

[Report 1967] / Medical Officer of Health, Somerset County Council.

Contributors

Somerset (England). County Council.

Publication/Creation

1967

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SOMERSET COUNTY COUNCIL



REPORT
OF THE
MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH
FOR THE YEAR
1967

A. PARRY JONES,


M.B., B.CH., D.P.H.

County Medical Officer of Health.



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TO THE CHAIRMAN AND MEMBERS OF THE HEALTH COMMITTEE
OF THE SOMERSET COUNTY COUNCIL

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to present my Annual Report for 1967 on the Public Health Services in Somerset.

The Report presents a general survey of the services, together with the detailed statistical information required by the Ministry of Health. The general state of public health in the County has been satisfactory and the vital statistics of infant deaths are the lowest on record.

Your staff have long enjoyed happy and co-operative relationships with the many General Practitioners in the County, and in recent years this has led to the establishment of a large number of viable schemes of attachment of public health nurses to general practices. Some family doctors have provided accommodation for County nurses in their own surgeries and others have displayed interest in the provision of Health Centres. These developments should lead to a more closely integrated Health Service, and should be of benefit to the public.

The value of an obstetric "Flying Squad" is well established and so I hope that the South Western Regional Hospital Board will be able to strengthen this provision in the North Eastern parts of the County.

I wish to acknowledge the diligent work undertaken by the Staff of the Department and also the help received from other Departments of the County Council and from the Hospitals and General Practitioners.

Finally I would thank the many voluntary persons and organisations for the large measure of assistance we have received during the year.

I am,

Yours faithfully,

A. PARRY JONES,

County Medical Officer of Health.

County Hall,
Taunton.

September, 1968.

STAFF

The following are the Senior Public Health Officers:—

CENTRAL OFFICE STAFF :

County Medical Officer of Health :

Principal School Medical Officer :

A. PARRY JONES, M.B., B.Ch., D.P.H.

Deputy County Medical Officer of Health :

Deputy Principal School Medical Officer :

J. BEASLEY, M.B., B.Sc., D.P.H. (commenced 1st June, 1968)

Senior Medical Officer for Maternal and Child Welfare :

B. MARY THOMPSON, M.D., B.S., D.P.H.

Assistant County Medical Officer :

W. MARGARET BOND, M.B., B.S., D.C.H., D.Obst. R.C.O.G.

Chief Dental Officer :

QUENTIN A. DAVIES, L.D.S., R.C.S. (Eng.)

County Public Analyst :

JOAN D. PEDEN, B.Sc., F.R.I.C.

County Health Inspector :

C. E. WATERFALL, M.I.P.H.E., M.A.P.H.I.

Principal Administrative Officer :

R. F. COTTRELL, D.P.A.

County Ambulance Officer :

R. S. J. BISHOP, D.P.A., F.I.A.O.

Mental Health Officer :

A. H. EDWARDS, M.B.E., D.P.A., F.C.C.S.

County Nursing Officer :

MISS F. E. HOUGHTON, S.R.N., S.C.M., H.V., Q.N.

Home Help Organiser :

MISS L. C. E. CHALK, M.I.H.H.O.

AREA STAFF :

P. P. FOX, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.

Area Medical Officer to Combined Area 'D' (Yeovil Borough Yeovil Rural and Wincanton Rural Districts).

D. MCGOWAN, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.

Area Medical Officer to Combined Area 'H' (Weston-super-Mare Borough and Axbridge Rural District).

H. MORRISON, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.

Area Medical Officer to Combined Area 'L' (Taunton Borough Taunton Rural, Wellington Urban and Wellington Rural Districts).

N. NEWMAN, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.

Area Medical Officer to Combined Area 'E' (Frome Urban and Rural, Bathavon Rural, Keynsham Urban, Clutton Rural and Norton-Radstock Urban Districts).

R. H. WATSON, M.B., Ch.B.,
B.A.O., D.P.H.

Area Medical Officer to Combined Area 'J' (Bridgwater Borough Bridgwater Rural and Dunham-on-Sea Urban Districts).

A. M. McCALL, M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P.
S.P.H.

Area Medical Officer to Combined Area 'A' (Chard Borough, Ilminster Urban, Crewkerne Urban, Langport and Chard Rural Districts).

D. E. CLARE, M.B., B.S., D.P.H.

Area Medical Officer to Combined Area 'C' (Shepton Mallet Urban and Rural, Wells City, Wells Rural, Street Urban District and Glastonbury Borough).

VALERIE N. BAKER, M.B.,
Ch.B., D.R.C.O.G., D.P.H.

Area Medical Officer to Combined Area 'G' (Clevedon Urban, Long Ashton and Portishead Urban Districts).

COMMITTEES

The following are concerned in matters of public health:—

HEALTH COMMITTEE : and its Sub-Committees for : Midwifery and Nursing Services,
and for Mental Health Services.

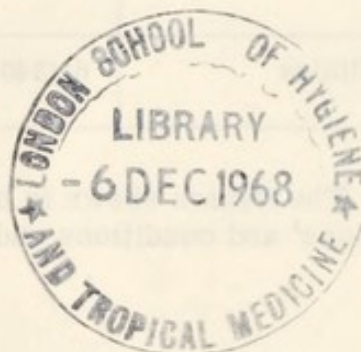
SUMMARY OF VITAL STATISTICS

Area (in acres):	...	...	...	...	...	...	1,024,971
Population (1967):	...	...	...	...	...	...	559,470
Live Births —							
Number: 9,041	Rate per 1,000 population:	...	...				16.2
Illegitimate Live Births —							
Number: 583	Rate per cent of total live births:	...					6.45
Stillbirths —							
Number: 123	Rate per 1,000 live and still births:						13.42
Total Live and Stillbirths —							
Number: 9,164	Rate per 1,000 population:	...	...				16.38
Infant Deaths (deaths under 1 year):	...	...	...	...			126
Infant Mortality Rates —							
Total Infant deaths (126) per 1,000 total live births:							13.94
Legitimate Infant deaths (113) per 1,000 legitimate live births:	...	...	...	...	...	...	13.36
Illegitimate Infant deaths (13) per 1,000 illegitimate live births:	...	...	...	...	...	...	22.29
Neo-natal Mortality Rate (deaths under 4 weeks) (75) per 1,000 total live births:	...	...	...	...	...	...	8.3
Early Neo-natal Mortality Rate (deaths under 1 week) (67) per 1,000 total live births:	...	...	...	...	...	...	7.41
Peri-natal Mortality Rate (stillbirths and deaths under 1 week combined) (190) per 1,000 total live and stillbirths:	...	...					20.73
Maternal Mortality (including abortion) (2) per 1,000 total live and stillbirths	...	...	...	...	...	...	0.22

Comment on Vital Statistics – Registrar General's Figures

The County population has been altered by boundary changes as well as by natural growth, but on balance is still increasing. This year the loss of life in young babies from stillbirth or death in the first year has been markedly reduced to new low levels, both in number and rate. The actual number of babies being born is only very slightly less than last year, although the proportion of illegitimate babies is unhappily still increasing at about the same rate as it has over the past few years. This year the illegitimate girls outnumbered the boys, as they did two years ago, which does give better prospects for adoption.

Compared with England and Wales, Somerset shows up very favourably with lower losses of maternal and child life and a lower illegitimacy rate. The details are shown in the tables on pages 18 and 19 where they can be compared with previous years' numbers and rates.



PREVENTION OF, AND CONTROL OVER, INFECTIOUS AND OTHER DISEASES

Table 6 gives details of notified cases of infectious diseases and their distribution, with comparative figures for the previous year.

POLIOMYELITIS. There were no confirmed cases during the year, compared with 2 in 1966 and 1 in 1965.

VENEREAL DISEASE

Centre	NEW CASES			Increase or Decrease during 1967
	1965	1966	1967	
Bath	11 (63)	5 (43)	18 (37)	+ 13 (— 6)
Bridgwater	2 (30)	11 (29)	20 (45)	+ 9 (+16)
Bristol	21 (104)	34 (118)	41 (158)	+ 7 (+40)
Taunton	9 (57)	45 (57)	43 (81)	— 2 (+24)
Weston-super-Mare	12 (39)	9 (43)	7 (32)	— 2 (—11)
Yeovil	6 (47)	3 (41)	5 (36)	+ 2 (— 5)
All Clinics	61 (340)	107 (331)	134 (389)	+27 (+58)

The figures shown in brackets are the numbers of new cases suffering from 'other conditions' and conditions undiagnosed at 31st December, 1967.

HEALTH CENTRES

During 1967 arrangements were completed for the building of the first two Health Centres in Somerset — one at Frome and the other at Glastonbury. It is expected that the first will be completed and ready for furnishing in March, 1969 and the other about May, 1969.

The Centre at Frome will accommodate seven general medical practitioners (all working in one practice), together with facilities for a range of local health authority functions, including a dental unit.

The Glastonbury Centre will accommodate four doctors, a dental unit and other local health authority functions.

Plans are well ahead for further health centres, namely at Cheddar and Street by the adaptation of existing premises, and at Clevedon and Nailsea by the building of new premises; initial arrangements are also in hand for other centres at Wincanton, Wellington and Yeovil.

FLUORIDATION OF WATER SUPPLIES

This matter came before the County Council in 1963 when, following the receipt of a report by a Working Party, the Health Committee recommended the adoption of the policy of fluoridation for the prevention of dental decay, but this was not approved by the County Council.

In 1965 the Ministry of Health asked responsible authorities to give further consideration to the fluoridation of public water supplies. This was done and the County Council decided to adhere to their previous decision.

No further action was taken during 1967.

	1967	1966	1965	1964
Male	100 (100)	100 (100)	100 (100)	100 (100)
Female	100 (100)	100 (100)	100 (100)	100 (100)
Total	200 (200)	200 (200)	200 (200)	200 (200)
Under 16 years	100 (100)	100 (100)	100 (100)	100 (100)
16-64 years	100 (100)	100 (100)	100 (100)	100 (100)
65 years and over	100 (100)	100 (100)	100 (100)	100 (100)
All ages	300 (300)	300 (300)	300 (300)	300 (300)

The figures shown in brackets are the number of persons who were examined in each age group and sex category. The figures shown in the table are the number of persons who were examined in each age group and sex category.

MATERNAL AND CHILD WELFARE

ANTE-NATAL CARE

The pattern of ante-natal care continues to be of patients being examined in the doctors' own surgeries with clinics jointly held by doctor and midwife.

The blood-taking clinic at Glastonbury, which has been held since 1953 closed in June, as the local doctors now undertake the blood testing for their expectant mothers.

The blood-testing clinic for domiciliary and hospital cases which has been organised in Yeovil since 1948 ceased in August. The new Yeovil Maternity Unit has opened a clinic for hospital booked cases, and the General Practitioners have assumed responsibility for patients having home confinements.

The blood-taking clinics at Bridgwater, Chard and Crewkerne continued, the total attendances for 1967 for the five clinics being 1,514, a decrease of 415 from the previous year.

HOSPITAL BED BOOKINGS

The County Health Department has continued, by arrangement with the Regional Hospital Board, as the booking agent for medical and social cases for the general practitioner units in the county. At the Knoll, Clevedon, beds are allocated by Southmead Hospital and direct bookings are made at Keynsham Hospital. During the year the replacement of two general practitioner units at Yeovil by the new Yeovil Maternity Hospital with general practitioner and consultant beds led to a transfer of responsibilities for these bookings (together with those in Merthyr Guest Maternity Unit, Templecombe) to the hospitals concerned.

The Health Department deals with requests from family doctors for beds in the Obstetric Units in the County, and in Bath and Bristol, although more cases are now referred direct to the consultants for advice on booking.

In 1967 it was possible for the first time to book into hospital all primiparae who requested beds. In some areas it is now possible to book any mother who wants a hospital bed without further investigation except in the two or three busiest months in the year, but in the main beds are still rationed and only available for those with medical and social grounds. A proportion of mothers are booked, after investigation of all the circumstances, as being suitable for early home nursing at about 48 hours but the number accepted in this way varies with the size of the particular unit and the domiciliary services available.

PARENTCRAFT AND RELAXATION CLASSES

No new classes were opened and none closed during the year, although classes in Ilchester were recommenced in new premises at the Royal Naval Air Station. Parentcraft and relaxation classes are now provided by the local health authority in 30 places in the County, and Somerset mothers can attend the classes in Bristol or Bath if they find these more convenient. In addition classes are held for hospital-booked patients at Butleigh, Paulton, Musgrove Park and St. Martin's (Bath) Hospitals.

During 1967, the classes held in Somerset were attended by 1,957 women (of whom only 161 were booked for home confinement. . The total number of attendances during the year was 10,697, a slight increase over the previous year.

BIRTHS

Locally collected statistics always vary a little from the figures of the Registrar General. This year they show a drop in live births (from 9,086 to 8,811) and total births from 9,220 to 8,937.

Domiciliary births continue to decrease: this year 1,562 compared with 1,889 in 1966, (17.4% and 20% respectively). The additional hospital deliveries are achieved by early discharges, and this year there was an increase from 2,111 to 2,458 of women leaving hospital early. Thus a third of the women delivered in hospital left before the completion of the puerperium (29% in 1966). Unexpected early discharge reduces the bed occupancy figures since bookings are based on an expected longer stay. An attempt to compensate this by increasing bookings may still have the same effect since overhigh bookings may mean that too many mothers are admitted simultaneously and a higher proportion have to go home earlier than was previously planned. Such unexpected discharge may be to homes where there is inadequate preparation for this and insufficient help for the mother while she is recovering from the effects of the delivery, and may have repercussions later on her health.

OBSTETRIC FLYING SQUAD

The hoped for increase in flying squad provision in the Bath Clinical area unfortunately did not occur. The usefulness of such a service is demonstrated by the following figures from the South-Somerset service based at Musgrove Park Hospital, Taunton.

Year	Calls
1965	13
1966	18
1967	27

Calls for patients needing urgent help after abortions total about another 3 each year. The staff and equipment are taken by ambulance to the home and are on the road in the daytime usually within 5 minutes of receiving the call and by night within not more than 10 minutes.

This service is often life-saving and its prompt arrival sometimes avoids moving a mother in a seriously collapsed condition at speed across country to a hospital for resuscitation. Treatment in the home on the other hand, may in many cases avoid the need for hospital admission of the mother or mother and baby.

It is hoped that the Regional Hospital Board can soon raise the service in North-East Somerset to the same high level as exists in the rest of the County.

CONGENITAL DEFECTS

A total of 175 congenital abnormalities noticed at birth were notified to the Ministry of Health during the year, compared with 172 in 1965 and 187 in 1966. None were reported to be associated with drugs taken during pregnancy. Quite a number of 'positional

talipes' and 'clicking hips' were found later to be without significance; nevertheless the notifications show that midwives realized the importance of early detection and that babies were being kept under surveillance. The pattern of abnormalities were similar to previous years with a slight increase in the number of central nervous system defects. Thirteen babies of the eighteen born with spina bifida abnormality survived their birth.

Main Defects Notified at Birth 1967	
Anencephalus	18
Spina bifida	16
Hydrocephalus with spina bifida	2
Hydrocephalus	4
Pilonoidal sinus	5
Heart defects	3
Lung defects	1
Ear defects	3
Cleft Lip and Palate	16
Oesophageal Atresia	3
Intestinal defects including exomphalos and imperforate anus	6
Renal tract defects	6
Hypospadias	13
Congenital dislocation of hip	9
Talipes	34
Abnormal digits	11
Mongolism	9
Achondroplasia	2
Multiple abnormalities	4

UNDERWEIGHT BABIES

The survey mentioned last year had produced some interesting preliminary findings. Underweight babies have a number of special problems which are responsible for the very high rate of deaths amongst them. The next steps in the investigation will involve the collection of more information about these little babies to discover more of the causes of the condition. Even without more knowledge, progress in improving the survival of these babies is remarkable, and the proportion of small babies born in this year is much lower than usual.

TABLE I

Births of underweight babies in Somerset – 1962–7 (locally collected figures)

YEAR	All L.B.	U.W. L.B.	% of L.B.	All S.B.	U.W. S.B.	% U.W. S.B.	Total Births	Total U.W.B.	% of Total Births
1962	8,534	481	5.6	157	86	55.0	8,691	567	6.5
1963	8,748	478	5.4	140	87	62.0	8,888	565	6.3
1964	9,129	501	5.4	147	77	52.3	9,276	578	6.2
1965	9,082	514	5.6	147	73	49.7	9,229	587	6.4
1966	9,086	504	5.5	134	84	62.7	9,220	588	6.4
1967	8,811	455	5.2	126	84	66.6	8,937	539	6.0

TABLE II

Survival rates for underweight babies at 28 days
SOMERSET 1958–67

YEAR	Premature Live Births	Survival at 28 days	Survival rate %
1958	429	369	72.2
1959	468	412	76.4
1960	463	407	87.9
1961	470	434	79.8
1962	481	429	88.6
1963	478	436	91.0
1964	501	458	91.6
1965	514	463	90.1
1966	504	457	90.6
1967	455	421	92.5

ILLEGITIMACY

The continuing rise in the number of illegitimate births brings many social problems in its train and the number of social workers provided by the Somerset Churches Family Welfare Association (which changed its name from Somerset Moral Welfare Association) has again had to be increased.

The number of cases recorded by the Registrar General shows a rise from 575 to 597. Of those known locally (which of course includes quite a number who moved into Somerset from other areas to conceal their plight), cases helped by the social workers and for whom a grant was paid by the County Council, totalled 426 compared with 420 in 1966 while others were helped by the Childrens Officers and Probation Officers or some other voluntary society. A few made arrangements with the help of their family and the health visitor only.

MOTHER AND BABY HOMES

The County Home at Braeside, Chard, containing 6 beds and cots was well used during the year, 25 girls being accommodated ante-natally and post-natally and 5 arriving only for stay after the baby's birth.

The County Council accepted financial responsibility for 25 girls who went to Homes outside the County run by various religious denominations.

CHILD WELFARE CENTRES AND HEALTH VISITOR CENTRES

No new centres were opened during the year, but owing to diminishing attendances, the Southville Child Welfare Centre at Yeovil and the Health Visitors' Centres at Dunster and Farrington Gurney were closed. As from the 1st April, 1967, parts of the Rural District of Bathavon were added to the City of Bath and the Combe Down Child Welfare Centre was taken over by the City Health Authority.

At the end of 1967 there were 112 Child Welfare and 28 Health Visitor Centres providing a total of 3189 sessions during the year, 66 less than the previous year. Medical Officers of the Department, general practitioners or other doctors attended at 2440 of these sessions. The total number of children who attended County Welfare Centres during the year was 20,648 of whom 6,558 were babies born in 1967. Three out of four children born in Somerset in 1967 can, therefore, be said to have visited a Welfare Centre.

Although there is an increase of 346 in the number of children under one year of age attending Welfare Centres, the number of children in the other age groups shows a further decline.

These figures do not include children attending Child Welfare Centres attended by health visitors in doctors' surgeries of which more have been operating this year.

Year	Number of children attending			Total
	Under 1	1-2 years	2-5 years	
1967	6,558	5,838	8,252	20,698
1966	6,212	6,190	8,597	20,999
1961	4,820	4,995	6,314	16,129
1956	3,810	3,983	5,846	13,639

In view of the introduction of computer control of immunisation which is being brought in practice by practice throughout the County, attendances of children at Child Welfare Centres for immunisation decreased. According to figures collected from the clinics, 5,328 primary and reinforcing courses of Diphtheria/Whooping Cough/Tetanus protection (45 per cent of the total County figure of 11,752 for under fives) and 3,398 primary and reinforcing courses of Poliomyelitis vaccination (37 per cent of the County figure of 9,225 for under fives) were given at the Welfare Centres in 1967. The corresponding figures for 1966 were 47 per cent and 45 per cent respectively. There were less smallpox vaccinations (603 — 13 per cent of the County total of 4,724 for under fives) being done in the Child Welfare Centres. Last year the rate was 15 per cent.

DISTRIBUTION OF WELFARE FOODS

Welfare Foods distribution has continued through Child Welfare Centres, shops, and voluntary distributors and at the end of the year, there were 179 centres, 105 at Health Clinics and Child Welfare Centres and 74 in various other premises. The following shows the extent of the distribution of welfare foods during the past four years.

Year	National Dried Milk (tins)	Cod Liver Oil (bottles)	Vitamin A & D Tablets (packets)	Orange Juice (bottles)
1964	67,748	11,546	14,778	124,253
1965	67,158	11,952	13,297	132,155
1966	61,032	11,126	12,489	141,447
1967	47,518	10,067	11,310	144,334

There has been another, but much larger fall in the sales of National Dried Milk, and doubtless this is accounted for by the decreasing difference between the price of National Dried Milk and proprietary foods.

Marked decreases in the sales of National Dried Milk and increases in sales of orange juice appears to be a national trend.

YOUNG HANDICAPPED CHILDREN

Reports from doctors and health visitors dealing with families with young handicapped children show that considerable support is generally required from the age at which it becomes obvious that the child is going to need a great deal more care and attention than other children of the same age.

Parents of mentally subnormal children can best be assisted by daily care or part-daily care for their children. Problems arise in finding a suitable Day Nursery, "daily minder" or Nursery Unit of a Training Centre within reach of the child's home and in arranging transport. Health Visitors have found that their attachment to general practitioner groups facilitates discussion on day to day problems of management or treatment with the family doctor. Assistance in the form of specialist advice, assessment by the school medical officer and visits by the mental welfare officer has then been obtained when needed, co-ordination of the community services being arranged through the Health Department.

Mentally subnormal babies, such as mongols, are sometimes rejected by their parents, and others are unable to be cared for at home because of parental psychiatric disturbance or illness. Special foster homes had to be found for several such babies in 1967. There remains a long wait for admission for severely brain-damaged children who need permanent hospital care.

More than 50 per cent of congenital deafness is found to be caused by rubella during early pregnancy and unfortunately there were again outbreaks of rubella in many parts of Somerset during 1967. All known children at "risk" were followed up by special hearing screening tests from 6 months onwards and suspected cases referred for further investigation. As soon as deafness is diagnosed the home teacher for the deaf is put in touch with the child in order to carry out auditory training and he remains a valuable link between the home and the hospital centre. Deaf children, as well as others with communication difficulties, were given 'priority' for admission to the Day Nurseries, as they particularly need the stimulation of contact with other children and the help that experienced staff can give them. This has proved a valuable preparation for admission to a residential special school should this later be found necessary.

FAMILIES REQUIRING SPECIAL SUPERVISION

Families given special supervision because of poor health and other problems, number between 80 and 100 in each of the five nursing areas. These families are often moving house within and outside the County boundaries, and it is essential that midwives and health visitors are kept informed of their whereabouts and main difficulties. These families often have a history of non-attendance for ante-natal examinations, of premature births and of babies who fail to thrive or have physical and mental defects. Records are kept by the Area Nursing Officer and the Health Visitor and these are immediately passed on if the family moves to another area.

DAY NURSERIES

The three County Day Nurseries at Bridgwater, Keynsham and Taunton provide places for 95 children, the average daily attendance over the year being 80.

There is a rising demand for places in Day Nurseries and at Taunton proposals are in hand for the Nursery to be increased by 10 places.

As a result of new increased rates of personal allowances paid by the Ministry of Social Security and the increased cost of the Day Nurseries owing to heavy debt charges and rates consequent on the erection of new Nurseries at Taunton and Bridgwater, the Midwifery and Nursing Services Sub-Committee approved an amended scale of contributions from parents ranging from 2s. 6d. to 21s. 0d. per day which came into effect on the 1st October, 1967.

At the end of the year the parents of 25 per cent of the total number of children were paying the minimum charge of 2s. 6d. per day and only 3 per cent were paying the maximum charge of 21s. 0d. per day.

NURSERIES AND CHILD MINDERS

At the end of the year there were 75 registered premises providing a total of 1,629 places and 60 registered daily minders providing 466 places. At the end of 1966, there were 50 premises and 54 daily minders and at the end of 1965, 34 premises and 48 minders.

These figures show the rapid expansion of this part of the service. The increase in numbers in recent years has been dramatic, especially when it is considered that a statutory duty was placed upon Local Health Authorities to supervise nurseries and child minders as long ago as 1948. The above numbers do not, of course, show the complete picture of the growing volume of the work of registration as they do not include changes in registration and variations in numbers, which have taken place during the year. All registered persons and premises are visited periodically by Medical Officers and Nursing Officers — while health visitors call regularly to advise and help with any problems.

There are, in fact, very few true day nurseries run privately but an enormous number of playgroups organised by individuals or groups of persons for the part-time attendance of children from the age of three. The National Pre-school Playgroups Association is doing much to give training and guidance to the many amateurs in this field. The County Education Department has helped considerably in the past year by running courses and the extent of the demand for such education is apparent from the fact that up to 90 applications were received for each 40 place course. In several areas there is a large unsatisfied demand from those people unable to travel to a distant centre. Bristol and Bath Education Departments are making a useful contribution with classes available for County residents.

The facilities provided by private individuals subject to registration under this Act are of great value to both the mothers and the young children who attend them, particularly in the case of only children learning to mix socially with other children and children who are handicapped, perhaps in speech, or in some other way. These private playgroups, day nurseries and nursery schools supplement help available through the three County Day Nurseries and 3 nursery schools and classes run by the Education Committee. The Health Department can subsidise the attendance of children in priority groups.

NURSING HOMES

During 1967, two new Nursing Homes at Minehead and Nailsea were registered and as a result of reorganisation in the group of Nursing Homes in Clevedon and the consequent transfer of patients the registration of two homes was withdrawn.

At the end of the year there were 22 homes on the register, providing a total of 391 beds, four of which are for maternity patients.

MARRIAGE GUIDANCE

There has been no significant change during the year. The Marriage Guidance Branches in South Somerset and Weston-super-Mare together with those in Bristol and Bath continue to supply a very useful service for the residents of Somerset.

FAMILY PLANNING

The National Health Service (Family Planning) Act which received the Royal Assent in June 1967, empowers Local Health Authorities to make arrangements for Family Planning facilities for all patients and not as hitherto only for medical cases. The economic situation has this year limited the implementation of this policy.

As a result of the re-organisation of the Family Planning Association the Somerset and North-West Wiltshire Branch was established and 1967 was its first full year under the revised constitution.

Two new Clinics were opened during the year in Wells Hospital and Chard County Clinic and in addition the Weston-super-Mare Clinic established a Sub-Clinic at Locking R.A.F. Station. The Family Planning Association now has 12 clinics in Somerset and in addition to those mentioned above clinics are held in County premises at Frome, Glastonbury, Keynsham and Weston-super-Mare and at hospital premises at Bridgwater, Clevedon, Minehead, Taunton and Yeovil. The Family Planning Clinics in Bristol and Bath are also available to County residents.

The following details of the work of the branch in Somerset have been provided by the Branch Organising Secretary.

	1966	1967
Clinics	9	12
Clinic sessions	365	582
Doctor sessions	433	733
Individual patients	3612	3772
New patients	1412	1527
Marital Problem cases	13	90
Sub-fertility cases	15	46
Cervical cytology	1614	1876

Cases with medical grounds helped financially by the Health Department numbered 264 in 1967 compared with 150 in 1966.

These figures show the range of work carried out at Family Planning Association Clinics. The fairly recent development for instance of a service for those with marital problems — possible now that a number of doctors have completed the first part of a fairly intensive training course through the Tavistock Clinic in London — has been followed by a large rise in the numbers coming for this help. Contraception methods have changed very considerably in the past few years and an increasing number of clinics offer advice on the full range of methods including the intra-uterine device (I.U.D.).

One point which the Family Planning Association itself made when it surveyed its service in 1964 was that only a small proportion of the public (under 10 per cent) made use of its clinics. Although a number of people obtain advice from family doctors, many more have no skilled help in planning their families and may use unreliable or unsatisfactory methods. If clinics can be made more easily accessible to a larger number of the County population, skilled help may be more generally sought.

Registrar General's Totals - Somerset 1956 - 1967 - (England and Wales 1967)

Year	County Population	Live Births	Still Births	Deaths 1st week	Deaths 2-4 weeks	Deaths 1-12 Months	Total Infant Deaths	Deaths 1-5 Years	Maternal Deaths	Illegitimate Births	
										Live	Still
1956	491,600	7,085	179		109	34	143	21	5	270	8
1957	495,500	7,370	148		108	31	139	27	4	292	7
1958	496,900	7,539	157		109	48	157	23	3	247	4
1959	500,400	7,636	155	89		40	143	29	3	299	4
1960	507,270	8,095	145	106		40	160	20	0	345	4
1961	520,340	8,215	151	73		41	130	36	1	372	13
1962	527,240	8,700	153	98		36	151	30	3	438	6
1963	533,570	8,877	139	78		33	130	29	2	433	8
1964	542,990	9,154	141	68		37	119	24	1	529	13
1965	549,320	9,205	141	85		60	159	26	2	542	2
1966	555,690	9,194	130	82		40	139	22	1	567	8
1967	559,470	9,041	123	67		51	126	24	2	583	14

ENGLAND AND WALES

1967	48,390,800	832,167	12,528				15,267				
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Registrar General's Figures. Rates for Somerset 1956 - 1967 (England and Wales 1967)

Year	Live Birth	Still Birth	Illegitimate Live Birth %	Infant Deaths	Neonatal Deaths	First Week Deaths	Perinatal Deaths	Maternal Deaths
1956	14.41	24.6	3.8	20.2	15.4	—	35.8	1.10
1957	14.87	19.7	3.8	18.9	14.7	—	32.1	0.53
1958	15.17	20.4	3.3	20.8	14.5	11.5	31.7	0.26
1959	15.26	19.9	3.9	18.7	13.5	11.7	31.3	0.36
1960	15.9	17.6	4.3	19.8	14.8	13.2	30.4	0.00
1961	15.79	18.04	4.5	15.8	10.8	8.9	26.8	0.12
1962	16.5	17.2	5.0	17.4	13.2	11.3	28.2	0.34
1963	16.6	15.4	4.9	14.7	10.9	8.8	24.1	0.22
1964	16.7	15.2	5.8	12.9	8.9	7.4	22.4	0.11
1965	16.76	15.1	5.9	17.3	10.7	9.2	24.2	0.21
1966	16.5	13.9	6.2	15.1	10.8	8.9	22.7	0.11
1967	14.2	13.6	6.4	13.3	8.3	7.4	19.4	
ENGLAND AND WALES								
1967	17.2	14.8	8.4	18.3	12.5		25.4	

NURSING SERVICES

The policy continues of maintaining a combined service of midwifery, district nursing and health visiting in the rural areas whilst full time midwives, home nurses and health visitors are employed in the urban areas. The day to day administration of the County nursing, midwifery and health visiting services are the responsibility of the County Nursing Officer, Deputy County Nursing Officer and five Area Nursing Officers. The appointments of the two Assistant Area Nursing Officers have been discontinued. The former Senior Area Nursing Officer has been promoted to full time Deputy County Nursing Officer with special delegated responsibilities in respect of attachment schemes and health education, and a fifth Area Nursing Officer has been appointed for the Taunton and West Somerset Area.

The whole time nursing establishment is 302 and the nurses employed at the end of the year are shown in the table below:-

Duties	Full-time	Part-time
District Nurse/Midwife/Health Visitors with Health Visitor Certificate	111	4
District Nurse/Midwife/Health Visitors without Health Visitor Certificate	10	4
District Nurse/Health Visitor	1	—
District Nurse/Midwives with District Nurse Certificate	40	7
District Nurse/Midwives without District Nurse Certificate	23	7
Male Nurses with District Nurse Certificate	7	—
District Nurses with District Nurse Certificate	9	1
District Nurses without District Nurse Certificate	7	13
Domiciliary Midwives	10	—
Health Visitors	30	8
T.B. School Nurses	3	—
State Enrolled Nurses	5	8
Nursing Auxiliaries	—	6
School Nurses	—	4
Clinic Nurses	—	3
Administrative staff	7	—
	263	65
Vacancies not covered	7	

The level of vacancies during the year has shown little variation although there have been more resignations, mainly for personal domestic reasons. It is still difficult to obtain good nurses, but recruitment has shown some improvement during the year.

Much use has had to be made of part-time and temporary staff to cover long term vacancies and without their help it would be very difficult to run the nursing service effectively.

A further five Nursing Auxiliaries have been appointed and they have given valuable help. The value of State Enrolled Nurses in the district field is becoming increasingly apparent and it is hoped that an increasing number of these will become available to assist fully trained staff.

In order to bring Somerset into line with many other local health authorities the Midwifery and Nursing Services Sub-Committee approved an increase in off duty for district nursing staff to allow them 8 days and 8 nights (192) hours off call in every 28 days (excluding holidays). This is the equivalent of a five day week, but nurses are on call at night during the duty period. Because of the economic situation their increased off duty time had to be postponed until the Autumn, but by the end of the year it was possible to implement it for a number of the staff, although in some areas staff shortages made it difficult.

TRAINING

As in the previous year many enquiries about Health Visitor Scholarships were received including a large number from overseas students but only nine scholarships were taken up. There has been less interest in combined posts and candidates are more interested in obtaining appointments as full time health visitors. In consequence of this there is a tendency for some sponsored students to complete their agreed period of service of one year with the County Council and then seek full time Health Visitors' posts.

The joint in-service District Nurse Training Scheme with Bristol has continued and six students were successful in gaining certificates after the course. In addition to these another seven were sponsored for training elsewhere. A course of induction in district nursing was given to six State Enrolled Nurses, who all reached the required standard at the end of their training.

As the Queen's Institute of District Nursing will cease awarding their certificate after the May 1968 examination, the Ministry of Health advised that District Nurses training and examinations should then be conducted under arrangements to be made by local health authorities. The Ministry of Health has now formally approved Somerset as a Practical Training Area and an application has been made to the Ministry to continue the joint in-service training scheme in conjunction with Bristol. This scheme will not prejudice the arrangements for Nurses who can leave the County for training and they will still be sent to other Training Authorities.

A course of assessment of hearing in young children was held at Weston-super-Mare at which Sir Alexander and Lady Ewing gave instruction to twenty-four Health Visitors. In the coming year it is hoped to increase the number of Health Visitors trained in this work by enlisting the help of one of the Education Committee's teachers of the deaf who is qualified to give such instruction.

The annual study course was again held in April for the County Nursing Staff, and the usual post graduate courses have been attended by nurses, midwives and health visitors.

Twenty six pupil midwives from Musgrove Park Hospital, Taunton, The Mary Stanley Home, Bridgwater, Southmead Hospital, Bristol and St. Martin's Hospital, Bath, completed their district training in spite of the difficulty in providing the students with the requisite number of domiciliary cases.

A large number of students from hospitals and training courses visited the County during the year, including 31 Queen's students, 22 Health Visitor students, 51 General Hospital student nurses and 21 obstetric nurse students.

HOUSING

The building programme for Nurses' houses was reviewed in the Ten Year programme in the light of relevant needs. During the year existing houses for District Nurses were purchased at Pill, Stogursey and a house was built by the County Council at North Curry. The County Council now owns 73 and rents 40 houses for the District Nurses.

TRANSPORT

At the end of the year the County Council provided a fleet of cars for nursing and health visiting staff and 215 nurses and health visitors used their own cars and had car allowances. It is interesting that the latter figure has increased from 60 at the end of 1960 to 215 at the end of 1967.

MIDWIFERY

For the purpose of the Midwives Act, the Medical Supervisor of Midwives is the Senior Medical Officer for Maternal and Child Welfare and non-medical supervision is carried out by the County Nursing Officer, Deputy County Nursing Officer, and five Area Nursing Officers. Visits to maternity units are paid by the County Nursing Officer as non-medical supervisor of midwives.

During the year, 214 domiciliary staff and 145 hospital midwives notified their intention to practice. Private midwives in nursing homes and domiciliary practice numbered four. Notifications of exposure to infection numbered 178, and these were investigated. Medical aid was sought in 950 cases.

At the end of the year 10 full-time and 189 part-time midwives were employed in domiciliary practice and during 1967 they attended 1,538 deliveries, a decrease of 329 from the previous year. The domiciliary midwifery service is still declining in numbers of home deliveries as will be illustrated by the following figures:-

Year	Home Deliveries
1960	2,496
1962	2,453
1964	2,195
1966	1,867
1967	1,538

Many midwives, especially in the rural areas, are not getting sufficient practice in actual confinements but the early discharge of patients from hospital from 48 hours to 8 days continues to increase. The Central Midwives Board requires a practising Midwife to attend all midwifery cases for at least 10 days so that a number of qualified staff are still required to attend these mothers on their return home and to give them ante-natal care during pregnancy.

Some of the smaller G.P. Maternity Units have had great difficulty in recruiting midwives to cover their emergencies and in two areas domiciliary midwives have voluntarily helped the hospitals. In Minehead Hospital Maternity Unit our midwives stood in during off duty periods of the hospital staff and in the Maternity Unit at St. Peter's Hospital, Shepton Mallet, domiciliary staff took night calls for 3 nights a week for a period.

In Frome, where there is a very high percentage of hospital deliveries, domiciliary midwives have agreed to help in the Maternity Unit when required. In Wells where the General Practitioners wish all patients to be delivered in hospitals arrangements have been made for one of the domiciliary midwives as a duty, to spend one session per week on a rota basis helping in the G.P. Unit.

ANALGESIA

Early in the year the British Oxygen Company informed us that the nitrous oxide cylinders required to fit the majority of our Minnitt Gas and Air Machines would all be withdrawn at the end of the year. As a result of this a crash programme was necessary to immediately equip all midwives with the new Entonox gas and oxygen apparatus.

HOME NURSING

Much of the District Nursing Sister's work continues to be amongst the chronic sick and the elderly. The number of persons nursed by the home nurses during 1967 was 13,307 and of these 58% were in the over-65 age group. The total number of visits paid by the home nurses was 344,861. It has been possible to give considerable help in some areas by using part-time Nursing Auxiliaries and State Enrolled Nurses, thus leaving the fully qualified State Registered Nurses to use their skills to better advantage though they retain a supervisory responsibility for those cases attended by the Nursing Auxiliaries and State Enrolled Nurses. At the end of the year 177 of the District Nursing Sisters employed by this Authority held a certificate in District Nursing.

It is to be expected that the skills of fully qualified district nursing sisters will have to be concentrated to a greater extent on patients discharged from hospital who still need skilled care and in intensive rehabilitation of patients who are handicapped by illness.

Mechanical aids for lifting heavy patients were fully used during the year and additional hoists were purchased.

The laundry services for patients nursed at home in Taunton and Weston-super-Mare operated by voluntary committees were widely used. Inco-pads were made available for patients in all other areas and the demand for these increases year by year. Early in the year the Ministry of Health gave permission for the supply of inco-pants and liners for the use of the ambulant incontinent patients and the demand for such grows steadily.

The Public Health Nursing staff were again active during the winter months in anticipating cases of hypothermia in the elderly. Two 'Glogas' fires are available for emergency use but only one was needed for use during the year.

The Marie Curie Foundation Day and Night Nursing Service again provided nursing help to cancer cases and gave grants in special cases of need.

We continue to be indebted to the British Red Cross Society and St. John Ambulance Brigade for administering the medical comforts scheme. Their depot holders have supplied nursing aids of many kinds and have made available a large number of articles to patients who would otherwise be occupying hospital beds.

HEALTH VISITING

There are now 158 qualified Health Visitors working in the County and only 15 are still undertaking Health Visiting duties without qualifications. Of the latter number are all undertaking generalised or combined work. The following table shows the rapid progress which has been made towards a fully qualified Health Visiting Service since the National Health Service Act came into operation.

Year	Full-time Health Visitors with H.V. Certificate	Full-time District Nursing Staff undertaking H.V. duties	
		With H.V. Certificate	Without H.V. Certificate
1948	25	29	130
1954	30	87	74
1960	31	112	34
1966	32	129	16
1967	31	127	15

Prospective Health Visitors now need only hold the Obstetric Nurse Certificate or Part 1 of the C.M.B. Certificate. This means that not being qualified midwives they cannot undertake fully generalised work. We are now experimenting with the use of Nurse/Health Visitors in some areas and with the reduction in the number of home deliveries this type of appointment may well become more common in the future.

SCHOOL NURSING

More use has been made in the employment of Auxiliary staff in schools in order to relieve the qualified staff of routine work. In some cases the Health Visitors/School Nurses have not been able to attend Medical Inspections especially in the Senior Schools. However, they maintain responsibility for the school work and continue liaison with the School Doctor. In some areas General Practitioners are now carrying out medical examinations of school children on their own lists.

TUBERCULOSIS VISITING

Tuberculosis home visiting is now normally included as part of the work of the Health Visitor. There are now only three Tuberculosis Visitors/School Nurses in the employ of the County Council.

HEALTH EDUCATION

A small group of Health Visitors has been formed to make the best use of personnel and equipment available for Health Education. This group will meet in the New Year and it is hoped they will be able to act in an advisory capacity on Health Education projects.

More film strips, posters, leaflets, flannel graphs and other visual aids were purchased and are made available during the year. The Nursing Staff continued to give Health talks in schools in many areas and to women's organisations including British Red Cross. The Area Nursing Officers give talks to student nurses in the general hospitals.

HOSPITAL LIAISON

During 1967 progress was made towards increasing liaison with the hospital services. Regular visits are now paid by a Health visitor to the Children's wards at Bath Royal United Hospital, St. Martin's Hospital, Bath, and the Bristol Children's Hospital. Already such arrangements exist in Taunton, Yeovil and Weston-super-Mare, so that all Children's wards serving the County are now covered in addition to the Special Care Unit at Musgrove Park Hospital. Domiciliary Midwives have been helping in emergencies in

three of the G.P. Maternity Units on a voluntary basis. In Wells it has been a condition of appointment for domiciliary staff that as midwives they undertake one session a week on a rota basis in the Maternity Unit to compensate for the increased hospitalisation of Midwifery cases, which is now almost 100 per cent in this area.

Health Visitors have maintained regular liaison with all chest clinics serving the County.

GENERAL PRACTITIONER LIAISON WITH PUBLIC HEALTH NURSING STAFF

During the year further schemes of attachment of public health nurses to general practitioners were implemented. These included Clevedon, Bridgwater, Street, Glastonbury, Minehead, Porlock and Dunster, so that at present approximately 45 per cent of the total nursing staff of the County are now either attached to general practitioners' practices or assisting in groups which are attached. We expect that a number of other areas will shortly adopt this method of working; these include Martock, Polden Hills area, Radstock, Midsomer Norton, Axbridge and Winscombe, together with several other groups that are in the early stages of being considered.

It is a growing practice for attached public health nurses to undertake sessions in the doctors' surgeries in the following ways:-

Assisting with "Well Baby" Clinics.

Assisting with Immunisation Sessions.

Assisting with Ante-Natal Clinics.

In a few areas regular "dressing" sessions are held in the doctors' surgeries when the district nursing sister gives treatment which might otherwise be carried out on the district. Already one doctor has incorporated a room for the district nurse in his own new surgery, and all her equipment other than which might be needed in an emergency when she is at home is kept there. A number of other practices have surgeries in the process of being built, or plans for them, which include a room for the district nursing sister. The County Council pay a rent to the doctor for the use of these rooms.

Up to the present time we have kept fairly rigidly to the geographical boundaries of existing nursing areas, ensuring that in the case of the doctors concerned the majority of their practices are within this area. It is becoming increasingly apparent that as more areas become involved in schemes of attachment, consideration must be given to extending the attached nurses' work to cover the whole of the doctors' practice; we expect to implement a pilot scheme on these lines early in the New Year. It would seem that progress on these lines will mean the eventual obliteration of the existing nursing area boundaries, and great care and thought will have to be exercised to protect the interests of valued nursing personnel who may be adversely affected by these measures and whose services might well be lost.

HOME HELP SERVICE

The year 1967 was a comparatively uneventful one for the Home Help Service. The maximum charge made to users of 4/- an hour rising to 5/- after help had been sent for four weeks had been in force for some years, and felt to have become unrealistic. This charge was therefore raised to 6/- an hour increasing to 7/- an hour after four weeks. The new charges came into force on 5th November, 1967. Owing to steeply rising costs the new maximum charge remains well below the actual hourly cost of the service.

A minimum charge of 5/- a week regardless of the amount of help sent in any one week was charged to those persons in receipt of an allowance from the National Assistance Board. This sum was refunded by the Board to the applicant. Under the new arrangements with the Ministry of Social Security the majority of pensioners and chronic invalids now receive a fixed sum of 9/- a week to cover all additional expenses, including domestic help. To avoid causing hardship it was decided to reduce the minimum charge to householders in this category to 1/- an hour with a weekly maximum charge of 5/- a week.

The case-load current at 31st December 1967 was 2,821, an increase of 138 over that of 1966, but the total number of those who received help during the year increased only by eleven, from 4,615 in 1966 to 4,626 in 1967. Long term commitments, mainly people over 65 years of age, grew from 1,954 in the year 1966 to 2,122 in 1967, but there was a considerable drop in short term applications due to fewer maternity bookings, less post and pre-natal help, and as there was no serious epidemic in the late winter and early spring, a heavy drop in applications due to short term illness. Of the total number of persons (4,626) receiving help during the year 3,276 were over 65 years of age, and only 1,350 applicants were under that age. Help is not sent because a person is aged but because he or she is ill or infirm and on medical recommendation only, with the exception of the care of children. Two centenarians, one living alone and the other with a sister a few years younger, remained happy in their own homes with the help of the District Nursing and Home Help Services.

Once more the retirement towns of Weston-super-Mare, Burnham-on-Sea and Clevedon made the most extensive use of the service and again the rural district of Wells for no apparent reason used it least.

The inhabitants of twenty urban districts in the county use the service nearly twice as much in relation to population than do those of sixteen rural districts.

The number of Home Helps on the register had risen to 719 at 31st December, 1967. The number of full time workers and resident helps remained the same, 110 and 3 respectively. Though the number of resident helps appears small I have yet to find a local authority which employs a larger number of these intrepid women. Night attendants remain difficult to retain as the calls for their services occur mainly in the busier winter months and are normally of short duration.

The introduction of the Selective Employment Tax had an encouraging effect on recruitment in some hitherto difficult areas, more particularly Burnham-on-Sea where the heavy volume of work had previously been dealt with mainly by women from adjacent villages. Each wage award to the Home Helps, richly deserved though these may be, means that less hours can be worked each week by part-time Home Helps before the employing authority is liable for the full rate of National Health Insurance. Ever decreasing public transport facilities render travelling from place to place more of a problem; and an emergency service dependant to so large an extent on rapid postal facilities now finds itself at a disadvantage.

Somerset is one of the few remaining authorities to continue to enlist voluntary help to assist with the running of its Home Help Service, and is, I believe, the only one

to use such help in conjunction with a staff of statutory Area Organizers and Assistants. As the case-loads carried in the majority of areas become more and more heavy the need for voluntary help is even more essential if an efficient service is to be maintained in this large county.

Organising staff made 20,464 visits during the year compared with 19,736 in 1966. The total mileage covered decreased from 69,061 to 68,962.

Contact with farms was maintained by telephone only during the epidemic of Foot and Mouth Disease.

HOME HELPS ON REGISTER DECEMBER 1967

	Full-time	Resident	Part-time	Casual	Night Attendants	Total 1967 (1968)
Weston-super-Mare ...	26 (21)	- (-)	85 (81)	3 (2)	3 (2)	117 (106)
Clevedon ...	5 (5)	- (-)	39 (38)	15 (12)	- (-)	59 (55)
Midsomer Norton ...	8 (16)	1 (1)	87 (71)	19 (17)	- (2)	115 (114)
Glastonbury ...	5 (3)	- (-)	34 (37)	15 (9)	- (-)	54 (49)
Bridgwater ...	17 (16)	- (-)	89 (84)	20 (14)	1 (-)	127 (114)
Taunton ...	31 (34)	2 (2)	68 (52)	20 (20)	5 (1)	126 (109)
Yeovil ...	18 (15)	- (-)	87 (73)	15 (18)	1 (-)	121 (106)
	110 (110)	3 (3)	489 (443)	107 (92)	10 (5)	719 (653)

New Applicants Visited 1967

	New Cases	Abortive Visits
Weston-super-Mare ...	384 (407)	24 (35)
Clevedon ...	220 (226)	36 (28)
Midsomer Norton ...	245 (245)	32 (33)
Glastonbury ...	157 (155)	12 (12)
Bridgwater ...	364 (385)	62 (40)
Yeovil ...	258 (278)	45 (39)
Taunton ...	424 (411)	37 (23)
	2052 (2107)	248 (210)

Actual number of old people helped

Weston-super-Mare ...	...	ceased cont.	229	815
Clevedon ...	...	ceased cont.	586	347
Midsomer Norton ...	...	ceased cont.	96	668
Glastonbury ...	...	ceased cont.	251	239
Bridgwater ...	...	ceased cont.	187	761
Yeovil ...	...	ceased cont.	481	576
Taunton ...	...	ceased cont.	78	725
			161	
			202	
			559	
			138	
			438	
			192	
			533	
		ceased cont.	1122	4131
		total	3009	
			4131	

Figures for 1966 in brackets.

	Old age (over 65)	Chronic Illness	Mental Illness	T.B.	Post Operative	General Illness	Maternity	Post & pre natal	Accidents	Child care	Total	Total for year
WESTON-SUPER-MARE ceased cont.	136 (186) 446 (422)	22 (11) 59 (55)	7 (-) 4 (2)	- (1) 1 (1)	46 (34) 10 (12)	57 (86) 10 (3)	41 (60) - (-)	12 (19) - (2)	10 (14) 6 (-)	7 (8) 2 (2)	338 (419) 539 (499)	877 (918)
CLEVEDON ceased cont.	63 (72) 203 (178)	12 (4) 15 (16)	3 (3) 1 (2)	2 (2) - (-)	25 (23) 5 (6)	15 (9) - (2)	62 (68) 2 (-)	10 (4) - (1)	6 (4) 2 (2)	2 (10) 1 (3)	200 (199) 229 (210)	429 (409)
MIDSOMER NORTON ceased cont.	153 (104) 438 (431)	20 (26) 21 (31)	2 (7) 3 (-)	- (-) 2 (1)	25 (19) 1 (2)	6 (8) 1 (-)	33 (56) - (-)	6 (14) - (4)	3 (6) - (1)	4 (5) - (2)	252 (245) 466 (472)	718 (717)
GLASTONBURY ceased cont.	62 (58) 141 (136)	13 (7) 25 (21)	2 (2) - (1)	1 (1) 1 (1)	17 (16) 4 (4)	10 (13) 3 (6)	27 (28) - (-)	5 (6) - (3)	3 (-) 1 (2)	3 (5) 2 (2)	143 (134) 177 (176)	320 (310)
BRIDGWATER ceased cont.	165 (161) 436 (384)	26 (34) 48 (74)	10 (8) 6 (9)	2 (1) 2 (5)	20 (21) 9 (4)	13 (22) 2 (1)	46 (49) 1 (2)	9 (16) 1 (-)	6 (17) 4 (-)	5 (12) 5 (4)	302 (341) 514 (483)	816 (824)
YEOVIL ceased cont.	112 (125) 366 (348)	7 (21) 28 (16)	5 (3) 7 (7)	1 (1) 3 (3)	1 (7) 2 (3)	12 (22) - (3)	68 (44) 3 (1)	5 (20) 2 (-)	9 (-) 1 (6)	3 (2) 2 (2)	233 (245) 414 (389)	647 (634)
TAUNTON ceased cont.	153 (173) 402 (386)	35 (19) 64 (54)	5 (5) 3 (3)	- (-) - (-)	30 (22) 3 (3)	24 (40) - (3)	65 (55) - (2)	13 (20) 2 (-)	3 (6) 1 (1)	9 (9) 7 (2)	337 (349) 482 (454)	819 (803)
Total ceased Total cont.	844 (879) 2432 (2179)	135 (122) 260 (267)	34 (28) 24 (24)	6 (6) 9 (11)	174 (142) 34 (34)	137 (200) 16 (18)	342 (360) 6 (5)	60 (97) 5 (10)	40 (47) 15 (12)	33 (51) 20 (17)	1805 (1932) 2821 (2683)	4626 (4615)
Total for year	3276 (3164)	395 (389)	58 (52)	15 (17)	208 (176)	153 (218)	348 (365)	65 (107)	5 (59)	53 (68)	4626 (4615)	

Long Term Cases

Maternity Bookings	Resident	Full-time	Part-time	Few hours	Cancellations
Weston-super-Mare	- (-)	13 (4)	8 (24)	20 (32)	15 (20)
Clevedon ...	2 (4)	2 (-)	32 (25)	26 (39)	12 (17)
Midsomer Norton	3 (3)	2 (7)	21 (30)	7 (16)	12 (10)
Glastonbury ...	3 (2)	- (-)	19 (21)	5 (5)	6 (4)
Bridgewater ...	3 (3)	7 (8)	20 (28)	16 (12)	11 (12)
Yeovil ...	11 (6)	7 (3)	24 (36)	30 (-)	8 (9)
Taunton ...	8 (6)	7 (4)	16 (20)	33 (15)	8 (6)
	30 (24)	39 (36)	140 (184)	137 (119)	72 (78)
					2122 (1954)
					54 (87) 14 (21) 40 (36) 33 (22) 59 (59) 24 (16) 68 (66) 292 (307)

VACCINATION AND IMMUNISATION

In November, 1966, the County Council installed an I.C.T.1902 computer in the County Treasurer's Department. Towards the end of 1967 considerable progress was made in the use of this computer to enable children to be called up automatically to receive their vaccinations and immunisations in accordance with the current schedule of inoculations recommended by the Ministry of Health. Pilot schemes were carried out in co-operation with the general practice at Bishops Lydeard and the three practices in Clevedon, and these trials proved successful.

DIPHTHERIA AND WHOOPING COUGH IMMUNISATION

During the year 8,536 children under sixteen years of age completed a primary course of diphtheria immunisation and a further 17,090 received reinforcing injections. Eight thousand and thirty-three children were given protection against whooping cough.

TETANUS IMMUNISATION

Primary courses of tetanus immunisation were completed by 9,423 children under sixteen years of age and a further 17,035 children received a reinforcing injection.

SMALLPOX VACCINATION

Five thousand two hundred and sixty-seven primary vaccinations and 791 re-vaccinations of children under sixteen years of age were carried out during the year. The primary vaccinations included 4,724 children under five years of age.

YELLOW FEVER VACCINATION

Two hundred and thirty-three persons were vaccinated against yellow fever at the Yellow Fever Vaccination Centre, Taunton.

POLIOMYELITIS VACCINATION

Primary courses of poliomyelitis vaccination were completed by 8,854 children under sixteen years of age and 9,156 school children received a reinforcing dose.

ANTHRAX VACCINATION

In addition to vaccinations carried out by Appointed Factory Doctors, Assistant County Medical Officers gave twenty-seven persons a course of three injections, eighteen persons the completing injection of a primary course, four persons the first two injections of a primary course and fifty-two persons their annual reinforcing injection.

IMMUNISATION

Number of children who completed a full course of primary immunisation against diphtheria, whooping cough, tetanus or poliomyelitis in the year ended 31st December, 1967.

Type of immunisation	Year of birth					Others under age 16	Total
	1967	1966	1965	1964	1960-63		
Diphtheria	3,232	4,262	407	107	403	125	8,536
Whooping Cough	3,193	4,207	393	91	130	19	8,033
Tetanus	3,231	4,262	409	106	444	971	9,423
Poliomyelitis	2,486	4,842	608	182	577	159	8,854

Number of children who received a reinforcing injection against diphtheria, whooping cough, tetanus or poliomyelitis in the year ended 31st December, 1967.

Type of immunisation	Year of birth					Others under age 16	Total
	1967	1966	1965	1964	1960-63		
Diphtheria	1	1,121	2,493	422	8,217	4,836	17,090
Whooping Cough	1	1,089	2,409	383	1,084	102	5,068
Tetanus	1	1,122	2,497	441	8,218	4,756	17,035
Poliomyelitis	—	429	595	86	8,076	1,080	10,266

SMALLPOX VACCINATION

Number of children vaccinated (or re-vaccinated) in the year ended 31st December, 1967.

Age at date of vaccination	Number vaccinated	Number re-vaccinated
0- 3 months	62	—
3- 6 months	98	—
6- 9 months	153	—
9-12 months	214	—
1 year	3,287	1
2- 4 years	910	27
5-15 years	543	763
TOTAL	5,267	791

AMBULANCE SERVICE

GENERAL

In 1967 the increase in the number of patients carried was much less than in recent years — only 181 patients. The mileage, however, increased by 40,513 miles. The following table gives the details. Those for the year 1966 are shown for comparison.

1966	Patients	Mileage	Average distance travelled per patient (miles)
Ambulances	71,465	640,453	8.95
Sitting-case ambulances ...	132,172	907,150	6.86
Cars	16,273	112,754	6.92
Totals — Service Vehicles	219,910	1,660,357	7.55
Hospital Car Service ...	2,249	11,571	5.14
Private Hire (ambulances and cars)	423	10,565	25.00
All Vehicles	222,582	1,682,493	7.56
1967			
Ambulances	74,545	647,720	8.69
Sitting-case ambulances ...	133,994	946,864	7.07
Cars	11,084	95,247	8.69
Totals — Service Vehicles	219,623	1,689,831	7.69
Hospital Car Service ...	2,419	18,965	7.84
Private Hire (ambulances and cars)	721	14,210	19.71
All Vehicles	222,763	1,723,006	7.73

The very useful arrangements with the St. John Ambulance Brigade and the British Red Cross Society whereby members assist at certain Ambulance Stations or provide and man ambulances for hire, have continued.

CONTROL

The North East Somerset Control was moved from Glastonbury to Shepton Mallet on 29th September, 1967. The system of control has remained unchanged. Improved telephone equipment has been installed in the new Control at Shepton Mallet and for the South West Somerset Area at Taunton. It is planned to introduce this equipment in the Control for North West Somerset at Weston-super-Mare during 1968.

The number of vehicles operating in the four Control areas at 31st December, 1967, was as follows:-

Control Area	Ambulances	Dual-purpose sitting-case ambulances	Cars	TOTAL
Group 1 Taunton (South West Somerset)	14	11	1	26
Group 2 Weston-super-Mare (North West Somerset)	14	10	1	25
Group 3 Shepton Mallet (North East Somerset)	8	14	1	23
Group 4 Yeovil (South East Somerset)	4	6	1	11
TOTALS	40	41	4	85

All these vehicles are fitted with 2-way radio communication equipment.

STAFF

During the year six members of the staff resigned and one retired on medical grounds. Ten were appointed and at 31st December the only vacancy was at Norton Radstock. The authorised establishment at 31st December, 1967 was 156.

Ambulance Station	Station and Sub- Officers	Senior Drivers	Leading Drivers	Driver Attendants	Trainees	Totals
Bridgwater	—	1	1	5	—	7
Castle Cary	—	1	—	3	—	4
Churchill	—	1	1	5	—	7
Clevedon	—	2	1	11	—	14
Frome	—	1	—	2	—	3
Glastonbury	3	—	—	7	—	10
Highbridge	—	—	1	2	—	3
Ilminster	—	1	—	2	—	3
Keynsham	—	1	1	5	—	7
Minehead	—	1	1	6	—	8
Norton Radstock	—	1	1	7	—	9
Shepton Mallet	3	—	1	6	—	10
Taunton	5	—	4	20	1	30
Weston-super-Mare	5	—	4	16	1	26
Yeovil	3	—	2	10	—	15
TOTALS	19	10	18	107	2	156

VEHICLES

One extra vehicle has been added to the fleet during the year. The total authorised establishment at 31st December, 1967, was 85 vehicles as follows:-

Ambulance Station	Ambulances	Dual-purpose Sitting-case Ambulances	Cars	Totals
Bridgwater	2	2	—	4
Castle Cary	1	2	—	3
Churchill	2	2	—	4
Clevedon	5	3	—	8
Frome	—	2	—	2
Glastonbury	2	3	1	6
Highbridge	2	1	—	3
Ilminster	2	1	—	3
Keynsham	1	3	—	4
Minehead	2	2	—	4
Norton Radstock	2	3	—	5
Shepton Mallet	3	3	—	6
Taunton	8	6	1	15
Weston-super-Mare	5	4	1	10
Yeovil	3	4	1	8
TOTALS	40	41	4	85

During the year the following new vehicles were delivered:-

6 ambulances for use at Churchill, Taunton (2), Shepton Mallet, Minehead and Clevedon Stations .

2 dual-purpose sitting-case ambulances for use at Castle Cary and Glastonbury Stations.

HOSPITAL CAR SERVICE AND HIRE

The Hospital Car Service has continued to perform a useful function . The total mileage has increased.

The ambulance hire arrangements with the Voluntary Associations continue and with the Hospital Car Service form a very useful supplement to the County Service.

AIR AND RAIL TRAVEL

Despite the continued curtailment of services good use is still being made of the facilities available for the conveyance of both sitting and stretcher patients by rail for the major part of the journey. The table below gives the statistics for the year 1967. For comparison those for 1966 are shown. We are once again indebted to the volunteers who so willingly act as escorts of patients travelling by rail.

	Stretcher		Sitting		Totals	
	Patients	Mileage	Patients	Mileage	Patients	Mileage
1966	167	21,537	615	51,951	782	73,488
1967	188	22,402	649	50,205	837	72,607

Total equivalent Road Mileages:-

1965 — approximately 148,000
 1966 — approximately 149,000
 1967 — approximately 145,000

During the year three patients were moved by helicopter to Stoke Mandeville Hospital at a cost of £468 11s. 2d.

PREMISES

The new Ambulance Station and Control at Shepton Mallet was completed during the year and was occupied on 29th September, 1967.

CP-OPERATION WITH OTHER SERVICES

I am once again pleased to report that there is the closest possible co-operation between the Ambulance Service and the other Emergency Services throughout the County.

500.2194	66	501.2	67	502.01	68	503.01	69	504.01	70	505.01	71	506.01	72	507.01	73	508.01	74	509.01	75	510.01	76	511.01	77	512.01	78	513.01	79	514.01	80	515.01	81	516.01	82	517.01	83	518.01	84	519.01	85	520.01	86	521.01	87	522.01	88	523.01	89	524.01	90	525.01	91	526.01	92	527.01	93	528.01	94	529.01	95	530.01	96	531.01	97	532.01	98	533.01	99	534.01	100	535.01	101	536.01	102	537.01	103	538.01	104	539.01	105	540.01	106	541.01	107	542.01	108	543.01	109	544.01	110	545.01	111	546.01	112	547.01	113	548.01	114	549.01	115	550.01	116	551.01	117	552.01	118	553.01	119	554.01	120	555.01	121	556.01	122	557.01	123	558.01	124	559.01	125	560.01	126	561.01	127	562.01	128	563.01	129	564.01	130	565.01	131	566.01	132	567.01	133	568.01	134	569.01	135	570.01	136	571.01	137	572.01	138	573.01	139	574.01	140	575.01	141	576.01	142	577.01	143	578.01	144	579.01	145	580.01	146	581.01	147	582.01	148	583.01	149	584.01	150	585.01	151	586.01	152	587.01	153	588.01	154	589.01	155	590.01	156	591.01	157	592.01	158	593.01	159	594.01	160	595.01	161	596.01	162	597.01	163	598.01	164	599.01	165	600.01	166	601.01	167	602.01	168	603.01	169	604.01	170	605.01	171	606.01	172	607.01	173	608.01	174	609.01	175	610.01	176	611.01	177	612.01	178	613.01	179	614.01	180	615.01	181	616.01	182	617.01	183	618.01	184	619.01	185	620.01	186	621.01	187	622.01	188	623.01	189	624.01	190	625.01	191	626.01	192	627.01	193	628.01	194	629.01	195	630.01	196	631.01	197	632.01	198	633.01	199	634.01	200	635.01	201	636.01	202	637.01	203	638.01	204	639.01	205	640.01	206	641.01	207	642.01	208	643.01	209	644.01	210	645.01	211	646.01	212	647.01	213	648.01	214	649.01	215	650.01	216	651.01	217	652.01	218	653.01	219	654.01	220	655.01	221	656.01	222	657.01	223	658.01	224	659.01	225	660.01	226	661.01	227	662.01	228	663.01	229	664.01	230	665.01	231	666.01	232	667.01	233	668.01	234	669.01	235	670.01	236	671.01	237	672.01	238	673.01	239	674.01	240	675.01	241	676.01	242	677.01	243	678.01	244	679.01	245	680.01	246	681.01	247	682.01	248	683.01	249	684.01	250	685.01	251	686.01	252	687.01	253	688.01	254	689.01	255	690.01	256	691.01	257	692.01	258	693.01	259	694.01	260	695.01	261	696.01	262	697.01	263	698.01	264	699.01	265	700.01	266	701.01	267	702.01	268	703.01	269	704.01	270	705.01	271	706.01	272	707.01	273	708.01	274	709.01	275	710.01	276	711.01	277	712.01	278	713.01	279	714.01	280	715.01	281	716.01	282	717.01	283	718.01	284	719.01	285	720.01	286	721.01	287	722.01	288	723.01	289	724.01	290	725.01	291	726.01	292	727.01	293	728.01	294	729.01	295	730.01	296	731.01	297	732.01	298	733.01	299	734.01	300	735.01	301	736.01	302	737.01	303	738.01	304	739.01	305	740.01	306	741.01	307	742.01	308	743.01	309	744.01	310	745.01	311	746.01	312	747.01	313	748.01	314	749.01	315	750.01	316	751.01	317	752.01	318	753.01	319	754.01	320	755.01	321	756.01	322	757.01	323	758.01	324	759.01	325	760.01	326	761.01	327	762.01	328	763.01	329	764.01	330	765.01	331	766.01	332	767.01	333	768.01	334	769.01	335	770.01	336	771.01	337	772.01	338	773.01	339	774.01	340	775.01	341	776.01	342	777.01	343	778.01	344	779.01	345	780.01	346	781.01	347	782.01	348	783.01	349	784.01	350	785.01	351	786.01	352	787.01	353	788.01	354	789.01	355	790.01	356	791.01	357	792.01	358	793.01	359	794.01	360	795.01	361	796.01	362	797.01	363	798.01	364	799.01	365	800.01	366	801.01	367	802.01	368	803.01	369	804.01	370	805.01	371	806.01	372	807.01	373	808.01	374	809.01	375	810.01	376	811.01	377	812.01	378	813.01	379	814.01	380	815.01	381	816.01	382	817.01	383	818.01	384	819.01	385	820.01	386	821.01	387	822.01	388	823.01	389	824.01	390	825.01	391	826.01	392	827.01	393	828.01	394	829.01	395	830.01	396	831.01	397	832.01	398	833.01	399	834.01	400	835.01	401	836.01	402	837.01	403	838.01	404	839.01	405	840.01	406	841.01	407	842.01	408	843.01	409	844.01	410	845.01	411	846.01	412	847.01	413	848.01	414	849.01	415	850.01	416	851.01	417	852.01	418	853.01	419	854.01	420	855.01	421	856.01	422	857.01	423	858.01	424	859.01	425	860.01	426	861.01	427	862.01	428	863.01	429	864.01	430	865.01	431	866.01	432	867.01	433	868.01	434	869.01	435	870.01	436	871.01	437	872.01	438	873.01	439	874.01	440	875.01	441	876.01	442	877.01	443	878.01	444	879.01	445	880.01	446	881.01	447	882.01	448	883.01	449	884.01	450	885.01	451	886.01	452	887.01	453	888.01	454	889.01	455	890.01	456	891.01	457	892.01	458	893.01	459	894.01	460	895.01	461	896.01	462	897.01	463	898.01	464	899.01	465	900.01	466	901.01	467	902.01	468	903.01	469	904.01	470	905.01	471	906.01	472	907.01	473	908.01	474	909.01	475	910.01	476	911.01	477	912.01	478	913.01	479	914.01	480	915.01	481	916.01	482	917.01	483	918.01	484	919.01	485	920.01	486	921.01	487	922.01	488	923.01	489	924.01	490	925.01	491	926.01	492	927.01	493	928.01	494	929.01	495	930.01	496	931.01	497	932.01	498	933.01	499	934.01	500	935.01	501	936.01	502	937.01	503	938.01	504	939.01	505	940.01	506	941.01	507	942.01	508	943.01	509	944.01	510	945.01	511	946.01	512	947.01	513	948.01	514	949.01	515	950.01	516	951.01	517	952.01	518	953.01	519	954.01	520	955.01	521	956.01	522	957.01	523	958.01	524	959.01	525	960.01	526	961.01	527	962.01	528	963.01	529	964.01	530	965.01	531	966.01	532	967.01	533	968.01	534	969.01	535	970.01	536	971.01	537	972.01	538	973.01	539	974.01	540	975.01	541	976.01	542	977.01	543	978.01	544	979.01	545	980.01	546	981.01	547	982.01	548	983.01	549	984.01	550	985.01	551	986.01	552	987.01	553	988.01	554	989.01	555	990.01	556	991.01	557	992.01	558	993.01	559	994.01	560	995.01	561	996.01	562	997.01	563	998.01	564	999.01	565	1000.01	566	1001.01	567	1002.01	568	1003.01	569	1004.01	570	1005.01	571	1006.01	572	1007.01	573	1008.01	574	1009.01	575	1010.01	576	1011.01	577	1012.01	578	1013.01	579	1014.01	580	1015.01	581	1016.01	582	1017.01	583	1018.01	584	1019.01	585	1020.01	586	1021.01	587	1022.01	588	1023.01	589	1024.01	590	1025.01	591	1026.01	592	1027.01	593	1028.01	594	1029.01	595	1030.01	596	1031.01	597	1032.01	598	1033.01	599	1034.01	600	1035.01	601	1036.01	602	1037.01	603	1038.01	604	1039.01	605	1040.01	606	1041.01	607	1042.01	608	1043.01	609	1044.01	610	1045.01	611	1046.01	612	1047.01	613	1048.01	614	1049.01	615	1050.01	616	1051.01	617	1052.01	618	1053.01	619	1054.01	620	1055.01	621	1056.01	622	1057.01	623	1058.01	624	1059.01	625	1060.01	626	1061.01	627	1062.01	628	1063.01	629	1064.01	630	1065.01	631	1066.01	632	1067.01	633	1068.01	634	1069.01	635	1070.01	636	1071.01	637	1072.01	638	1073.01	639	1074.01	640	1075.01	641	1076.01	642	1077.01	643	1078.01	644	1079.01	645	1080.01	646	1081.01	647	1082.01	648	1083.01	649	1084.01	650	1085.01	651	1086.01	652	1087.01	653	1088.01	654	1089.01	655	1090.01	656	1091.01	657	1092.01	658	1093.01	659	1094.01	660	1095.01	661	1096.01	662	1097.01	663	1098.01	664	1099.01	665	1100.01	666	1101.01	667	1102.01	668	1103.01	669	1104.01	670	1105.01	671	1106.01	672	1107.01	673	1108.01	674	1109.01	675	1110.01	676	1111.01	677	1112.01	678	1113.01	679	1114.01	680	1115.01	681	1116.01	682	1117.01	683	1118.01	684	1119.01	685	1120.01	686	1121.01	687	1122.01	688	1123.01	689	1124.01	690	1125.01	691	1126.01	692	1127.01	693	1128.01	694	1129.01	695	1130.01	696</
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CHIROPODY

The Chiropody Service, introduced in 1960, continues to provide a much needed service, mainly for the elderly, and the figures in the following table show how it is steadily expanding.

Year	No. of Chiropodists accepting patients	New Cases	No. of treatments given		Total
			Surgery	Domiciliary	
1961	18	923	9,013	1,762	10,775
1962	26	790	10,730	2,168	12,898
1963	28	1,516	12,089	4,067	16,156
1964	42	2,574	24,903	6,737	31,640
1965	45	1,902	31,718	11,725	43,443
1966	48	2,284	36,054	14,212	50,266
1967	51	2,446	39,927	17,177	57,104

The total number of patients treated was 8,421, and this compared with the number of treatments given shows that, on average, patients received approximately 6-7 treatments during the year.

In addition, 1,700 elderly persons received treatment through the Service provided by 45 Clubs who are given financial help by the County Council for this purpose. Here I would like to express my gratitude to all the Voluntary Organisers of these Clubs who have co-operated with us so willingly over the past years.

In 22 Homes for the Elderly, treatment is being continued on a sessional basis at the request of the County Welfare Committee.

During the year the Whitley Council authorised an increase in fees payable to Chiropodists, and as a result it was agreed that from 1st October, 1967, the patients' contribution should be increased from 2s. 6d. to 3s. 6d. for Surgery treatment and from 5s. 0d. to 7s. 0d. for Domiciliary treatment. In cases of hardship for the latter a reduction is allowed.

The Chiropody Scheme provides considerable benefit to the elderly, who otherwise would be unable to afford private treatment, by helping them to retain their mobility, and the expenditure involved is well worthwhile.

During the year the Whitley Council authorised an increase in fees payable to Chiropodists, and as a result it was agreed that from 1st October, 1967, the patients' contribution should be increased from 2s. 6d. to 3s. 6d. for Surgery treatment and from 5s. 0d. to 7s. 0d. for Domiciliary treatment. In cases of hardship for the latter a reduction is allowed.

	Surgery		Domiciliary		Totals	
	Patients	Mileage	Patients	Mileage	Patients	Mileage
1966	101	21,337	619	17,451	720	38,788
1967	100	22,462	642	20,305	742	42,767

Total mileage paid Whitley:

1966 - approximately 145,000

1967 - approximately 145,000

1967 - approximately 145,000

MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES

The personal health services relating to Mental Health which include a Mental Welfare Service, 4 Hostels for the Mentally Disordered, 6 Junior Training Centres for Mentally Handicapped Children, 6 Adult Training Centres and one comprehensive Training Centre, together with ancillary services are administered by the Mental Health Sub-Committee which reports quarterly to the County Health Committee.

No new building projects under the Council's 10-Year Plan have begun during the year. In reviewing the building programme the Committee had recommended the inclusion of the undermentioned projects in the next phase:-

1968/69	100-place Adult Training Centre, Weston-super-Mare
1969/70	80-place Adult Training Centre, Bridgwater
1970/71	25-place Hostel associated with Radstock Adult Training Centre

The Ministry of Health have, however, since indicated that they can at this stage only include in their lists the following projects:-

1969/70	Bridgwater Adult Training Centre
1970/71	Weston-super-Mare Adult Training Centre .

CARE AND AFTERCARE

Table 1 below gives the number of visits made in connection with the care of the mentally disordered in the community.

Table 1

Guardianship	Aftercare		Other Visits	Total
	Subnormal	Mentally Ill		
479	4,540	7,584	5,997	18,600

The following table shows the number of visits made during the preceding five year period.

Table 1

Year	Guardianship	Aftercare		Other Visits Social Histories	Total
		Subnormal	Mentally Ill		
1962/63	770	3,721	6,922	4,554	15,967
1963/64	604	3,697	8,725	5,421	18,447
1964/65	465	3,854	10,674	6,470	21,463
1965/66	441	4,294	10,516	7,874	23,125
1966/67	544	4,628	8,996	6,178	20,346

The number of patients referred to the Local Health Authority during the year ended 31st December, 1967, is given in Table 2 below.

Table 2

Referred by	Mentally Ill		Psychopathic		Subnormal		Severely Subnormal		Total	
	Under 16	16 and over	Under 16	16 and over	Under 16	16 and over	Under 16	16 and over	Under 16	16 and over
(a) General Practitioners	1	556	—	2	2	2	—	—	3	560
(b) Hospitals, on discharge from in-patient treatment	1	391	—	—	2	16	—	2	3	409
(c) Hospitals, after or during out-patient or day treatment	2	171	—	1	1	9	—	1	3	182
(d) Local Education Authority	—	—	—	—	5	10	25	2	30	12
(e) Police and Courts	—	56	—	—	—	4	—	—	—	60
(f) Other sources	1	317	—	2	51	56	24	2	76	377
(g) Total	5	1,491	—	5	61	97	49	7	115	1,600

HOSPITAL ADMISSIONS

The admission of mentally disordered people to hospital continue to be mainly on an informal basis. Mental Welfare Officers were concerned in 770 hospital admissions as follows:-

Table 3

Hospital	Informal	Section 25	Section 26	Section 29	Section 60	Total
Tone Vale	235	99	32	38	3	407
Mendip	170	78	18	10	1	277
Glenside and Barrow	12	30	20	2	—	64
Other	17	5	—	—	—	22
TOTAL	434	212	70	50	4	770

In addition sixty-six were admitted to hospitals for the subnormal and at 31st December, there were twenty-six severely subnormal patients awaiting hospital care and treatment.

HOSTELS AND RESIDENTIAL ACCOMMODATION

The Cliffe View Hostel at Cheddar continues to meet the need for residential accommodation for up to fourteen young women, most of whom are in daily employment.

The Croftlands Hostel at Bridgwater was opened on 1st May, 1967 to accommodate up to ten young men capable, or potentially capable, of employment.

"Burton's Orchard" Hostel, Wilton, Taunton was opened as a working hostel for recovering mentally ill men and women on 15th August, 1967, and accommodates thirteen persons.

The Yeovil Training Centre Hostel provides places for twenty-two children and also accommodates short-stay boarders during holidays. The Hostel is now open for 50 weeks of the year, instead of 47 weeks as previously, and therefore we are able to offer accommodation for short-stay boarders more often and for longer periods than was possible before.

During the year temporary residential care to relieve the family was arranged for 87 subnormal persons of whom 42 were accommodated in hospitals under Circular 5/52, 38 in Local Authority hostels, and 7 at St .Margaret's, Weston-super-Mare.

Local Authority hostel provision continues to be supplemented by a boarding-out scheme under which elderly mentally infirm persons on discharge from hospital are accommodated in private or voluntary homes. During the year boarding-out grants were made in respect of 116 patients.

DAY CENTRES AND SOCIAL CLUBS

The Local Health Authority has continued to co-operate with the Tone Vale Hospital Management Committee in the social health centres at Ivor House, Taunton and Penn House, Yeovil. This service is supplemented by regular attendance at case conferences at the psychiatric hospitals in the County.

The arrangements with the Bath Local Health Authority for the attendance of Somerset patients at their Occupational Therapy Centre continues to make a useful contribution to the aftercare facilities in that area.

Seventeen voluntary social clubs for mentally disordered persons are now assisted by grants from the Local Health Authority.

TRAINING CENTRES

Local Societies for the Mentally Handicapped have provided funds for additional workshop and other accommodation at the Glastonbury Junior/Adult Training Centre and the Taunton and Yeovil Adult Training Centres to help with the need for expansion of work and training facilities.

At Taunton an Industrial Annexe completely financed by the Local Society has been erected. The Local Society have donated half the cost of erecting an "Industrial Annexe" at Yeovil and also provided £1,000 to furnish the annexe. At Bridgwater a timber hut has been erected by the County Council.

There has been a steady increase in the number of pupils attending Training Centres, and Tables 4 and 5 show the number on the registers as at 31st December, 1967.

Table 4

Centre	Pupils/Trainees/ Boarders		Total
	Female	Male	
Bridgwater Junior	13	18	31
Glastonbury Junior	10	14	24
Radstock Junior	11	28	39
Taunton Junior	15	26	41
Weston-super-Mare	27	39	66
Yeovil Junior	21	23	44
Yeovil Hostel	10	12	22
Bath (Bath Local Health Authority)	2	1	3
	109	161	270

Table 5

Centre	Pupils/Trainees/ Boarders		Total
	Female	Male	
Bridgwater Adult	13	22	35
Glastonbury Adult	7	15	22
Radstock Adult	21	31	52
Taunton Adult	24	27	51
Weston-super-Mare Adult	20	13	33
Yeovil Adult	18	24	42
Yatton Hall (Farleigh Ward)	6	9	15
	109	141	250

HOME TEACHING

One part-time home teacher is employed in the Exmoor Area for three pupils who are unable to attend Training Centres .

VOLUNTARY ORGANISATIONS

The County Council is a subscribing member of the National Association for Mental Health and the Somerset Association for Mental Welfare. It co-operates with the several branches of the National Society for Mentally Handicapped Children in the County as well as with other local voluntary bodies in matters concerning community care and the training of the mentally handicapped .

I greatly appreciate the co-operation of both District Medical Officers of Health and Public Health Inspectors, who have annually subscribed so much information on the work of their Districts. This support has enabled the compilation of much of the following data on the environmental health situation in Somerset.

WATER SUPPLY

The following is an extract from a report on the weather of 1967 issued by the Somerset River Authority:-

"With 35.94 ins. of rain the year was drier than 1966. It was, nevertheless, wetter than average (33.4 ins.).

"January and March were about average. February, May, September and October were very wet with May having an exceptionally heavy fall on 3rd, which in some areas accounted for more than half the month's rainfall. October was the wettest month of the year with 6.66 ins. April, June, July, August, November and December were drier than usual, June being the driest month of the year with 0.88 ins. July's rainfall was below average despite the thunderstorm of 22nd when several stations recorded 2.0 ins. and over and Chard recorded 3.19 ins.

"Temperatures were generally about normal with no extremes for any lengthy period.

"Sunshine hours were about normal.

"Light snow fell in February, March, April and May and there was a fairly heavy fall in December."

Generally, the quality and quantity of water throughout the County was satisfactory and only a very small percentage of the population is without a piped supply. Contamination of supplies was mainly confined to small private or well supplies and wherever possible these are to be replaced by a mains supply.

Some 130 years ago the prevention of water-borne diseases was the most important and virtually the only concern of sanitation as it was understood at that time. Today, the work of the Sanitary Authority encompasses a mass of legislation and although on the re-grouping of water undertakings and the consequent reduction of local authorities' responsibilities in this particular field of environmental health, they still have significant statutory obligations to perform. These are now mainly concerned with ensuring that the water provided within their area of responsibility is both wholesome and sufficient. Obviously there must be very close co-operation between water undertakers and local authorities in order to ensure a constant potable supply.

The Ministry of Housing and Local Government has issued a Memorandum entitled "Safeguards to be Adopted in the Operation and Management of Water-Works". It deals, inter alia, with such matters as the precautions to be taken in connection with gathering grounds and where the public are allowed access to these areas and reservoirs for recreational purposes. For many years, bathing has not been permitted in reservoirs from which water is taken direct into a public supply. Boating and fishing have been favoured but only on a very limited scale and this under strict control. The feeling now is that there is no reason, save in wholly exceptional circumstances, why bathing should not be allowed, subject to the water after leaving the reservoir being "given treatment comparable with that given to water abstracted for domestic use from a low-land river intake;" and that the water undertakers are satisfied that there is no significant danger to persons bathing in the reservoir". So far as is known, the reservoirs in Somerset are only being used for boating and fishing.

SOMERSET WATER UNDERTAKERS

The following are extracts from reports kindly provided by the three water undertakers in Somerset:-

WESSEX WATER BOARD

"The average daily consumption in the Board's area has risen from 7.55 m.g.d. in 1966 to 7.82 m.g.d. in 1967. The average daily consumption during the six week dry spell in June and July was 8.61 m.g.d., but this demand was met without difficulty as the yield of the springs and boreholes had not by that time of the year dropped to its minimum value.

"Major main extensions started during 1967 have already or will shortly improve the supplies to South Petherton, Tintinhull, Misterton and Milborne Port. It is hoped to improve supplies as soon as possible to Curry Rivel and Henstridge which were both adversely affected during the summer hot weather. Some parts of the Board's Central District were again affected with dirty water due to corrosion products from the old cast iron mains. Following a biological investigation carried out by the Water Research Association and an inspection of the condition of the existing mains, a programme of extensive mains renewal and mains cleaning and re-coating costing £512,000 over a four-year period was approved by the Board in December. It is intended to re-lay all mains which suffer from external corrosion and to clean and re-coat with bitumen all mains suffering from internal corrosion.

"A considerably increased supply of water was made available early in the year from existing boreholes near Thornford for both Yeovil and the Eastern District of the Board's area. Basic information from this source, which is completely automatic, together with the main details of conditions in the Yeovil area are transmitted to a control panel at the Sutton Bingham treatment works, which is manned 24 hours each day. A new borehole pump has been installed at Bradley Head and mainlaying has started on the link main from Corton Ridge to Castle Cary.

"Three boreholes have been drilled to a depth of 350 feet at Lower Magiston, near Dorchester, and tested for a period of 14 days. This site is being investigated as an alternative to the proposal to build an impounding reservoir near Melbury Osmond in order to provide a major source to cater for the rising demand for water."

Details of mains laid during 1967 are as under:-

	15" dia .	12" dia .	10" dia .	9" & 8" dia .	6" dia .	4" dia .	3" dia .
Western District (Chard, Langport, Ilminster, Crewkerne)	-	-	-	-	2,044	2,690	819
Central District (Yeovil)	7,042	831	3,479	1,450	10,800	5,566	914
Eastern District (Wincanton Sherborne)	-	-	-	1,536	1,083	1,231	48

Laboratory Analyses 1967

	Bacteriological Analyses	Chemical Analyses	
		Raw Water	Treated Water
Western District	405	57	30
Central District	195	103	94
Eastern District	288	56	63

WEST SOMERSET WATER BOARD

"During 1967 there was a marked rise in consumption and the average daily demand was approximately 10½ m.g. There were adequate supplies available and no restrictions were imposed.

"In the Minehead area work commenced on the new Dunster distribution system, together with a new service reservoir at Carhampton and the coastal main is now being extended to Minehead to meet summer demands. Replacements of main in Porlock is also under way. The Winsford supply system is also being re-organised to meet additional demands.

"The Bridgwater area has continued to expand and industrial consumption has gone up by almost one third. East and West Huntspill have now been linked and tenders invited for a new 9" main along the Polden Hills.

"In the Taunton area works have been confined to those necessary to supply the numerous new housing estates.

"Some preliminary investigation has been carried out regarding the possibility of obtaining water from underground sources and development of the Nutscale source. Talks are also taking place on the possibility of obtaining water in the future from the River Exe and its tributaries."

Bacteriological and Chemical Results

	Chemical Examination		Bacteriological Examination				
	Total	Uns.	Total	Numbers in Class			
				1	2	3	4
Filter Stations Prior to Distribution	105	27	91	87	1	—	3
In Supply	589	97	605	542	19	3	41
TOTAL	694	124	696	629	20	3	44

BRISTOL WATERWORKS COMPANY

The Rowberrow Treatment Works have now been replaced by new fully automatic plant with an output of 2 million gallons per day compared with the original capacity of 0.6 million gallons. In addition, a new service reservoir was constructed at Rowberrow Hill which will not only deal with the local area but will also augment the supply to Weston-super-Mare.

New pumps have been fitted in the Brent Knoll Pumping Station in Axbridge Rural District, also the Townsend Pumping Station located in Clutton Rural. Both stations are now automatic.

The main-laying and reservoirs on the North Somerset Augmentation Scheme have been completed, also the new Pumping Stations at Holcombe (Shepton Mallet Rural), Trudoxhill (Frome Rural), Paulton (Clutton Rural), Poorhouses (Bathavon Rural) and Whitcross (Axbridge Rural). Mains reorganisation for the Long Ashton By-pass and the planning work for the Motorway extension down to Edithmead has been virtually completed.

Details of mains laid during 1967 are as follows:-

Mains Laid										Mains Laid										Mains Laid										Mains Laid									
1967										1966										1965										1964									
Miles										Miles										Miles										Miles									
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Size of Main	Length of Mains — In Yards												Total
	1½"	2"	3"	4"	5"	6"	8"	10"	12"	15"	21"	30"	
TRUNK MAINS													
RURALS													
Axbridge	—	—	—	986	—	—	—	—	34	3,959	—	—	4,979
Clutton	—	—	—	—	—	214	—	—	—	—	—	—	214
Long Ashton	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1,343	—	—	191	113	1,647
Shepton Mallet	—	—	—	7	—	283	1,845	—	—	—	—	—	2,135
BOROUGHS AND URBANS													
Burnham-on-Sea	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	209	—	—	—	209
Clevedon	—	—	—	—	—	—	1,258	—	—	—	—	—	1,258
Keynsham	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	3	—	—	3
Norton Radstock	—	—	—	—	—	631	621	—	—	—	—	—	1,252
Wells	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	20	—	—	—	—	20
Weston-super- Mare	—	—	—	—	—	9	92	—	—	—	—	—	101
TAPPING MAINS													
RURALS													
Axbridge	—	35	1,153	1,508	—	4,115	—	45	—	—	—	—	6,856
Bathavon	—	—	453	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	453
Clutton	447	—	1,625	572	—	651	—	—	—	—	—	—	3,295
Frome	—	—	1,432	176	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1,608
Long Ashton	97	—	3,676	2,211	238	341	—	—	—	—	—	—	6,563
Shepton Mallet	—	560	635	203	—	365	—	—	—	—	—	—	1,763
Wells	—	—	1,381	130	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1,511
BOROUGHS AND URBANS													
Burnham-on-Sea	—	—	787	536	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1,323
Clevedon	—	—	425	408	—	951	—	—	—	—	—	—	1,784
Glastonbury	—	—	481	101	—	158	—	—	—	—	—	—	740
Keynsham	—	30	1,712	893	—	1,240	86	—	—	—	—	—	3,961
Norton Radstock	—	—	1,357	146	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1,503
Portishead	—	—	393	1,305	—	406	—	—	—	—	—	—	2,104
Shepton Mallet	—	—	57	—	—	343	—	—	—	—	—	—	400
Street	—	—	283	686	—	94	—	—	—	—	—	—	1,063
Wells	—	—	651	455	—	283	—	—	—	—	—	—	1,389
Weston-super- Mare	—	51	1,179	1,493	4	389	—	—	—	—	—	—	3,116
TOTALS	544	676	17,680	11,816	242	10,473	3,902	1,408	243	3,962	191	113	51,250

Resident population in Statutory Area of supply		251,270
Estimated population NOT supplied		
(a) Rural areas with no piped supply available	635	
(b) Supplied by private wells, springs, etc. (Estimated)	<u>3,265</u>	<u>3,900</u>
Population supplied by Company		<u>247,370</u>
Estimated additional Summer population (based on period 1st April to 30th September)		
Weston-super-Mare	22,085	
Burnham-on-Sea	6,000	
Axbridge	6,000	
Wells, Glastonbury, Mendip area	5,915	
Clevedon	6,000	
Portishead	<u>3,000</u>	
6 Months' Total	<u>49,000</u>	
Therefore, ANNUAL AVERAGE		<u>24,500</u>
TOTAL POPULATION SUPPLIED INCLUDING VISITORS		<u>271,870</u>

The following schemes were approved for grant aid under the Rural Water Supplies and Sewerage Acts, 1944-65 and/or the Water Act, 1945:-

		£
Bathavon Rural	(Bath Corporation) — Inglesbatch — main extension	1,032
Chard Rural	(Wessex Water Board) — Hinton St. George — augmentation of supply	8,335
Frome Rural	(Bristol Waterworks Company) — East Woodlands — extension	1,500
Wellington Rural	(West Somerset Water Board) — Wiveliscombe — Abbotsfield extension	4,500
Williton Rural	(West Somerset Water Board) — Rodhuish — extension	3,550
		<u>£18,917</u>

The following schemes were approved prior to 1967 but costs and/or proposals were revised and resubmitted for grant aid under the Rural Water Supplies and Sewerage Acts, 1944-65 and/or Water Act, 1945:-

		£
Chard Rural	(Wessex Water Board) — Combe St. Nicholas — Northay/Stantway extension	11,310
Wincanton Rural	(Wessex Water Board) — Cucklington — extension	1,192
		<u>£12,502</u>

WATER SAMPLES

Classification of raw and treated water samples submitted for bacteriological and chemical examination by local authorities are shown in the following Table. The water undertakers also check on raw and treated supplies as a matter of routine.

	Raw Water				Treated after going into supply			
	Bacteriological		Chemical		Bacteriological		Chemical	
	No. Taken	Satis- factory	No. Taken	Satis- factory	No. Taken	Satis- factory	No. Taken	Satis- factory
Boroughs and Urbans	106	84	14	14	488	486	32	25
Rurals	324	195	43	41	659	624	110	106
TOTALS	430	279	57	55	1,147	1,110	142	131

The following figures refer to samples taken from well water supplies:-

	Boroughs and Urbans		Rurals	
	No. Taken	Satisfactory	No. Taken	Satisfactory
Bacteriological	11	6	269	142
Chemical	4	2	—	—

SEWAGE DISPOSAL

Details regarding schemes completed or still in progress as at 31st December, 1967, are set out below. Financial particulars of schemes approved for grant-aid purposes by the County Council during the year are shown on Page

BOROUGHES AND URBAN DISTRICTS

BRIDGWATER. The Borough Council have made further progress in connection with industrial and housing development. Also work has commenced on provision of a relief sewer in Gloucester Road at a cost of £8,500. No progress was made with the provision of a new sewage disposal works or the construction of pumping stations, mains and gravity sewers, which are to be provided to link existing outfalls with the disposal works when provided, but nevertheless these proposals still remain within priority group 1.

BURNHAM-ON-SEA. Work is still proceeding in connection with the sewerage of private estate developments, including pumping stations which are to serve a future comprehensive main drainage scheme for the District. As previously mentioned, the construction of pumping stations and tank sewers is a joint venture between private developers and the Local Authority. A Ministry of Housing and Local Government investigation has now been held into the Urban Council's main comprehensive sewerage scheme, and although the Council have not received outright approval to the proposals, it would seem that the Ministry are in favour of taking the drainage in a southerly direction from Berrow to Highbridge with outfall and treatment in the Highbridge vicinity. The total estimated cost for these works amounts to £800,000.

CLEVEDON. The District Council have now completed their proposals for the construction of a main relief sewer and the scheme is ready to go to tender. The estimated cost of this work is £460,000. With regard to the construction of a new sewage treatment works, which is to be a joint venture with the Long Ashton Rural District Council, negotiations are proceeding in order to determine the type of treatment to be undertaken and the length of sea outfall.

CREWKERNE. Preliminary plans have been prepared for carrying out an extension to the existing sewage disposal works.

GLASTONBURY. A sewerage scheme to serve approximately 250 houses is now in progress. The proposals comprise the provision of a sewage pumping station and pumping main adjoining Paradise Allotments. The approximate cost of this work will be £7,350.

ILMINSTER. The District Council have recently adopted a new method of sludge disposal. The sludge is now removed from the works by a vacuum-operated tank which then distributes the contents over grassland on a nearby disused airfield. In the event of ground conditions being such that it is not possible to dispose of the sludge, then normal disposal arrangements are applied. The system has been operating for a period of seven months without any difficulty.

KEYNSHAM. Work has now been completed in connection with the re-laying of sewers and the construction of a pumping station for the western area of the District. Improvements for the eastern part of the District are to be pursued at a later date.

MINEHEAD. The eastern outfall relief sewer has now been completed at an estimated cost of £120,000. There is no further news concerning the main drainage scheme for the Urban District which, twelve months ago, was estimated to cost £363,000.

NORTON RADSTOCK. A new sewer at Wheeler's Hill, Midsomer Norton, was provided at an estimated cost of £1,500 and a start was made on the modifications at the Midsomer Norton sewage disposal works. Still in priority group 1 is the provision of new trunk sewers and disposal works at Radstock at an estimated cost of £225,000.

PORTISHEAD. Construction of a 30 in. surface water sewer to drain the Dry Hill area to Victoria Road dyke was completed at an estimated cost of £29,000. Future proposals, in order of priority, are concerned with the construction of a 48 in. surface water sewer to drain Welland Lane, Gordano School and the Clevedon Road areas at an estimated cost of £25,000, and the possible construction of sewage disposal works for the District in association with neighbouring authorities.

SHEPTON MALLET. No new works or improvements were carried out during the year, but placed within priority group 1 is a proposal for re-laying a quarter of a mile of trunk main from Bowlish to the sewage disposal works. The estimated cost is approximately £40,000.

STREET. Work on the installation of a spray irrigation unit was completed during the year. A Consulting Engineer has now been engaged to advise the Council on the most efficient means of disposal to cater for the future growth of Street.

WESTON-SUPER-MARE. No new works or improvements were carried out during the year, although further modifications and improvements to the existing system are to be carried out at a later date.

YEOVIL. Major extensions to the existing sewage disposal works were completed, also Stage 1 of the main drainage scheme. Together these works are estimated to cost £448,000. Work on Stages III and IV of the main drainage scheme are still in progress (£153,000), also the provision of storm water and foul trunk sewers on the Sunningdale Housing Estate (£33,000).

RURAL DISTRICTS

AXBRIDGE. That part of the comprehensive scheme serving Banwell to Langford was completed during the year at an estimated cost of £157,000 and in addition some progress was made in connection with sewer extensions at Winscombe, (Parsons Way and Sand Road) (£8,720). There are many new schemes of sewerage and sewage disposal proposed for this Authority's area, all of which amount to a total estimated cost of £700,000.

BATHAVON. Re-sewering and provision of new sewage disposal works at Wellow was completed during the year at an estimated cost of £47,000. Included in this Authority's future proposals are the following:-

- (1) A combined scheme for enlarged sewage disposal works at Freshford, which will also treat sewage from part of Limpley Stoke in the rural district of Bradford and Melksham (estimated cost £33,000). This particular scheme has now received Ministry consent.
- (2) Proposals for enlarging sewers and provision of new disposal works for New Buildings and Carlingcott, also Marksbury and Compton Dando. These schemes are now ready for submission to the Ministry of Housing and Local Government.

- (3) Outline plans for the sewerage of Hinton Charterhouse are in course of preparation.
- (4) Extension to the sewerage system at South Stoke and a small sewer extension at Shoscombe (Railway Terrace).

BRIDGWATER. The Sutton Mallet (Stawell parish) sewerage and sewage disposal scheme has now been completed at an estimated cost of £15,000. Included in the Council's future programme and in order of priority are schemes covering the parishes of North Petherton, Nether Stowey, Ashcott, Shapwick, Middlezoy and Othery.

CHARD. Considerable progress has been made during the year in this particular District. The schemes for Combe St. Nicholas and Wadeford (£82,340), also Forton and Coombses (£18,473) have both been completed. Work has also started on the provision of sewers and a sewage disposal works at Dowlish Wake (£41,370). Further schemes are proposed and these are concerned with the provision of sewers and a sewage disposal works at Merriott, the reconstruction of sewage disposal works at Shepton Beauchamp, also disposal works at Winsham and Misterton. All these schemes have been deferred due to the economic situation. The Merriott scheme, which was due to start in 1968, will, it is hoped, be commenced in 1969, for with the increase of building and the state of the sewers in this parish, the position could become critical.

CLUTTON. A small sewage disposal unit (package plant) was installed at Cameley during the year at a cost of £2,580. A similar unit to serve some old people's bungalows at Farrington Gurney was also provided at a cost of £1,544. Work is still in progress in connection with the scheme for High Littleton, Hallatrow and Timsbury. This scheme also provides for the enlargement of the sewage disposal works at Paulton. Extension of sewage disposal works in order to cater for the flow from Chew Stoke village, Chew Magna, Bishops Sutton is also under way. In priority order, the following schemes are proposed for the future:-

- (1) Farrington Gurney—Temple Cloud scheme (£165,000).
- (2) Pensford.
- (3) Clutton (Stage II).
- (4) Ston Easton.
- (5) Lippiatt Lane, Timsbury (transfer from Farmborough works to Paulton).
- (6) East and West Harptree.
- (7) Chilcompton (Stage II).

Priorities 2-7 above are to be reviewed.

DULVERTON. No new works or improvements were carried out during the year, although progress was made concerning the sewerage and sewage disposal scheme for Winsford. It is anticipated that this particular project will be completed by March, 1968. The estimated cost of these proposals is £38,000. The Local Authority's future proposal programme is concerned with the provision of sewerage and sewage disposal facilities for Bridgetown (£16,200), Dulverton where repairs to sewers are required, also new works (£86,000), and finally, Brompton Regis.

FROME. Work has now commenced on the Faulkland sewerage scheme, which will eventually be connected to the existing works at Norton St. Philip (£54,904). The main drainage scheme for Witham Friary and Trudoxhill with disposal to the Nunney works has now been submitted to the Ministry of Housing and Local Government (£93,170). In addition, the District Council's Consultants have prepared a main drainage scheme for Buckland Dinham (£67,000), and proposals for laying additional sewers and carrying out extensions to the disposal works at Beckington are also under consideration (£58,000).

LANGPORT. The relief outfall sewer at Curry Rivel has been completed at an estimated cost of £5,734. The sewerage and sewage disposal scheme for Fivehead has now received Ministry approval and work commenced on this particular project in December. The disposal works are to be designed so that they can be readily extended to serve the whole of the western area (£115,859). The outlined scheme of sewerage and sewage disposal for the entire District has now been accepted in principle by the Ministry. The total cost of this major scheme is £1,456,000.

LONG ASHTON. No new works or improvements were carried out during the year, but the District Council's proposals for the future are quite extensive and include the following:-

- (1) Trunk sewer with sea outfall into the Bristol Channel to serve Backwell, Nailsea, Wraxall, Tickenham, Flax Bourton, Yatton, etc. Total estimated cost £2,378,000.
 - (2) Wraxall (Failand). Sewerage for the 60 acres' area, using the existing Tyntesfield treatment works. Total estimated cost £75,000.
- (Note: This scheme is now with the Ministry of Housing and Local Government).
- (3) Long Ashton (Leigh Woods). Sewerage and sewage disposal.
 - (4) Gordano Valley drainage scheme to serve Easton-in-Gordano, Portbury, North Weston, Portishead, etc.
 - (5) Valley Road, North Weston extension. Estimated cost £4,000.

SHEPTON MALLET. The Cranmore sewerage and sewage disposal scheme, which on completion will serve East and West Cranmore, is now in course of construction (£56,015). Included in the Council's future proposals programme are schemes for Evercreech, which will include part of Stoney Stratton (£102,370); East and West Lydford, for which a scheme is now being prepared by the Consulting Engineers (£86,500); Batcombe including the hamlet of Westcombe; Alhampton in the parish of Ditchheat; Parbrook in the West Bradley parish and finally, Binegar.

TAUNTON. Two sewerage schemes have been completed during the year, namely the Henlade portion of the Ruishton proposals (£29,000), also the laying of a sewer at Comeytrowe Lane, Bishops Hull (£4,500). No further progress has been made concerning the North Curry and Stoke St. Gregory sewerage and sewage disposal scheme (approved as a joint scheme by the County Council in 1966). Similarly, no progress has been made on the schemes for West Monkton (£250,000) (also approved by the County Council), and Kingston St. Mary (£226,000) and West Bagborough (£44,000).

WELLINGTON. The sewerage and sewage disposal schemes for Bradford-on-Tone (£80,000) and Fitzhead (£23,500) were completed during the year. Sewerage and sewage disposal facilities are to be provided at Sampford Arundel and Holywell Lake, Wellington Without (£110,000); provision of new sewers at Oake (Hillfarrance and village of Hillcommon) (£32,000), also enlargement of sewage disposal works and the re-laying of sewers at Milverton (£175,000).

WELLS. No major works, extensions or improvements were carried out during the year. In order of priority the Council's future proposals are designed to deal with the following:-

Coxley (£35,000), Wookey Hole (£55,000), also West Pennard, Wookey where the works are to be extended to cater for Yarley, Henton and Bleadney, and finally Meare (Oxenpill and Westhay) and Chewton Mendip.

WILLITON. The comprehensive scheme for Bicknoller, Sampford Brett, Stogumber and West Quantoxhead, has now been completed at an estimated cost of £72,250. In addition, the District Council have commenced work on the sewerage proposals for Holford, Kilve and East Quantoxhead (£61,000), also the provision of sewers at Leighland (£4,900) and the St. Audries area (£3,183). In future proposals this Authority have included a scheme for the reconstruction of the disposal works at Stogursey. In addition to dealing with increased development and trade waste, the works are to be designed to take the drainage from the hamlets of Shurton, Burton and Knighton.

WINCANTON. A television survey of defective sewers at Castle Cary was carried out at a cost of £274. With regard to future proposals, the District Council's sewerage and sewage disposal scheme for Galhampton has been submitted to the County Council for approval (£43,000). In addition, sewerage and sewage disposal facilities are to be provided for North Cheriton and Horsington (£97,500). Defective sewers at Castle Cary are also to be re-laid in the near future.

YEOVIL. A new nitrifying filter and storm flow pumping station has been provided at Martock at an estimated cost of £20,000, and in addition, a start has been made on the major sewerage and sewage disposal scheme for Ash and Tintinhull (£130,000). The District Council's five year programme (1965-70) has been slightly revised and the order of priority is now as follows:-

- (1) Barwick and Stoford sewerage scheme (£60,000).
A tender has been accepted by the Council for these proposals and Ministry approval is awaited.
- (2) Marston Magna, Rimpton and West Camel. Provision of sewers and sewage disposal works (£154,000).
Tenders have been invited for this scheme.
- (3) Yeovil Without. Extension to sewage disposal works and sewers (£35,500).
- (4) South Petherton. New sewage disposal works and relief sewers.
- (5) Chiselborough, Norton-sub-Hamdon and West Chinnock. Provision of sewers.
- (6) Odcombe. Provision of sewage disposal works and sewers.

The following schemes were approved for grant aid under the Rural Water Supplies and Sewerage Acts, 1944-65:-

		£
Axbridge Rural	Winscombe — Parsons Way and Sandford Road extensions	8,720
Bathavon Rural	Shoscombe — Railway Terrace sewer extension	1,600
Clutton Rural	Farrington Gurney and Cameley — Temple Cloud sewerage scheme	165,000
Dulverton Rural	Bridgetown sewerage and sewage disposal	16,200
Wincanton Rural	North Cadbury — Galhampton sewerage scheme	43,000
		<u>£234,520</u>

The following schemes were approved prior to 1967 but costs and/or proposals were revised and resubmitted for grant aid under the Rural Water Supplies and Sewerage Acts, 1944-65:-

		£
Axbridge Rural	Kewstoke	194,760
Langport Rural	Fivehead sewerage and sewage disposal	115,859
Long Ashton Rural	North Weston - Redcliffe Bay sewerage scheme	61,140
Shepton Mallet Rural	Cranmore sewerage and sewage disposal	56,015
Wells Rural	Coxley sewerage and sewage disposal	70,000
Williton Rural	Leighland Village scheme	4,900
		<u>£502,674</u>

HOUSING

Ministry of Housing and Local Government Circular No. 69/67 (Housing Act 1957 — Slum Clearance).

Since the introduction of the 1957 Housing Act, there has been doubt and speculation as to the correct interpretation of Section 4 (Standards of Fitness) by virtue of its very broad terms. The explanatory notes set out in the Circular were compiled by the Standards of Fitness Sub-Committee and it is hoped that by publicising these notes they will help those officers concerned in inspecting and reporting on the unfitness of houses — the notes should also assist in achieving some element of uniformity. It is pointed out, however, that the explanatory notes cannot themselves provide a definition or legal test as to what constitutes unfitness.

Details regarding applications received and approved during 1967 for Discretionary and Standard Grants are set out in Table 'A'. Other information concerning the housing situation in Somerset is contained in Tables 'B', 'C' and 'D'.

TABLE 'A'

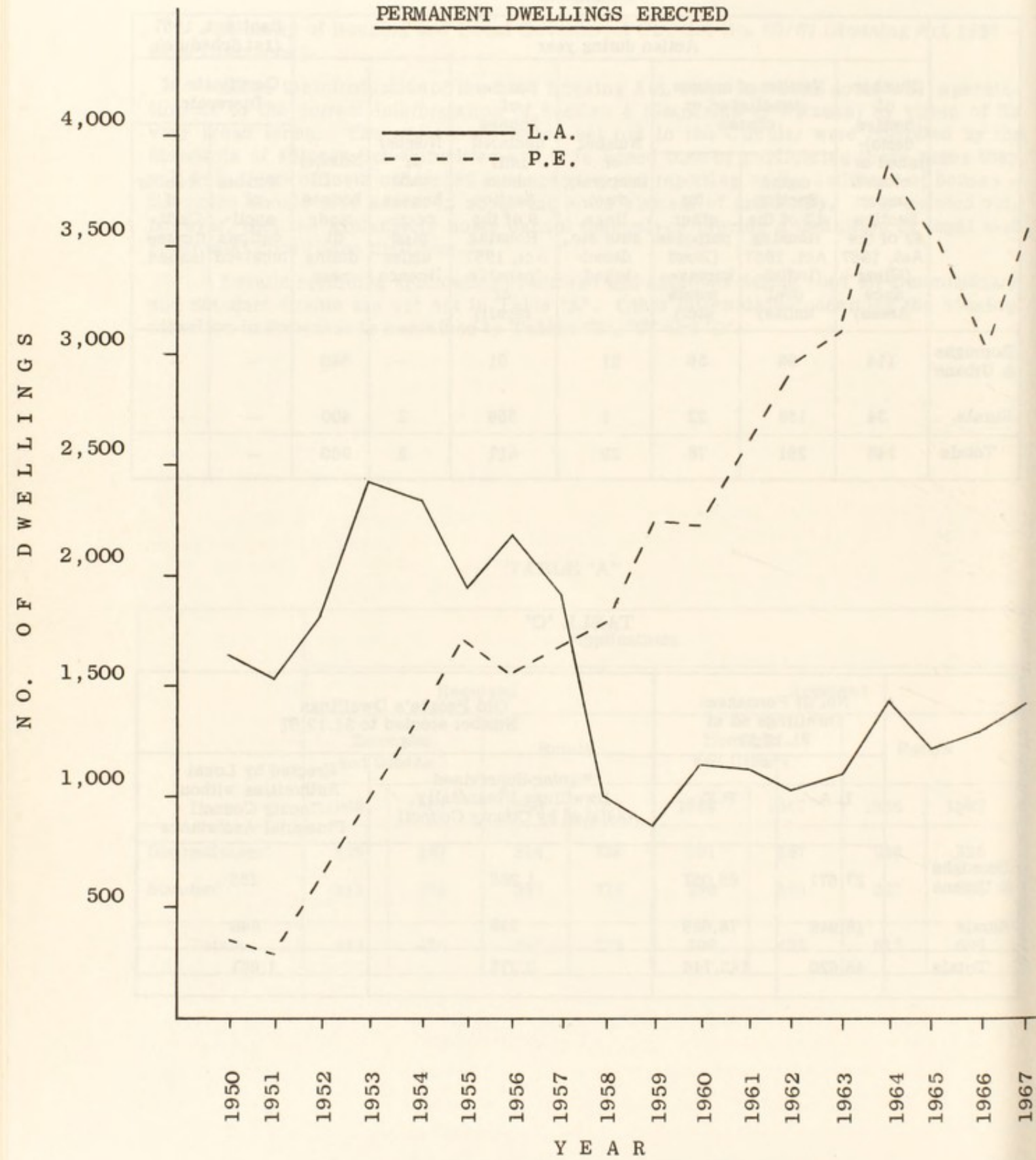
	Applications							
	Received				Approved			
	Boroughs and Urbans		Rurals		Boroughs and Urbans		Rurals	
	1966	1967	1966	1967	1966	1967	1966	1967
Discretionary	129	167	314	338	101	147	288	325
Standard	313	269	327	374	298	255	327	365
Totals	442	436	641	712	399	402	615	690

TABLE 'B'

	Action during year							Rent Act, 1957 (1st Schedule)	
	Number of houses demolished or closed under Section 42 of the Act, 1957 (Clearance Areas)	Number of houses demolished or closed		Number of temporary dwellings, huts etc. demolished	Number of houses declared unfit under Section 9 of the Housing Act, 1957 (capable of repair)	Number of unfit houses occupied under licence	Number of houses made fit during year	Certificate of Disrepair	
		under Section 17 of the Housing Act, 1957 (individual unfits)	for other purposes (Road Improvements etc.)					Number of applications received	Number of Certificates issued
Boroughs & Urbans	114	98	56	21	61	—	560	—	—
Rurals	34	153	22	1	556	2	400	—	—
Totals	148	251	78	22	617	2	960	—	—

TABLE 'C'

	No. of Permanent Dwellings as at 31.12.67		Old People's Dwellings Number erected to 31.12.67	
	L.A.	P.E.	Warden-Supervised Dwellings Financially Assisted by County Council	Erected by Local Authorities without County Council Financial Assistance
Boroughs & Urbans	27,671	65,057	1,286	233
Rurals	18,949	78,689	989	848
Totals	46,620	143,746	2,275	1,081

PERMANENT DWELLINGS ERECTED

APPLICATIONS FOR HOUSING ACCOMMODATION

Most local authorities divide applications for housing accommodation into three categories. These are shown in the following Table together with comparative figures for 1966.

Applications	As at 31.12.66		As at 31.12.67	
	Boroughs and Urbans	Rurals	Boroughs and Urbans	Rurals
Urgent Bona Fide Cases	2,290	1,744	1,949	1,783
For Old People's Dwellings	1,331	976 *	1,347	988 *
Other	2,299	1,851	2,397	2,005

* Includes transfers

Houses constructed by local authorities during 1967 numbered 1,446 (1,591 in 1966); private construction reached a figure of 3,517 (3,275 in 1966). The graph on page 56 illustrates housing progress since 1950.

The following Table gives some indication as to the number of houses required to meet the over-all shortage of housing at moderate rents. (This information is a requirement of the Ministry of Housing and Local Government Circular 21/65). In the past attention has been almost entirely concentrated on providing properties for specific needs, i.e., old people's dwellings, slum clearance and overcrowding, etc.

PROGRAMME FORECAST

TABLE 'D'

	Housing Needs — Based on Local Authority Capacity for Building			
	1968	1969	1970	1971
Boroughs and Urbans	1,049	608	517	459
Rurals	514	306	158	377
Totals	1,563	914	675	836

NOTE:— Six Authorities have not prepared Programmes

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES

SCHOOL SANITATION

In 1966, the County Council approved in principle a programme to improve the sanitary facilities at primary schools in the County over a period of three years at a cost of approximately £364,000. As a first instalment, a sum of £120,000 was earmarked for the 1967/68 programme but for various reasons this was reduced to £40,000. It was decided to group schools together and to distribute the work according to the availability of contractors with priority being given to those schools on Exmoor, the Mendips, the Blackdowns and the Brendons. After these schools had been dealt with the programme would then follow the earlier-accepted principle of dealing with schools according to size.

In preparing the programmes for 1967/68 and 1968/69, regard was paid to the future of certain schools for it was felt that only expenditure of a routine nature should be allowed on schools where their future was uncertain. Eighteen contracts were prepared, seven to eight schools being included in each. It is anticipated that work up to and including contract 5 will be covered in the 1968/69 programme.

It should, perhaps, be mentioned that several schools are being dealt with under schemes of re-organisation.

CLOSET ACCOMMODATION

As some authorities do not maintain records of conversions from pail and other types of closets, it is not possible to give accurate details under this heading. Nevertheless, from the information provided it would seem that almost 300 such conversions were completed during the year.

CESSPOOL EMPTYING

The arrangements for the emptying of cesspools show some changes compared with last year. Only five authorities now provide a service compared with nine during 1966. Charges levied are based either on the load and size of the cesspool or on a flat rate. For commercial premises one authority charges the actual cost of removal. In the remainder of the districts, removal arrangements are, in the main, by contract.

HOUSE REFUSE AND TRADE WASTE

	Removed by		Number of Vehicles Employed
	Direct Labour	Contract	
Boroughs and Urbans	20	—	39
Rurals	15	1	45

Wells Rural District Council is the only authority operating a service under contract.

All Boroughs and Urbans operate a weekly collection of household refuse and in the majority of cases a similar frequency for the removal of trade waste. It is obviously extremely difficult to arrange similar collection frequencies in the rural localities — the interval between collections ranging from weekly to monthly.

REFUSE DISPOSAL

	Boroughs and Urbans	Rurals
Controlled tipping	18	19
Semi-controlled tipping	1	5
Uncontrolled tips	—	1
Incineration method	3 (2 part only)	1

For the last two years, attention has been drawn to the ever-increasing problem of finding land suitable for tipping. For some authorities, there is no alternative — they will shortly be faced with the need to install plant for reducing the bulk of refuse received. Incineration or pulverisation are methods which will have to be considered. However, these units are most expensive to install and from the economic point of view a series of central disposal points throughout the County may well be the ultimate in efficient disposal.

PREVENTION OF DAMAGE BY PESTS

Powers relating to the control of rats and mice were vested in local sanitary authorities under the Prevention of Damage by Pests Act. Fourteen rodent operatives are employed by twelve authorities full time. The remaining authorities either share the services of an operator or have a contract with a rodent control company.

	Number of Rodent Operators Employed	
	Whole-time	Part-time
Boroughs and Urbans	6	13
Rurals	8	9

There do not appear to have been any serious infestation problems and districts have dealt most efficiently with all complaints.

AGRICULTURAL (SAFETY, HEALTH AND WELFARE PROVISIONS) ACT, 1956

Very few authorities are in a position to undertake, as a matter of routine, inspections of all agricultural units in their districts to ensure that sanitary facilities are both sufficient and suitable for the needs of employees. The Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food also have certain responsibilities under the Act. No formal notices were served during the year.

CAMPING AND CARAVAN SITES

GYPSIES

Although local authorities have been requested to provide suitable sites for gypsy encampments, little progress has been made, only one site in Bridgwater Rural District being provided. Nevertheless, a considerable amount of "heat" has been generated by local people whenever a proposed site for gypsies has been suggested in their locality.

A number of local authorities in other parts of the County have provided sites run by wardens and they appear to function satisfactorily. Obviously further consideration will have to be given to this matter in Somerset.

CARAVAN SITES AND CONTROL OF DEVELOPMENT ACT, 1960

	Permanent		Seasonal	
	Boroughs & Urbans	Rurals	Boroughs & Urbans	Rurals
Number of single caravans licensed	13	324	2	20
Number of site licenses issued in respect of more than one caravan	19	82	25	88
Estimated maximum number of occupants resident during year	1,105	3,292	17,357	14,634
Number of sites closed as a result of above Act	3	18	—	—
Number of unlicensed sites in use	4	54	—	—

The position with regard to holiday and residential sites remains much the same as in previous years. Many of the holiday vans are now more spacious and better equipped and well qualify for the term "mobile home".

LAY-BYS — SANITARY CONVENIENCES

The Ministry of Transport pilot scheme for the provision of sanitary conveniences in Somerset along the A38 is now complete, six blocks having been provided. They are in great demand, particularly during the holiday season and it is reputed that upwards of 3,000 people per day use one of the conveniences at Beggars Brook, North Petherton in Bridgwater Rural District.

It is to be hoped that similar provision will now be contemplated along other main holiday routes in the County.

SCHOOL SWIMMING POOLS

It is some fifteen years since the first "do-it-yourself" pool was constructed at Huish Episcopi Secondary School. This raised such interest that within a matter of three years or so, fifteen pools had been constructed elsewhere in the County.

As will be seen from the Table below, the pattern of pool development has been fairly rapid, much to the credit of Parent/Teacher Associations. The Table also shows that very few pools are now without purification plant and it is to be hoped that the number will be further reduced in the not-too-distant future.

Many hundreds of children have benefitted from these pool facilities for it is not only important that children should learn to swim, but they should also have a good knowledge of life-saving techniques. As one Headmaster has stated concerning the "unseen" affects of a pool facility: "I am convinced that the extremely healthy school spirit is attributable in part to the pool's existence, whilst parental interest and support continues to run at a very high level. Apart from the social training involved, an appreciable improvement in standards of cleanliness has also become apparent for the children appreciate the need for 'clean bodies'. Standards of behaviour have also improved and greater respect for property in general is noticeable."

It is apparent that pool projects are becoming more ambitious, with emphasis on the need for overhead cover, but quite obviously much depends not only upon the money available, but also, in the case of existing pools, on location.

The Department maintains a very careful check on the efficiency of water treatment at all school pools and each school is required to submit a weekly return of chlorine residual readings.

The development of school swimming pools over the past few years is given in the following Table:—

Year	PERMANENT POOLS		PORTABLE POOLS	
	With Purification Plant	Without Purification Plant	With Purification Plant	Without Purification Plant
Prior to 1960	2	13	—	—
1960	4	16	—	—
1961	7	19	—	2
1962	9	21	1	2
1963	13	20	1	3
1964	25	15	2	9
1965	29	15	9	10
1966	40	12	17	10
1967	48	11	26	4

NOTE: 3 pools are either under construction or at drawing-board stage.

	Number of Baths		Samples Taken	
	Local Authority	S.C.C. Schools	Bacteriological	
			Satisfactory	Unsatisfactory
Boroughs and Urbans	15	39	) ) 125	6
Rurals	—	51)	

SUPERVISION OVER THE FOOD SUPPLY

SLAUGHTERHOUSES AND MEAT INSPECTION

Details concerning licensed slaughterhouses, meat inspection and weight of meat condemned, are contained in the following Tables.

TABLE 'A'

	Slaughterhouses/Abattoirs in operation owned or leased by Local Authorities	Private Slaughterhouses		Bacon Factories	Knackers Yards
		Licensed	Operating		
Boroughs & Urbans	3	15	15	2*	1
Rurals	—	51	47	1	6
Totals	3	66	62	3	7

- * Includes one optional licence, i.e., may be operated as a slaughterhouse or a bacon factory, although the premises are not at present in use.

TABLE 'B'

	Cattle and Cows	Calves	Sheep and Lambs	Pigs	Total
(1) Number inspected	92,094	48,737	319,441	227,142	687,414
(2) All diseases except tubercu- losis and Cysticerci					
(a) Whole carcasses condemned	682	737	1,659	1,392	4,490
(b) Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	37,899	1,012	34,177	32,289	105,377
(3) Tuberculosis only					
(a) Whole carcasses condemned	3	—	—	5	8
(b) Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	43	—	—	2,484	2,527
(4) Cysticercosis					
(a) Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	273	—	—	—	273
(b) Carcasses submitted to treatment by refrigeration	154	—	—	—	154
(c) Generalised and/or totally condemned	—	—	—	—	—

NOTE: HORSES 1,204 killed; 1,204 inspected

No. 2 above: (a) — 10

No. 2 above: (b) — 217

The total weight of meat condemned during the year amounted to 1,053,276 lbs. of which 12,156 lbs. or 1.2 per cent were affected with Tuberculosis. This is not a complete figure for the County as some authorities were unable to provide this information.

TABLE 'C'

	Meat Condemned — 1967 — lbs. —					
	Cattle and Cows	Calves	Sheep and Lambs	Pigs	Horses	Total
Tuberculosis	1,942	—	—	10,214	—	12,156
Cysticercosis	10,212	—	—	—	—	10,212
Other	672,662	34,562	134,282	182,947	6,455	1,030,908
Totals	684,816	34,562	134,282	193,161	6,455	1,053,276

THE SLAUGHTER OF ANIMALS (PREVENTION OF CRUELTY) REGULATIONS

THE SLAUGHTERHOUSE (HYGIENE) REGULATIONS

By routine inspections and informal action, most authorities would appear to have maintained standards required under the above Regulations. One authority advised the owner of a private slaughterhouse that by default his licence would be terminated at the end of 1967.

ANIMAL BOARDING ESTABLISHMENTS ACT, 1963

Number of premises licensed:

Boroughs and Urbans — 9 Rurals — 50

Inspections of these establishments are being maintained, in some cases in conjunction with local veterinary personnel, in order to ensure that the animals are kept in suitable accommodation and precautions taken to ensure that the licensed premises conform to the requirements of the Act.

POULTRY PACKING AND PROCESSING ESTABLISHMENTS

In 1961, the Ministry of Health published a "Code of Practice" which dealt with the inspection and disposal of suspect birds. It was not intended that every bird should be examined, but the Code was designed to encourage the Industry to maintain a system of grading, any birds considered suspect to be put aside for examination by a qualified inspector or, as an alternative, by a trained member of the Poultry Industry.

In May, 1967, the Slaughter of Poultry Act received the Royal Assent but is not yet operative. The Act provides, apart from securing humane conditions of slaughter, for the making of regulations for the confinement and treatment of turkeys and domestic fowls. It also permits entry of any authorised person to premises where slaughter of poultry is being carried out and will require each Authority to register all premises where poultry are stunned before slaughter. It is understood that discussions have been held on suitable stunning devices.

There are fifteen poultry packing and processing establishments located in Somerset with an approximate weekly kill of some 160,000 birds.

DESIGNATED MILK (RAW)

*MILK PRODUCERS AND PRODUCER-RETAILERS. The following details have been provided by the Divisional Executive Officer of the County Agricultural Executive Committee.

	As at 31st December, 1967
Number of Registered Producers in County ...	4,951
Number of Producers holding Untreated milk licences	207

MILK (SPECIAL DESIGNATION) REGULATIONS, 1963 (as amended)

Details of samples taken from the licensed pasteurising and one sterilising plants during 1966 are set out in Table 'A'.

TABLE 'A'

Licensed Pasteurising Plant Samples

	Number of Samples taken	Number Satisfactory	Sample Failures
Pasteurised			
Bulk	3	3	—
Bottled	345	345	—
	348	348	—
Sterilised	1	1	—

Information concerning samples taken from Producer/Retailers and licensed Dealers appearing in Table 'B' and Table 'C' is a summary of all samples taken, excluding school milk, during 1967. School milk results appear on Page 69.

TABLE 'B'

Licensed Dealers' Samples

	Number of Samples taken	Number Satisfactory	Percentage Unsatisfactory
Pasteurised	1,529	1,441	5.7
Sterilised	12	12	—
Untreated	1,015	892	12.1
Ultra-Heat Treated	2	2	—
Totals	2,558	2,347	8.2

FAILURE TABLE

	Pasteurised Milk	Untreated Milk
(1) Number failing Phosphatase test	4	—
(2) Number failing Methylene Blue test	82	123
(3) Number failing both tests (1) and (2)	2	—

TABLE 'C'

Licensed Pasteurising Plants and Dealers' Samples

(Tables 'A' and 'B')

	Number of Samples taken	Number Satisfactory	Percentage Unsatisfactory
Pasteurised	1,877	1,789	4.6
Sterilised	13	13	—
Untreated	1,015	892	12.1
Ultra-heat Treated	2	2	—
Totals	2,907	2,696	7.3

Dealers licences operative as at 31st December, 1967 are as follows :—

Dealer's (Steriliser's) Licence	1
Dealer's (Pasteuriser's) Licence	13
Dealer's (Untreated) Licence	34
Dealer's (Pre-Packed Milk) Licence	675

In addition to the above, there are a further 207 producers of untreated milk licensed by the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food to retail, many of whom are also licensed by the County Council as Dealers.

Samples taken from these Producer/Retailers are included in the figures in Table 'B' above.

BIOLOGICAL SAMPLING

1,227 samples were examined by the Public Health Laboratory for Brucella of which 14 samples affecting 10 farms were found to show evidence of infectious Brucellosis.

The Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food introduced their voluntary scheme for the Eradication of Brucellosis in May. Unfortunately, the outbreak of Foot and Mouth Disease during the latter part of the year brought to an abrupt halt not only the Ministry's programme, but also the routine sampling of milk from farm premises.

The first stage of the Eradication Scheme is the establishment of a Register of Accredited Herds and, subject to satisfactory veterinary reports on premises and management, herd owners qualify to have tests taken by the Animal Health Division of the Ministry. Dairy herds will have to pass three successive milk ring tests, each to be carried out at intervals of not less than three months — beef herds will also be eligible, subject to certain conditions. After a series of tests and the eradication of infected animals, owners qualify for inclusion on the Register of Accredited Herds. Samples taken by the Department are taken into consideration when assessing the health of an individual herd.

MILK SAMPLING — ANTIBIOTICS

Samples submitted to the County Analyst numbered 447 during the year, of which 6 gave readings indicating the presence of penicillin. Sampling and testing of in-farm milk for penicillin or other inhibitory substances were first introduced to Somerset in 1963 and the results have proved that there is not always strict compliance with the instructions covering the use of antibiotics in the treatment of mastitis, although there has been an improvement during the past twelve months. It is not generally appreciated that penicillin in milk at a level of about 0.05 I.U. per ml. can have adverse effects on certain people who may be, or possibly become, particularly sensitive to antibiotics.

FOOD HYGIENE (GENERAL) REGULATIONS

Food Premises Subject to the Above Regulations

	Number of Premises	Number of Premises Fitted to Comply With Regulation 16 *	Number of Premises to Which Regulation 19† Applies	Number of Premises Fitted to Comply With Regulation 19†
Boroughs & Urbans	2,489	2,348	2,135	2,060
Rurals	2,126	2,121	1,741	1,738
Totals	4,615	4,469	3,876	3,798

* Provision of wash-handbasins

† Facilities for washing food and equipment

ANIMAL HEALTH

The following details have been obtained from the Divisional Veterinary Officer of the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food:—

	As at 31.12.67
(1) Approximate number of Attested Cattle in County	402,994
(2) Number of herds Attested	7,146
(3) Number of mixed herds (beef or dairy cross bred)	1,266
(4) Number of herds (beef)	902

HOSPITAL FARMS

Samples taken on behalf of the Ministry of Health for bacteriological examination from the one remaining hospital farm in the County numbered 6.

MILK-IN-SCHOOLS SCHEME

Details of milk samples taken from schools and other establishments during 1967 are set out in the following Table:-

BACTERIOLOGICAL SAMPLES OF MILK SUPPLIES TO SCHOOLS AND OTHER COUNTY COUNCIL ESTABLISHMENTS IN 1967

	Pasteurised		Untreated		Total	% Unsatisfactory
	Satisfactory	Unsatisfactory	Satisfactory	Unsatisfactory		
Schools	208	9	3	—	220	4.1
Central Kitchens	22	—	—	—	22	—
Self-contained Canteens	32	5	—	—	37	13.5
Residential Nurseries, Day Nurseries and Children's Homes	21	2	14	—	37	5.4
Mental Health Training Centres	5	—	—	—	5	—
County Council Homes	23	1	2	—	26	3.8
	311	17	19	—	347	4.9

ICE-CREAM

	Premises Registered For		
	Manufacture and Retail	Manufacture Only	Retail Only
Boroughs and Urbans	65	2	1,115
Rurals	72	—	1,184
Totals	137	2	2,299

Samples taken by Local Authorities and submitted to the Public Health Laboratories for bacteriological examination have proved generally satisfactory.

SCHOOL MEALS SERVICE

Visits to self-contained canteens and central kitchens were maintained throughout the year in order to examine meat supplied under contract. Two complaints were investigated but generally the quality of the meat supplied was found to be of a high standard.

TABLE 1

CAUSES OF, AND AGES AT, DEATH DURING THE YEAR 1967

Causes of Death	Net deaths at the subjoined ages of "Residents" whether occurring within or without the District											
	All Ages	Under 4 weeks	4 weeks and under 1 year	1 and under 5 years	5 and under 15 years	15 and under 25 years	25 and under 35 years	35 and under 45 years	45 and under 55 years	55 and under 65 years	65 and under 75 years	75 and upwards
Tuberculosis, respiratory ...	13	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	3	5	4
Tuberculosis, other ...	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	1
Syphilitic disease ...	10	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	2	6
Diphtheria ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Whooping Cough ...	1	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Meningococcal infections ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Acute Poliomyelitis ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Measles ...	1	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Other infective and parasitic diseases ...	16	—	1	1	—	—	2	1	—	3	4	4
Malignant neoplasm, stomach ...	146	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	5	32	41	66
Malignant neoplasm, lung, bronchus ...	251	—	—	—	—	—	—	12	16	85	102	36
Malignant neoplasm, breast ...	126	—	—	—	—	—	1	8	23	30	33	31
Malignant neoplasm, uterus ...	48	—	—	—	—	—	—	4	5	11	16	12
Other malignant and lymphatic neoplasms ...	704	—	1	—	2	9	2	19	64	140	224	243
Leukaemia, aleukaemia ...	45	—	1	—	6	1	—	3	2	14	11	7
Diabetes ...	57	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	3	9	19	24
Vascular lesions of nervous system ...	1,074	—	—	—	—	—	1	7	5	102	260	679
Coronary disease, angina... ..	1,421	—	—	—	—	—	—	13	80	247	467	614
Hypertension with heart disease ...	103	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	12	31	59
Other heart disease ...	735	—	—	—	—	1	2	2	11	45	116	558
Other circulatory disease ...	385	—	—	—	—	1	1	6	13	28	79	257
Influenza ...	10	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	3	4
Pneumonia ...	409	2	17	7	—	—	—	1	7	30	76	269
Bronchitis ...	249	—	3	1	2	1	—	6	4	45	85	102
Other disease of respiratory system ...	84	—	—	1	1	—	—	—	2	14	26	40
Ulcer of stomach and duodenum ...	45	—	—	—	1	—	—	2	1	4	19	18
Gastritis, enteritis and diarrhoea ...	40	—	1	1	—	1	—	1	2	3	14	17
Nephritis and neophrosis ...	34	—	—	1	1	—	3	3	3	8	7	8
Hyperplasia of prostate ...	31	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	8	22
Pregnancy, Childbirth and abortion ...	2	—	—	—	—	1	1	—	—	—	—	—
Congenital malformations ...	58	21	15	4	5	2	2	1	4	2	1	1
Other defined and ill-defined diseases ...	489	52	6	6	4	6	5	14	30	66	86	214
Motor vehicle accidents ...	70	—	—	1	5	21	5	6	6	16	6	4
All other accidents ...	81	—	2	1	4	7	3	6	9	8	12	29
Suicide ...	56	—	—	—	—	2	4	7	15	16	9	3
Homicide and operations of war ...	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	1	—	—
All Causes ...	6,798	75	51	24	31	53	33	126	313	988	1,762	3,332

TABLE 2 CAUSES OF DEATH AT ALL AGES IN EACH DISTRICT DURING THE YEAR 1967
URBAN DISTRICTS

Causes of Death	Bridgwater	Burnham	Chard	Clevedon	Crewkerne	Frome	Glastonbury	Ilminster	Keynsham	Minehead	Norton-Radstock	Portishead	Shepton Mallet	Street	Taunton	Watchet	Wellington	Wells	Weston-super-Mare	Yeovil	TOTAL (Urban Districts)
Tuberculosis, respiratory	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	1	—	—	—	1	—	—	1	3	—	8
Tuberculosis, other ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Syphilitic disease ...	1	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	3	—	6
Diphtheria ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Whooping Cough ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Meningococcal infection	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Acute Poliomyelitis	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Measles ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Other infective and parasitic diseases ...	—	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	1	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	7
Malignant neoplasm, stomach ...	8	7	5	6	—	5	1	—	7	6	3	1	—	—	7	2	3	3	14	6	84
Malignant neoplasm, lung, bronchus ...	13	10	5	3	4	8	4	—	5	8	9	2	1	3	20	2	3	2	28	5	135
Malignant neoplasm, breast ...	5	10	2	4	2	1	3	—	1	4	1	1	—	2	6	—	2	4	22	3	73
Malignant neoplasm, uterus ...	3	—	—	1	—	2	—	—	2	6	1	1	—	1	5	—	—	1	3	1	27
Other malignant and lymphatic neoplasma	34	24	8	12	8	15	4	—	15	9	16	10	10	6	49	2	9	12	83	21	347
Leukaemia, aleukaemia	—	—	1	1	3	2	1	—	1	1	—	—	—	1	1	1	—	2	9	1	25
Diabetes ...	6	3	1	1	—	1	—	—	1	—	1	1	1	—	2	—	—	—	3	2	23
Vascular lesions of nervous system ...	48	42	20	58	13	21	8	4	26	31	17	13	12	16	58	7	21	25	102	64	606
Coronary disease, angina	68	44	16	69	17	42	19	5	48	24	21	14	12	12	89	9	14	23	149	67	762
Hypertension with heart disease ...	3	1	6	—	1	4	—	—	3	2	1	2	1	1	6	1	4	1	13	4	54
Other heart disease ...	40	14	18	17	4	27	14	2	8	11	7	7	7	3	31	4	6	17	93	31	361
Other circulatory disease	30	20	—	8	2	12	—	—	3	9	4	7	10	5	30	4	8	2	33	17	204
Influenza ...	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	3
Pneumonia ...	26	1	5	14	4	12	5	2	4	8	7	6	3	4	44	1	6	6	32	22	212
Bronchitis ...	13	13	2	4	6	1	3	—	7	7	15	4	3	1	17	1	—	3	28	10	138
Other disease of respi- ratory system ...	4	1	—	7	1	—	1	—	3	—	10	—	1	—	4	—	2	—	6	4	44
Ulcer of stomach and duodenum ...	3	—	—	4	—	4	1	1	—	—	1	1	—	—	2	—	1	1	7	4	30
Gastritis, enteritis and diarrhoea ...	2	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	1	2	—	1	1	3	—	1	1	7	3	23
Nephritis and nephrosis	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	3	—	2	—	—	—	1	—	—	1	11	2	23
Hyperplasia of prostate	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	2	—	—	—	—	1	—	1	1	3	3	15
Pregnancy, Childbirth and abortion ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Congenital malformation	1	4	—	3	2	3	—	—	3	1	—	—	—	2	1	—	1	1	7	4	33
Other defined and ill- defined diseases ...	23	11	10	14	3	16	3	1	9	11	19	4	6	3	32	3	6	23	37	15	249
Motor vehicle accidents	7	1	—	2	—	3	3	—	2	1	4	1	—	1	3	—	1	—	4	—	33
All other accidents ...	6	2	1	1	—	1	2	—	1	1	3	—	—	—	5	—	1	—	12	3	39
Suicide ...	10	2	—	1	—	—	—	—	3	—	1	—	1	—	3	—	—	1	5	7	34
Homicide and operations of war ...	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
All Causes ...	360	211	102	230	70	183	72	16	160	143	149	75	70	62	421	37	90	131	718	299	3,599

TABLE 3 CAUSES OF DEATH AT ALL AGES IN EACH DISTRICT DURING THE YEAR 1967
RURAL DISTRICTS

Causes of Death	Axbridge	Bathavon	Bridgwater	Chard	Clutton	Dulverton	Frome	Langport	Long Ashton	Shepton Mallet	Taunton	Wellington	Wells	Williton	Wincanton	Yeovil	TOTAL (Rural Districts)	COUNTY TOTAL
tuberculosis, respiratory	—	—	1	1	—	—	—	—	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	1	5	13
tuberculosis, other ...	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	2	2
syphilitic disease ...	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	4	10
diphtheria ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
whooping Cough ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	1	1
meningococcal infections	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
acute Poliomyelitis ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
measles ...	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1
other infective and parasitic diseases ...	2	—	—	2	1	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	1	—	2	—	9	16
malignant neoplasm, stomach	4	4	7	6	5	—	—	1	9	2	6	—	2	6	1	9	62	146
malignant neoplasm, lung,																		
bronchus ...	14	7	11	6	11	3	3	5	18	5	4	1	5	3	12	8	116	251
malignant neoplasm, breast	6	4	6	1	2	1	3	6	7	—	5	3	1	4	2	2	53	126
malignant neoplasm, uterus	2	1	3	1	1	2	1	1	—	—	4	1	1	1	2	—	21	48
other malignant and lymphatic neoplasms ...	40	19	21	18	17	4	13	23	37	14	40	12	14	21	16	48	357	704
leukaemia, aleukaemia	3	3	2	1	—	—	—	—	3	—	—	—	2	—	3	3	20	45
diabetes ...	1	2	2	2	5	—	—	1	5	1	2	1	3	4	3	2	34	57
vascular lesions of nervous system ...	67	22	33	23	29	4	10	20	49	11	43	9	25	33	49	41	468	1,074
coronary disease, angina	79	56	52	20	36	5	22	56	72	19	57	17	28	35	47	58	659	1,421
hypertension with heart disease ...	11	2	5	4	1	—	—	1	—	3	5	3	1	5	5	3	49	103
other heart disease ...	44	19	25	15	32	3	14	24	31	16	43	10	34	17	30	17	374	735
other circulatory disease	21	5	21	8	11	2	4	8	19	5	11	10	6	15	17	18	181	385
influenza ...	1	—	1	2	—	—	2	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	7	10
pneumonia ...	14	10	8	6	10	2	8	6	28	5	22	10	20	11	21	16	197	409
bronchitis ...	7	12	6	1	15	4	5	5	9	3	12	5	3	11	8	5	111	249
other disease of respiratory system ...	6	2	4	—	4	—	3	1	3	4	3	2	—	2	3	3	40	84
cancer of stomach and duodenum ...	—	1	2	1	2	—	—	—	—	3	3	2	—	—	1	—	15	45
gastritis, enteritis and diarrhoea ...	2	—	1	3	1	1	1	2	3	—	—	1	1	—	—	1	17	40
nephritis and nephrosis	1	—	1	—	2	1	1	—	2	—	—	—	1	2	—	—	11	34
hyperplasia of prostate	1	1	—	—	—	1	1	1	3	—	2	—	2	1	2	1	16	31
pregnancy, Childbirth and abortion ...	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	2	2
congenital malformation	4	3	2	—	1	1	4	1	2	—	1	1	—	2	2	1	25	58
other defined and ill-defined diseases ...	30	4	15	5	18	5	3	10	30	8	33	12	9	28	13	17	240	489
motor vehicle accidents	2	2	2	—	4	—	2	3	2	2	5	—	3	—	2	8	37	70
other accidents ...	4	2	1	—	—	3	3	4	8	1	3	1	6	—	2	4	42	81
suicide ...	6	—	2	3	—	—	—	2	4	—	1	—	1	1	1	1	22	56
homicide and operations of war ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	2
causes ...	373	183	234	129	209	42	104	184	346	103	306	101	172	202	244	267	3,199	6,798

TABLE 4

TABLE SHOWING, FOR EACH URBAN DISTRICT, THE NUMBER OF BIRTHS, AND DEATHS, THE NUMBER OF DEATHS OF INFANTS, ALSO THE BIRTH RATE, DEATH RATE, AND RATE OF INFANTILE MORTALITY

Urban Districts	Live Births	Still Births	Deaths	Deaths under 1 year	Population	Crude Birth Rate	Adjusted Birth Rate	Crude Death Rate	Adjusted Death Rate	Infantile Mortality Rate
Bridgwater ...	500	12	360	4	26,580	18.8	18.4	13.5	12.7	8
Burnham ...	134	5	211	4	11,180	12.0	15.2	18.9	11.5	30
Chard ...	114	2	102	1	6,910	16.5	18.5	14.8	9.9	9
Clevedon ...	219	4	230	7	12,790	17.1	23.3	18.0	9.0	32
Crewkerne ...	69	—	70	1	4,560	15.1	18.3	15.4	14.0	14
Frome ...	255	5	183	6	11,980	21.3	23.2	15.3	11.5	24
Glastonbury ...	103	—	72	—	6,220	16.6	18.1	11.6	11.1	0
Ilminster ...	45	1	16	—	2,810	16.0	15.7	5.7	5.6	0
Keynsham ...	246	3	160	4	17,190	14.3	14.0	9.3	9.9	16
Minehead ...	87	—	143	—	7,420	11.7	15.8	19.3	9.5	0
Norton-Radstock	320	2	149	2	14,040	22.8	23.5	10.6	11.0	6
Portishead ...	133	—	75	2	7,490	17.8	19.6	10.0	11.3	15
Shepton Mallet...	95	1	70	—	5,840	16.3	17.1	12.0	10.1	0
Street ...	141	1	62	2	7,550	18.7	18.1	8.2	8.9	14
Taunton ...	580	8	421	7	37,180	15.6	15.9	11.3	10.5	12
Watchet ...	53	1	37	—	2,600	20.4	23.5	14.2	12.8	0
Wellington ...	103	—	90	1	8,060	12.8	14.6	11.2	7.9	10
Wells ...	129	1	131	3	7,620	16.9	17.9	17.2	10.1	23
Weston-super-Mare	680	15	718	8	44,170	15.4	18.3	16.3	10.4	12
Yeovil ...	351	3	299	3	25,450	13.8	14.6	11.7	10.3	9
TOTAL of Urban Districts	4,357	64	3,599	55	267,640	16.3	17.8	13.4	10.4	13

TABLE 6

NOTIFICATION OF INFECTIOUS DISEASES

	Measles	Scarlet Fever	Puerperal Pyrexia	Meningococcal Infection	Dysentery	Whooping Cough	Pneumonia	Poliomyelitis	Erysipelas	Food Poisoning	Tuberculosis - Pulmonary	Tuberculosis - Non-Pulmonary	Typhoid Fever	Enteric and Paratyphoid Fever	Acute Encephalitis	Anthrax	Chicken Pox	Ophthalmia Neonatorum	Diphtheria
URBAN DISTRICTS																			
Bridgwater ...	397	3	2	-	1	15	-	-	-	3	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	2	-
Burnham ...	147	1	-	-	-	3	-	-	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Chard ...	82	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Clevedon ...	236	3	-	-	-	10	-	-	1	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Crewkerne ...	10	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Frome ...	184	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	4	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Glastonbury ...	135	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Ilminster ...	9	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Keynsham ...	242	-	-	-	1	4	-	-	1	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Minehead ...	98	1	-	-	-	1	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-
Norton-Radstock ...	346	-	-	-	2	2	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Portishead ...	93	-	-	-	24	2	1	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Shepton Mallet ...	16	-	1	-	-	6	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Street ...	261	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Taunton ...	197	5	1	1	2	1	8	-	2	2	3	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Watchet ...	80	1	-	-	-	5	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Wellington ...	210	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Wells ...	190	-	-	-	4	6	-	-	-	-	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Weston-super-Mare...	511	22	-	-	-	29	4	-	1	-	6	2	-	-	-	-	-	?	-
Yeovil ...	67	5	2	-	-	-	-	-	3	-	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
RURAL DISTRICTS																			
Axbridge ...	571	13	-	1	-	4	2	-	4	3	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Bathavon ...	303	16	1	-	13	7	1	-	-	3	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Bridgwater ...	348	1	1	-	1	10	4	-	2	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Chard ...	104	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Clutton ...	192	1	1	-	16	1	-	-	3	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Dulverton ...	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Frome ...	96	3	-	-	-	3	-	-	1	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Langport ...	294	2	-	-	-	12	12	-	-	1	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Long Ashton ...	850	22	2	-	23	34	3	-	2	14	2	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Shepton Mallet ...	203	6	-	-	-	5	1	-	-	-	2	1	-	-	-	-	-	1	-
Taunton ...	129	5	13	-	-	7	2	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Wellington ...	84	1	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Wells ...	207	-	-	-	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Williton ...	405	-	-	-	1	3	-	-	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Wincanton ...	215	1	-	-	5	17	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Yeovil ...	470	3	1	-	-	15	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Urban Districts ...	3,511	41	7	1	34	84	14	-	9	14	15	8	-	1	-	-	-	4	-
Rural Districts ...	4,474	74	19	1	60	120	28	-	15	27	11	4	-	-	-	-	-	1	-
Administrative County	7,985	115	26	2	94	204	42	-	24	41	26	12	-	1	-	-	-	5	-
Comparative Figures for 1966 ...	3,955	103	30	4	53	100	61	2	20	23	59	11	1	1	-	1	-	4	1