the Foot and Mouth Disease epidemic of 1967-1968 which seriously depleted the country's stock, and also due to the large number of calves which were exported during 1968-1969. This applied throughout the country and amounted to approximately a ten per cent fall in the number of cattle slaughtered.

Table 7 gives a summary of the number of carcasses inspected, and the number rejected as unfit for human consumption.

Table 8 shows the weights of meat and offal rejected.

The Abattoir is a Certification Centre for the purpose of the Ministry of Agriculture's Fatstock Guarantee Scheme which is operated by the Meat and Livestock Commission. Their offices are based at the Abattoir which is used by them as a regional centre.

In addition to the slaughter of animals drawn from farms covering a wide area around Slough, stock is brought from the following markets:

|                |            |            |         |
|----------------|------------|------------|---------|
| Ashford (Kent) | Bicester   | Reading    | Thame   |
| Aylesbury      | Buckingham | Slough     | Tring   |
| Bracknell      | Guildford  | Southall   | Taunton |
| Banbury        | Gloucester | Shrewsbury | Winslow |

and occasionally from markets in East Anglia.

The general opinion is that meat which is supplied through the Abattoir is for local consumption, but no Abattoir can thrive on catering for local supply as did the smaller slaughterhouses of the past. During the year pigs and sows were slaughtered at the Abattoir for export to Belgium which is the only "E.E.C." country which does not require an export licence, provided the certification is carried out by a selected Veterinary officer.

The three slaughtering and dressing lines for cattle, sheep and pigs are capable of a much larger throughput which cannot be attained unless there is adequate accommodation at both ends of the abattoir for holding live animals and for chilling carcasses and offal.

The anticipated increase in throughput at the new Abattoir has been disappointingly small. Your officers are concerned in taking all possible steps to encourage wholesalers outside the town to make use of the facilities available. The much needed second chilling room was nearing completion towards the end of

1969 but more chilling accommodation and additional lairages to match the potential slaughtering and dressing lines will be essential to achieve the throughput needed to make the Abattoir a financial success. These inadequacies are such that it is pointless for your officers to encourage the volume of extra business which would be necessary to arrive at a financial break-even point.

TABLE NO. 7

| Summary of Carcasses Inspected and Rejected                         |                                |             |                                  |             |               |
|---|--------------------------------|-------------|----------------------------------|-------------|---------------|
|   | <i>Cattle<br/>Ex.<br/>Cows</i> | <i>Cows</i> | <i>Sheep<br/>&amp;<br/>Lambs</i> | <i>Pigs</i> | <i>Calves</i> |
| No. of animals slaughtered and inspected ... ..                     | 5,073                          | 558         | 23,500                           | 26,719      | 968           |
| <b>Disease except Tuberculosis</b>                                  |                                |             |                                  |             |               |
| Whole carcasses rejected ... ..                                     | -                              | 3           | 138                              | 70          | 7             |
| Carcasses of which some part or organ was rejected ... ..           | 1,872                          | 213         | 8,856                            | 2,619       | 2             |
| % of number inspected affected with disease other than tuberculosis | 38                             | 39          | 38                               | 11          | 1             |
| <b>Tuberculosis</b>   |                                |             |                                  |             |               |
| Whole carcasses rejected ... ..                                     | -                              | -           | -                                | -           | -             |
| Carcasses of which some part or organ was rejected ... ..           | -                              | 1           | -                                | 359         | -             |
| % of number inspected affected with tuberculosis ... ..             | -                              | 0.2         | -                                | 1.3         | -             |
| <b>Cysticercosis (c.bovis)</b>                                      |                                |             |                                  |             |               |
| Carcasses of which some part or organ was rejected ... ..           | 95                             | 5           | -                                | -           | -             |
| Carcasses submitted to treatment by refrigeration ... ..            | 32                             | 1           | -                                | -           | -             |
| Generalised condition whole carcasses rejected ... ..               | -                              | -           | -                                | -           | -             |

TABLE NO. 8

| Weights of Rejected Meat                            |              |             |             |                |             |             |
|---|--------------|-------------|-------------|----------------|-------------|-------------|
|   | TUBERCULOSIS |             |             | OTHER DISEASES |             |             |
|   | <i>cwts.</i> | <i>qrs.</i> | <i>lbs.</i> | <i>cwts.</i>   | <i>qrs.</i> | <i>lbs.</i> |
| Carcases ... ..                                     | -            | -           | -           | 134            | -           | 16          |
| Parts of Carcasses and Organs ...                   | 34           | -           | 22          | 488            | 1           | 10          |
| <b>TOTAL ...</b>                                    | <b>34</b>    | <b>-</b>    | <b>22</b>   | <b>622</b>     | <b>1</b>    | <b>26</b>   |
| <b>TOTAL WEIGHT 32 tons 16 cwts. 2 qrs. 20 lbs.</b> |              |             |             |                |             |             |

### Slaughter of Animals Act, 1958

In pursuance of the above Act the Borough Council licensed 19 persons to slaughter animals intended for human consumption.

### Examination and Rejection of Other Foods

Some 849 visits were made during 1969 to wholesale and retail food premises for the purpose of examining other foods. 8 tons 7 cwts. 28 lbs. of food was voluntarily surrendered as unfit for human consumption and destroyed by the Corporation.

There are no poultry processing premises or liquid egg pasteurisation plants within the Borough.

TABLE NO. 9

| <i>Type of Food</i>                  | <i>Tons</i> | <i>cwts.</i> | <i>lbs.</i> |
|--------------------------------------|-------------|--------------|-------------|
| Meat – wholesale and retail premises |             | 13           | 30          |
| Cooked Meats, bacon etc.             |             | 1            | 37          |
| Canned meat and other foods          | 5           | 5            | 33          |
| Fish                                 |             | 1            | 19          |
| Fruit and Vegetables                 |             | 15           | 3           |
| Miscellaneous                        | 1           | 11           | 18          |

## Complaints relating to Food

Eighty-six complaints were received which approximates last year's figures and a quarter of these concerned mould of which the bulk arose, as may be expected, during the summer months. Eight complaints were of milk and of milk bottles. Half of the total complaints alleged contamination by foreign matter and of these five involved insects.

A few complaints were quite unfounded and unreasonable. Many more, although quite reasonably made, were found after examination and investigation, for one reason or another, not to warrant action by the department.

Most complaints however, required considerable investigation by the district public health inspectors in order to establish the full facts and to endeavour to prevent as far as possible a recurrence of the conditions leading up to the complaints. Where food is sold which is unfit, invariably it happens that at the shop premises concerned further similar unfit food is found.

Warnings to manufacturers and retailers were given in many instances and it was found necessary to institute summary proceedings on four occasions. They were as follows:-

|  |                                   |
|--|-----------------------------------|
| Sale of unfit pork ... ..              | fine of £30 with 10 guineas costs |
| Sale of coffee containing glass ... .. | fine of £20 with 10 guineas costs |
| Sale of bread roll with foreign matter | fine of £40 with 10 guineas costs |
| Sale of fruit cake with mould ... ..   | £40, no costs                     |

## Food and Drugs Act Compositional Standards and Labelling

In table 10 are summarized one hundred and fifty-seven formal samples and forty-three informal samples of food which were sent to the public analyst of which nine were reported as being unsatisfactory. Three of these were samples of milk which had been found to be unsatisfactory under test in the department and were in the nature of checks but no added water was discovered, the milks being merely of poor quality. Each of the other six unsatisfactory samples were objected to because of the various descriptions applied to them rather than to any adulteration. Yoghurt, labelled as being a low fat product, contained more fat than it should; synthetic cream trifles were in fact filled with imitation cream — 'synthetic' not being a permitted description. A sample of flour confectionery contained non-milk fat contrary to the statement on the label, and the manufacturer agreed to

make the product using no other fat than milk fat, thus matching the article with its label.

Three samples contravened the Cheese Regulations 1965. One, a sample of cheddar cheese was incompletely described by the shop assistant on retail sale, and a sample of curd cheese was not labelled as required by the regulations. A sample of full fat soft cheese labelled as such and complying with the standard relating to fat and water content also bore a description which could be interpreted as implying that the cheese was cream cheese. In no case was it necessary to institute legal proceedings.

In addition to those sent to the public analyst a further 19 samples of ice-cream, 144 samples of milk and 53 samples of spirits were tested in the department. All spirits and ice-creams were satisfactory, while 22 of the milks were low in fat or non-fat solids but no added water was discovered.

Over the years regulations made under the Food and Drugs Act 1955 relating to compositional standards and labelling of food have been of prime importance to manufacturers and of lesser importance to retailers, in that the retailer has been accustomed to receiving the product, usually prepacked, from the wholesaler, often under warranty, and has been accustomed to selling it exactly as received and with implicit faith in the ability of the manufacturer to label it properly. In more recent times there has been a trend in this type of legislation towards requiring retailers to label food when on sale "loose" — i.e. when outside the pack as received from the manufacturer. Such commodities as for example meat pies, sausage rolls, and cheese must all be properly ticketed or labelled by the retailer when exposed for sale and failure to comply with these requirements could result in legal proceedings. Ignorance of the law is no excuse, yet the multiplicity of legislation makes it very difficult for the ordinary small shopkeeper to know what his legal liabilities are, and it has become apparent that there is a need for facilities whereby shopkeepers can be made more aware of their responsibilities. Difficulties in retaining suitable staff in the distributive trades locally does not make the situation any easier.

Supplies of milk arriving at the two pasteurising plants in the Borough were sampled as a routine and tested in the department but no case of adulteration was discovered, the majority of the milk is still consigned in churns, and only a limited amount by bulk tanker. The average fat content of the ordinary milks tested was 3.65% with 8.70% of non-fatty solids.

TABLE NO. 10

| PRODUCT                 | PROCURED              |                         | ADULTERATED           |                         |
|-------------------------|-----------------------|-------------------------|-----------------------|-------------------------|
|                         | <i>Formally Taken</i> | <i>Informally Taken</i> | <i>Formally Taken</i> | <i>Informally Taken</i> |
| Almonds                 | 3                     | -                       | -                     | -                       |
| Baking Powder           | 1                     | -                       | -                     | -                       |
| Cheese products         | 13                    | 2                       | 2                     | 1                       |
| Coffee                  | 1                     | -                       | -                     | -                       |
| Cyclamate and saccharin | 1                     | -                       | -                     | -                       |
| Fats                    | 3                     | 5                       | -                     | -                       |
| Fish products           | 2                     | 2                       | -                     | -                       |
| Flavouring              | -                     | 1                       | -                     | -                       |
| Flour & flour products  | 6                     | -                       | -                     | -                       |
| Flour confectionery     | 11                    | -                       | 2                     | -                       |
| Fruit                   | 5                     | -                       | -                     | -                       |
| Fruit fillings          | 1                     | -                       | -                     | -                       |
| Ice-cream and lollies   | 2                     | -                       | -                     | -                       |
| Jelly products          | 1                     | 2                       | -                     | -                       |
| Meat products           | 32                    | 22                      | -                     | -                       |
| Medicinal products      | 1                     | -                       | -                     | -                       |
| Milk                    | -                     | 3                       | -                     | 3                       |
| Milk products           | 20                    | -                       | 1                     | -                       |
| Pickles and sauces      | 9                     | 1                       | -                     | -                       |
| Potato mix              | 1                     | -                       | -                     | -                       |
| Preserves               | 10                    | 2                       | -                     | -                       |
| Savouries               | 2                     | -                       | -                     | -                       |
| Soft drinks             | 19                    | 3                       | -                     | -                       |
| Spices                  | 1                     | -                       | -                     | -                       |
| Sugar                   | 1                     | -                       | -                     | -                       |
| Sugar confectionery     | 2                     | -                       | -                     | -                       |
| Vegetables              | 1                     | -                       | -                     | -                       |
| Vinegar                 | 5                     | -                       | -                     | -                       |
| Wine                    | 1                     | -                       | -                     | -                       |
| Yeast                   | 2                     | -                       | -                     | -                       |
| <b>TOTAL</b>            | <b>157</b>            | <b>43</b>               | <b>5</b>              | <b>4</b>                |

## SECTION D

**Clean Air**

Pollution is a word which is being used more and more in these modern days. With the considerable improvement in the standard of living during the past decade people are demanding that their environment shall be safeguarded against the evils of pollution, whether it be pollution of the air we breathe, our rivers or the sea.

We in this country are among the pioneers of the world in the fight for clean air. Following the disastrous London Smog in 1952 in which approximately 4,000 people lost their lives the Beaver report was produced and eventually the Clean Air Act 1956 was passed. This Act gave local authorities power to deal with both domestic and industrial air pollution. By far the biggest cause of air pollution is the smoke given off by burning raw coal in the domestic fire. Many energetic and far-seeing local authorities have invoked the provisions of the Clean Air Act 1956 and made smoke control areas within their boundaries.

One of the most successful cities with its smoke control programme is London. One only has to go and look at Trafalgar Square and other parts of the City and observe the "new look" of the recently cleaned public buildings to appreciate the benefits of clean air. In the square mile of the City, some 250,000 plants a year, in several hundred varieties, now bloom where ten years ago only privet, holly, laurel and plane trees grew. The house martins and swifts have returned and the amount of sunshine we enjoy has increased steadily. Similar things are happening in all our towns and cities — all brought about by cleaner air.

What has been done in Slough? Ten years ago air pollution recording apparatus was set up in different parts of the Borough and in 1961 Slough began taking part in a National Survey of Air Pollution as one of some hundred towns and cities participating. The Borough Council resolved to make the whole of the Borough smoke controlled by making a number of smoke control orders, starting at Langley and continuing in a westerly direction. The first smoke control order came into operation in December 1961 and by the end of 1969 there were twelve smoke control orders in operation covering almost half of the area of the Borough.

The results obtained from our air pollution recording apparatus confirm that smoke control is effective and worthwhile as the following figures show:-

| DECEMBER 1969 |   | <i>Average Smoke in Micrograms/cu.M</i> |                          |
|---------------|---|---|--------------------------|
| Station 13    | (Horsemoor Green School,<br>Langley)          | 64                                      | ) In smoke control areas |
| Station 14    | (Pest Infestation Laboratory,<br>London Road) | 66                                      | )                        |
| Station 16    | (Salisbury Avenue)                            | 107                                     | )                        |
| Station 17    | (Trading Estate)                              | 96                                      | ) Not yet covered by     |
| Station 18    | (Marks & Spencers,<br>Mackenzie Street)       | 100                                     | ) smoke control orders   |

Generally speaking the public are in favour of smoke control particularly as it helps them financially with grants towards the cost of installing modern and more efficient heating appliances in their homes. People living in established smoke control areas become very "smoke conscious" and complain about smoke emissions, usually from garden bonfires. Unfortunately, unless the smoke from a garden bonfire constitutes a nuisance or is dark smoke no action can be taken under the Clean Air Act. Gardeners are advised to compost waste material wherever possible and reduce bonfires to a minimum.

The modern trend in smoke control areas is towards the use of piped fuels. Since the changes in the method of manufacturing gas and the advent of North Sea Gas more people are installing gas appliances. Also, grants are payable now in respect of all kinds of electric heaters including night storage heaters. Certain solid smokeless fuels resulting from the manufacture of coal gas have ceased to be produced but there are now more manufactured fuels available. Some householders are installing whole or part central heating in their houses and they welcome smoke control as it enables them to obtain a grant towards part of the cost of the work.

District heating is a method of heating a number of buildings from one central boilerhouse. This results, where solid fuel or oil is used, in one highly efficient boilerhouse with a very tall chimney. A form of district heating using oil-fired boilers is planned for a part of the new Slough Central Redevelopment scheme.

### **New Legislation**

The Clean Air Act 1968 came into operation during 1969 and this Act gives local authorities additional powers to combat air pollution.

Section 1 of the Act prohibits the emission of dark smoke from industrial or trade premises other than from a chimney of a building. Hitherto it was necessary to prove that a nuisance was being caused by the smoke. This section

will enable action to be taken against bonfires at such premises as car breakers where the car bodies, including the tyres, were often burned in the open. Unfortunately the burning of material on a building demolition site is, subject to certain conditions, exempt from the requirements of this section.

Section 3 requires the provision of approved grit and dust arrestment plant to certain new furnaces. The grit and dust arrestment plant is subject to prior approval by the local authority. This section is particularly useful in controlling stack emissions from solid fuel burning furnaces and incinerators. Power is given for the Minister to make regulations regarding the rate of emissions of grit and dust and Section 5 deals with the measurement of grit and dust which except in large plant may be the duty of the local authority to carry out.

Section 6 of the new Act requires approval by the local authority in respect of the height of chimneys for all but very small furnaces. Section 8 gives the Minister power to require local authorities to make Smoke Control Orders where he is satisfied that they are necessary and the local authority has failed to do so.

Section 9 strengthens the power of the local authority to enforce smoke control orders. An offence against this section is committed if any person (a) buys or acquires any unauthorised solid fuel for use in a smoke control area or (b) delivers unauthorised solid fuel to a building in a smoke control area.

This section however, does not cover the sale to a customer who collects the fuel at the seller's premises, or to any straightforward retail sale over the counter. The sale in small bags of prepacked coal and solid smokeless fuel at highly inflated prices is increasing at many small shops in the town.

### **Industrial**

It has been found that industrial furnaces with their high efficiency and relatively high chimneys cause less pollution than domestic chimneys. Most new furnaces are fired by oil or gas and a high proportion of smaller furnaces are using oil with a low sulphur content which greatly reduces the emission of sulphur dioxide into the atmosphere.

The majority of installers of new furnaces in Slough take advantage of the Council's Prior Approval Scheme. This means that they obtain approval that the furnace will operate smokelessly within the requirements of Section 3 of the Clean Air Act 1956 before installing the furnace. During the year 28 applications for Prior Approval were granted in respect of new furnaces within the Borough.

## Administration and Statistics

A separate specialist section in the Department deals with all matters relating to air pollution. A public health inspector with additional qualifications who specialises in air pollution is in charge of this section and he is assisted by two technical assistants.

A summary of the work carried out by this section during the year is as follows:-

|   |       |
|---|-------|
| Number of visits to industrial premises   | 354   |
| Number of smoke observations (industrial)                                       | 192   |
| Number of visits in connection with Prior Approval                              | 56    |
| Number of visits to domestic premises mainly connected with Smoke Control Areas | 1,863 |
| Number of complaints regarding smoke  | 37    |
| Number of visits in connection with the measurement of air pollution            | 1,267 |

The Public Health Inspector (Air Pollution Control) has been elected to serve as a member of the Divisional Council of the South-East Division of the National Society for Clean Air. He frequently represents the Corporation at meetings of the Society.

## S E C T I O N E

### OFFICES AND SHOPS

#### Offices, Shops and Railway Premises Act, 1963

This Act makes provision for the safety, health and welfare of persons employed to work in offices, shops and certain railway premises. The Act follows the pattern of the Factories Act 1961, and the enforcement of the Act is divided between a number of authorities according to the class of premises.

The general provisions are enforced in most premises by local authorities. H.M. Inspectors of Factories are responsible for enforcing the general provisions in

premises occupied by local authorities, in railway premises, fuel storage depots on railway land and offices in factories, also premises owned or occupied by the Crown.

The fire provisions of the Act are, for the most part, enforced by fire authorities but, in certain premises, enforcement of some or all of the fire provisions is the responsibility of H.M. Inspectors of Factories or H.M. Inspectors of Mines and Quarries.

In general the Act, and the enforcement thereof, have improved the working conditions of employees in premises where conditions have been sub-standard for years, and in new buildings where the requirements of the Act have been taken into account at the planning stage.

Premises not covered by the Act are mainly where (1) only self-employed people work, (2) the only employees are immediate relatives of the employer, or (3) the weekly sum of hours worked by all the employees together does not normally exceed 21.

Local authorities and Fire authorities are required to report annually to the Minister on their work under the Act. Coded information is sent quarterly to the Ministry on reported accidents for the compilation of national statistics of accidents in premises covered by the Act.

### **Notification of Employment of Persons**

Some occupiers are still unaware of their obligation, under Section 49 of the Act, to notify the enforcing authority of the employment of persons in premises covered by the Act, and a number fail to re-notify on occupying different premises. Table No. 11 indicates the number of premises registered by class, and Table No. 12 shows the distribution of employment within these premises.

### **Enforcement of the Act**

The main general provisions of the Act relate to cleanliness, overcrowding, temperature, ventilation, lighting, sanitary conveniences, washing facilities, drinking water, accommodation for clothing, seating, eating facilities in shops, floors, passages and stairs, safety of machinery, first aid and information for employees.

A number of statutory instruments have been made by the Minister, and they define in detail certain general requirements of the Act.

Progress on routine general inspections under the Act was curtailed during the year due to staffing difficulties and the need to deploy the officer appointed to carry out this work on other essential duties within the Department, but reorganisation of the department in 1970 will enable a more comprehensive inspection routine by the district public health inspectors under the general co-ordination of the senior district inspector.

From the commencement of the Act the Minister has issued a series of guidance circulars to enforcing authorities to assist in the enforcement of the Act and Regulations. These circulars continue to be supplemented by further guidance as more experience is gained.

In the main, enforcement of the Act and Regulations has continued by way of advice and warning rather than proceedings, and all noted contraventions are confirmed in writing to the responsible person.

The following paragraphs indicate that the nature and incidence of contraventions were similar to those reported in previous years.

*Cleanliness (Section 4)* Contraventions found 27

Unsatisfactory conditions were still found in older office buildings, and in parts of shops not frequented by the public. Limited storage space, and inadequate routine cleansing were mainly responsible.

*Overcrowding (Section 5)* Contraventions found 9

There was little evidence of general overcrowding in offices, as occupiers are usually prepared to exceed the minimum numerical space standards set by the Act.

*Temperature (Section 6)* Contraventions found 38

Most problems concerned the maintenance of the specified minimum temperature of 16°C (60.8°F) in shop premises.

*Ventilation (Section 7)* Contraventions found 17

Again most contraventions arose in shop premises, especially where premises needing high security tended to have ventilation openings effectively sealed against intruders. Where possible the use of mechanical ventilation is advised in such premises.

*Lighting (Section 8)*

Contraventions found 9

There are no prescribed standards for lighting, but the Ministry booklet "Lighting in Offices, Shops and Railway Premises," published in February, 1969, gives two levels of illumination for various types of work and location. One set of figures gives the minimum values which in the opinion of the Ministry would meet the obligations of Section 8(1) of the Act. The other set of figures represent the minimum service values of illumination taken from the Code of the Illuminating Engineering Society.

Since the commencement of the Act the second set of values has been the standard which occupiers have been advised to aim for.

*Sanitary Conveniences (Section 9)*

Contraventions found 32

Sufficient and suitable conveniences must be provided. They must be kept clean, properly maintained, lighted and ventilated, and be conveniently accessible to employees.

The Regulations made under this section specify numbers of conveniences required in relation to number of employees.

Contraventions followed a similar pattern to previous reports and related to the conditions of conveniences rather than to insufficiency, and again indicated that routine cleansing and maintenance was lacking.

*Washing Facilities (Section 10)*

Contraventions found 30

The Regulations made under this section detail the type and number of facilities which must be provided according to the number of employees. The absence of running hot water and unsuitable conditions were the main contraventions found.

*Supply of Drinking Water (Section 11)*

Contraventions found 3

With an adequate supply of wholesome drinking water available, these requirements do not create a problem. One office was using a supply from a roof storage tank instead of the main, but when discovered this was immediately corrected.

*Accommodation for Clothing (Section 12)*

Contraventions found 2

As previously reported the accommodation under this heading was generally found to be in keeping with the size and status of the premises.

*Sitting Facilities and Seat for Sedentary Workers (Sections 13 and 14)* Contraventions found 1

A sufficient number of seats must be provided for the use of employees who must be permitted to use them when this does not interfere with their work.

Seats of such design, construction and dimensions as are suitable for the workers and, where necessary, a foot-rest must be provided for those whose work is of such a kind that most of it can, or must be, done sitting.

*Eating Facilities (Section 15)* No contraventions found

This section refers to shops only, but there is no requirement to provide facilities unless employees eat meals on the premises.

*Floors, Passages and Stairs (Section 16)* Contraventions found 23

The contraventions found under this section related mainly to defective and dangerous condition of floor coverings, lack of hand or guard rails and worn stair treads. Many contraventions under this heading, although of a minor nature, could easily be remedied by regular maintenance and all were a potential source of accidents.

*Dangerous Machinery (Sections 17, 18 and 19)* Contraventions found 13

The contraventions related to inadequate fencing of exposed parts of machinery. Dangerous practices in the operation and cleaning of food slicing machines and dangers from faulty or misused electrical equipment were noted.

*Prohibition of Heavy Work (Section 23)* No contraventions found

The Act states that no person shall, in the course of his work in premises to which the Act applies, be required to lift, carry or move a load so heavy as to be likely to cause injury to him. It applies also to contractor's men or to delivery men who may have to work on the premises. Enquiries have been made by occupiers of premises as to the weight of such a load, but as each person differs in his capabilities there is no standard set down. If, during the course of inspection, a possible infringement is noted, the responsible person is advised of the general requirement of this section.

*First Aid (Section 24)* Contraventions found 32

Although the need to provide first-aid equipment seems to be generally accepted the main contravention continued to be understocked first aid boxes.

Leaflets were issued indicating the minimum contents and occupiers were advised to detail one person to be responsible for checking the contents of boxes regularly and where possible to overstock with those items which may be used more frequently than others.

*Information for Employees (Section 50)*

Contraventions found 40

The Information for Employees Regulations, 1965, prescribe an abstract of the Act, and of Regulations thereunder, and require employers to inform employees of the effect of the Act and Regulations by keeping copies of the abstract posted in the premises, or by giving employees copies of an explanatory booklet. This is one of the easiest sections to comply with, an abstract in booklet form costs ninepence, yet it produces almost the largest number of contraventions.

*Accidents*

Section 48 of the Act requires the notification of any accident which occurs in premises subject to the Act and which causes the death of an employee or disables an employee from doing his normal work for more than three days.

One purpose of notification is to enable enforcing authorities to conduct investigations, where appropriate, and to advise on measures to prevent the recurrence of similar accidents.

Accidents must be reported on a prescribed form (OSR.2) and statistical information from these forms has to be sent by the authority to the Ministry each quarter.

Tables 13 and 14 show details of reported accidents under work-place and primary cause, sub divided according to age and sex.

Again I am pleased to record that no fatal accidents were reported during the year.

TABLE NO. 11

| <i>Class of Premises</i>                                     | <i>Number Registered</i> |
|--|--------------------------|
| Offices  | 329                      |
| Retail Shops   | 564                      |
| Wholesale Shops, Warehouses                                  | 28                       |
| Catering establishments open to the public, canteens         | 67                       |
| Fuel storage depots  | 1                        |
| Total number of registered premises at end of year           | 989                      |
| Number of visits to registered premises                      | 626                      |
| Number of registered premises receiving a general inspection | 362                      |

TABLE NO. 12

| <i>Persons employed by Work Place</i>      |                          |
|--|--------------------------|
| <i>Class of Work Place</i>                 | <i>Number of Persons</i> |
| Offices                                    | 4830                     |
| Retail Shops                               | 4029                     |
| Wholesale departments, warehouses          | 514                      |
| Catering establishments open to the public | 631                      |
| Canteens                                   | 69                       |
| Fuel storage depots                        | 7                        |
| <b>Total</b>                               | <b>10,080</b>            |
| <b>Total Males</b>                         | <b>4,490</b>             |
| <b>Total Females</b>                       | <b>5,590</b>             |

TABLE NO. 13

|  | <i>Offices</i> | <i>Retail Shops</i> | <i>Wholesale Departments, Warehouses</i> | <i>Catering Establishments open to the Public, Canteens</i> |
|--|----------------|---------------------|--|---|
| Machinery  |                | 6                   |  | 1   |
| Transport  |                | 1                   |  |   |
| Falls of person                                  | 1              | 8                   | 1  |   |
| Stepping on or striking against object or person |                | 4                   |  | 2   |
| Handling goods                                   |                | 8                   |  |   |
| Struck by falling object                         |                | 3                   |  |   |
| Fires and explosions                             |                |                     |  |   |
| Electricity                                      |                | 2                   |  |   |
| Use of hand tools                                |                | 2                   |  | 1   |
| Not otherwise specified                          |                |                     |  | 1   |
| <b>Totals</b>                                    | <b>1</b>       | <b>34</b>           | <b>1</b>                                 | <b>5</b>  |

TABLE NO. 14

| <i>Workplace</i>                                     | <i>Reported fatal accidents</i> | <i>Reported non-fatal accidents</i> | <i>MALES</i>  |                       | <i>FEMALES</i> |                       |
|--|---------------------------------|-------------------------------------|---------------|-----------------------|----------------|-----------------------|
|  |                                 |                                     | <i>Adults</i> | <i>under 18 years</i> | <i>Adults</i>  | <i>under 18 years</i> |
| Offices  | Nil                             | 1                                   | 1             |                       |                |                       |
| Retail Shops   | Nil                             | 34                                  | 6             | 7                     | 20             | 1                     |
| Wholesale Shops, Warehouses                          | Nil                             | 1                                   | 1             |                       |                |                       |
| Catering establishments open to the public, canteens | Nil                             | 5                                   | 1             | 1                     | 3              |                       |
| Fuel storage depots                                  | Nil                             | Nil                                 |               |                       |                |                       |
| <b>Totals</b>  | <b>Nil</b>                      | <b>41</b>                           | <b>9</b>      | <b>8</b>              | <b>23</b>      | <b>1</b>              |

## SECTION F

### FACTORIES

Factory developments in Slough vary greatly both in the size of the premises and in the processes carried out. They range from large food manufacturing and engineering plants down to small factories employing less than a dozen operators.

In 1969 there were 596 factories on the Council's Register of Factories, the majority of them situated within the Slough Trading Estate boundaries. Almost all factories on the register are designated power factories. Power factories are factories where mechanical power is used and as such the only provisions of the Factories Act 1961 administered by the local authority are those regarding the provision, suitability and maintenance of sanitary accommodation, all other requirements of the Act are enforced by Her Majesty's Factory Inspectorate with whom the department has close contact at all times.

There is however a small number of non-powered factories, that is to say factories where mechanical power is not used and at these premises the local authority is responsible for administering the requirements of the Factories Act regarding cleanliness, overcrowding, temperature and ventilation in addition to those regarding sanitary accommodation.

A break down of the number and type of inspections carried out during the year, the number of offences found and letters sent can be seen in Tables 15 and 16. It has not been found necessary during the year to take any legal action regarding contraventions of either the Factories Act or the related regulations.

All factories where food is handled or processed and all factory canteens are also regularly inspected for compliance with the Food Hygiene (General) Regulations 1960. In the main a fairly high standard is obtained in most premises and some of the poorer premises have improved over the last year.

Inspectors from the Department examined all plans deposited with the Borough Engineer for building regulation and planning approval to consider and to check upon the various aspects of the Factories Act, Clean Air Act and Food Hygiene (General) Regulations involved in any intended proposals or alterations. Any proposals which would result on completion in contraventions of this legislation arising were brought to the attention of the developer.

Boiler plant, incinerators and other installations covered by Clean air legislation are visited and inspected regularly and all complaints concerning public health nuisances including smoke nuisances and noise from factories are investigated

and action is taken where necessary. During the past year informal action has proved to be all that was required to deal with such complaints.

In Tables 15 and 16 will be found the statistical information annually required by the Ministry of Labour, as previously mentioned these tables also give a detailed summary of the work of the District Public Health Inspectors regarding factories but do not cover visits solely made for food hygiene, noise or clean air purposes.

### **Outworkers**

Firms who employ people to carry out manufacturing processes away from factory premises are required to notify the local authority, in whose area the people involved work, of the names and addresses of these outworkers in February and August of each year. These people usually work at home.

A number of firms mainly situated outside the Borough employ outworkers in this area and notifications are regularly received from them. The work carried out on this basis in this area no longer involves food preparation and mainly concerns the manufacture of knitwear, clothing and novelties. Because of the general improvement in housing conditions over the past few years the working conditions of outworkers have obviously improved. Nevertheless checks are made by this department on those outworkers notified to ensure that the normally high standard is maintained.

### **Drinking Water**

One certificate of approval of drinking water supply was granted in pursuance of Section 57 of the Factories Act 1961 in respect of a factory with a deep well supply.

TOTAL

16

15

15

15

## SECTION C

### PEST CONTROL, DISINFECTANT, ETC.

The Pest Control section of the Department is of vital importance and its activities can be regarded as a valuable contribution to public health. It is believed to be well equipped for discharging the requirements of the Prevention of Damage by Pests Act, 1949, which places the duty on the Slough Borough Council as to its Pest Control work.

TABLE NO. 15

| INSPECTION OF FACTORIES  |                    |             |                 |                      |
|--|--------------------|-------------|-----------------|----------------------|
| Premises   | Number on Register | Number of   |                 | Occupiers Prosecuted |
|  |                    | Inspections | Written Notices |                      |
| 1. Factories in which Sections 1,2,3,4 and 6 are to be enforced by the Local Authority                   | 18                 | 23          | 1               | -                    |
| 2. Factories not included in 1 in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority                     | 573                | 416         | 37              | -                    |
| 3. Other premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding outworkers' premises) | 5                  | 6           | -               | -                    |
| <b>TOTAL</b>   | <b>596</b>         | <b>445</b>  | <b>38</b>       | <b>-</b>             |

TABLE NO. 16

| IMPROVEMENTS EFFECTED AT FACTORIES   |   |           |                   |                   |  |
|--|---|-----------|-------------------|-------------------|--|
| 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 |  |
| Want of cleanliness (S.1)  | 2   | 2         | -                 | -                 | -  |
| 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         | -                 | -                 | -  |
| (b) unsuitable or defective  | 13  | 12        | -                 | 3                 | -  |
| (c) not separate for sexes   | -   | -         | -                 | -                 | -  |
| Other offences against Act (not including offences relating to Outworkers) | -   | -         | -                 | -                 | -  |
| <b>TOTAL</b>   | <b>16</b>                                   | <b>15</b> | <b>-</b>          | <b>3</b>          | <b>-</b>   |

## SECTION G

## PEST CONTROL; DISINFECTION, ETC.

The Pest Control section of the Department is of vital importance and its efforts can be regarded as a valuable contribution to public health. It is believed to be well equipped for discharging the requirements of the Prevention of Damage by Pests Acts, 1949, which places the duty on the Slough Borough Council to carry out Pest Control work.

The pest control officer is responsible for supervising the whole of this work in which three manual workers are engaged, and since pest infestation is so closely associated with food and physical defects in property it follows that there must be a very close liaison between the pest control officer and the district public health inspectors.

The rodent control service is provided free to domestic premises but a charge is made for work done on all business premises, some of which are serviced by annual agreement.

Pests other than rats and mice are dealt with as occasion arises on a chargeable basis.

Pest Control is essentially a basic necessity in environmental health. Occupiers of all premises can make a valuable contribution simply by practising elementary principles of hygiene, e.g. removal of refuse and lumber and the proper disposal of waste food. Infestations should be reported immediately they are discovered so that treatment can be carried out without delay.

### **Rodent Control**

The bulk of the work of the Pest Control Section is concerned with the destruction of rats and mice.

Rodents have been dependent on man for their food and shelter for many centuries and one tends to regard them as part of our environment.

The Government is continually being advised by a Committee which has been set up to investigate the use of poisonous substances, to determine the toxicological significance of the use of pesticides in relation to animal and plant tissues and generally to study the behaviour of pests. It has been said that while there is no great cause for alarm regarding the use of pesticides there is no room for complacency.

In 1969 notifications were received in respect of 512 infestations of rats and 401 of mice. A total of 7,097 visits in connection with investigation and treatment was made.

Supervision was exercised in connection with the rat-proofing of dwellings and other premises during the year.

Table No. 17 gives details of the work of the rodent operators during the year. In treating infestations by rodents the methods used are those approved by the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food.

The number of rats infesting the sewers in this Borough have shown a decrease. Treatment of sewers and surface infestations are carried out in accordance with instructions from the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food.

### **Annual Agreement Scheme**

The Rodent Control annual agreement scheme for business premises which the Council has operated since 1949 has again worked smoothly during the year. These premises are surveyed at regular intervals and all infestations are treated immediately.

Considerable effort has been made over the years to encourage industrial and commercial concerns to participate in the scheme and it is believed that this prompt and efficient service is much appreciated.

During 1969, 100 premises were serviced under the Council's scheme and the total income from these agreements amounted to £1,415. The scheme has continued to operate on a self-supporting basis and charges are made according to the size and type of premises.

### **Workable Area Committee**

The South Bucks and East Berks Workable Area Committee, convened by the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food, is supported by most Local Authorities in the area. Officers and members meet twice a year, thus providing a common ground for discussion and exchange of information on topics which continually arise in this sphere.

By films and demonstrations of equipment one learns of the behaviour of pests and also of new methods of treatment.

Scientific research personnel of the Ministry's Infestation Division give lectures on the various aspects of their work.

These meetings are indeed very worthwhile and in recent years the Committee has widened its scope to include, in addition to rodent control, all matters relating to land pests and insect control. The Chairman of the Services Committee and the Chief Public Health Inspector represent the Borough Council.

### **Other Pests**

A few complaints of pests other than rodents were received and treatments were carried out as follows:-

| <i>Wasps</i> | <i>Flies</i> | <i>Beetles</i> | <i>Other Pests</i> |
|--------------|--------------|----------------|--------------------|
| 87           | 8            | 5              | 52                 |

### **Disinfestation and Disinfection**

Bedding and other articles were disinfected and disinfested.

A number of premises and articles were also disinfected by sealing the rooms and by using a formaldehyde fumigant.

The following work was supervised by the Pest Control Officer during the year:-

|                      |   |    |
|----------------------|---|----|
| Premises Disinfected | — | 6  |
| Premises Disinfested | — | 29 |

In addition, bedding and articles of clothing from some premises associated with infestation by vermin were destroyed under the supervision of the Pest Control Officer.

TABLE NO. 17

| RODENT INFESTATION CONTROL (RODENT OPERATORS) |                   |                         |                   |                                   |                           |                                      |       |
|---|-------------------|-------------------------|-------------------|-----------------------------------|---------------------------|--------------------------------------|-------|
|   | Private Dwellings | Business Premises       |                   | Refuse Destructor Tips Dumps etc. | Parks Hedges Ditches etc. | Other Council Properties Sewers etc. | TOTAL |
|   |                   | Annual Agreement Scheme | Short Term Action |                                   |                           |                                      |       |
| 1. Investigations made                        | ...               | 1,571                   | 284               | 51                                | 106                       | 174                                  | 3,291 |
| 2. Treatments carried out by the Corporation  | ...               | 1,463                   | 271               | 27                                | 49                        | 29                                   | 2,458 |
| 3. Poison Baits laid                          | ...               | 4,506                   | 1,624             | 961                               | 651                       | 107                                  | 9,156 |
| 4. Poison Baits taken                         | ...               | 3,107                   | 1,741             | 416                               | 147                       | 58                                   | 6,160 |
| 5. No. of visits made                         | ...               | 4,062                   | 567               | 93                                | 213                       | 211                                  | 7,097 |

## SECTION H

## MISCELLANEOUS

## Noise

The number of applications made to the local authority under the Aircraft Noise Insulation Grants Scheme jumped from 81 in 1968 to 195 in 1969. This large increase was a direct result of the activities of various double glazing firms operating in the area, and not as a result of any publicity by the authorities. The total number of applications approved since the inception of the scheme in 1966 was 302, yet we have received only 164 direct enquiries in the Department. To date 9 applications have been refused because in each case the applicant was not entitled to the occupation of the property on the 1st January, 1966.

A similar remarkable increase took place, of course, in the amount of grants paid, this being due partly to the fact that the maximum grant had been raised the previous December from £100 to £150. During the financial year ended 31st March, 1969 £9,178 was paid out in grants whereas for the year ended 31st December, 1969 a total of £20,809 has been paid.

Most of the work is carried out by specialist contractors and on only two occasions have grants been paid where the occupiers have carried out the work themselves. An occupier cannot charge the cost of his own labour but we are empowered to allow him up to £2. 10. 0d. for tools to carry out the work.

A number of difficulties have arisen in the area in houses which were built about 10 years ago on the open plan scheme whereby the whole of the ground floor of the house is virtually one room. As the technical specification requires all the windows in the room to be insulated, these open plan and similar designs must be treated throughout the whole area, it not being sufficient to treat, for instance, only the dining area leaving untreated the windows in any living area or kitchen separated (if at all) only by some insubstantial screen. Similar difficulties may arise in the case of through lounges where applicants may wish to treat, for example, the lounge area but not the dining area. In these circumstances the whole of the through lounge is treated as one room, regardless of area, except where there are substantial doors between the front and rear portions and not some insubstantial folding type of partition such as is common in many of these properties.

There are currently five approved types of ventilator unit which are known to comply with the ventilation and acoustic specification prescribed in the scheme, and the attention of the British Airports Authority has been drawn to the desirability that these ventilation units should also be approved from an electrical safety aspect.

After consultation with the Board of Trade, it was pointed out that the approved list means that the units were approved having regard to acoustic and ventilation requirements only and not to their electrical safety.

Difficulty has sometimes been experienced where double glazing firms have completed the work and demanded payment immediately from the applicant before the completed job was inspected and approved by my inspectors. On a number of occasions, where the applicant has in fact paid the bill, the completed work has been inspected and found to fall short of the statutory requirements. In each case the matter was finally satisfactorily resolved, the necessary remedial work completed and the grant paid.

At one time it was thought possible that people would be deterred from applying for grants on the grounds that there was a possibility that their rateable value would be increased. The view has been expressed that this would be wrong in principle, that people who lived in the vicinity of airports and who suffered noise both inside and outside their houses, should have to pay more rates when they have taken measures to achieve what in other places were considered to be only the normal amenities of life. An attempt was made in another area to increase the rateable value of houses which had been improved by double glazing against aircraft noise but this attempt was unsuccessful. No rateable values of houses in Slough have so far been raised following work carried out under this scheme.

A total of 17 complaints have been received during the year regarding noise and in every case, the complaint was investigated and where necessary, remedial action taken. In the case of one fairly large factory situated near a residential area, many complaints were received from the inhabitants, concerning noise originating in the factory. A number of visits was made by the district inspectors to this factory with the result that the bulk of the noise was attenuated. Amongst the remedial measures carried out by the firm were the following: a muffler in connection with one of the process fans was replaced by a unit which had been specifically designed for the purpose; a strident smoke alarm on the boiler was replaced by one with a higher frequency which was not so noticeable outside the factory; one process fan was completely encased in an acoustic room so as to contain its noise within the factory.

Your chief inspector was called out late one evening by a number of irate householders in a residential neighbourhood who were being severely disturbed by noise from concrete breakers. Contractors had been brought into an adjoining factory to work at night and over the weekend to break up a large area of concrete. They were prevailed upon to abate the nuisance and no statutory action was necessary. So widespread had been the area where nuisance was experienced that

all the householders in a number of streets were circularised to inform the residents of the action taken.

In another area a factory, again built in a residential neighbourhood in fairly close proximity to dwelling houses, was causing a considerable amount of nuisance by testing gearboxes within the factory building but with doors open. A consultant was brought in on this case and noise level readings were taken, it being established that the nuisance was almost entirely due to the fact that the testing was carried out with the large doors wide open.

In addition to these nuisances there were of course many occasions where people complained to the Department of domestic noises such as barking dogs or neighbours singing loudly as well as the usual number of complaints due to road breakers being used without proper mufflers.

A refresher course on noise was attended by three inspectors at Slough College of Technology to keep abreast of modern developments. A very useful addition to the equipment in the Department was made when we purchased a sound level meter with an octave band filter.

### Water Supply

During the year some 59 visits were made in connection with water supplies and swimming bath waters and the following samples were procured:-

#### *Domestic Water Supplies*

|            |    |
|------------|----|
| Town mains | 10 |
| Wells      | 3  |

#### *Swimming Bath Waters*

|                         |    |
|-------------------------|----|
| Slough Lido             | 17 |
| Slough Community Centre | 20 |
| Schools                 | 6  |

The results of all these samples proved to be satisfactory.

### Hairdressers

At the end of the year there were 81 premises registered for the carrying on of the business of hairdresser and/or barber under Section 82 of the Buckinghamshire County Council Act, 1957.

All these premises were subjected to routine inspection by the District Public Health Inspectors during the year. Particular attention was paid to the cleanliness of premises, instruments, towels, materials and equipment and to the cleanliness of persons employed on the premises.

### Offensive Trades

Two rag and bone dealers and a fat melter are now the only offensive trades scheduled under the Public Health Act, 1936, which operate within the Borough.

In 1969 the Council granted the necessary consent in each case.

### House Drainage

Seventy-four complaints were received during 1969 concerning choked or defective drainage and sanitary fittings. The District Inspectors made some 592 visits for the purpose of investigation, testing and supervision of remedial works. At three premises drainage systems were re-constructed and other sanitary improvements were effected at 36 premises. A few cesspools were abolished during the year, but some 30 remain in use.

### Places of Entertainment

Routine inspections were made by the District Public Health Inspectors to places of entertainment including cinemas, bingo halls and a bowling alley. All these premises were found to be satisfactory.

**COMMITTEE FOR EDUCATION**

**January to May 1969**

*Chairman:*

**COUNCILLOR I.S.M. REA**

*Vice-Chairman:*

**ALDERMAN W.C. WEST**

**ALDERMAN MRS. M.J. MORGAN  
ALDERMAN A.W.J. PUSEY  
ALDERMAN J. RIGBY  
ALDERMAN F.S.G. ROOM  
COUNCILLOR MRS. T.P. BAYNHAM  
COUNCILLOR MISS W.M. BRIEN  
COUNCILLOR G. BROOKER**

**COUNCILLOR MRS. N.B. DENMAN  
COUNCILLOR R.F. EVERETT  
COUNCILLOR N.M. ESCHLE  
COUNCILLOR D.J.P. NEAVE  
COUNCILLOR P.T. SMART  
COUNCILLOR J.T. TRACEY  
COUNCILLOR J. WALKER**

**May to December 1969**

*Chairman:*

**ALDERMAN W.C. WEST**

*Vice-Chairman:*

**ALDERMAN J. RIGBY**

**ALDERMAN MRS. M.J. MORGAN  
ALDERMAN A.W.J. PUSEY  
COUNCILLOR MRS. T.P. BAYNHAM  
COUNCILLOR MISS W.M. BRIEN  
COUNCILLOR G. BROOKER  
COUNCILLOR P.J. ELLIS  
COUNCILLOR N.M. ESCHLE**

**COUNCILLOR I.A. GRANT  
COUNCILLOR F.L. HARRIS  
COUNCILLOR I.T.J. MACE  
COUNCILLOR W. PARNHAM  
COUNCILLOR R.K. POWELL  
COUNCILLOR P.T. SMART  
COUNCILLOR J.S. WEST**

*Borough Education Officer*

C.S. SMYTH, B.A.

*Staff Engaged in Medical Inspections during 1969*

- Divisional School Medical Officer:   MACDONALD A. CHARRETT,  
M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.P.H., F.R.S.H.
- School Medical Officers:           AUDREY MYANT, M.B., B.S., M.R.C.P.,  
D.P.H.  
ROBERTA EVANS, B.Sc., M.B., Ch.B.,  
JEAN BARKER, B.Sc., M.B., Ch.B.,  
M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., (resigned 13. 6.69)  
J. CAROL BUTCHER, M.B., Ch.B.,  
(resigned 8. 9.69)  
ANDREW V. GILLESPIE, M.B., B.Chir.  
M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P. (appointed 24.11.69)  
ERINA M. HERRICK, M.B., B.S.  
(appointed 3.11.69)

*Ophthalmic Surgeon*

M.T.C. MOWER, M.B., B.Chir., M.M.S.A.

*Child Guidance Clinic and Crisis Consultation Service**Psychiatrists*

VERA A. WILKINSON, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.M. (appointed 1.8.69)

(Part-time services made available by arrangement with the  
North-West Metropolitan Regional Hospital Board)

ELIZABETH F. BROWN, B.M., B.Ch., D.P.M.

*Educational Psychologists*

MRS. E. THORNE

MR. J.C. QUICK

MRS. U.M. WALL-GALLUSSER

*Psychotherapist*

MRS. I. WELLIN

|                                   |   |                        |
|-----------------------------------|---|------------------------|
| <i>Psychiatric Social Workers</i> | — | 2 ( <i>part-time</i> ) |
| <i>Social Worker</i>              | — | 1 ( <i>full-time</i> ) |

#### *School Dental Surgeons*

|                      |                                      |             |
|----------------------|--------------------------------------|-------------|
| Orthodontist:        | MISS A.M. BLANDFORD, D.Orth., L.D.S. |             |
| Area Dental Officer: | MR. P.T. FULLER, B.D.S.              |             |
| Dental Officers:     | MRS. L. LEVY, L.D.S.                 | (part-time) |
|                      | MR. H.R. RIPPON, L.D.S.              |             |
|                      | MR. F.M. ARMOUR, B.D.S.              | (part-time) |
|                      | DR. E. DEUTSCH, M.B. (Vienna)        | (part-time) |
| Dental Auxiliary:    | MISS E.M. EDWARDS                    |             |

#### *Speech Therapists*

MRS. J. LOMAS  
 MRS. R.B. SWALLOW (part-time)  
 MRS. P. LOWE (nee BELCHEM)

#### *Remedial Gymnast*

MISS J. GARSCADDEN

#### *Health Visiting Staff*

|                   |   |
|-------------------|---|
| MISS M.F. WELLER, | Area Superintendent Health Visitor        |
| MISS E. LUCEY     | Deputy Area Superintendent Health Visitor |

#### *Health Visitors - 27*

#### *School Health Assistants - 13*

ANNUAL REPORT  
OF

**THE SCHOOL HEALTH SERVICE, 1969**

This is the seventh report of the work of the school health service since the Borough Council began to act in May 1962, as an Excepted District under the Education Act, 1944.

*Number of Children on School Roll*

*January 1969*

|                     |                |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |        |
|---------------------|----------------|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|--------|
| Nursery Schools     | ...            | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 575    |
| Primary Schools —   | Junior         | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 6,150  |
|                     | Infant         | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 3,113  |
| Secondary Schools — | Modern         | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 4,264  |
|                     | Technical      | )   |     |     |     |     |     |     |        |
|                     | Grammar & High | )   | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 3,106  |
| Special Day School  | ...            | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 182 |        |
|                     |                |     |     |     |     |     |     |     | 17,390 |

The following tables indicate the work carried out by the School Health Service.

**MEDICAL INSPECTION OF PUPILS ATTENDING  
MAINTAINED PRIMARY AND SECONDARY SCHOOLS – 1969**

**TABLE NO. 1**

**PUPILS REQUIRING TREATMENT**  
*(excluding Dental Diseases and Infestation with Vermin)*

| <i>Age Groups Inspected<br/>(by year of birth)</i> | <i>No. of Pupils Inspected</i> | <i>For Defective vision (excluding squint)</i> | <i>For any other condition as recorded in Table 2</i> | <i>Total Individual Pupils</i> |
|--|--------------------------------|--|---|--------------------------------|
| (1)  | (2)                            | (3)  | (4)   | (5)                            |
| 1965 & later                                       | 30                             | -  | 5   | 4                              |
| 1964   | 483                            | 11   | 68  | 70                             |
| 1963   | 585                            | 9  | 85  | 76                             |
| 1962   | 126                            | -  | 9   | 7                              |
| 1961   | 98                             | 2  | 8   | 9                              |
| 1960   | 47                             | -  | 5   | 5                              |
| 1959   | 46                             | 1  | 3   | 4                              |
| 1958   | 1,060                          | 25   | 110   | 119                            |
| 1957   | 113                            | 6  | 10  | 14                             |
| 1956   | 33                             | 2  | 1   | 3                              |
| 1955   | 316                            | 8  | 19  | 26                             |
| 1954 & earlier                                     | 1,241                          | 17   | 59  | 64                             |
| <b>TOTAL</b>                                       | <b>4,178</b>                   | <b>81</b>                                      | <b>382</b>  | <b>401</b>                     |

## INFESTATION WITH VERMIN

**Notes:** All cases of infestation, however slight, are included in this table. The numbers recorded at (b), (c) and (d) relate to individual pupils and not to instances of infestation.

|   | <i>1968</i> | <i>1969</i> |
|---|-------------|-------------|
| (a) Total number of individual examinations of pupils in schools by school nurses or other authorised persons         | 21,835      | 22,488      |
| (b) Total number of individual pupils found to be infested  | 65          | 52          |
| (c) Number of individual pupils in respect of whom cleansing notices were issued (Section 54(2), Education Act, 1944) | -           | 12          |
| (d) Number of individual pupils in respect of whom cleansing orders were issued (Section 54(3), Education Act, 1944)  | -           | -           |

## OTHER MEDICAL INSPECTIONS

A special medical inspection is one that is carried out at the special request of a parent, doctor, nurse, teacher or other person.

A re-inspection is an inspection arising out of one of the periodic medical inspections or out of a special inspection.

|                               | <i>1968</i>  | <i>1969</i>  |
|-------------------------------|--------------|--------------|
| Number of special inspections | 1,161        | 2,225        |
| Number of re-inspections      | 1,579        | 1,362        |
| <b>TOTAL</b>                  | <u>2,740</u> | <u>3,587</u> |

**TABLE NO. 2**  
**DEFECTS FOUND BY MEDICAL INSPECTIONS**  
**PERIODIC INSPECTIONS**

This table includes individual pupils requiring treatment (T) or observation (O) even though many are already under treatment or observation as a result of previous medical examinations.

| DEFECT<br>CODE<br>NO. | DEFECT<br>OR<br>DISEASE | PERIODIC INSPECTIONS |            |            |            |            |            |            |             |
|-----------------------|-------------------------|----------------------|------------|------------|------------|------------|------------|------------|-------------|
|                       |                         | ENTRANTS             |            | LEAVERS    |            | OTHERS     |            | TOTAL      |             |
|                       |                         | (T)<br>(3)           | (O)<br>(4) | (T)<br>(5) | (O)<br>(6) | (T)<br>(7) | (O)<br>(8) | (T)<br>(9) | (O)<br>(10) |
| 4                     | Skin                    | 3                    | 13         | 7          | 8          | 4          | 13         | 14         | 34          |
| 5                     | Eyes -                  |                      |            |            |            |            |            |            |             |
|                       | (a) Vision              | 25                   | 18         | 24         | 22         | 32         | 37         | 81         | 77          |
|                       | (b) Squint              | 7                    | 11         | -          | 1          | 3          | 1          | 10         | 13          |
|                       | (c) Other               | -                    | -          | -          | -          | -          | -          | -          | -           |
| 6                     | Ears -                  |                      |            |            |            |            |            |            |             |
|                       | (a) Hearing             | 57                   | 56         | 42         | 14         | 39         | 21         | 138        | 91          |
|                       | (b) Otitis Media        | 4                    | 5          | 1          | 1          | -          | 3          | 5          | 9           |
|                       | (c) Other               | 1                    | 1          | -          | 1          | -          | -          | 1          | 2           |
| 7                     | Nose and throat         | 8                    | 32         | 3          | 2          | 1          | 6          | 12         | 40          |
| 8                     | Speech                  | 24                   | 15         | 2          | 1          | 5          | 5          | 31         | 21          |
| 9                     | Lymphatic Glands        | -                    | 5          | -          | -          | -          | -          | -          | 5           |
| 10                    | Heart                   | -                    | 14         | 1          | 2          | 1          | 15         | 2          | 31          |
| 11                    | Lungs                   | 2                    | 17         | 1          | 1          | 2          | 6          | 5          | 24          |
| 12                    | Development -           |                      |            |            |            |            |            |            |             |
|                       | (a) Hernia              | 1                    | 4          | -          | -          | -          | 3          | 1          | 7           |
|                       | (b) Other               | 5                    | 53         | -          | 4          | 12         | 24         | 17         | 81          |
| 13                    | Orthopaedic -           |                      |            |            |            |            |            |            |             |
|                       | (a) Posture             | 5                    | 1          | 5          | 3          | 8          | 5          | 18         | 9           |
|                       | (b) Feet                | 22                   | 19         | 9          | 4          | 23         | 16         | 54         | 39          |
|                       | (c) Other               | 5                    | 6          | 2          | 11         | 5          | 5          | 12         | 22          |
| 14                    | Nervous System -        |                      |            |            |            |            |            |            |             |
|                       | (a) Epilepsy            | -                    | 5          | -          | 1          | -          | 4          | -          | 10          |
|                       | (b) Other               | 1                    | 8          | -          | 2          | 9          | 8          | 10         | 18          |
| 15                    | Psychological -         |                      |            |            |            |            |            |            |             |
|                       | (a) Development         | 8                    | 23         | 2          | 2          | 8          | 13         | 18         | 38          |
|                       | (b) Stability           | 5                    | 13         | 1          | -          | 8          | 15         | 14         | 28          |
| 16                    | Abdomen                 | -                    | -          | -          | -          | -          | -          | -          | -           |
| 17                    | Other -                 |                      |            |            |            |            |            |            |             |
|                       | Diabetic                | -                    | -          | 1          | -          | -          | -          | -          | -           |
|                       | Men. disorder           | -                    | -          | -          | 1          | -          | -          | -          | -           |
|                       | Gen. condition          | -                    | 5          | -          | 3          | -          | 9          | -          | 17          |
|                       | C. Guidance             | 1                    | 2          | -          | -          | 1          | -          | 2          | 2           |
|                       | Overweight              | -                    | 1          | -          | 11         | 2          | 9          | 2          | 21          |
|                       | Underweight             | -                    | 1          | -          | -          | -          | -          | -          | 1           |
|                       | Obesity                 | -                    | 2          | -          | -          | -          | 3          | -          | 5           |

TABLE NO. 3

## SPECIAL INSPECTIONS

| Defect Code No.<br>(1) | Defect or Disease<br>(2) | SPECIAL INSPECTIONS               |                                     |
|------------------------|--------------------------|-----------------------------------|-------------------------------------|
|                        |                          | Pupils requiring Treatment<br>(3) | Pupils requiring Observation<br>(4) |
| 4                      | Skin                     | 8                                 | 30                                  |
| 5                      | Eyes                     |                                   |                                     |
|                        | (a) Vision               | 78                                | 125                                 |
|                        | (b) Squint               | 22                                | 17                                  |
|                        | (c) Other                | 1                                 | 4                                   |
| 6                      | Ears                     |                                   |                                     |
|                        | (a) Hearing              | 276                               | 184                                 |
|                        | (b) Otitis Media         | 13                                | 9                                   |
|                        | (c) Other                | 1                                 | 2                                   |
| 7                      | Nose and throat          | 31                                | 54                                  |
| 8                      | Speech                   | 63                                | 64                                  |
| 9                      | Lymphatic Glands         | 1                                 | 13                                  |
| 10                     | Heart                    | 6                                 | 31                                  |
| 11                     | Lungs                    | 18                                | 48                                  |
| 12                     | Developmental            |                                   |                                     |
|                        | (a) Hernia               | 3                                 | 5                                   |
|                        | (b) Other                | 31                                | 66                                  |
| 13                     | Orthopaedic              |                                   |                                     |
|                        | (a) Posture              | 16                                | 17                                  |
|                        | (b) Feet                 | 57                                | 109                                 |
|                        | (c) Other                | 19                                | 29                                  |
| 14                     | Nervous System           |                                   |                                     |
|                        | (a) Epilepsy             | 3                                 | 6                                   |
|                        | (b) Other                | 18                                | 30                                  |
| 15                     | Psychological            |                                   |                                     |
|                        | (a) Development          | 50                                | 87                                  |
|                        | (b) Stability            | 54                                | 101                                 |
| 16                     | Abdomen                  | 4                                 | 7                                   |
| 17                     | Other                    |                                   |                                     |
|                        | (a) Undernourished       | -                                 | 1                                   |
|                        | (b) Overweight           | 4                                 | 59                                  |
|                        | (c) Obesity              | -                                 | 9                                   |
|                        | (d) General Condition    | 5                                 | 35                                  |
|                        | (e) Anaemia              | 1                                 | -                                   |
|                        | (f) Behaviour            | -                                 | 2                                   |
|                        | (g) Diabetic             | -                                 | 3                                   |
|                        | (h) Child Guidance       | 2                                 | 6                                   |

## REPORT OF THE REMEDIAL GYMNAST

|   | 1967 | 1968 | 1969 |
|---|------|------|------|
| Number of Schools with pupils in need of treatment  | 39   | 42   | 46   |
| Total number of new cases referred  | 112  | 170  | 165  |
| Total number who received treatment   | 407  | 438  | 460  |
| Number of children who have been discharged from treatment, or who have left school or district | 117  | 141  | 128  |
| Approximate number of children who have received treatment from gymnast in their own schools    |      |      | 16   |
| <b>Summary of Cases Treated</b>   |      |      |      |
| (a) for foot and knee defects   | 281  | 300  | 306  |
| (b) for postural defects  | 74   | 70   | 79   |
| (c) for asthma and other chest conditions   | 47   | 56   | 61   |
| (d) for neurological conditions   | 5    | 12   | 14   |

The increase in numbers of the previous year is maintained with the added problem of yet two more schools to accommodate. Further reduction has had to be made in the number of children receiving weekly supervision, an arrangement which is not satisfactory due to lack of continuity in instruction, particularly with the younger and less able children.

An invitation to parents to attend a session for advice is sent to each new case referred and these brought 97 acceptances this year. This is a little more encouraging than usual but it would be helpful if more were able to attend.

The arrangements made for dealing with the 2 cases of Spina Bifida referred to in last year's report seem satisfactory and they have both made good progress within their capabilities. They receive weekly supervision from the remedial

gymnast but get daily help and encouragement from the Welfare Assistant in the school.

It would have been impossible to make timetable plans without the co-operation from the Heads of all the schools visited. School Matrons and Ancillary Helpers do a great deal to ensure the regular attendance of children at their sessions and in some cases escort the children to other schools for their classes. This co-operation and help is much appreciated.

#### SPEECH THERAPY South Bucks Area

|                             |       |
|-----------------------------|-------|
| Number on the waiting list  | Nil   |
| Number of discharges        | 170   |
| Number of new cases         | 132   |
| Total number of attendances | 4,626 |
| Number on books 1. 1.69     | 294   |
| Number on books 31.12.69    | 256   |
| Stammerers                  | 36    |
| Articulation defects        | 203   |
| Language                    | 82    |
| Voice                       | 1     |
| Dysarthria                  | 8     |

5 Health Centres  
26 Schools

During 1969 children with speech and language defects were treated at five health centres and twenty-six schools including The Park ESN Day School and the Cerebral Palsy Unit.

Four groups of children at the Park and one group at the Cerebral Palsy Unit are now receiving intensive language therapy (four times a week) and twenty children with severe speech and language disorders are receiving limited weekly treatment.

## PARTIALLY HEARING UNIT

Mr. E.W. Heard, teacher in charge, also visited other schools during the year. He reports as follows:-

120 children in the Slough Division were audiometrically and educationally assessed by me during 1969, most of whom were referred for further investigation after sweep tests by Health Visitors. Of this number:-

- 8 were referred to me for investigation by the Consultant ENT Surgeon;
- 13 were routine checks;
- 34 were recommended for further investigation by an Otologist, 3 of whom have since been prescribed hearing aids;
- 43 are under observation;
- 4 are attending Day Special Schools;
- 7 are attending Residential Schools for the Deaf.

## Hearing Aids

66 children (35 boys and 31 girls) wear hearing aids and are distributed thus:-

|                     | <i>Boys</i> | <i>Girls</i> |
|---------------------|-------------|--------------|
| Pre-school          | 1           | 1            |
| Nursery             | -           | 1            |
| Infants             | -           | 1            |
| Juniors             | 11          | 7            |
| Secondary           | 6           | 6            |
| Selective Secondary | 5           | 9            |
| Special Schools     | 12          | 6            |

## CENTRE FOR CEREBRAL PALSIED CHILDREN

At the end of 1969 there were 20 children on roll, 14 were full-time pupils and 6 part-time. During the year 3 young children attended for physiotherapy and several previous pupils returned for advice or review. In spite of the fact that it is difficult to pick out any special section or individual for specific mention, I have tried to highlight some of the items I consider worthy of mention.

As I have mentioned in previous years, children with cerebral palsy often present additional problems apart from the physical handicaps. This means that the physical and mental abilities of children attending the centre are very wide and group education or instruction, although used when possible, is often impracticable. For example, communication by electric typewriter is used by two older athetoid children using head attachments.

Children who have severe physical handicaps must throughout their lives be at a considerable disadvantage whatever their mental potential may be. The aim of the Centre is not only to educate children to their highest potential but if at all possible to integrate them with other schools and communities as soon as possible. One boy, for instance, has been attending Claycot Infant School for one day a week and three children are attending Baylis Court Nursery School and one of these will shortly transfer to an infant school. This means that the Centre is able to, by the good offices of other schools, be as much a part of the school community as possible.

Miss P.R. Brooks followed Mr. Griffiths as Head Teacher of the Unit and to her and all the staff I would like to pay a tribute for the way they have undertaken their work with such enthusiasm.

At most schools emphasis is placed on academic results. Although important, the Unit for Cerebral Palsied Children's contact with every day life and opportunities for involvement is of extreme value. Children have not only been to such commonplace places as the railway station, fire station and local road works but have been taken to a traction engine fair, musical concerts and dramas at other schools and during the summer have taken part in horse-riding and swimming apart from their normal physiotherapy.

Contacts with specialists in paediatrics, psychology, speech therapy and dentistry are regular and also play a very valuable part in the up-bringing of the children.

## DENTAL SERVICE

During 1969 the dental staffing was at its best ever with the establishment of a new appointment of an Area Dental Officer. Mr. P.T. Fuller was appointed to be responsible for the dental service in the South Bucks area. There were also six other Dental Surgeons employed, five of these part-time; Miss E.M. Edwards was appointed as full-time dental auxiliary. Treatment was carried out in the dental surgeries at Britwell, Wexham and Langley Health Centres and in the three surgeries of Burlington Road Health Centre.

Mr. H.R. Rippon completed a year's part-time course to obtain the Royal College of Surgeons of England new Diploma in Dental Public Health in July. Mr. Fuller attended a course on periodontal treatment at the Eastman Dental Hospital.

Dental Health talks were given by Miss Keene and Miss Edwards early in the year and from March Miss Edwards undertook responsibility for dental talks to the schools. In all 17 schools and over 2,000 children received a talk about their teeth.

The improved staffing meant that more school dental inspections were carried out and only Slough Grammar School and Godolphin Junior School missed an inspection during the year. For the first time for many years all the Nursery Schools received a dental inspection and many 3 and 4 year olds received treatment from Miss Edwards.

The annual examination of Orchard School 12 year old children again showed that children living in the area all their lives had vastly superior teeth as the teeth looked better and were more decay resistant than teeth of those living outside the area.

It is a source of concern that the fluoride level of the water supply in 1969 was negligible and will not produce strong teeth in children born in Slough after September, 1968. There will have to be almost a doubling of the numbers of dental staff over the next ten years merely to maintain the existing state of the children's teeth in Slough unless the fluoride level is restored soon. Slough teeth are world famous and it is much regretted that this dental reputation of excellent teeth will be lost.

|                                     |        |
|-------------------------------------|--------|
| Number of children inspected        | 12,790 |
| Number of schools inspected         | 37     |
| Number of special schools inspected | 5      |
| Number of Nursery Schools inspected | 5      |



