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BOROUGH OF STAMFORD

ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

AND THE

PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR

FOR THE

YEAR, 1969



B O R O U G H O F S T A M F O R D

HEALTH COMMITTEE

Alderman G. W. Gray (Chairman)
The Mayor (ex-officio)
Councillor Mrs. M. Nicholls (Vice-Chairman)
Councillor G. N. Riley
Councillor A. T. Brodie
Councillor A. J. Gray
Councillor D. J. Joyce
Councillor F. H. Ladds
Councillor D. W. H. Brabyn
Councillor K. G. Harris
Councillor Mrs. W. E. Smith

HOUSING AND PROPERTY COMMITTEE

Councillor A. T. Brodie (Chairman)
The Mayor (ex-officio)
Councillor T. D. Fitzpatrick (Vice-Chairman)
Alderman G. C. Swanson
Alderman A. L. Nichols
Alderman Mrs. G. M. Boyfield, J.P.
Alderman G. W. Gray
Councillor H. E. Burney
Councillor F. H. Ladds
Councillor S. C. Parry
Councillor Mrs. M. Nicholls
Councillor K. G. Harris

TOWN CLERK:

H. BEDFORD, ESQ., Solicitor

PUBLIC HEALTH OFFICERS

Medical Officer of Health:

H. ELLIS SMITH, M.B., B.Ch., D.P.H.

Town Hall, Stamford, Lincs. Tel: 4444, Ext. 52

Public Health Inspector:

G. FOX, M.A.P.H.I.

Town Hall, Stamford, Lincs. Tel: 4444, Ext. 53

Pupil Public Health Inspector

N. HIBBETT

(resigned 31st October, 1969)

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BOROUGH OF STAMFORD

Annual Report of the Medical Officer of Health for the Year 1969

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To the Mayor, Alderman and Councillors
of the Borough of Stamford

Mr. Mayor, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to present my sixteenth Annual Report on the Vital Statistics, Health and Living Conditions of the Borough.

STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS

Area in Acres	...	...	...	...	...	...	1918
Population (Census 1962)	...	...	...	...	...	...	11,743
Population (Registrar General's estimate 31.12.69)	...	...	...	...	...	...	14,000
Rateable Value	...	...	...	...	...	...	£500,346
Product of Penny Rate	...	...	...	...	...	...	£1,960
Number of inhabited houses	...	...	...	...	...	...	4720

Vital Statistics for the year 1969

Note: Birth and Death Rates

As the age and sex distribution of the population in different areas materially affects both the Birth and Death rates of these areas comparability factors allowing for this are issued by the Registrar General for each Local Government Unit. These factors may be used for calculating what are termed in this Report as "Net" rates and fairer comparisons are obtained if the latter are used when comparing rates with those of any other area (when these have been similarly adjusted) or with the rates for the Country as a whole.

These factors for Births and Deaths in respect of Stamford are 1.05 and 0.80 respectively. The corresponding figure when multiplied by the Crude Rate (that is, for Births or Deaths as the case may be) will give the Net Rate.

The area comparability factors contain adjustments for boundary changes and make allowances for the way in which the sex and age distribution of the local population differs from that for England and Wales as a whole. In addition, the death area comparability factors have been adjusted specifically to take account of the presence of any residential institutions in each area.

					<u>M</u>	<u>F</u>	<u>TOTAL</u>
Total Live Births	...	...	...	...	123	116	239
Legitimate	...	...	...	...	115	112	227
Illegitimate	...	...	...	...	8	4	12
Crude Live Birth Rate per 1,000 of estimated population							- 17.1
Net Live Birth Rate per 1,000 of estimated population							- 18.0
Rate for England and Wales							- 16.3
Illegitimate Live Births per cent of Total Live Births							- 5.0

					<u>M</u>	<u>F</u>	<u>TOTAL</u>
Stillbirths	-	-	NIL
Legitimate	-	-	NIL
Illegitimate	-	-	NIL
Total Live and Still Births			- 239
Still Birth Rate per 1,000 Live and Still Births							- NIL
Rate for England and Wales							- 13.0

					<u>M</u>	<u>F</u>	<u>TOTAL</u>
Deaths	...	...	...	...	101	103	204
Crude Death Rate per 1,000 of estimated population							- 14.6
Net Death Rate per 1,000 of estimated population							- 8.0
Rate for England and Wales							- 11.9
Natural increase, i.e. Excess of Live Births over Deaths							- 35

Infantile Mortality - Deaths of Infants under one year

					<u>M</u>	<u>F</u>	<u>TOTAL</u>
Number of Deaths	...	...	...	...	3	1	4
Legitimate	...	...	...	...	3	1	4
Illegitimate	...	...	...	...	-	-	-
Infantile Mortality Rate per 1,000 Live Births							- 17.0
Rate for England and Wales							- 18.0
The number of deaths of infants under one year of age							- 4
It was 2 in 1967 and 3 in 1968.							
Infantile Mortality Rate per 1,000 Legitimate Live Births							- 18.0
Infantile Mortality Rate per 1,000 Illegitimate Live Births							NIL

					<u>M</u>	<u>F</u>	<u>TOTAL</u>
Neo-Natal Mortality i.e. Deaths of infants							
under four weeks of age					1	1	2
Neo-Natal Mortality Rate per 1,000 Live Births							- 8.0
Rate for England and Wales							- 12.0

	<u>M</u>	<u>F</u>	<u>TOTAL</u>
Early Neo-Natal Deaths i.e. Deaths of infants under one week of age	1	1	2
Early Neo-Natal Mortality Rate per 1,000 Live Births			- 8.0
Rate for England and Wales			- 10.0
Peri-Natal Deaths			- 2
Peri-Natal Mortality Rate (i.e. Still Births and Deaths under one week combined) per 1,000 total Live and Still Births			- 8.0
Rate for England and Wales			23.0

There was no case of Maternal Death i.e. a death due to Pregnancy, Childbirth or Abortion.

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MARRIAGES SOLEMNISED IN THE BOROUGH OF STAMFORD

1966	115
1967	103
1968	120
1969	113

The trend to embark on the matrimonial seas at ever younger ages continues. How soon will "My Spouse" become a topic of conversation in the Sixth Form Common Room?

The live birth rate at eighteen was more favourable than the National figure of 16.3 which latter again showed the same downward swing of the previous year.

No still births occurred this year. The last occasion upon which this happened was in 1966.

A total of twelve illegitimate births (5 per cent of the total live births) was one up on the previous year but is still well below the National average of 8.5 per cent. Nonetheless it must be remembered that even in these permissive days those born without the security of two parents and a secure home start life under a big handicap.

The Death rate on the Borough was 8.0 per thousand compared with 11.9 for the Country as a whole but this favourable figure was only arrived at after the use of the comparability factor. This makes allowance for our relatively high proportion of elderly residents. The composition of the town's population is however gradually coming

closer to the National Cross Section as the factor for births is now close to unity and that for deaths has improved to 0.80 this year from the 0.68 of the previous year.

The Infantile Mortality rate for England and Wales at 18 per thousand live births has only once been equalled and never improved upon. Stamford was one point better than this.

The causes of the infantile deaths were:

1. Male, aged 4 months - Asphyxia.
Accidental.
2. Female, aged 1 day - Congestive Cardiac Failure
Haemolytic Disease of the newborn
Prematurity (34 weeks gestation)
3. Male, aged 2 months - Meningitis
4. Male, aged 3 days - Respiratory Distress Syndrome
Prematurity
Anaemia

Peri-Natal Mortality is in many ways the most significant of all the Infantile Mortality statistics in assessing our obstetric and paediatric skills and achievements. The figure for Stamford was eight compared with the National average of twenty-three.

All of these Vital Statistics point to the favourable experiences of those who dwell here and they also pay tribute to the high standards of child care which the mothers of the town bestow upon their children.

It must however be constantly borne in mind that with the relatively small population of 14,000 a slight variation in the number of births and deaths recorded can cause a big swing in the rates. It is perhaps more valuable to assess the trends over five year periods and on this criterion also the State of Borough is a favourable one.

The natural increase, that is excess of births over deaths, was thirty-five this year compared with sixty-two in 1968. On to this however must be added the considerable influx of population, mostly in the younger age groups, which augers well for the future and the vitality of Stamford.

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The statistics from the Registrar General's Office on which these are based were three weeks later than usual this year. The introduction of computers showed once again their limitations!

CAUSES OF DEATH TABLE

	<u>M</u>	<u>F</u>	<u>TOTAL</u>
Tuberculosis, respiratory	-	1	1
Tuberculosis, other	1	-	1
Malignant Neoplasm, Oesophagus ...	-	1	1
Malignant Neoplasm, Stomach ...	2	4	6
Malignant Neoplasm, Intestine ...	4	5	9
Malignant Neoplasm, lung, bronchus	8	-	8
Malignant Neoplasm, Breast	-	6	6
Malignant Neoplasm, Uterus	-	3	3
Malignant Neoplasm, Prostate ...	5	-	5
Leukaemia and Aleukaemia	-	-	-
Other Malignant Neoplasms	4	7	11
Diabetes Mellitus	1	5	6
Anaemias	-	1	1
Other diseases of the blood ..	1	-	1
Other diseases of the nervous system	-	2	2
Ischaemic Heart Disease	20	13	33
Hypertensive Disease	4	2	6
Chronic Rheumatic Heart Disease ...	-	2	2
Other Heart Disease	4	6	10
Other Circulatory Disease	10	4	14
Cerebro Vascular Disease	12	18	30
Influenza	2	1	3
Pneumonia	3	8	11
Bronchitis and Emphysema	6	5	11
Asthma	1	-	1
Other diseases of the respiratory system	1	3	4
Intestinal obstruction and Hernia ..	1	1	2
Other diseases of the Digestive system	-	2	2
Nephritis and Nephrosis	1	1	2
Hyperplasia of prostate	2	-	2
Diseases of the Musculo-skeletal system	1	-	1
Pregnancy, childbirth, abortion ...	-	-	-
Congenital anomalies	1	-	1
Birth injury, difficult labour ...	1	-	1
Other causes of perinatal mortality	-	1	1
Motor vehicle accidents	2	1	3
All other accidents	1	-	1
Suicide	2	-	2
TOTALS	101	103	204

Diseases of the Cardio-Vascular System were again at the head of the causes of death claiming ninety-five and of these thirty-three or nearly a third were due to Coronary Heart Disease, with "strokes" accounting for about a third also. Fifty-two of those who succumbed to cardio-vascular accidents were in the seventy-five years and over age group which indicates that the main underlying factor is that of the general and arterial degenerative processes of ageing. At the present time much research is being done into the factors which cause this degeneration and what can be done to slow it down. Meantime the adoption of healthy living habits with a balance between work and play, with regular exercise and moderation in all things, particularly at the flesh pots, is the best assurance of healthy arteries.

Malignant Growths returned to an unenviable second place in the death tables, being responsible for forty-nine, and of these eight males were afflicted by cancer of the lung. The association between this disease and cigarette smoking is now too well known to warrant further elaboration here.

Diseases of the respiratory system took third place on the list with thirty, of which pneumonia and bronchitis accounted for eleven each. The former was associated with the high influenzal incidence at the end of the year and bore particularly heavily on the over seventy-five years group.

The Bronchitis figure is high in an area in which air pollution is minimal from large industrial works and where the incidence of "English Disease" would not be expected to be a high one. Here again there are strong indications that the cigarette plays a big part. In the Country as a whole three fifths of the men still smoke. It is furthermore estimated by the Chief Medical Officer, Ministry of Health and Social Security that one seventh of the total deaths and one fifth of the total sickness are due to cigarettes. The Treasury nonetheless benefitted by a tax levy of £1143 million on this part of the Nation's drug bill last year. Should they worry?

Six deaths from cancer of the breast is a reminder that this is the commonest form of cancer in the female. Exfoliative cytology is an excellent screening procedure and should reduce mortality from cancer of the cervix to a very low figure. No less important is regular self examination of the breasts by women over forty years of age. This is a simple and easily learnt technique and is not in the least likely to cause hypochondria as some have alleged. It is instead the best way of detecting trouble at a very early stage when it is most easily treated.

Four deaths were due to accidents and of these three were on the road in vehicle crashes. The fourth involved a four months old

infant who smothered himself in his cot - the Verdict being accidental asphyxia.

There were two suicides, one by hanging and one by carbon monoxide gas poisoning. These two added to the rising incidence of suicide and attempted suicide. This has in fact increased by six times in the past six years and indicates that all the materialistic standards and benefits of an affluent society are no antidote to emotional problems. All too many, finding no answer to their needs, take this tragic way out of their troubles. We still have a lot to learn.

One hundred and twelve of the deaths were in persons aged seventy-five years of age or over, being fifty-five per cent. Longevity is now the experience of the majority and all social and house planning should take note of this fact.

This service has now been carrying on its humanitarian work for a full two decades. It originated as a service to the expectant and nursing mother, but this aspect has largely been superseded in providing for the needs of the elderly, the disabled and those in social need. It permits the elderly to remain in comfort in their own homes long after they would otherwise be forced into welfare homes or hospital by the disabilities of age. It takes the ordinary family over a domestic crisis and keeps the Problem Family from disruption. The living testimony to its effectiveness is the number of homes tenanted by elderly single individuals and the families which have been saved from social disintegration through its efforts. It is difficult now to imagine that what did happen prior to the Home Help's appearance on the scene.

Eighteen Home Help's are employed for work in the Borough and on average there are thirty cases on the books at any one time of which eighty-four are elderly persons.

One Good Watchdog is also available to provide supportive help to others living within the vicinity of her own home.

Welfare Books

Welfare Books can be obtained from the Barn Hill Clinic at the following times:
Monday to Friday
1.30 p.m. - 5.15 p.m.
8.45 a.m. - 12.30 p.m.

GENERAL PROVISIONS OF HEALTH SERVICES IN THE AREA

Nursing in the Home

Under the County Council Scheme the Borough has one District Midwife, Miss Morris, Residence: Drift Road, Stamford. Telephone: Stamford 3591. She is relieved by Mrs. Ludlow, District Nurse-Midwife, 71, Empingham Road, Stamford. Telephone: Stamford 3700. There is also a part time District Nurse/Midwife, Mrs. Calaby, 26, Hambleton Road and Mrs. Rumbelow, Carpenter's Lodge, Burghley Park, who does District Nursing duties only.

Home Helps

Home Helps are provided for the Town of Stamford and the neighbouring area of South Kesteven by the County Health Department. Application should be made to Mrs. I. M. Pepper, District Home Help Organiser, Barn Hill Clinic, Stamford.

Monday to	-	8.45 a.m.	-	12.30 p.m.
Friday		1.30 p.m.	-	5.15 p.m.

This service has now been carrying on its humanitarian work for a full two decades. It originated as a service to the expectant and nursing mother, but this aspect has largely been superseded in providing for the needs of the elderly, the disabled and those in social need. It permits the elderly to remain in comfort in their own homes long after they would otherwise be forced into welfare homes or hospital by the disabilities of age. It tides the ordinary family over a domestic crisis and keeps the Problem Family from disruption. The living testimony to its achievement lies in the number of homes tenanted by elderly single individuals and the families which have been saved from social disintegration through its efforts. It is difficult now to imagine just what did happen prior to the Home Helps appearance on the scene.

Eighteen Home Helps are employed for work in the Borough and on average there are ninety cases on the books at any one time, of which eighty-four are elderly persons.

One Good Neighbour is also available to provide supportive help to others living within the vicinity of her own home.

Welfare Foods

Welfare Foods can be obtained from the Barn Hill Clinic at the following times:

Monday to	-	8.45 a.m.	-	12.30 p.m.
Friday		1.30 p.m.	-	5.15 p.m.

Health Visitors

For most of the year Miss Hetherington, Stamford's Health Visitor had to cover not only the Borough but also the Bourne and South Kesteven area for all the specialised Health Visitor duties. Later in the year with the filling of a similar post in Bourne her burden was eased in that direction but the demands for Tuberculosis investigation and After Care work, the support of Problem Families, visiting the aged and allied socio-medical work are insistent and demanding of every available moment and all the enthusiasm which she brings to them. Mrs. Stevenson, S.R.N. also assists ably in the work both in the Clinic and in the domiciliary sphere.

Mental Welfare

Mr. H. S. Townsend, Mental Welfare Officer, provides the link between the Family Doctor, the mentally ill patient and the Hospital Service. He also carries out the statutory duties laid down in the Mental Welfare Act of 1959 and does preventive work in this field, covering the Stamford Area. Telephone No. Stamford 2906. Home Telephone No. Bourne 2983. The work in this section has shown a definite increase during the year.

Ambulance Service

This service is a County Council directly controlled one. There are three ambulances and one sitting case car with District Headquarters at Ryhall Road, Stamford. Telephone No. Stamford 2379.

Hospitals

Stamford and Rutland Hospital, Stamford, provides full facilities for general medical, surgical and maternity patients.

Geriatric patients and the more chronic sick are admitted to St. George's Hospital, Stamford.

Patients with diseases of the chest are catered for at the Chest Hospital, Bourne, and Clinics are also held at the Stamford Hospital.

Persons suffering from infectious diseases, requiring in-patient treatment are admitted to the Peterborough Isolation Hospital.

All these Hospitals are controlled by the East Anglian Regional Hospital Board.

The services to the mentally disordered patient are provided by the Sheffield Regional Hospital Board based on the Hamston Hall and Rauceby Hospitals.

TREATMENT CENTRES AND CLINICS

(a) PROVIDED BY KESTEVEN COUNTY COUNCIL

Child Welfare

Weekly Clinic, - Friday 10 a.m. - 12 noon (Minor ailment and
Barn Hill House, infant welfare)
Stamford. 2 p.m. - 4 p.m. (Infant Welfare)
First and
third Mondays 2 p.m. - 4 p.m. (Infant Welfare)

This is staffed by a Health Visitor and a State Registered Nurse. The doctor attends each Friday morning and on the first, third and fifth Friday afternoons, and also on the third Monday afternoon. The average attendance at these Clinics was 115 which though a slight reduction on the previous year is still much too high to be desirable from either the staff or attenders point of view. It was to try and reduce this overcrowding that two Monday clinics were commenced in the Autumn and they have proved to be well attended, and yet the average has only fallen by four from the previous year's figure. The total attendance for the year was 6441, the highest ever figure. More than ever necessary are the long proposed extensions to the Barn Hill House premises for the activities there have far outstripped the available accommodation. Five years ago the attendance for the year was 4696 - up by 37 per cent, but there is even less space now than there was then due to increased demands for storage space and other commitments. Nurses taking Midwifery courses at the Hospital and one on the District attend regularly as part of their training.

It seems the interval between school leaving and coming to the clinic with their first born is becoming even shorter. With the raising of the school leaving age doubtless the time will come when they will overlap! Meantime these very young mothers seem to cope with their maternal responsibilities in a very praiseworthy way in most instances.

Mrs. Grundy and her dedicated band of voluntary helpers render most valuable services on Friday afternoons, making available a wide range of Infant Foods and food supplements. They also help with the record keeping and do so much to create a happy social atmosphere for the mothers attending the Clinic and awaiting their turn. Their enthusiasm remains undeterred by season or weather and we are much indebted to them for all they do.

No case of phenylketonurea was found during the year. There is a probability that the urine test will be superseded by the Guthrie Blood test. Whether the extra trauma involved for all babies is justifiable in pursuit of the very low incidence of the disease in the

first instance and the few which are missed by the simpler screening method is a moot point.

Diphtheria Immunisation

A Diphtheria Immunisation Clinic is held at Barn Hill House, Stamford on the first Wednesday of each month from 2 p.m. to 4 p.m. Immunisation is also available at the Friday morning and the Monday and Friday afternoon clinics if requested.

Numbers immunised during the year:

	1969	1968
Primary Protection	74	175
Reinforcing Protection	437	424
	<u>511</u>	<u>599</u>

The apparent fall in the primary protection was due to the change in schedule from injections at the fourth, fifth and sixth months to the sixth, eighth and twelfth months, thus prolonging the period over which immunisation is taking place. The statistics in 1970 should be back to the normal again.

In addition the following children living outside the Borough and the County were immunised:

	1969	1968
Primary Protection	7	18
Reinforcing Protection	46	65
	<u>53</u>	<u>83</u>

122 children were immunised by the Family Doctors, 40 for Primary Courses and 82 for Reinforcing protection.

Help at the Barn Hill Immunisation Clinic has again been given by Mlle. Dauzou and Mrs. Broughton of the British Red Cross Society to whom I would like to express sincere thanks.

School Health Service Clinic

This is situated at Barn Hill, Stamford, providing Ophthalmic, Physiotherapy and Speech Therapy Clinics. A minor ailment clinic is held from 9 a.m. to 10 a.m. on weekdays and is attended by a State Registered Nurse.

School Dental Service

During the year, all the children attending primary schools were dentally inspected. A total of 2760 inspections were made and 1220 were found to need treatment. 1687 were inspected for the first time and of these 682 were found in need of treatment. A total of 1118 courses of treatment were completed during the year. The ratio of fillings to extractions was two to one.

Marginally fewer permanent teeth were extracted this year by comparison with 1968 but twenty-five per cent fewer deciduous teeth were extracted in the School Age groups.

Nineteen orthodontic cases were treated and twenty-two dental appliances were fitted. During the period, 383 sessions were devoted to treatment and 58 to inspections. There was no formal Dental Health Education this year but chairside opportunities were grasped to further dental health. It is of much regret that after building up this Service following a long hiatus in it that Mr. Parsons should be now leaving to enter private practice.

Mothercraft Classes

These are held on Tuesday afternoons and are primarily intended for women expecting their first baby. The course consists of eight lectures covering ante natal care, preparation for confinement and infant care. Relaxation exercises are also taught, films are shown and the occasion is made an enjoyably social one. The Club was run by Miss M. Hetherington, S.R.N., S.C.M., H.V.Cert.

The attendance of mothers-to-be was as follows:

	<u>Number of patients</u>
Peterborough and	
Huntingdonshire	12
Rutland	9
Stamford	54
Northamptonshire	12
South Kesteven Rural District	8
	<u>95</u>

The total number of visits made to the Clinic was 643.

Cervical Cytology Clinic

This was the third year of operation of this clinic at Barn Hill and the number of patients availing themselves of the facility were:

	<u>Number of patients</u>
Stamford	212
South Kesteven Rural District	37
Peterborough and	
Huntingdonshire	60
Northamptonshire	23
Rutland	52
	<u>384</u>

A total of 435 smears were taken.

One unsuspected case of early cancer of the cervix was discovered in the 212 who came from the Borough and she had the requisite treatment by the Consultant Gynaecologist. Additionally thirteen were discovered to require treatment for other gynaecological conditions.

The Clinic is held on the second and fourth Thursday afternoons by the writer, relieved on several occasions by Dr. A. Whiteley. The demand for the service has stabilised and there is now virtually no waiting list. All on the books are automatically recalled at the end of three years. Due to a shortage of trained personnel there has been delay in receiving laboratory reports amounting at times to three months. This however, is being gradually overcome and by the year's end was down to six to eight weeks.

Children's Department

The Area Child Care Officer, Miss Hodgson and her staff have their office in St. George's Street, Telephone No. Stamford 3011.

The Play Group started in 1967 for deprived children is now held on Thursday mornings at the Kings Mill Centre. This is run and financed from voluntary sources.

The Family Advice Centre is open on Fridays at St. George's Street from 2.30 p.m. to 4.30 p.m. to deal with all questions or social problems involving children and young persons.

(b) PROVIDED BY THE REGIONAL HOSPITAL BOARD

Tuberculosis

At Stamford Hospital

Tuesdays from 2.00 p.m.

Weekly Clinics

Fridays from 2.00 p.m.

Under Dr. G. Bernard Royce, Consulting Chest Physician,
Peterborough Group of Hospitals.

Venereal Disease

Clinics are held at the Out Patients' Department, District
Hospital, Peterborough, under Dr. N. A. Ross.

Males

Females

Mondays	5.00 - 6.00 p.m.	Tuesdays	10.30 - 11.30 a.m.
Wednesdays	5.30 - 6.30 p.m.	Thursdays	4.30 - 5.30 p.m.

(c) PROVIDED BY THE PUBLIC HEALTH SERVICE BOARD

Laboratory Facilities

Bacteriological examinations are carried out by the Public
Health Laboratory at Peterborough under the direction of Dr. E.J.G.
Glencross. They provide a fully comprehensive service including
brucellosis and antibiotic examinations of milk, water samples,
widals and general bacteriological work. I would like to acknowledge
gratefully the ever generous help, advice and courtesy which has
been extended to us at all times by the Director and his Staff.

(d) PROVIDED BY THE FAMILY PLANNING ASSOCIATION

Family Planning Clinic.

Now in its tenth year it provides a service to the married
who wish to plan their families and to the engaged wishing pre-marital
advice. Instruction is given on methods of contraception and advice
on sexual problems, sterility and infertility.

Details of the Clinic for the year are given below:

Number of sessions held	...	...	...	...	25
Number of Patients new to F.P.A.	...	...	...	...	76
Number of Patients transferring from other F.P.A. Clinics	...	...	...	...	40
Total of individual women attending	180
Total Number of Attendances	404

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Analysis of New Patients by
Age Group at first visit

Under 20 years	5
20 - 24 years	25
25 - 29 years	..	..	..	20
30 - 34 years	..	..	..	13
over 34 years	..	..	..	13
				<u>76</u>

Analysis of New Patients by
Number of Pregnancies

0 pregnancies	..	..	..	18
1 pregnancy	..	..	..	16
2 pregnancies	..	..	..	17
3 "	..	..	..	13
4 "	..	..	..	8
5 "	..	..	..	3
6 "	..	..	..	-
6+ "	..	..	..	1
				<u>76</u>

The Clinic is run by Dr. M. G. Orrell.

Cervical smears are also taken as part of the medical examination where these are considered advisable, and during the year 127 smears were taken, of which two required follow-up treatment.

Mrs. Achurch of Ryhall and her band of voluntary workers have given every assistance and a keen appreciation of their help is voiced.

The sessions are held:

First Tuesday in each month	2.00 p.m. - 3.45 p.m.
Second Tuesday in each month	7.00 p.m. - 8.45 p.m.
Third Tuesday in each month	7.00 p.m. - 8.45 p.m.

Patients must have appointments for their first attendance and application should be made to Mrs. J. Achurch, Honorary Secretary, Local Branch of the Family Planning Association, c/o Barn Hill House, Stamford. Telephone No. Stamford 2906, during clinic times.

(e) PROVIDED BY THE HOME OFFICE

Probation Service

Mr. Perrett Cole, Probation Officer attends Barn Hill House on Wednesdays from 4 p.m. to 7 p.m.

Moral Welfare

Miss Clarke, Moral Welfare Worker attends the Barn Hill Clinic on alternate Fridays from 1.30 p.m. - 3.30 p.m. and will give interviews and advice to anyone requiring this service.

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA

Water

The responsibility for the supply and distribution of water is that of the South Lincolnshire Water Board on which the Borough is represented by two elected members.

Right since its birth there has been close co-operation between the Water Board and this Health Department with full and free interchange of information on all subjects of mutual interest. This warm liaison was taken one step further when the writer was permitted to become the first Medical Adviser to the Water Board which welds another strong link between those who provide water and those who consume it.

A further patent illustration of the help and interest at all times of Mr. N. A. Eagles, Engineer and Manager to the Board and his staff is the report from him which follows:

"The total quantity of water supplied to the Borough of Stamford during the year was 307,004,000 gallons which is an increase of 1,180,000 gallons above the 1968 figure.

"Weekly bacteriological examination of water samples taken from source works and reservoirs was continued throughout the year. The vast majority of these analyses were satisfactory but some trouble was experienced from time to time with the samples of untreated water from the various sources. In particular, the source at Ryhall Road was again very badly affected by bacteriological pollution and it was possible to put only a limited quantity of water into supply from this source.

"The length and diameter of new mains laid in the Borough during the year are shown in the following table:

<u>Location</u>	<u>Yards</u>				Total
	1½"	3"	4"	6"	
Casterton Road Estate	158	173	293	-	624
St. Martin's	-	110	-	-	110
Empingham Road Estate	-	-	1525	88	1613
Green Lane Estate	-	-	47	-	47
Cherryholt Road	-	40	60	-	100
TOTALS	158	323	1925	88	2494

"The net increase in the number of domestic services during the year was 180".

The following table gives a typical chemical analysis from a sample of water from the Tallington supply:

CHEMICAL ANALYSIS

						<u>Parts per million</u> <u>Tallington Supply</u>
pH	...	...	...	...	...	7.2
Chlorine present as Chloride	...	...	...	...	...	27.0
Hardness: Total	...	...	...	...	...	365.0
Carbonate	...	...	...	...	...	245.0
Non-Carbonate	...	...	...	...	...	120.0
Nitrate Nitrogen	...	...	...	...	...	0.2
Nitrite Nitrogen	...	...	...	...	...	Absent
Ammoniacal Nitrogen	...	...	...	...	...	0.05
Albuminoid Nitrogen	...	...	...	...	...	0.01
Oxygen Absorbed	...	...	...	...	...	0.20
Free Carbon Dioxide	...	...	...	...	...	34.0
Dissolved Solids dried at 180°C.	...	...	...	...	...	460.0
Alkalinity as Calcium Carbonate	...	...	...	...	...	245.0
Iron	...	...	...	...	...	0.08
Metals: Zinc, Copper, Lead	...	...	...	...	...	Absent
Sulphate (SO ₄)	...	...	...	...	...	120.0
Fluoride	...	...	...	...	...	0.3

Remarks

This sample is clear and bright in appearance, neutral in reaction and free from metals apart from a negligible trace of iron. The water is very hard in character but not excessively so, it contains no excess of mineral constituents and it is of very satisfactory organic quality.

From the aspect of the chemical analysis these results are indicative of a pure and wholesome water suitable for public supply purposes.

The total consumption of water it is noted has risen in the year by well over a million gallons but the average per head of the population is little changed at 60.0 gallons per head per day. It is evident that with more and more houses having modern heating systems and baths installed - stimulated by Grant Aid - that the average consumption will show a corresponding rise. So the insatiable demand for water continues. It is highly important that water be regarded not just by the conservationists but by all as a National Asset which

must not be wasted. In particular it is important that every effort be made to husband and secure the integrity from pollution and exploitation of the exceedingly bacterial pure waters in the underground reservoirs of the Lincolnshire Limestone. The time will surely come when heavy industrial consumers of water will be required to regenerate and recirculate the water they use instead of once only and then to the Sea. The improvident use of natural resources cannot continue indefinitely without exacting a high price.

The sources of Stamford's water are:

Pilsgate	11.667 Million gallons
Tallington	192.821 Million gallons
Wothorpe	21.900 Million gallons
Ryhall Road	35.003 Million gallons
Whitewater	46.213 Million gallons

From these figures it will be seen that approximately two thirds of the total comes from the comparatively new Tallington supply. It is interesting to note that routine sampling during the year gave consistent fluoride figures of between 0.25 and 0.3 parts per million or approximately a third of the accepted optimum figure of 1 part per million as a preventative of dental caries.

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There were no further additions or alterations to the sewage disposal system during the year but behind the scenes plans and designs were going on for the new Sewage Disposal Works for the Borough. It is hoped to site this Eastward of Uffington, adjacent to the River Welland. This is becoming of ever increasing urgency as the growth of population throws ever increasing demands upon a works, which is already outstripping its design capacity by a wide margin. The cost is high at well over £2m. but the need is insistent and emphatic.

The final effluents repeatedly fall short of Royal Commission standards as the following figures show:

The year did however see the completion of the sewerage works in the village of Uffington in the South Kesteven Rural District including all house connections within 100 feet of the new sewer line and sewerage had started to flow to the Stamford works for treatment by the end of the year. This good neighbour arrangement between two adjacent Authorities bears eloquent evidence of the good-will which exists between them to the advantage of their respective communities. Other work under design is the extension of the trunk sewer from its head in St. Leonard's Street to the disposal works and as a result the bottle neck which here occurs.

	Suspended Solids	Biological Oxygen Demand	Nitrate as Nitrogen
2nd January, 1969	43	24.8	0.69
4th February, 1969	35	20	0.59
5th March, 1969	37	34	0.54
23rd April, 1969	43	-	0.46
14th May, 1969	36	28	0.87
18th June, 1969	34	20	0.54
24th July, 1969	49	32	0.81
16th September, 1969	26	17	0.82
14th October, 1969	30	18	0.72
26th November, 1969	45	43	0.63
18th December, 1969	38	22	0.60

The average figure for the year was therefore:

Suspended Solids	38
Biological Oxygen Demand	26
Nitrate as Nitrogen	0.66

The Royal Commission standards are:

Suspended Solids not to exceed	30
B.O.D. not to exceed	20

The figure for nitrate as nitrogen shows a slight under nitrification on the filter beds.

The year did however see the completion of the sewerage of the village of Uffington in the South Kesteven Rural District including all house connections within 100 feet of the new sewer line and sewage had started to flow to the Stamford works for treatment by the end of the year. This good neighbour arrangement between two adjacent Authorities bears eloquent evidence of the good-will which exists between them to the advantage of their respective communities.

Other work under design is the extension of the trunk sewer from its head in St. Leonard's Street to the disposal works and so relieve the bottle neck which here occurs.

Sludge composting with straw has continued and there has been little malodour since the system was introduced four years ago. The final product is in considerable demand for its manurial value and has also assisted in providing top cover for refuse tip sealing.

The original washing detergents created quite a foam problem at disposal works. This has been greatly reduced but one cannot help wondering what the effect of the new sophisticated "biological washing powders" activated as they are with a pancreatic type enzyme will have on the biological filters if their use becomes more and more widespread. It would seem axiomatic that with more and ever more chemicals, industrial and farm effluents and other by-products of a complex society being swept down the sewers to be treated and at the same time River Boards rightly demanding higher and higher standards of final effluents before they accept them that a Works Chemist will be required. After all is said and done the design of a modern works is really the design of a plant where complicated bio-chemical processes are taking place which need constant laboratory control if they are to function as they should. A Chemist is able to detect any deviation from normal and being on the spot can nip trouble in the bud.

The new Public Conveniences in Red Lion Square into which so much thought in design had gone and were at their opening warmly welcomed as such a pleasing asset in the centre of the town. These were stormed and battered by hooligans and vandals demonstrating the equality of the sexes by equal damage on both sides. It is strange how some have an uncanny premonition that the only mark they will make in life is that which they achieve on lavatory walls and undefended public property.

A weekly house door refuse collection is given and disposal is by controlled tipping to the site at Yarwell. This involves a round trip of twelve miles. With the ever increasing difficulty in finding sites the Corporation is lucky to have one at all and to be able to defer the inevitable day in which a Central Destructor Plant is dictated by events. The prevention of fly nuisances and rodent control are scrupulously undertaken at the site. This was the first full year in which a charge was levied for the collection of refuse from business premises and this new initiative has progressed smoothly. With so many wives going out to work and coming home at the same time as their husbands there is a tremendous demand for tinned and ready prepared meals on their return. This added to polythene and other new forms of packaging has altered completely the contents of the refuse freighter. Many of these by-products are almost indestructible by burying and make a tip fire even more undesirable than ever.

Like so many other raw materials there have been wide fluctuations in the demand for and price of paper and cardboard

salvage. This no doubt was largely responsible for the fall in the quantity collected from 209 tons 7 cwt. to 127 tons 2 cwt. and the price obtained from £1827 4s. 3d. to £1294 11s. 6d. This service is more than justified by the exclusion of unnecessary inflammable material from the tipping surface, by the saving in freighter space and by saving a little money for the Country in replacing an equivalent amount of imported wood pulp.

What a wonderful job the refuse collectors do in all weathers and circumstances. They deserve the sincere thanks of us all. They deserve that only authorised bins are used and that fragile cardboard boxes which collapse discharging their contents all over the unfortunate collector cease for ever more to be used. It should be remembered that two or three standard ashbins of domestic refuse will be collected free of charge and even the ash bin itself can be hired from the Corporation for 7s. 6d. a year! It is the least the public can do to help.

Litter is not a great problem in the Borough though more litter receptacles might be helpful. The Cleansing Services maintain a high standard which is not infrequently commented upon by visitors to the Town in envious terms. The manner in which the townspeople support them tokens a healthy standard of Civic Pride.

The Borough Swimming Baths are a much appreciated recreational centre for the Town and a wide surrounding area but alas depending as they do on the vagaries of our climate they have but a short season. All the Local Education Authority schools in Stamford give every encouragement to their children to learn to swim at an early age. This accomplishment is highly desirable for the opportunity may come to anyone to save a life - their own or some one else's, given a reasonable proficiency in the art.

The proposal for modernising and heating the two pools which was outlined in last year's report is still a long way from fruition. Meantime the Council are still prepared to play their part when finances permit and Councillor Mrs. Smith and her Swimming Baths Appeals Committee continue to make strenuous and continuing efforts to raise funds for this very worthy project.

On the opening day with a water temperature only thirteen degrees F. above freezing, only twenty-nine hardy swimmers braved the plunge and the bleak East wind, and only one lone spectator watched them do it! The better Summer encouraged a total attendance of 49,223 which was 4,687 more than the dismal total of the previous year. Of these 7,877 were spectators only and 5,919 were school children.

A Minuteman Resuscitator is available at all times throughout the season and is regularly serviced to maintain it at a peak efficiency. A stretcher and blankets are also at hand for use in an

emergency. During the year there were two minor accidents at the baths but on no occasion was the Minuteman Resuscitator required. Rules for cleanliness and for the prevention of spreading such contagious conditions as Verruca and Athlete's Foot are displayed with it is hoped more effect than the number of Verruca that are seen over the year would lead one to believe!

Sixty samples of water from the Corporation's Baths were taken for bacteriological examinations. These remained satisfactory throughout as also did the Hydrogen Ion concentrations. Additionally ninety-six samples were taken from the heated High School pool, fifty-six from the heated Hospital Swimming Pool and thirty from the Stamford pool where an effort was made to raise its temperatures by an ingenious system using solar energy.

The most meticulous attention is given to all the Public and Club baths in the Town and any lapse in the normally high standards is followed up and rectified without delay.

The hygiene standards of some of the buildings utilised by the Bluecoat School were reported upon unfavourably during the year. Accordingly, it was with gratification that the opening of the new school was heralded in September though it will still be a considerable time before the Recreation Ground Road premises will cease to be necessary. It was excellent news that the commencement of the new St. Gilbert of Sempringham School was being brought forward into the 1970/71 programme as their present premises are outmoded and unsuitable; but not quite so enthusiastic an ear was given to the proposed reopening next year of the now closed Bluecoat buildings on St. Peter's Hill as an Infant School. This should be conditional on extensive modernisation.

Mortuary facilities have continued to be adequate and satisfactory under the arrangement made between the Council and the Stamford Hospital Management Committee for the use of the Hospital Mortuary in all cases of need, with suitable reimbursement by the Council.

Stamford has a Joint Burial Board and during the year there were 112 interments in the Borough Cemetery. The nearest crematorium is at Marholm, near Peterborough and this was used by Borough residents on 74 occasions.

There were no instances of households being infested with vermin this year. As one family who previously had been a nidus of infestation moved out of the area there was a pleasing reduction in the number of school children with head louse infestations compared with the previous year. Some cases of Scabies occurred which is remarkable at a time when the facilities for good personal and domestic hygiene were never better.

Nuisances from dogs occur under two headings. Firstly from their barking at inopportune times or over too long periods. This is not a Public Health Nuisance even when proven but rather one of Civil Law if there is a prima facie case. Secondly soiling of the pavements is to be deplored and condemned. This is a default on the part of the owner rather than on the part of his Best Friend. It is to be hoped that the new Bye-Laws which were approved this year will assist in the education of those at either end of the lead. Up to the end of the year no action under the Bye-Laws had arisen. Again on preventive health grounds all who handle foods - including the consumer, should always try to ensure that their food is kept free of chance of infection from dogs, cats, birds and similar hazards.

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As the curtain falls on this section I would like to acknowledge all the kind help and co-operation I have had from Mr. Wall, the Borough Engineer and Surveyor and his Staff throughout the year.

THE PREVENTION AND CONTROL OF
INFECTIOUS AND OTHER DISEASES

ANALYSIS OF CASES OF INFECTIOUS DISEASE
UNDER AGE GROUPS

	Scarlet Fever	Meningitis	Food Poisoning	Measles	Whooping Cough	Infective Hepatitis	Dysentery	Paratyphoid Fever
0-	-	-	-	1	1	-	1	-
1-	-	1	-	13	1	-	-	-
2-	1	-	-	21	-	-	-	-
3-	1	-	-	34	1	-	-	-
4-	-	-	-	35	2	-	1	-
5-	11	-	-	134	4	-	7	-
10-	2	-	-	7	-	-	3	-
15-	-	-	-	2	-	-	1	-
20-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
25-	-	-	-	2	-	-	2	-
35-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
45-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-
55-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
65 and over	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Age unknown	-	-	-	3	-	-	-	-
TOTALS	15	1	-	252	9	1	15	-

Though not strictly comparable with the figure for the previous year due to the deletion of certain diseases from the list and the inclusion of others, the incidence of cases affected by the change were so small as to be negligible.

The total incidence of notifiable disease - excluding Tuberculosis was considerably higher than in the previous year being 296 compared with 36 in 1968 and 366 in 1967. The increase was due to the biennial manifestation in epidemic form of the Measles virus.

There has not been much demand for the new Measles Vaccine due possibly to the rather severe reaction attendant upon its use in some individuals. It is hoped that a more acceptable vaccine will be available before the next Measles outbreak occurs in two years' time. Certainly this is a disease which should be controlled as it leaves behind a trail of youngsters who have developed complications arising from the infection.

There were fifteen cases of Sonne Dysentery, the highest number since the big outbreak of 1962 when the infant schools carried the brunt of the attack and 222 cases were discovered.

On this occasion it seemed as though the focal points lay in the Bluecoat and later St. George's Schools. Rigorous precautions were taken and 114 contacts were followed up in a campaign lasting over four months, which involved the taking of 238 faecal swabs. A warm acknowledgement is due to Dr. Glencross of the Peterborough Public Health Laboratory for all the work including sensitivity tests which he did on our behalf and the whole hearted co-operation of my family doctor colleagues. Undoubtedly it was the combined effort which kept the numbers of infected cases down to a comparatively modest total. Faulty personal and "domestic" hygiene exacts a stiff penalty in sickness, expense and pressure on the medical services, all of which could have been avoided.

Fourteen years have now passed since there was a case of Poliomyelitis in the Town and one of the greatest triumphs of post war immunology lies behind this fact in the discovery and use of the oral vaccine. This hard won victory can only be maintained by its acceptance by every child. It is a source of great gratification, without complacency, that in the year under review a 100 per cent vaccination was achieved in the Borough, for children born in 1968 - a figure which may be equalled but certainly will not be excelled! The equivalent figure for the County as a whole is 66.7 per cent.

It is twenty-four years since Diphtheria last appeared as a villain on the stage, but it is still waiting in the wings for a new debut as other communities have found to their cost, where they have neglected their precautionary measures.

It remains as vitally necessary as ever it was for all parents to have their children protected in their first year of life and again at school entrance age. The new schedule of injections at six, eight and twelve months has been well accepted. It is again most gratifying and a wonderful testimony to our young mothers that a hundred per cent had their children, born in 1968, protected during the year under review. This warrants the same comment as that made in the Poliomyelitis paragraph above. The equivalent figure for the County as a whole was

68.4 per cent. All the babies were also immunised against Tetanus and Whooping Cough concurrently with the Diphtheria and very necessary the former is as there have been two deaths in adults from Tetanus in recent months, neither fortunately within the Borough but within the same Hospital area. This constitutes a solemn warning.

It will be remarkable if the same figures can be equalled next year as the suppliers of the vaccines decided to change their type to the alum precipitated variety, creating a hiatus in supplies lasting over four months. They discontinued the manufacture of the former before the second one was coming off the production line. It reminded the writer of the Eire resident who bought a new suit in Northern Ireland but fearing the customs decided to change in the train toilet before reaching the frontier. It was only after he had thrown his old suit out through the window that he discovered the trousers of the new one had been omitted from his parcel!

Another new protective vaccine has entered the arena, namely that against Rubella (German Measles). At present it is under review by the Medical Research Council and it is not yet Ministry of Health and Social Security policy to sponsor vaccination against Rubella as a Public policy. The disease is in general a mild one, seldom causing trouble except in the early months of pregnancy when it can cause abnormalities in the developing foetus. It is clear therefore that in future the main function of the vaccine will be to protect women before they reach child bearing age against the infection where they have not already acquired a natural immunity, probably at the thirteen years of age level. Preliminary reports on its effectiveness are satisfactory.

In the control of infectious disease is it still necessary to exclude a child from school for fourteen days after the appearance of a Chicken Pox rash, instead of seven; seven days after the rash of German Measles instead of three, and ten days after the rash of Measles instead of a week provided the child is well? A similar reduction in the times of exclusion after Mumps would also reduce school absenteeism very considerably without risk to others.

All Council employees whose work might possibly bring them into contact with rat contaminated water are given a card of precautions to avoid the risk of contracting Weil's disease. These warning cards are available at the Health Department to other than Corporation workers who may be at risk in similar situations. The war against "the rat" continued throughout the year. Fortunately there is no evidence so far of this rodent pest becoming Warfarin immune, though it can be assumed that this is only a matter of time as immune strains have moved Eastward as far as the Western Midlands.

During the year 148 from Stamford were vaccinated against Smallpox and also 13 from the surrounding villages. Of these 92

were vaccinated at the Barn Hill Clinic.

In November there was an interesting outbreak of staphylococcal infection in the Maternity Unit of the Stamford and Rutland Hospital. The organisms affected the skin or the eye and on examination proved to be resistant to Penicillin and in a varying degree to other antibiotics. As the organism was rife it was decided to close the Unit so as to avoid the risk of further infections, a policy fully justified by results as there was no further trouble. It does however illustrate the problem of acquired resistance to Penicillin of organisms causing sepsis and the need underlined in another section of the Report to clamp down on the indiscriminate use in husbandry of antibiotics which are vitally important for man's own personal use and protection. The writer serves on the Control of Infection Committee of the Peterborough/Stamford Hospital Group.

Influenza was an unwelcome December visitor and quickly gathering momentum reached epidemic proportions so that few families were unaffected by Christmastime. There was not much evidence by and large of prior influenzal vaccination being really effective. This is hardly to be wondered at as the original affecting organism was the Hong Kong variant of the Asian influenza virus. This variant was followed by a further variant labelled A2 878/69 and it was unlikely that a single vaccine would protect against this protean villain. Let it be recorded that few who experienced its unwelcome attentions were anxious to do so again for it was both virulent and debilitating.

TUBERCULOSIS

Three new cases of the Pulmonary type were recorded during the year but fortunately the non-pulmonary variety was not represented for the third year in succession. The incidence of Pulmonary Tubercle in 1968 was four fresh cases.

Though active infections with tubercle are now comparatively infrequent in their occurrence, there are however still a considerable number of sufferers from the disease within the Community. This is proved by the fact that there were 95 such patients in attendance at the Local Chest Clinic. Of these, seven had a positive sputum and were therefore in an infectious state at some time during the year.

There was no common factor in the source of infection of the three new cases. The meticulous investigation of the domestic circumstances and environment of all new cases, the continuing supervision of them throughout their convalescence and the following up of contacts is of paramount importance in controlling the disease. The regular attendance of our Health Visitor at the Chest Clinics

carries directly to the Clinician the background of his case and his assessment of progress is of the greatest value to her and in both instances to the patient and his family.

The B.C.G. Vaccination scheme for senior school children was continued. Protection was offered to 333 and of these 317 accepted and were Heaf Tested. 277 gave a negative result to the skin test and were given B.C.G. Seven were absent from the reading of the test. The remaining 33 were positive and where it was deemed advisable by the strength of the reaction, chest X-rays were arranged but no active Tuberculosis was discovered.

The Mass Radiography Unit of the East Anglian Regional Hospital Board visited Stamford from 28th April to 13th May. It was located, by kind permission of the County Fire Department, at the new Fire Station on Radcliffe Road and a total of 2739 people attended. This was a drop of 920 on the attendance at the previous visit in 1966. The full statistics of the survey are shown below:

	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>	<u>Total</u>
General Public - shops and firms	1294	1301	2595
Students and school leavers	19	26	45
School Teaching Staff	14	31	45
Other School Staff	3	51	54
	<u>1330</u>	<u>1409</u>	<u>2739</u>

Attendance by Age Group

15 - 19	125	162	287
20 - 24	151	180	331
25 - 34	279	260	539
35 - 44	280	314	594
45 - 54	278	263	541
55 - 60	92	113	205
60 - 64	67	61	128
65 and over	58	56	114
	<u>1330</u>	<u>1409</u>	<u>2739</u>

Attendance by Area of Domicile

Cambridgeshire	2	1	3
Huntingdonshire	4	5	9
Peterborough	69	76	145
Northamptonshire	95	88	183
Rutland	174	166	340
Lincolnshire	52	28	80
Kesteven	927	1043	1970
Miscellaneous (out of area)	7	2	9
	<u>1330</u>	<u>1409</u>	<u>2739</u>

RESULTS OF MASS X-RAY SURVEYS. STAMFORD AREA
10th April, to 13th May, 1969

<u>Firm</u>	<u>No. Attended</u>		<u>Response</u>	<u>Significant Abnormalities found</u>		
	<u>M</u>	<u>F</u>		<u>M</u>	<u>F</u>	<u>TOTAL</u>
10.4.69 - 11.4.69 <u>Downac Limited,</u> <u>Tallington</u> No. employed 420	347	31	90%	1	-	1
14.4.69 - 15.4.69 <u>Newage Lyon, Stamford</u> No. employed 400	241	87	82%	-	-	-
16.4.69 - 17.4.69. <u>Allis Chalmers Ltd.</u> <u>Stamford</u> No. employed 356	293	63	100%	1	-	1
18.4.69 - 22.4.69 <u>Ketton Cement Co.</u> No. employed 400 Public attending at firm:	287 <u>54</u> <u>341</u>	12 <u>75</u> <u>87</u>	74%			
23.4.69 - 25.4.69 <u>Blackstones Ltd.</u> No. employed 1215	568	149	58%	1 2 6 1 2	1 - 1 - -	2 2 7 1 2
28.4.69 - 13.5.69. <u>Stamford Public</u>	1330	1409				
TOTAL	3120	1826				

It is unfortunate that there should have been this drop in those availing themselves of the opportunity for a free, confidential and informal chest X-ray. Ministerial policy has been announced which envisages the gradual phasing out of Mass Radiography Units on the grounds that the numbers of new cases of active respiratory Tuberculosis detected by the Service has fallen steadily from a peak of 8720 in 1954 to 2847 in 1967. Furthermore it is stated that forty per cent of the new cases were patients specifically referred by doctors. On these facts it is argued that the cost per case found is extravagantly high and so the Units must go, their place being taken by increasing X-ray facilities at Hospital radiological Departments and allowing medical practitioners open access to them. On the other side of the coin there is the doubt whether members of the public will overcome their inborn inertia and visit a doctor, then armed with an authorisation wend their way to a Hospital and in a strange and somewhat forbidding environment await their turn in the queue? Furthermore how does one cost the tremendous relief of all those who through the much less formal medium of the Mass Radiography Unit were given the "all clear".

Time alone will reveal whether the proposed step is justified or not. In the meantime this Corporation had little doubt of the answer - in favour of the Mass Radiography Unit being retained in its service to the public. The public has become accustomed to having the service brought to them in the fullest sense of the phrase and may well be resentful of being directed elsewhere.

VENEREAL DISEASE

The number of new cases from the Borough and adjoining South Kesteven area attending the Peterborough Clinic was 53. This was made up of eighteen women of whom eight were teenagers and thirty-five males of whom seven were in their teens. The equivalent figures in 1968 were forty and in 1967 twenty-five, so the tide is rising. The devotees of Venus and Aphrodite must still expect to pay a heavy price even in this day and age.

HOUSING

PROVISION OF NEW HOUSES

Statistics of new houses erected in the Borough during 1969:

Built by Local Authority

Traditional Brick Houses	(2 bedrooms)	1
	(3 bedrooms)	4
Houses in course of erection at end of year		NIL

Built by Private Enterprise

Traditional Brick Houses	(2 bedrooms)	18
	(3 bedrooms)	106
	(4 bedrooms)	5
Houses in course of erection at end of year		34

APPLICANTS FOR COUNCIL HOUSES

(As supplied by the Housing Department at December, 1969)

Effective Housing List	247
Old Persons Dwelling Applicants	67
Miscellaneous Applicants	54

Since the commencement of the Council's Clearance of unfit houses programme in 1955, 192 houses have been dealt with, five of them during this year as follows:

Demolition Orders	NIL
Closing Orders	5

There were Housing Reviews in 1964 and again in 1967 at both of which it was established that there was no large slum clearance problem but inevitably there would remain a small pool of individual unfit houses, as houses with a marginal life further deteriorate and descend into the unfit category.

A review in 1969 estimated the number subject to be dealt with to be forty-nine.

The redevelopment frontage in High Street St. Martin's has blended into the street scene in a becoming manner and has provided five further domestic properties to the Corporation's credit.

Regrettably due to circumstances outside the control of the

Council these were the only housing units built by them during the year. After the Ministry's "STOP-GO" policy of the previous year, eventually the next phase of the Edinburgh Road development was started but not in time to have any progress recorded in this survey.

Private enterprise however did better by producing 129 houses and there were a further 34 under construction at the year's end. These figures were considerably less than the corresponding 181 and 61 respectively of the previous year. The slow paralysis of high interest and mortgage rates was sufficient reason for this; not any lessening in the hidden demand for new houses.

The two groups of warden supervised dwelling comprising 75 flats have fulfilled an enormously important and humanitarian role in the comfort and care of our Older Citizens. The cheerful atmosphere and companionship which prevails in the Common Room is heart warming and speaks volumes for the part which these schemes play in the lives of those who are members of these communities. Though each dwelling is a real home in its own right yet within the group there is a warm community spirit.

It should be stressed that each is a home in its own right and implicit in this fact is that the residents should be able to care for and look after themselves supported by the Social Services. The Warden is there to maintain a vigilant and kindly eye on the group as a whole and to provide a line of communication but not to act as Nurse or Domestic Help to any individual. This distinction in role is sometimes overlooked! On the other hand as each resident becomes older he or she must inevitably need more support and be therein more demanding. This is an inescapable fact of life. It is reassuring therefore to have some fit people in the younger age categories within the group who should be encouraged to help their weaker neighbours over stiles.

Stamford has been bequeathed a rich heritage from Medieval times of that Age's concept of the group schemes. Most of these - Brown's, Hopkin's, Truesdales and Burghley Almshouses have been modernised. Of the remainder, Williamsons will cease to exist for its original purpose and the final modernisation outstanding at the end of the year was that of Snowden's. Here plans are fully laid and the work of re-construction should commence early in 1970, which will result in three modern homes in place of the original eight and another fine old building saved for Posterity and a benevolent use.

"Eureka" cried Archimedes as a new concept of Physics struck him. "Eureka" said the Seeborn Committee as a far from new concept of Housing presented itself to them. The provision of Housing said Seeborn is a Welfare Service to which should be married social needs, without mentioning medical except by implication. So it is proposed

that Housing responsibility should be given to the new Welfare Authorities. For many many years this concept has been an established one in this Council and successive Annual Reports for the past fifteen years have stressed the sympathetic and practical help which has always been given to applicants with proven Health or Socio-Medical needs.

A searching investigation of the facts - a personal visit from the writer and the fullest co-operation of the applicant's family doctor are all sought and an assessment of the appropriate type and situation of the accommodation is done before a recommendation is made. The writer acknowledges the active support and help which is always forthcoming from the Housing Manager and the Health and Housing Committee in this humanitarian work of helping those in need or distress. It is difficult to see any other administration which will devote so much meticulous care and "know how" to the task of equating need to the available resources. It is to the same ends that the twice quarterly meetings of the Co-ordinating Committees are dedicated. The same attention to the changing needs of those already in Council houses is also given. Requests for rehousing within the Estates come in the main from those who are elderly and incapacitated and find increasing difficulty with stairs and houses too large for their needs.

Every encouragement is given to the owners of premises suitable for upgrading to apply for Improvement Grants to bring them up to acceptable modern standards of fitness and give them a further lease of life and a new comfort to their occupants. Many examples of the success of these reconstructions are seen each year at a cost much less than that of complete rebuilding.

One of the commonest housing complaints during the year has been of excessive dampness with adverse effects on health. These were in respect of both Council and privately owned houses. In nearly every case after expert advice had been obtained the diagnosis was condensation. The experts say that the answer lies in increased ventilation by opening wide the windows. It is agreed that adequate ventilation will alleviate the condition but to open the windows widely on a bitter cold winter's day in an already cold house is surely to invite a cure worse than the disease. It is certainly at variance with medical warnings against hypothermia particularly in the older age groups. On opening the windows cold air from outside flows in to meet the damp warm air inside so the condensation must still occur inside rather than outside rendering the good effects marginal. To carry the argument to absurdity would mean that to omit the glazing will obviate the condensation!!

The answer must surely be to raise the inside temperature of the house and the inner walls to a degree which strongly discourages

vapour condensation. Modern science which claims so much can surely produce a practicable cure for this bugbear. After all the Romans 2000 years ago found central heating necessary for their way of life in this Country.

Non-absorbent surfaces, cold outside walls where there is no insulating cavity, allowing water to boil for longer than necessary and most productive of all in the formation of condensation dampness is the ill advised use of paraffin heaters which give off ten pints of water for every gallon of kerosene burned.

There are still ten Council houses without bathrooms, some of the older ones are also without wash basins and ablutions have to be carried out over the kitchen sink.

Last year's report heralded the proposal for a pilot scheme to bring thirty of the 390 older type Council Houses up to the twelve point Parker Morris fitness standard together with the provision of some form of space heating but the first estimates of cost were so high as to be prohibitive. A less ambitious scheme is now being worked out and costed. It is hoped that these modifications will prove both acceptable and economic. The Council now own 1,579 properties and what a wonderful and often unsung task they have accomplished since the War.

The Council's Housing List rose to 368 from the previous year's figure of 283. The demand for Elderly Persons Accommodation remained proportionately much the same at one in five. Additionally, though not included in these figures are a considerable number who have lived in larger Council properties for long periods and would welcome the move to a home more tailored to their needs both in size and convenience.

In fact the demand for Elderly Persons Accommodation remains as insatiable as ever in spite of all the efforts of recent years. Particularly is there a demand for two-bedroomed ground floor accommodation to meet the socio-medical trends of longevity associated with some degree of locomotory incapacity stemming frequently from arthritis and other degenerative diseases. The tenants still want the extra bedroom for members of the family to stay and an excellent desire it is to encourage.

No case of statutory overcrowding arose during the year.

There are no Common Lodging Houses in the Borough.

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD

DE MORTUIS NIL NISI BONUM

The Municipal Abattoir tottered on to its inevitable closure on 30th June, 1969. All those concerned in or affected by the proposed closure were kept informed and so there was ample time to make the necessary re-arrangements for slaughtering. In the event the change over worked smoothly and all had their meat supplies as of yore.

There must be few, if any, engaged in the Food Industry who do not know the salient points in the Food Hygiene Regulations by now. Even so it is all too easy standing close to it as an employee does, not to notice a lapse in their practical application.

It is combating this that the Public Health Inspector plays such an invaluable role. His routine visiting of Food Premises helps to uncover these lapses in Food Handling techniques and have them rectified before harm results. The visits are both friendly and helpful and as such are generally welcomed. All the scrupulous care which normally goes into food protection can so easily be nullified by one lapse in the long path from the producer to the consumer. The spot where bulk supplies are broken down and prepared for retail sale is so often the Achilles heel in a food business that it warrants specially critical attention.

The campaign to discourage owners from bringing their dogs into food premises has continued. It is not inopportune to thank the owners of the vast majority of food shops who have given their full co-operation in the interests of Food Hygiene.

During the year the following thirty-eight samples were taken under the Provisions of the Food and Drugs Act, 1955:

Biscuits	2	Milk	20
Butter	1	Mixed peel	1
Cream (double)	1	Preserves	3
Jelly	1	Sausages (pork)	4
Lemon shandy	1	Soup	1
Marzipan	1	Rum truffles	1
Meat products	1	TOTAL	<u>38</u>

Mr. Hawley comments on the samples as follows:

"Butter and Margarine"

"Butter versus Margarine is always a popular controversy and 1969 marks the centenary of the latter's invention. In a way butter and margarine represent the "natural" and the "sophisticated" in foods

for butter is a pure high energy food made from the fat of cows' milk exclusively, the Margarine Regulations permit a wide choice of edible oils and fats but not more than 10 per cent butter fat. Butter is naturally rich in Vitamins A and D but these are added in the case of margarine. Both must not contain more than 16 per cent of water. The virtues of margarine are now generally recognised. These include a nutritional value equal to that of butter, attractive appearance and easy spreadability over a wide temperature range.

The sample referred to above was satisfactory.

"Sausages"

"They have a "mystique" which makes them perennially a source of comment and since they are one of the few comestibles which can still claim to be largely home-made, a reasonable number of samples are always taken. This year with effect from 31st May, sausages once again came under Statutory Control (it lapsed in far time). Now both "meat" and "lean meat" content are controlled so the old complaint of sausages in school and other canteens being "all fat" can be checked. A whole range of sausage samples from schools showed them to be comparable in every way with "shop" sausages of similar price. To comply with the standards a beef sausage must contain 50 per cent meat and a pork sausage 65 per cent meat. The samples of the latter contained an average of 73 per cent meat maintaining the high reputation of Lincolnshire for good sausages.

"Milk"

"The Statutory minima for milk are that it shall contain not less than 3 per cent fat and 8.5 per cent other solids or in the case of the Channel Islands variety at least 4 per cent of fat. All but one of the samples taken were well above these limits.

"There was one complaint from a Stamford resident which concerned what appeared to be a bee or a wasp in a bottle of milk. In fact this "foreign body" was described by the Analyst as a "mass of fungal hyphae". The complainant was reluctant to be a party to legal proceedings so a strongly worded letter was sent to the dairy cautioning them against any repetition."

Sincere thanks are extended to Mr. Hawley and his staff for all their helpful co-operation throughout the year.

Milk as a food of outstanding importance in the nutrition of the young and the old is subject to particularly stringent surveillance. It can so easily be the vehicle for antibiotics used in the treatment of cows. It can by passing pesticidal residues through the food chain carry them from herbage to man. It is able to convey the organisms

causing contagious abortion in cattle to man where it manifests itself as Undulant Fever. This risk can be obviated by insistence on consuming only a pasteurised milk.

The closest watch is kept to obviate these hazards to this vital commodity. During the year a Dairy supplying large quantities of milk to Stamford found antibiotics in twenty-six milk samples out of 4125 samples taken which exemplifies how necessary this is.

Sixteen samples of Pasteurised milk were submitted to the Methylene Blue and Phosphate tests to establish the efficiency or otherwise of the pasteurisation. All were found to be satisfactory.

The continuing use of antibiotics in animal feeding stuffs has been a cause for concern. The effect can be seen in an increase in the strains of food poisoning and other bacteria which are showing resistance to one or more antibiotics. Whilst there is every sympathy for the husbandman in his efforts to increase the health and weight of his stock and improve the feed to gain ratio, it would be very false economy to do it at the risk of denying Penicillin, Tetracyclines and Chloramphenol to the human patient by rendering organisms immune to them through their injudicious use. Accordingly it is welcome that the Government have agreed in principle to the findings of an Expert Committee on the subject to end the wholesale use of these drugs in animal feeding stuffs without a prescription. It is to be hoped that these recommendations will be accepted without delay. Feeds containing antibiotics should not be given to laying poultry for fear of transmitting residues.

Maybe the ultimate answer will be synthetic milk. Already there is a pilot plant in this Country which can convert one ton of brussel sprouts, cabbage, peas, plant tops or even grass into 200 gallons, the equivalent of a ton of milk. This Plamil may soon become familiar.

Similarly technology has succeeded in converting the protein of soya bean meal by a process of extraction and extrusion into fibre threads as is done with nylon. These are then stretched to give the required tenderness or toughness, passed through a bath of fat, flavouring materials and dyes. After a knitting process and by varying these the end product will be either "beef", "mutton", "chicken", "pork", "bacon" or "fish". This can then be sliced or made into rashers, mince or sausages.

The finger posts are certainly pointing to a strange new world.

There are at present over 3,000 known additives to our food and these are kept under constant review for safety and side effects. One of these a red colouring agent ponceauMX was withdrawn as there

was a prima facie case for regarding it as potentially toxic.

The British public's acquaintance with cyclamates is comparatively short-lived, for it was only two years ago that the Food Additives and Contaminants Committee gave cautious approval to these highly complex substances. Their approval led to the Artificial Sweeteners in Food Regulations, 1967. Now, as from 1st January, 1970, the use of cyclamate sweeteners in food and soft drinks has been banned. A "volte face" is always something of a jolt, but not everyone will know that the committee which approved the use of Cyclamates in 1967 did say that any Regulations permitting their use should be reviewed within five years and that, in the meantime, long-term feeding studies on rats and mice should be undertaken by the Ministry. Furthermore, the committee advised that a full toxicological examination of cyclohexylamine (the carcinogenous suspect in cyclamates) should be completed within three years. While it is disturbing, therefore, to know that modern methods of food "sophistication" introduce these hazards, it is also reassuring to find that such care is taken to limit their incidence.

Saccharin continues as a permitted artificial sweetener, but it must now be declared on the label by name and not under the pseudonym of "permitted artificial sweetener". Apart from the trading interests the persons who will be most concerned by these changes are the diabetic and the obese, for both of whom saccharin may be an unwelcome alternative. Saccharin is a coal-tar derivative which enjoys comparative immunity from criticism, but it has an after-taste which many people find unpleasant. It is however, a very much better sweetener, for it is 500 times as sweet as sugar (bulk for bulk) whereas cyclamates are only about 30 times as sweet.

It is well that the Health and Food and Drugs authorities maintain an ever vigilant eye so that the Public can enjoy in peace and safety the good fruits of the Earth even after they have been sophisticated!

Having seen recently the results of two accidents with bacon slicers in young persons, it is opportune to remind that it is illegal to allow anyone under the age of eighteen years to handle these dangerous appliances.

FOOD POISONING

No case of Food Poisoning was reported or discovered during the year.

NATIONAL ASSISTANCE ACT, 1948, Section 47

In no instance during the year was it necessary to remove any person to Hospital or Welfare Accommodation against their will as is provided for in this Act.

HEALTH EDUCATION

The Borough Council gives financial support to the Health Education Council and in return makes full use of the propaganda material which such subscription brings. What is Health Education? There are many definitions but none of them all embracing. It includes teaching people to care more adequately for their own health. It includes the education of children in a design of healthy living and to develop in them a capacity to choose patterns of behaviour which lead to health instead of disease. It includes the fostering of a capacity to evaluate and avoid new threats to health throughout life from the inevitable technological developments of and changes within our Society.

During the year a Seminar was held by the Health Education Council for the benefit of County Medical and Nursing Staff under the auspices of the Local Health Authority. The subjects covered were Smoking, Drugs, and Venereal Disease and no one can deny that they are topical and relevant. Lectures on these and similar topics were also given locally to various Church and Youth Organisations. The Drug problem is an insidious one as so often for an individual it arises in an innocent way. As a result of a dare, a fear of being called "chicken" or having heard so much about it from the Press, the Mass Communication media and Baroness Wooton's Committee he or she decides to "have a go" with Cannabis or reefers just to see what it is all about - a not unusual response to adverse publicity and forbidden fruit since the days of Eden! After the experience some echo Caliban "When I woke; I cried to sleep again" and so a habit is born which may be difficult to break and worst of all lead on to the really hard drugs of addiction. Certain it is that none set out with the intention of being hooked and all should be fully aware that if you are going to sup with the Devil you need a very long spoon!

Health Educators must play a major role in ensuring that young people understand the dangers and problems associated with drugs and drug taking, by appealing to their sense of social and personal responsibility rather than fear. They must try to mobilise young

opinion itself against drug taking, as youth is more likely to listen to youth than to the precepts of older age groups. Finally those who have become dependant on drugs should be fully informed of the facilities which exist to help them in their great need.

This is a problem which may knock at the door of any family without regard to social status, domicile or creed, so no one should stand on the side lines - neutral.

No one need now fall below a basic minimum degree of poverty through the chill winds of adversity, declining health or other circumstances. Never were our children healthier, the expectations of life longer and the attention to the needs of the elderly more comprehensive. The provisions of the Welfare State have become an integral part of the life of every member of the Community. It is salutary to look back down the road which has been travelled in these twenty-one years and acknowledge with gratitude what has been accomplished. The infant of 1945 has now reached adult status and is naturally subject to criticism at that level of development.

Closer integration between the work of Social, Welfare, Medical and para-medical services remains a necessity to close remaining gaps which still exist. To quote an example, persons under geriatric care who become physically handicapped can be so registered and as such helped by the local Welfare authorities. They can have lavatory or bath bolsters installed and lifts provided to take them to their rooms or their activities by these said authorities. If however a person is so ill fitted as to become disabled after leaving age he cannot be so registered and so helped with those domestic and environmental aids except through voluntary effort. Compensatory services sometimes overlap and sometimes diverge creating a gap in which the needs of some individuals are not met. An answer to these and similar problems have been administered by a succession of Committees, White and Green Papers on the reorganisation of the Health Services, Social, Medical and so on and so forth. It has been to the same desirable end, but in a more or less circumstantial way that those locally engaged in these diverse disciplines but all devoted to helping the needy found the means of bridging many of the gaps in communication and in help.

The Co-ordinating Committee for the Welfare of Children at Risk and the Co-ordinating Committee for the Welfare of the Elderly were founded for this precise purpose. Their members are drawn from every branch of the Medical and Social Services. Individual cases and problems are discussed in a spirit of

COMMENTARY

1948 - 1969. This year marked the Coming of Age of the National Health Service and the Welfare State. The social and medical implications of these Measures; their triumphs and disappointments would fill volumes. Suffice it here to pay a tribute to the achievements which have provided medical care to all who need it and brought an end to the worst features of financial crises in families in need. Continuing medical, social and financial assistance is now the experience of all the weaker members of the community. No one need now fall below a basic minimum degree of poverty through the chill winds of adversity, declining health or other circumstances. Never were our children healthier, the expectations of life longer and the attention to the needs of the Elderly more comprehensive. The provisions of the Welfare Society have become an integral part of the life of every member of the Community. It is salutary to look back down the road which has been travelled in these twenty-one years and acknowledge with gratitude what has been accomplished.

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In fact it has been to the same desirable end, but in a much less traumatic way that those locally engaged in these diverse disciplines but all dedicated to helping the needy found the means of bridging many of the gaps in communication and in help.

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Individual cases and problems are discussed in a spirit of

co-operation around a table. Where all are keen to find a practical and common sense solution it is amazing how the barriers fall. This has been the continuing experience throughout the seven years in which these "Brains Trusts" have been meeting regularly. Co-operation cannot be dictated by Statute but only by the fostering of respect and good will between individuals working in different spheres. During the course of the year, thirty-six individual elderly persons had their problems, needs and supportive help discussed by the relevant Committee and the most appropriate agency decided upon. This reduced visiting to a minimum and greatly assisted all concerned.

In a like manner nine families in which children were considered to be at material risk from parental incompetence or neglect were kept under review and assisted as appeared most relevant to their needs. Owing to its topicality it might again be mentioned that representatives of the Departments of Health and Social Security, the District Welfare Officer, the Home Help Organiser, the Health Visitors, the Housing Officers, sit on both Committees. On that for the Elderly they are joined by the Meals on Wheels Organiser, the Consultant Physician to the Peterborough and Stamford Hospital Group, a Family Doctor, the Matron of the Hospital for the Chronic Sick and Elderly Stamford, and the Health Inspectors.

In addition the Children's Officer, the Mental Welfare Officer, the Probation Officer, the School Welfare Officer, the Special Services Officer of the Local Education Authority, the Inspector of the National Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Children and the Headmaster of the Stubton Hall Special School sit on the Children's Co-ordinating Committee. No advisory body in these spheres could be more comprehensively based than these are and they work accordingly.

In last year's report a plea was made for an assessment Unit based on the Hospital to which patients suffering in part from physical ill health, in part from mental ill health and in part from social mismanagement could be referred. Such a Unit run jointly by the Geriatrician and the Psychiatrist, with the Welfare Officer also having rights of entry, would quickly establish which speciality could help the patient most effectively and the appropriate transfer could then be made. It was very satisfying to learn that the Department of Health and Social Security have now instructed that each Hospital area should provide for just such a Unit in their future development plans.

The Council's booklet "A Guide to the Services for the Elderly" was first produced in 1960 and through the good offices of successive Managers of the Local Offices of the Ministry of Pensions - later the Department of Health and Social Security it was widely distributed. This was achieved by placing a copy in the Pension documents of each person as they reached pensionable age. This year, due to centralisation

the local offices have been moved to Peterborough and our area incorporated in a bigger one. Accordingly this distribution method has been discontinued as these booklets are relevant to Stamford and South Kesteven residents and not other areas and such residents cannot be differentiated from those living in other areas. It only remains to regret the need for this and say thanks for past favours. However, it is but one more warning how the fairies of local initiative, local information and acceptance of local wishes are likely to disappear in the uniformity at the bottom of Maud's garden.

This is European Conservation Year. It is high time the Public did turn their attention to what is actually going on in the environment in which they live. Earth, air and water are being increasingly contaminated with the by-products of our technological society. The Earth is being dosed with pesticides, and herbicides which in turn have been hailed as the solution to agricultural and horticultural problems and extolled as safe. Hind sight has shown how wrong these conclusions have been in the case of Aldrin, Dieldrin, and Heptachlor. Now this year in spite of all the past protestations of safety, D.D.T. has been banned also from general use but not before there has been a build up in the soil and in the fat of mankind. This is not to deny it a still useful role in the control of mosquitoes and other insects in under-developed countries. The herbicide 2.4D is also very suspect. It remains to be seen whether the new generation of Carbaryl insecticides which are destined to replace the chlorinated hydro-carbons will be any more desirable in their long term effects though much less persistent in the soil and less toxic to man it is claimed.

The increased usage of nitrate in agriculture is also shown in the rising nitrate content of many shallow sources of water supply. Also committed to the Earth is an ever increasing quantity of tin cans, plastic bags, motor car bodies, factory farming wastes and the waste end products of Industry, Farming and Mining. It is hardly surprising that as Professor Fraser Darling said, ten more acres in this Country alone are being made derelict every day in the year.

The Atmospheric picture also tells a sorry tale. One average sized car doing 12,000 miles in a year emits 1700 lbs. of carbon monoxide, 526 lbs. of assorted hydrocarbons and 90 lb. of nitrogen oxides. In Britain alone two million tons of smoke and more than five million tons of Sulphur Dioxide are belched into the atmosphere. In addition to the carbon monoxide the exhausts of internal combustion engines also pour forth lead contaminated vapours. It is to be hoped that the experience of Los Angeles is never repeated here when children have to stop their play when the pollutants reach a level which makes strenuous activity too dangerous. The little personal indulgence of too much cigarette smoke is but adding a further insult to the injured. It is maybe of some local and maybe selfish consolation

that the local monitoring station indicates that our ground level concentrations of smoke and sulphur dioxide pronounce our air to be comparatively clean and pure compared with that of our towns and cities generally.

In 1388 a Sanitary Law of Britain prohibited "the casting of animals filth or refuse into rivers or ditches in Urban areas on pain of a £20 fine". Today we exploit our water resources with ruthless improvidence and it is hardly news to hear tales of dead fish in polluted rivers, dead birds and dead animals in polluted seas around our coasts and the sinking of large quantities of atomic wastes and lethal gases in the oceans in spite of ocean drifts! River Boards are doing excellent work but there is still a long way to go.

In the meantime the avalanche of legislation continues intent upon moulding and regulating our lives, our behaviour and our environment. A further fifty Acts and well over 1000 Regulations went on the Statute Book this year making a total of 130 new Laws and over 4500 new Regulations within the past three years. How does one keep up with it all - or does anyone?

The Permissive Society continue to dance to the Cole Porter theme "Anything Goes".

It would seem that sexual promiscuity amongst young people is so accepted that it hardly raises an eyebrow in protest. In a Department of Health Survey on Birth Control, single girls are to be asked intimate questions about their contraceptive techniques. Accredited mistresses of students on Education Grants may yet be included in the Grant award!

O Mistress mine, where are you roaming?
O stay right here - your payment's coming -
Dally or study as you will,
For temporary wives there's allocation -
A grant in the new Education.

(Miscellaneous Provisions) Bill.

"The Lancet" 4th April, 1970.

Television is uninhibited. A leading Sociologist told the Annual Meeting of the Family Planning Association that he favoured better sex education for children and suggested that boys should be instructed in the Art of making love. Had he perchance got on to the wrong platform by mistake! Behind this brash new concept of behaviour the Cohorts march in frightening numbers. Divorces have been made increasingly easy. Illegitimacy is up in spite of the Abortions which have increased to over 1500 a week many of them carried out on unmarried teenagers. The incidence of Venereal Diseases is near epidemic proportions and the figures are considerably up on those for

1968. There is increasing evidence too that the modern miracle drugs are no longer the potent cures they were once hailed as being. It seems little short of high tragedy that at a time when the gifts of Health, Welfare and Opportunity were never so universally available that so much should be submerged under the psychedelic stimulation of a sex satiated society. Paradoxically Homo Sapiens whilst reducing promiscuity to a minimum in animal husbandry has reserved unto himself the right to move in the opposite direction.

Over stimulation seems to be the order of the day from pot training at the earliest moment to the Pyrrhic Victory of being snatched from death on the resuscitation table to vegetate. Sex education at a very early age and proposed contraceptive programmes for young unmarried girls from age sixteen are just part of the process. The stimulant pressures of selection procedures throughout training - and what difference does a name make to their reality?; the pressures of the goggle box depicting every emotion from the sublime to the most violent and debased; the pressure and seductions of the advertising world; the advent of the sixth form bar and the general permissiveness born of indifferences - all these and allied factors mean that by teenage our Youth have been conducted personally or vicariously through the whole gamut of sensual human emotions. The cult of provocative nudity in Public entertainment and on the stage and screen is a symptom of a sick society as in the days of Juvenal. May it end as just a passing sneeze! For some of the weaker adolescents the lemon of sensation has been squeezed dry and so in search of a kick there is an increased turning to Drugs for a fresh experience.

Against this background it is hardly surprising that many of our Youth are asking forthright questions and are not quite so enamoured of the Earth which they are to inherit as the more starry eyed of us would like to think they should be.

Is the old fashioned morality not worth considering as an answer to our present dilemmas? Certainly for many with a family of still young children the time could not be too soon.

We have travelled a long way from the days of:

"Father heard his children scream
So he threw them in the stream,
Saying as he drowned the third,
Children should be seen not heard!"

and a very good thing too but some may say we have gone too far in the other direction.

"Our Youth loves luxury, has bad manners, disregards authority

and has no respect whatsoever for age; our today's children are tyrants, they do not get up when an elderly man enters the room, they talk back to their parents - they are just bad".

This could well be the verdict of one of our present day critics of Youth but in fact it was Socrates who said it in 450 B.C. The problem is age old.

"Our world has reached a critical stage, children no longer listen to their parents, the end of the world cannot be far away". This came from an Egyptian priest around 2000 B.C.

Our own Youth have all the potential qualities of greatness but they are embarking on Life at an extremely difficult moment in history with scientific, moral and ethical revolution facing them. They need our critical sympathy and above all they need true leadership if they are to make the full use of their talents both natural and acquired. One thing they have abundantly proved and that is that they do care about Injustice, Underprivilege and Hypocrisy, as no previous generation did at the same age. Let us wish them the Stamford Schools' Motto "Me Spede".

Many of our young people through the agency of the school Action Groups and the Voluntary Emergency Service of the Youth Clubs help the Elderly in their homes by both practical assistance and by the no less important gift of companionship - and how well this is done and how greatly it is appreciated.

The Caring Community of Stamford is reflected in the efforts of many Organisations throughout the Year. The Physically Handicapped Society through the Good Companions Club and Summer outings are mindful of those with physical disabilities. The Stamford Society for the Welfare of Mentally Handicapped Children have their headquarters and Care Centre at the finely reconstructed Kings Mill. It is now open all day on Fridays and it is hoped another day will be added later.

A Careers Exhibition was run at the Exeter School by the Rotary Club of Stamford and the Department of Employment and Productivity of Stamford. It was extremely comprehensive and brought interested crowds from a wide surrounding area. The advisers were volunteers from their own vocations and so could speak with authenticity on all aspects of their work. Eighty-two careers were featured and all had their quota of inquiries from the boys and girls in their final two years at school, to whom the project was addressed.

The Voluntary Committee for the Welfare of the Elderly have endeavoured to organise a more comprehensive Home Visiting Scheme than had previously been possible and it is hoped this will develop,

for loneliness still remains an evil to be combatted. The Annual Christmas Parcel distribution was made to 403 elderly persons living alone, or elderly couples living alone. It was particularly valuable this year thanks to the generosity of the Round Tablers.

The Women's Royal Voluntary Service run the Meals on Wheels service. This has become an ever enlarging section of the Welfare Services which aim to help the elderly and the handicapped to live independant lives in their own homes, by bringing them a hot nutritious meal two or three times a week. It is hoped that other sources can fill in the days as five hot main meals a week are the minimum required to maintain an adequate diet. The W.R.V.S. visitors are welcomed not alone for the service they bring but also for the cheery smile and the kindly word to the recipients.

In addition to these Acts of Social Service there were very many more quiet deeds of practical caring which went unheralded and unsung. There are ample restorations of faith in the inherent goodness of human nature and evidence that the deep rooted traditions and values of the people of Stamford are as alive and valid as ever they were in its long history.

In concluding this report I would like to express my keen appreciation of the unflinching support and help of Mr. Fox, who has brought to the work of the Health Department an enthusiasm married to tact, which has borne much fruit. Mr. Hibbett, formerly pupil Public Health Inspector is to be congratulated on obtaining his full qualifications and we wish him well in his post with a neighbouring Authority.

I wish to express my sincere thanks to Alderman Gray and the other members of the Health Committee for their great interest in and their help to and encouragement of the Department which does assist it so greatly.

I acknowledge with gratitude the initiative and efficiency of Miss Wade and the courtesy and tact which she extends to members of the Public who seek assistance; and also her assistance in the production of this Review.

As a finale I wish to thank most heartily the Town Clerk, Mr. H. Bedford, for all his sage advice given so readily when sought amidst the spate of Do's and Dont's and legal pit falls of accumulative legislation.

"..... still the wonder grew, that just one
head could ponder all he knew"

I also wish to acknowledge gratefully the full co-operation of my other colleagues on the Staff and also thank Dr. Mackey for so kindly standing by for me during my absences.

H. Ellis Smith²

Medical Officer of Health.

HOUSING

Unfit Houses

During the year five dwellings were made the subjects of Closing Orders and at the end of the year a further five dwellings were in the process of being dealt with in accordance with the provisions of the Housing Act for dealing with unfit premises beyond repair at reasonable expense. Since the Housing Act is not a major problem in the Town but as deterioration must be taken into account there will continue to be a number of houses which will have to be dealt with as being unfit for human habitation.

One of the most important standards of living demanded by an increasingly affluent society is that of modern, comfortable housing. In Stamford, as in many other towns, a large proportion of the housing stock does not contain even the minimum modern amenities, and the emphasis must now change from mere clearance to the improvement of the accommodation but structurally sound property. Previous legislation was not sufficient to spur owners, public or private, into action to curb obsolescence. The Housing Act, 1969, is now intended to provide the necessary incentive and it is hoped that it will result in the modernisation of the many dwellings which lack amenities now considered a social necessity.

During the winter months fifteen complaints were received from the tenants of council houses regarding the damp condition of their houses. Investigation showed that the trouble was invariably worse in condensation. During the enquiries it became apparent that many of the more houses were having trouble with this problem. The houses involved included both pre-war and post-war houses.

The problem is not confined to Stamford. Condensation has become a cause for concern throughout the County and has occurred in many new houses as well as old, because of wrong design, bad ventilation and inefficient, expensive heating.

Annual Report of the Public Health Inspector
for the Year 1969

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To the Mayor, Aldermen and Councillors
of the Borough of Stamford

Mr. Mayor, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have pleasure in presenting my third Annual Report in respect of the work of the Public Health Inspector's Department during 1969.

1. HOUSING

Unfit Houses

During the year five dwellings were made the subjects of Closing Orders and at the end of the year a further five dwellings were in the process of being dealt with in accordance with the provisions of the Housing Act for dealing with unfit premises beyond repair at reasonable expense. Slum Clearance is not a major problem in the Town but as deterioration must be taken into account there will continue to be a number of houses which will have to be dealt with as being unfit for human habitation.

One of the most important standards of living demanded by an increasingly affluent society is that of modern, comfortable housing. In Stamford, as in many other towns, a large proportion of the housing stock does not contain even the minimum modern amenities, and the emphasis must now change from slum clearance to the improvement of anachronistic but structurally sound property. Previous legislation was not sufficient to spur owners, public or private, into action to curb obsolescence. The Housing Act, 1969, is now intended to provide the necessary incentive and it is hoped that it will result in the modernisation of the many dwellings which lack amenities now considered a social necessity.

During the winter months fifteen complaints were received from the tenants of council houses regarding the damp condition of their homes. Investigation showed that the trouble was invariably due to condensation. During the enquiries it became apparent that many more homes were having trouble with this problem. The houses involved included both pre-war and post-war houses.

The problem is not confined to Stamford. Condensation has become a cause for concern throughout the Country and has occurred in many new houses as well as old, because of wrong design, bad ventilation and inefficient, expensive heating.

Heating, insulation and ventilation all have to be considered when attempting to remedy this problem. In theory, it would be possible to prevent condensation solely by means of ventilation. However, ventilation has to stop somewhere short of Spartan masochism if some degree of comfort is to be achieved. Today occupiers are becoming much more conscious of both comfort and fuel economy. Fortuitous ventilation through badly fitting doors and windows is being reduced and the inefficient open fireplace which resulted in large volumes of air being drawn up the chimney is being replaced.

The problem can be remedied by ventilating the dwelling as much as possible, compatible with the comfort of the occupants, and ensuring that the whole of the dwelling is adequately heated. These factors are both under the control of the tenant but he cannot be expected to provide an adequate level of background heat throughout the dwelling unless the heating facilities of the property are capable of providing this warmth at a cost within the occupiers economic resources.

Improvement Grants

Thirty-one applications for improvement grants were approved during the year compared with twenty-eight during the previous year. Details are given below:

(a) Discretionary Grants

- | | | |
|-----|---|------|
| (1) | Number of applications approved during the year ... | 3 |
| (2) | Number rejected | Nil |
| (3) | Total cash value of Grants approved during the year | £606 |

(b) Standard Grants

- | | | |
|-----|---|--------|
| (1) | Number of applications approved during the year ... | 28 |
| (2) | Number rejected | Nil |
| (3) | Total cash value of Grants approved during the year | £5,192 |

During the year the occupants of three dwellings made representations to the Council in accordance with Section 19 of the Housing Act, 1964, asking that the owner of their dwelling should be required to improve the property. In each case a preliminary notice was served on the owners, requiring the property to be improved to the full Standard Grant standard.

Moveable Dwellings

The three small caravan sites were maintained in a satisfactory condition.

2. SWIMMING BATHS

The Municipal Swimming Baths were visited each week while the Baths were open, and samples of water from each of the pools were submitted to the Public Health Laboratory at Peterborough for bacteriological examination. In addition, samples of the water of the Swimming Baths at the Stamford School, the Stamford High School and the Stamford and District Hospital were also submitted to the laboratory for examination each week while the pools were in operation.

When the samples are collected the water is also tested to ascertain the "free" and "residual" chlorine content and the "pH" value. The pool operators are advised whenever there appears to be a need for an adjustment in the chlorination level or a correction of the pH of the water. This service, together with the results of the bacteriological examinations, ensures that the swimming pool waters are maintained in a safe and attractive condition.

Details of the samples taken are as follows:

Swimming Bath	Inspections	No. of samples submitted for bacteriological examination
Stamford High School	55	96
Stamford School	15	30
Borough Council	20	60
Stamford Hospital	30	56

3. INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD

Meat Inspection

The Municipal Abattoir remained in operation until the end of June and during the period 1st January to the 30th June, a total of 6,276 animals were killed at the premises.

The shortcomings of the Abattoir premises at North Street had caused serious concern for some time. In 1967 when the matter was considered by the Council it was decided that some temporary repairs and improvements should be carried out with a view to keeping the building in operation for a further two years, while efforts were made to provide new premises. However, negotiations failed to produce any plans for a new abattoir. Proposals were made for the enlargement and improvement of the existing premises but the Council considered it

TABLE 1

	CATTLE		CALVES	SHEEP	PIGS
	Excluding Cows	Cows			
No. of Animals Inspected Period 1st January - 30th June, 1969	671	-	-	2812	2793
<u>TUBERCULOSIS ONLY</u>					
No. of Whole Carcasses and Offals condemned	-	-	-	-	-
No. of Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	-	-	-	-	204
Percentage of Animals affected with T.B.	-	-	-	-	7.3%
<u>DISEASES OTHER THAN T.B.</u>					
No. of Whole Carcasses and Offals condemned	-	-	-	9	3
No. of Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	378	-	-	405	798
Percentage of Animals with diseases other than T.B.	56.33%	-	-	14.38%	28.57%
<u>CYSTICERCOSIS</u>					
Whole Carcasses condemned	-	-	-	-	-
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	3	-	-	-	-
Carcasses submitted to treatment by refrigeration	3	-	-	-	-
Percentage of Animals affected with Cysticercosis	0.45%	-	-	-	-

TABLE 2

DETAILS OF CONDEMNED MEAT SHOWN IN

TABLE 1

MEAT CONDEMNED	BEEF	MUTTON	PORK	VEAL
Whole carcasses and offals	-	9	3	-
Heads	9	-	200½	-
Tongues	7	-	29	-
Pairs of lungs	72	64	197½	-
Livers	285½	310	459	-
Plucks (complete)	-	2	50	-
Fats (mesenteric)	-	-	6	-
Spleens	5	-	-	-
Hearts	3	28	7	-
Kidneys	2	-	2	-
Forequarters (part)	-	-	2	-
Hindquarters (part)	-	1	-	-
Other parts of carcasses	-	-	-	-

Unsound Food Surrendered or Condemned

	Tons	Cwts.	lbs.
1. Meat at Slaughterhouse	7	3	-
2. Canned meats		9	26
3. Other Canned Foods	3	13	53
TOTAL	11	5	79

In addition "frozen foods" to the value of £37 9s. 5d. were surrendered to the Department following the break-down of the refrigeration cabinets. Frozen foods which have been subject to a rise in temperature are not necessarily unfit but are unsaleable as frozen food. Thawed products deteriorate more rapidly than fresh products, probably because the freezing decreases the total bacterial count, but the bacteria remaining are more active in producing decomposition than those in the unfrozen product.

Unfit Food

The following complaints were received from members of the public who alleged that they had been sold food which they considered to be unfit. Each case was thoroughly investigated with the results shown in the table below.

In the majority of cases the complainants had no wish to be involved in court proceedings. The complaints were made with the intention that the incident should be officially investigated in order to prevent a recurrence.

<u>Complaint</u>	<u>Investigation</u>
Unsound consignment of cod fillets	Fish was of poor quality, with a "boxy" odour, but not unsound.
Unusual taste and smell of cheese	No abnormality detected - possibly the complainant was not familiar with the variation in the "strength" of cheeses manufactured in different areas.
Mould in a cheese and tomato roll	Carelessness in the storage of cheese in an otherwise satisfactory kitchen.
Maggots in bacon rashers	Unsatisfactory storage of "orders" before delivery.
Foreign body in Corned Beef	Laboratory examination revealed that objects were three small pieces of fine mortar.
Mouldy Pork Pie	Unexplainable failure in what was thought to be a perfect system of stock rotation.
"Fly blown" Mutton Chops	Standard of hygiene at shop was excellent.
Mouldy chocolate eclair	Bad stock rotation.
Bacon joint unsound	Overstocking of self-service cabinet in a centrally heated shop and poor stock rotation.
Mouldy pineapple tarts	Possibly caused by inadequately ventilated food store.
Fly in iced cake	Standard of hygiene in bakery was satisfactory. Flyproofing precautions improved.
Foreign body in castor of mixed spice	Object was a piece of a broken portion of a plastic castor.
Foreign body in a tin of creamed rice	Object was a small stone - a frequent contaminant of rice.
Mould on luncheon meat	Possibly caused by leaking seam on can.
Mould on corned beef	Can had been "dented" and had developed a small leak in a seam.

Food Hygiene

132 visits were made to premises to which the Food Hygiene (General) Regulations, 1960 apply.

At one set of premises repeated requests for much needed structural improvements had failed to produce any results. The facts were therefore reported to the Health Committee with a view to taking formal action. However, this step was sufficient to expedite the completion of all the necessary improvements. In one other case where a routine inspection revealed flagrant breaches of the Regulations, the facts were reported to the Health Committee. In view of the prompt remedial action of the owners which included changes in management, it was decided to take no action other than to warn the owners that a similar situation must not be allowed to happen again.

In all other cases no serious infringements were found but twenty informal notices were served requiring repairs and improvements to be carried out.

A copy of the Food Hygiene Code of Practice "Hygiene in the Meat Trades" was sent to each of the food businesses whose trade involved the handling of meat.

The Liquid Egg (Pasteurisation) Regulations, 1963.

There are no egg pasteurisation plants in the Borough.

Poultry Inspection

There are no poultry processing premises within the Borough.

4. PEST CONTROL

There was a marked increase in the number of complaints regarding rodent infestations during the year. All of the reports were in respect of minor infestations.

It is difficult to pin point the reason for this increase. The relatively mild winter of 1968/69 may be one factor. Another possible factor is that the public have become more "rat conscious" following the many reports in the National press regarding "hordes of giant rats" in areas where rats have become resistant to Warfarin. The public need not become alarmed at these reports - the rat catcher still has a pharmacopoeia ample for his job and the health risk from warfarin resistant rats is not greater than from other rats.

Rodent control work in the Borough was again carried out by means of a contract with a Pest Control Company.

After a test baiting of the sewers when eleven manholes were found to show signs of being infested, two rodent control treatments of the sewers were carried out. Results were as follows:

	May, 1969	December, 1969
No. of Manholes treated with Warfarin	61	38
No. found to be infested	38	34
No. of baits laid	139	114

During the year 173 complaints were received regarding pests, details of which are as follows:

Rats	121	Ants	2
Mice	16	Fleas	1
Wasps	33		

5. INFECTIOUS DISEASE

A small outbreak of Sonne Dysentery which commenced in July caused a considerable amount of work for the Department. Although there were only fifteen confirmed cases, the investigation and control of the outbreak involved 210 visits by the Health Department staff and a total of 204 faeces specimens were submitted to the Public Health Laboratory.

One aspect revealed by the investigations into the cause of the outbreak was the very unsatisfactory conditions at one of the old primary schools in the Town. The details were reported to the Health Committee and representations were made to the Department of Science and Education, the County Education Authority, the County Medical Officer and the Governors of the School. This action resulted in two totally inadequate classrooms being replaced by two pre-fabricated classrooms sited at a new school; improvements to the toilet facilities; the provision of drinking fountains and improvements to the school kitchen. The conditions that existed at the school before these improvements were carried out could have been the subject of statutory action had the premises, instead of being a school of the education authority, been a shop, office or factory in private ownership. It is a social disgrace that infants commencing their school life should have to use such inadequate, antiquated premises.

6. CLEAN AIR

Once again many complaints were received regarding acid smut emissions from an old established brickworks in the Town. The importance

of prevention being better than cure is as relevant in planning as it is in public health. It is unfortunate therefore that residential development was allowed to expand right up to the boundary of a factory which is a registered works under the Alkali & C. Works Regulation Act, 1906.

The Authority for dealing with nuisances from the chimneys of such works rests with the Alkali Inspector of the Ministry of Housing and Local Government. However, close contact was maintained with the Alkali Inspectorate and the Works Management while the problem was considered. The acid smuts are emitted from the chimneys of three "Belgian" type kilns which are oil fired, using heavy fuel oil containing approximately 3.8% sulphur. At the end of the year, work had commenced on the installation of Swirlamiser burners in place of the slug injection burners on one of the Belgian kilns in order to conduct trials to see if the new burners improved the efficiency of combustion and thereby reduced the acid smut problem.

Numerous complaints were also received regarding a dust omission from the same brickworks. The process causing the dust emission was not controlled under the Alkali & C. Works Regulation Act, so it was dealt with in accordance with the Public Health Act, 1936. To dispel public alarm regarding the risk of fluorosis, samples of the dust were submitted to the Public Analyst for examination. He reported:

"I have examined both of the samples for fluoride and I find that in each case the fluoride content is less than 20 parts per million. Tests for the presence of gross amounts of the likely common toxic elements proved negative".

The Company concerned were most co-operative in remedying the problem and at the end of the year a modern dust collection plant at an estimated cost of £12,000 was in the process of being installed. This plant should ensure that there is no further nuisance from this source.

Complaints regarding smoke nuisances from four other premises were dealt with informally. During the summer months, the inevitable complaints regarding nuisances from the smoke of garden bonfires were received. These were all investigated informally. In an effort to reduce the number of such bonfires, leaflets were issued which recommend the use of compost heaps in lieu of the garden bonfire.

7. NOISE

Ten complaints were received regarding noise nuisances during the year. The causes of complaint were: Industrial Machines - 3; Late Night Dances - 2; Road Breaking Equipment - 1; Lorries on a residential estate - 1; and dogs - 3. All the complaints were

investigated and where necessary, informal action was taken. In no case was it necessary to consider formal action under the Noise Abatement Act, 1960.

8. OFFICES, SHOPS AND RAILWAY PREMISES ACT, 1963.

Once again a considerable amount of time was devoted to the administration of the above Act during the year. The details of the contraventions found indicate that this work is well worthwhile.

When plans for new Offices and Shops are submitted to the Borough Surveyor for approval under the Building Regulations, the plans are also examined in order to assess whether there are any points which may contravene this Act and the persons concerned are advised accordingly.

One application for exemption from the requirements relating to the provision of suitable and sufficient sanitary conveniences was approved during the year.

If any person employed to work in premises to which the Act applies is involved in an accident on the premises and is disabled for more than three days from doing his usual work, the employer is required to notify the Local Authority. Four accidents were reported during the year. In no case was the accident considered to be due to circumstances requiring preventative action.

DETAILS OF CONTRAVENTIONS FOUND WHICH WERE THE SUBJECT OF INFORMAL NOTICES

Cleanliness and/or redecoration of premises required	30	Accommodation for outdoor clothing not provided	1
Overcrowding	2	Inadequate sitting facilities	1
Inadequate heating	10	Defective and dangerous floors, passages and stairs	18
Inadequate ventilation	14	Unsafe or inadequate fencing of exposed parts machinery	3
Inadequate lighting	14	Absence of satisfactory first aid facilities	8
Unsatisfactory or inadequate sanitary accommodation	11	Other Matters	30
Unsatisfactory or inadequate washing facilities	16	TOTAL	159
Absence of supply of drinking water	1		

The following table shows the number of premises registered in the Borough under the Act during the year, the total number of premises registered to date and the number of registered premises receiving a

general inspection during the year. It should be noted that one man businesses and those in which only members of the proprietor's family are employed do not require registration.

REGISTRATION AND GENERAL INSPECTIONS

Class of Premises	No. of premises registered during the year	No. of registered premises at end of Year	No. of registered premises receiving a general inspection during the Year
Offices	-	56	13
Retail Shops	5	127	27
Wholesale Shops, Warehouses	-	9	2
Catering establishments open to the Public, Canteens	1	21	10
Fuel Storage Depots	-	-	-
TOTALS	6	213	52

Total number of visits of all kinds by Inspectors to premises registered under the Act: 117.

9. PET ANIMALS ACT, 1951.

The two premises licensed in accordance with the Act were both maintained in a satisfactory condition.

10. GENERAL STATISTICS

TABULAR STATEMENT OF INSPECTIONS

Housing	177	Market	44
Improvement Grants	81	Licensed Premises	18
Public Health Nuisances	37	Smoke Nuisances	47
Offices, Shops and Railway Premises Act	185	Land Charges	23
Food Hygiene	142	Noise	45
Food Inspection	50	Swimming Baths	120
Moveable Dwellings	3	Pest Control	19
Meat Inspection	175	Water Supply	12
Slaughterhouse	23	Infectious diseases	210
Factories	14	Drainage	27
		Miscellaneous	37

NOTICES SERVED

Informal

Public Health Acts	10	Clean Air Act	4
Food Hygiene Regulations	20	Factories Acts	3
Offices, Shops and Railway Premises Act	35	Noise Abatement	4

Complaints

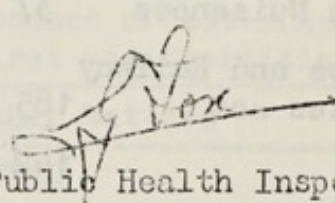
A total of 265 complaints from members of the Public received attention by the department during the year.

11. STAFF

During the year Mr. N. Hibbett, the Pupil Public Health Inspector completed his training and promptly passed the qualifying examination to become a Public Health Inspector. Unfortunately this led to him terminating his appointment with Stamford Borough to take up a position with a neighbouring authority. The enthusiasm and tact with which he had undertaken work of increasing responsibility indicates that he has a successful career ahead of him.

Miss Wade continued to undertake all the secretarial duties of the department with exceptional efficiency and tact. Unfortunately the closure of the Abattoir meant that Mr. Coulson terminated his appointment with the Council after carrying out the duties of Abattoir Manager in an efficient manner for many years.

In conclusion, I would express my thanks to the Chairman (Alderman G. W. Gray) and Members of the Health Committee for their continued support and confidence, to the Medical Officer of Health (Dr. H. Ellis Smith) for his encouragement and advice at all times, the Town Clerk (Mr. H. Bedford) for his sound counsel so readily given during the year and my other colleagues for their willing co-operation and assistance at all times.


Public Health Inspector.

Town Hall,
Stamford,
Lincolnshire.
June, 1970.

FACTORIES ACTS, 1937 to 1959

IN RESPECT OF THE YEAR 1969

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

Premises	Number on Register	Inspections	Number of Written Notices	Occupiers Prosecuted
(1) Factories in which section 1, 2,3,4 & 6 are to be enforced by the Local Authority	8	1	-	NIL
(2) Factories not included in (1) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority	74	14	3	NIL
(3) Other premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (including out-workers' premises)	-	-	-	-
TOTALS	82	15	3	NIL

2. Cases in which defects were found

Particulars	Number of cases in which defects were found				
	Found	Remedied	Referred		No. of cases in which prosecutions were instituted
			To H. M. Inspector	By H. M. Inspector	
Want of Cleanliness (S.1)	-	-	-	-	-
Overcrowding (S.2)	-	-	-	-	-
Inadequate temperature (S.3)	-	-	-	-	-
Ineffective drainage (S.6)	-	-	-	-	-
Sanitary conveniences (S.7)					
(a) Insufficient	1	1	-	-	-
(b) Unsuitable or defective	1	1	-	1	-
(c) Not separate for sexes	1	1	-	-	-
Other offences against the Act (not including Outwork)	-	-	-	-	-
TOTALS	3	3	-	1	NIL

There were no Outworkers listed during the year.

