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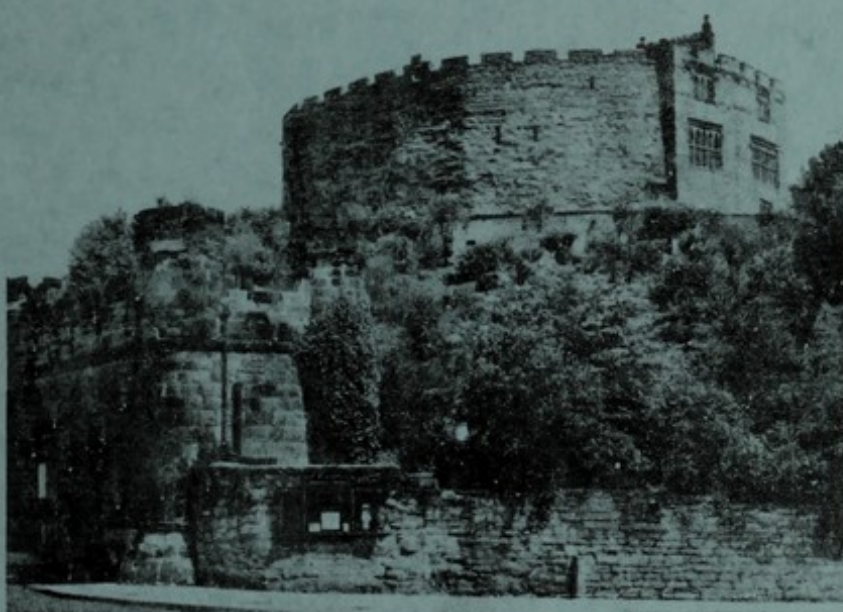
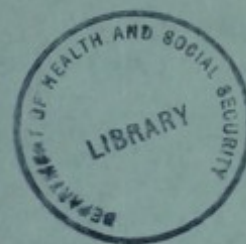
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BOROUGH OF TAMWORTH



TAMWORTH CASTLE

Annual Reports
of
The Medical Officer of Health
and
The Chief Public Health Inspector
for the year 1969

BOROUGH OF TAMWORTH
HEALTH AND SAFETY COMMITTEE

Councillor Mrs. L. Tricklebank J.P. (Chairman)

Councillor K.A. Mugleston (Vice-Chairman)

Alderman A.H. Coggins (Mayor)

Aldermen H. Hadley
R. Marriott
W. Mothershaw

Councillors W. Newbury
Mrs. M.S. Prime
R.C. Smith

Medical Officer of Health

Dr. C.M. David, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.

(Appointed 1st January 1969)

This post had been vacant since 30.9.66

Chief Public Health Inspector

H. Birchwood, M.A.P.H.I.

(Retired on 6th May 1969)

R. Burfield, M.A.P.H.I.

(Appointed 1st July 1969)

Cert. Insp. Meat and Foods

Diploma for Smoke Inspectors

Deputy Chief Public Health Inspector

G.J. Watts, M.A.P.H.I., M.R.I.P.H.H.

Cert. Insp. of Meat and Foods

Additional Public Health Inspectors

V.M. Lawton, M.A.P.H.I.

Cert. Insp. of Meat and Foods

P.Hodges, M.A.P.H.I., A.R.S.H

Diploma for Inspection of Meat and Other Foods

Diploma for Smoke Inspectors

T. Smalley, M.A.P.H.I., M.R.S.H., M.R.I.P.H.H.

Diploma for Air Pollution Control

(Appointed 1st July 1969)

J. Cavanagh, M.A.P.H.I.

Testamur I.P.C.

(Appointed 3rd November 1969)

Technical Assistant

B. Satterthwaite, M.R.S.H

(Appointed 1st November 1969)

Student Public Health Inspectors

R. Waterhouse

P. Atkins

General Assistant

C. Clement

Clerical

K.B. Paul - Chief Clerk

(Appointed 1st May, 1969)

H. Brown - Clerical Assistant

Mrs. P. Heath - Clerk/Typist

TAMWORTH BOROUGH COUNCIL

ANNUAL REPORT

of the

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

1969

To the Mayor, Aldermen and Councillors
of the Borough Council

Mr. Mayor, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have pleasure in presenting my statutory Annual Report on the health of the district and on the work of the Health Department for 1969, prepared in accordance with Ministry of Health Circular 1/70.

It should be noted that where variation of the Borough's statistics vary from year to year or from the National figures care should be used in interpretation for these variations are related in part at least to the large variations in statistical rates which tend to occur when relatively smaller figures are dealt with.

POPULATION

The Registrar General's figure for the estimated mid-year home population is 37,360 compared with 35,970 in 1968.

LIVE BIRTH RATE

There has been an increase in the number of live births compared with the previous year. 861 in 1969, 842 in 1968. Further details will be found on page 8. After adjustment of the rate to allow for age and sex distribution, the adjusted figure of 21.4 can be seen to be much higher than that for England and Wales as a whole (16.3). This, of course, is due to the larger proportion of young families living in the Borough.

The proportion of illegitimate live births to total live and still births was 1 to 25 totalling 35 compared with 30 in 1968, and a National figure for 1969 of 67,042.

STILL BIRTH RATE

The number of still births per 1000 total births during the year was 14, compared with the National figure of 13.

NEONATAL DEATH RATE

The number of deaths per 1000 occurring during the first four weeks of life was 7 compared with the National figure of 12.

INFANT MORTALITY RATE

The number of deaths per 1000 occurring in the first twelve months of life. The rate for the Borough in 1969 was 15 compared with the National figure of 18.

PERINATAL MORTALITY RATE

Is the combination of the number of still births and deaths within the first week of life per 1000 births, and was 17 compared with the national figure of 23.

DEATHS

There were 339 deaths in 1969 compared with 324 the previous year. The following causes of death are of interest:-

Disease of the heart and circulatory system	152	= 45% of Total Deaths
Malignant disease	54	= 16% of Total Deaths
Respiratory disease	34	= 10% of Total Deaths
Suicides	2	
Accidents:		
Motor vehicle	7	
Other accidents	8	

Further details will be found on page 9.

INFECTIOUS DISEASES

The introduction with effect from the 1st October 1968 of the Public Health (Infectious Diseases) Regulations 1968 brought about certain changes with regard to notifications and other aspects of infectious disease. For example acute primary pneumonia, acute influenzal pneumonia and puerperal pyrexia are no longer notifiable, whereas tetanus, yellow fever and leptospirosis are required, for the first time, to be notified.

The most important infectious disease event in the Borough in 1969 was the occurrence of 2 cases of typhoid fever. These occurred in a Tamworth family returning from Australia in the S.S. "Angelina Laura" which called at Teneriffe in the Canary Islands, where infection is thought to have been contracted from food eaten in a cafe, and several cases were reported in the United Kingdom. Fortunately, the disease was localised to this family but the occurrence required careful daily surveillance of all contacts whilst wide spread public concern necessitated press and other reassurance.

Further details of notifiable diseases will be found on page 15.

WATER SUPPLY

The Borough's water supply is obtained via four pumping stations from The South Staffs Waterworks Co. and is derived from both surface and underground sources. Regular and frequent samples for bacteriological and chemical analysis are taken of both raw and chlorinated water. During 1969 508 samples of chlorinated water were examined, 507 of which were free from Coliform bacteria whilst 245 out of 248 samples of raw water were free from Coliform bacteria. The water supply to the area has been satisfactory in quality and quantity and the naturally occurring fluoride content has varied between 0.03 and 0.3 parts per million. In cases of possible contamination, such as bursts or damaged mains, emptying reservoirs, etc., emergency chlorination is performed, special apparatus and staff being available for this work. New mains etc., are not brought into use until the water has been examined and proved satisfactory.

12,470 houses were supplied direct during the year and 4 by means of stand pipes.

Samples were examined within the Borough from Glascote Reservoir, Glascote Re-Pumping Station, Two Gates Re-Pumping Station, Tamworth Gas Works. In each case where supply water showed any evidence of bacteriological characteristics slightly differing from normal repeat samples were always promptly obtained. Where traces of contamination have been detected, further sampling, following corrective action where necessary has resulted in rapid restoration of entirely satisfactory results. An example of average chemical results (Sample from Tamworth Gas Works) for 1969 is:-

pH	7.5		
Alkalinity (CaCO ₃)	150	parts	per million
Chlorides (Cl)	34.3	"	"
Ammoniacal Nitrogen (N)	Trace	"	"
Albuminoid Nitrogen (N)	0.32	"	"
Oxidises Nitrogen (N)	6.8	"	"
Oxygen Absorbed (3 hr. at 27°C)	0.39	"	"
Temporary Hardness	145	"	"
Permanent Hardness	115	"	"
Total Hardness	260	"	"
Iron (Fe)	0.02	"	"
Manganese (Mn)	Nil	"	"
Zinc (Zn)	Nil	"	"
Copper (Cu)	0.3	"	"
Lead (Pb)	Nil	"	"
Free Cl	Nil	"	"

The waters are not liable to plumbo-solvency, all samples being free from any detectable quantity of lead.

SEWAGE

The present Borough is divided into three main drainage areas with Sewage Purification Works at Coton Lane, Amington and Dosthill, which together treat a dry weather flow of about two million gallons of sewage per day from a population of some 45,000. The Coton Lane Disposal Works also treats sewage from the Fazeley, Bonehill and Wigginton Areas which are outside the Borough in the Lichfield Rural District, and the Amington Works also serves a small number of properties in the Atherstone Rural District Council's area at Alvecote. All these disposal works are old in design and construction and are at present being pressed to their limit to cope with present day flows.

In order to give some spare capacity at the Coton Lane Works to enable development to proceed in Tamworth, a lease has been taken on 44 acres of adjoining land and a spray irrigation system provided to improve the effluent quality with increased flow. Also a Pasveer Oxidation Ditch has been provided at Belgrave in the south-eastern sector of the Borough to provide additional temporary treatment capacity for the larger contracts for overspill housing development. This Pasveer Ditch will treat up to 300,000 gallons of sewage per day which is the equivalent of just over 2,000 dwellings. These temporary measures are only intended to re-inforce the present treatment works to permit town expansion to proceed pending the provisions of a new permanent foul sewerage system and a new modern disposal works at Coton Lane which will treat all sewage from the whole of the Borough.

The Borough Council have engaged a firm of Consulting Civil Engineers, Messrs. A.H.S. Waters and Partners, to prepare schemes and contracts for a new trunk sewerage system, pumping stations, rising main and the first phase of a new treatment works at Coton Lane, the cost of which in total amounts to approximately £1.8 million. These works are detailed overleaf, together with progress to date:-

Joint Intercepting Sewer	Substantially complete
36" Rising Main	Completed and commissioned.
Amington Road Trunk Sewer	In progress - due for completion September 1970
Lichfield Road Pumping Station	In progress - due for completion December 1970
Kettlebrook Foul Sewer	In progress - due for completion January 1971
Phase 1 - Coton Lane Disposal Works	In progress - due for completion November 1971
Dosthill/Kettlebrook Trunk Foul Sewer	Tender accepted - work not yet started

In addition to the above works, a new trunk sewer is being provided, in stages, as development proceeds along the Kettlebrook Valley. This sewer will serve new development and existing properties in the Glascote, Belgrave and Wilnecote areas.

The new treatment works at Coton Lane is designed to be constructed in three phases. Each phase will treat a dry weather flow of 3,000,000 gallons per day and their combined capacity will deal with industrial and domestic flows from a population of 142,600. The Coton Lane Site as now being developed could well accommodate treatment facilities in excess of those originally intended, there being space for a fourth phase should this ever become necessary.

By the end of 1971 the new sewerage system and the first phase of the Coton Lane Disposal Works will be in operation capable of giving full treatment to industrial and domestic sewage flows from a population of 46,500. It is intended to follow immediately with the construction of Phase II of the disposal works to provide continuity of town expansion.

SECTION A

GENERAL STATISTICS

Area in Acres	7,647
Registrar General's estimate of resident population	37,360
Number of Inhabited Houses (April 1969) according to Rate Book	11,739
Persons per Acre	4.8
Rateable Value - April 1969	£1,356,163
Product of 1d. Rate Estimated 1969/70	£5,875

VITAL STATISTICS

	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>	<u>Total</u>
Live Births	440	421	861
Live Births, rate per 1,000 population			23.0
Adjusted birthrate (comparability factor .93)			21.4
Birthrate (England and Wales)	16.3		
Illegitimate live births per cent of total live births	4.0		
Illegitimate live births per cent of total live births (England and Wales)	8.0		

NOTE ON ADJUSTED BIRTHRATE

Local birthrates are usually expressed in terms of population. These populations are estimated by the Registrar General and comprise persons of all ages, including many who quite obviously have no influence on the reproductive process. These latter do, however, affect the birthrate in that a preponderance of them in the population of an area tends to lower and a small proportion of them to raise, the true rate. Considerable variation in the size of this proportion exists in different areas, and it is therefore apparent that the elimination or standardisation of such a factor enables a truer comparison between areas.

As a result of this the Registrar General issues yearly, for each area, a comparability factor, for use with birth and death rates. The adjusted rates resulting from the multiplication of the crude rate of the area by this comparability factor produces a figure which can then be compared with that of any other area or with the country as a whole.

STILLBIRTHS

	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>	<u>Total</u>
Legitimate	7	4	11
Illegitimate	-	1	1
	—	—	—
Total	7	5	12
	=	=	=

	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>	<u>Total</u>
TOTAL LIVE AND STILLBIRTHS	447	426	873
Legitimate	435	403	838
Illegitimate	12	23	35

STILLBIRTH RATE (per 1,000 live and stillbirths) 14

INFANT DEATHS (Deaths under one year)

Legitimate	5	7	12
Illegitimate	1	-	1
	-	-	-
Total	6	7	13
	=	=	=

EARLY NEONATAL DEATH (Deaths 0 - 1 week)

Legitimate	-	2	2
Illegitimate	1	-	1
	-	-	-
Total	1	2	3
	=	=	=

NEONATAL DEATHS (Deaths 1 - 4 weeks)

Legitimate	1	4	5
Illegitimate	1	-	1
	-	-	-
Total	2	4	6
	=	=	=

INFANT MORTALITY RATE(Deaths 0-1 year per 1,000 live births)

Legitimate	15 (Males and Females)
Illegitimate	29 (Males and Females)

EARLY NEONATAL DEATH RATE

(Deaths under 1 week per 1,000 live births)

3

NEONATAL MORTALITY RATE

(Deaths under 4 weeks per 1,000 live births)

7

PERINATAL DEATH RATE

(Stillbirths plus infants dying at less than one week per 1,000 live and stillbirths)

17

The following Table shows how the Borough figures, after being adjusted by the Registrar General's Local Comparability Factor, compare with those for England and Wales for 1969:-

	<u>Tamworth M.B.</u>	<u>England and Wales</u>
LIVE BIRTH RATE:	21.4	16.3
(Ratio of local adjusted rate to national rate)	1.31	1.00
(Illegitimate live births as <u>percentage</u> of all live births)	4	8
STILL BIRTH RATE:	14	13
PERINATAL MORTALITY RATE:	17	23
NEONATAL MORTALITY RATE:	7	12
INFANT MORTALITY RATE	15	18
DEATH RATE - ALL AGES:	10.7	11.9
(Ratio of local adjusted rate to national rate)	.90	1.00

The following Table shows how the figures for 1969 compare with those for immediately preceding years:-

Year	Estimated Population	Live Birth Rate per 1000 Home popln.	Still Birth Rate	Neonatal Death Rate (Deaths under 4 wks.)	Infant Death Rate	Perinatal Mortality	Death Rate (All Ages)
1965*	32,030	22.3	13.8	11.2	14	22.1	8.5
1966	33,200	24.2	20.8	15.	20	34.2	10.5
1967	34,600	25.1	20.	7.	8	28.	8.8
1968	35,970	23.4	12.	7.	14	18.	9.0
1969	37,360	23.0	14.	7.	15	17.	9.1

*Borough expanded by inclusion of Tamworth Rural District

DEATH FROM ALL CAUSES

<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>	<u>Total</u>
194	145	339

Death Rate (per 1,000 population) 9.1

Adjusted death rate (comparability factor
1.18) 10.7

NOTE: This comparability factor is obtained
and used on a similar principal to
that for comparability for births

Death Rate (England and Wales) 11.9

Causes of Death	Sex	1969	1968	1967	1966	1965
Bacillary dysentery, amoebiasis	M	-	-	-	-	-
	F	1	-	-	-	-
Enteritis and other diarrhoeal diseases	M	-	-	1	1	1
	F	1	-	-	-	-
Tuberculosis of respiratory system	M	1	2	2	-	-
	F	-	-	1	-	-
Malignant neoplasm, stomach	M	8	5	7	6	3
	F	4	3	4	4	7
Malignant neoplasm, intestine	M	3	-	-	-	-
	F	2	-	-	-	-
Malignant neoplasm, lung, bronchus	M	16	13	10	8	9
	F	2	1	1	1	3
Malignant neoplasm, breast	M	-	-	-	-	-
	F	6	8	5	7	7
Malignant neoplasm, uterus	F	1	1	-	5	-
Malignant neoplasm, prostate	M	2	-	-	-	-
Leukaemia	M	1	-	-	3	1
	F	-	-	-	-	1
Other malignant neoplasms	M	5	13	14	13	13
	F	4	8	16	13	12
Benign and unspecified neoplasms	M	1	1	-	-	-
	F	-	-	-	-	-
Diabetes mellitus	M	1	3	-	-	1
	F	2	3	1	3	1
Other endocrine etc. diseases	M	-	1	-	-	-
	F	2	-	-	-	-
Anaemias	M	-	1	-	-	-
	F	1	2	-	-	-

Causes of Death	Sex	1969	1968	1967	1966	1965
Other diseases of nervous system etc.	M	2	1	-	-	-
	F	3	1	-	-	-
Mental disorders	F	-	1	-	-	-
Chronic rheumatic heart disease	M	3	2	-	-	-
	F	2	5	-	-	-
Hypertensive disease	M	5	2	3	3	2
	F	7	2	3	4	6
Ischaemic heart disease	M	57	49	44	47	25
	F	30	29	26	18	23
Other forms of heart disease	M	6	7	7	13	5
	F	7	9	11	21	17
Cerebrovascular disease	M	22	23	25	18	25
	F	19	26	35	24	23
Other diseases of circulatory system	M	12	13	17	10	13
	F	23	19	14	29	8
Influenza	M	3	1	-	-	-
	F	2	-	-	1	-
Pneumonia	M	4	8	4	6	7
	F	10	3	4	18	4
Bronchitis and emphysema	M	12	12	9	18	13
	F	1	4	3	5	2
Other infective and parasitic diseases	M	-	-	1	1	-
Asthma	M	1	-	-	-	-
	F	-	-	-	-	-
Other diseases of respiratory system	M	1	2	1	2	2
	F	-	2	1	-	-
Peptic ulcer	M	1	-	2	2	3
	F	-	1	-	2	-
Intestinal obstruction and hernia	M	-	1	-	-	-
	F	2	1	-	-	-
Other diseases of digestive system	M	2	3	-	-	-
	F	1	-	-	-	-
Nephritis and nephrosis	M	2	-	1	-	2
	F	-	-	-	-	-
Hyperplasia of prostate	M	2	2	1	4	2
Diseases of musculo-skeletal system	M	2	-	-	-	-
	F	2	3	-	-	-
Congenital anomalies	M	2	4	-	2	-
	F	2	1	2	1	1
Birth injury, difficult labour, etc.	M	1	1	-	-	-
	F	-	1	-	1	-
Other causes of perinatal mortality	M	-	2	-	-	-
	F	2	1	1	-	-
Symptoms and ill defined conditions	M	3	-	11	7	15
	F	1	4	6	12	8
Motor vehicle accidents	M	6	2	4	10	5
	F	1	2	1	2	3

Causes of Death	Sex	1969	1968	1967	1966	1965
All other accidents	M	6	3	4	3	2
	F	2	1	-	1	1
Suicide and self-inflicted injuries	M	1	5	-	1	-
	F	1	-	-	-	1
All other external causes	M	-	-	-	-	-
	F	1	-	-	-	-
Syphilitic disease	M	-	-	1	-	-
TOTAL ALL CAUSES	M	194	179	169	178	146
	F	145	145	135	172	125

SECTION B

GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES

The Borough Council is the Sanitary Authority responsible for the environmental services. It has no major responsibilities under the National Health Service Act 1946 and the County Council is the local health authority. As such it is responsible for the following services:-

Maternity and Child Welfare, Domiciliary Midwifery, Vaccination and Immunisation, Ambulance Service, Health Visiting, Administration of the Mental Health Services, "care and after care" and the provision of the Home Nursing and "Home Helps". Section 21 of the Act imposes on the County Council the duty of providing Health Centres.

In pursuance of these responsibilities the County Council brought the following facilities to the inhabitants of the Borough:-

1. Ambulance Service (Section 27)

There are four ambulances and one sitting case car with a staff of 11 based at the local ambulance station, which is now operating 8.a.m. to midnight on 6 days per week. For calls outside these hours, including Sunday (all day), ambulances are supplied from other County stations.

2. Maternity, Home Nursing and Domestic Help Services (Sections 23, 25 and 29)

The services outlined here operate also in the rural areas in the immediate vicinity of Tamworth and not only the Borough.

There are 6 County Council midwives - full time. Tamworth area also has 4 full time District Nurses and 2 part time and 61 Domestic Helps working approximately 20 hours each per week and providing a service for 280 cases. i.e. approximately 5 hours each case. All these services take up a total of approximately 1640 hours per week. The County Council is also responsible for other special health services - Maternity and Child Welfare and the School Health Service. There are 5 Health Visitors assisted by 2 school clinic nurses available for anti-natal and child health work and during the year attachment of the Health Visitors to family practitioners has been arranged. This has meant that a Health Visitor does not now have the same contact with all patients attending clinics but only with those which belong to her particular practice - an arrangement, in my opinion, not necessarily to the patient's advantage. Under the direction of Dr. MacLachlan, Chest Physician, a Health Visitor who specializes in T.B. is employed.

There are 8 Child Health Clinics in the Borough providing facilities for Infant Welfare, School Health, Speech Therapy, Chiropody, Cervical Cytology, Anti-Natal E.N.T., and Ophthalmic Care. In addition facilities are provided for the Family Planning Association to hold clinics.

IMMUNISATION AND VACCINATIONS (1969) OF CHILDREN

	BORN IN					
	1969	1968	1967	1966	1962/65	Others under 16 yrs. of age
<u>Diphtheria Immunisation</u>						
(a) No. of children who received a primary course of protection either singly or in combination in 1969	34	253	25	7	14	-
(b) No. of children who received a reinforcing injection in 1969	-	164	326	34	894	108
<u>Whooping Cough Immunisation</u>						
(a) No. of children who received primary course of protection, either singly or in combination in 1969	34	241	22	6	4	-
(b) No. of children who received a reinforcing injection in 1969	-	147	244	20	81	4
<u>Tetanus Inoculation</u>						
(a) No. of children who received primary course of protection, either singly or in combination in 1969	34	253	25	7	13	-
(b) No. of children who received a reinforcing injection in 1969	-	164	325	34	883	87
<u>Poliomyelitis Vaccination</u>						
(a) Primary	37	253	27	13	18	-
(b) Reinforcing (all oral type vaccine)	-	133	273	26	907	120
<u>Measles Vaccination</u>	1	51	126	71	147	137
<u>Smallpox Vaccination</u>						
	AGE					
	<u>0-3mths</u>	<u>4-6mths</u>	<u>7-9mths</u>	<u>10-12mths</u>	<u>1 year</u>	<u>2-4 years</u>
	3	0	0	1	269	96
						24
Revaccination - 15						

LABORATORY FACILITIES (Section 26)

Tamworth is served by the Public Health Laboratory Service, Stafford. This is directed by the Medical Research Council for the Ministry of Health as a component of a free national laboratory service for England and Wales. The work of the laboratory is designed to assist the Medical Officer of Health and the general practitioners in the diagnosis, prevention and control of communicable diseases. Its activities include the examination of throat and nose swabs, sputum, blood and excreta of human origin as aids to diagnosis of suspected or actual infectious diseases. Its sanitary work includes mainly the bacteriological examination of drinking water, the testing of sampled milk for cleanliness and for the presence of tubercle bacillus and other pathogenic organisms, and the bacteriological testing of food samples, ice cream, synthetic cream, and shell-fish as distributed to the consumer. Its staff is available to participate in the investigation of outbreaks of infectious disease in the area which it serves, with the general aim of preventing or controlling disease.

SECTION C

INFECTIOUS AND OTHER DISEASES

The following Table I shows the number of cases of infectious diseases other than Tuberculosis notified during the year and also the number of cases of each disease notified during the preceding five years, while Table II shows the number of cases of Tuberculosis notified and deaths during 1969 together with notifications and mortality for the preceding five years.

The small number of cases of Whooping Cough reflects the successful use of immunisation of infants. It is likely that the present increasing use of measles vaccine will bring about a similar marked decrease in the incidence of naturally occurring measles.

TABLE I - NOTIFIABLE INFECTIOUS DISEASES OTHER THAN TUBERCULOSIS

	1965	1966	1967	1968	1969
Smallpox	-	-	-	-	-
Scarlet Fever	3	18	3	4	10
Diphtheria	-	-	-	-	-
Enteric Fever (including Paratyphoid)	-	-	-	-	2
Peurperal Fever	-	-	-	-	-
Pneumonia	1	-	1	-	-
Erysipelas	2	-	-	-	-
Encephalitis Lethargica	-	-	-	3	-
Encephalitis (acute) Infective	-	-	-	3	-
Encephalitis (acute) Post Infections	-	-	-	1	-
Cerebro-spinal Fever	-	-	-	-	-
Acute Poliomyelitis	-	-	-	-	-
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	-	-	-	-	-
Whooping Cough	1	5	2	1	1
Measles	134	15	234	106	5
Meningococcal Infection	-	-	-	-	-
Food Poisoning	-	-	-	-	-
Dysentery	1	-	3	1	2
TOTAL	142	38	243	119	20

TABLE II - TUBERCULOSIS NEW CASES AND MORTALITY DURING 1969

Year	NEW CASES				DEATHS			
	Pulmonary		Non Pulmonary		Pulmonary		Non Pulmonary	
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
1969	6	5	-	1	1	-	-	-
1968	8	1	-	1	2	-	-	-
1967	2	4	1	1	-	-	1	-
1966	9	5	1	-	-	-	-	-
1965	1	5	-	-	-	-	-	-

TUBERCULOSIS INCIDENCE

Notified Cases in Tamworth M.B.

		<u>Population Cases</u>	<u>Rate/1,000</u>
1967	34,600	10 (excluding 2 inward transfers)	0.289
1968	35,970	11 (excluding 1 inward transfer)	0.305
1969	37,360	10 (excluding 8 inward transfers)	0.267

Comparable Size AreasStafford Borough:

1969	53,590	5	0.093
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Seisdon Rural:

1969	38,840	6	0.154
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County Case Rate :

1967			0.12
1968			0.10

ANNUAL REPORT
of
THE CHIEF PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR

To the Chairman and Members of the Health and
Safety Committee

Mr. Mayor, Madam Chairman, Lady and Gentlemen,

I took up my appointment on 1st July 1969 and it soon became apparent that the Department was trying to do too much with too little. Staff and equipment were inadequate.

The Council accepted that re-organisation was required. The establishment was expanded to five additional inspectors and two technical assistants. An additional rat-catcher was appointed. The fruits of this expansion will not be visible in this report but the foundation of later achievements was laid.

1. FOOD AND DRUGS

(a) Meat Inspection

All animals killed in the three slaughterhouses are inspected on the day of slaughter. The table show the numbers killed and the incidence of disease. About one in every sixteen animals had some disease, varying from slight abnormalities to serious conditions such as tuberculosis and septicaemia. This is one of those vital services which only make the headlines when things go wrong.

The design of our slaughterhouses is not good and follows the national pattern in that generally speaking the United Kingdom lags considerably behind its northern European neighbours in hygiene matters.

One small slaughterhouse in the borough closed at the end of the year because it was impossible to comply with the structural requirements of the Slaughterhouse Hygiene Regulations. With the rapid population expansion consideration might be given to the provision of a modern municipal abattoir. Two of the existing slaughterhouses are badly sited. The income from meat inspection totalled £706 but this sum does not approach the real cost of the service. Scattered slaughterhouses are very time-consuming.

The table overleaf gives details of all animals killed in the slaughterhouses during 1969:

(c) Food Hygiene Regulations

It is not much of a compliment to say that the standard of food handling in this borough is about average. It would be very pleasant to see standards rise and public health inspectors do what they can to ensure improvement, but an equally important factor is consumer acceptance. The housewife sets the standard as far as the front shop is concerned. Inspectors have to look after the back shop.

We have many small shops which sell a multiplicity of foods; no doubt they provide an invaluable service but cream cakes and cauliflowers are ill-assorted companions from a hygienic viewpoint. The general standard of wholesale meat deliveries is disgraceful. Vehicle design is poor. Very often the men responsible for delivery give the impression that they might as well be delivering sacks of coal for all they know or care.

With the increase of food handling in public houses a warning needs to be sounded. There is a tendency to relax standards in the free and easy atmosphere of a bar. Bar staff commonly smoke cigarettes despite its being an offence. This applies whether or not solid food is sold. Among its other admirable qualities beer is a bad vehicle for germs so to some extent enforcement of the law is often relaxed. Ham sandwiches, sausage rolls and meat pies fall in a different category.

There are two approaches to implementation of the Food Hygiene Regulations, by education or by enforcement in courts of law. Most inspectors prefer to rely upon persuasion but sometimes the public interest requires the rigor of legal correction. A local hotel failed to respond to informal requests and conditions degenerated to such an extent as to warrant prosecution. The proprietors were fined £140 with £20 costs in the magistrates' court; renovation of the hotel followed and the end justified the means.

(d) List of Food Premises

(1)	Butchers, Cooked Meat Shops and Manufacturing premises registered under Section 16 of the Food and Drugs Act, 1955	26
(2)	Premises registered for manufacture, storage and sale of Ice-Cream	85
(3)	Premises registered for Milk Distribution	37
(4)	Fish Friers	18
(5)	Fishmongers	3
(6)	Greengrocers	15
(7)	Hotels	1
(8)	Cafes/Restaurants	15
(9)	Factory Canteens	22
(10)	Public Houses and other Licensed Premises	38
(11)	Clubs	15
(12)	Food Manufacturers	10
(13)	Wholesale Shops/Warehouses	10
(14)	Mobile Vendors	9
(15)	General Grocers	68

(e) List of Samples taken during the year 1969

The following information giving details of samples of milk and other foods taken in Tamworth during 1969 was supplied by Dr. G. Ramage M.A. (Admin) M.D., County Medical Officer of Health.

The County Council is the Food and Drugs Authority because county districts must have a population of 40,000 in order to qualify. This is an unwieldy division of responsibilities which will disappear when the population reaches the required level.

Milk (Informal samples)

Untreated	2
Pasteurised	7 (2 C.I.)
Sterilised	<u>1</u>
	10
	—

One unsatisfactory sample of Pasteurised Milk was found to contain at least 10.4% added water.

General Food and Drugs

Number of samples taken	=	53
Number of samples genuine	=	53

Assorted Jubes	Malt Vinegar
Beef Dripping	Malted Milk Biscuits
Blackcurrant Health Drink	Margarine
Beef Casserole	Mince meat
Beef Continental	Onion and Mushroom Stuffing Mix
Bread	Oxtail Soup
Broad Beans	Orange Drink
Butter	Ox Tongue
Biscuits	Pasteurised Milk
Baked Beans	Pork Sausage (Containing preservative) (2)
Channel Islands Pasteurised Milk (3)	Pineapple Cubes in Syrup
Christmas Pudding	Pork Sausage
Creamed Macaroni	Pork
Cooking Fat	Pork Chipolatas (Containing preservative)
Danish Butter (2)	Refine Lard
Eclairs	Spaghetti Rings in Tomato Sauce
Fig Bar Biscuits	Soft Margarine
Fancy Fruit Salad in Heavy Syrup	Shredded Beef Suet
Ground Onion Powder	Small Grilling Mushrooms in Brine
Jelly (Lemon Flavour)	Tea (2)
Lard	Trifle Sponges
Luncheon Meat	Vinegar with Caramel
Lemon and Orange Mallows	Whole Carrots
Lime Juice Cordial	
Liver and Bacon Spread	

(f) Bacteriological Ice-Cream Sampling

Total number of all samples taken - 21

Grade	Mobiles				Premises			
	I	II	III	IV	I	II	III	IV
Soft Ice-Cream	5	-	3	-	9	-	1	-
Other Ice-Cream	-	-	-	-	3	-	-	-

These results are good so far as permanent premises are concerned but shows the need for regular checks of mobile vendors.

(g) Food Complaints

16 complaints were received relating to foreign matter or mould in food. There was one successful prosecution, for insects in a packet of cereal food. Sometimes complaints cannot be taken further for legal reasons, a gap in the chain of evidence, delay in complaining, reluctance of witnesses. Not all complaints warrant proceedings. Nevertheless there ought to be a higher ratio than this.

Moulds are peculiar organisms. Usually they indicate staleness or bad handling but in humid conditions even properly handled or rotated stock can be affected.

2- HOUSING ACTS

(a) Improvement Work

The Housing Act 1969 came into force on 25th August 1969. It introduced new measures for improving older houses. Grants were increased and the concept of the General Improvement Area was given legislative backing although some authorities regretted the loss of compulsory powers. Area improvement is now to be obtained by persuasion rather than coercion but owners of individual houses can still be compelled to improve their houses if the tenants make written request to the Council. These improvements are to be financed by increased rents provided that the local authority certifies that the dwelling is up to standard. Rigid rent control is the biggest single reason why the standard of private rented accommodation has remained at so low a level over the decades and the new procedure is a welcome step in the right direction. If all goes well in Tamworth the housing problem will be solved within five years.

Because the new procedures demanded integration as far as our older houses are concerned it was decided to make the Public Health Department responsible for improvement work. There have been no problems since the transitional difficulties were overcome.

The cost of improvement work has soared. £1,000 or thereabouts for providing a bathroom and modernising a kitchen is a commonplace amount. This may seem high but some of our pockets of older houses are warm and living communities and must be preserved. The balance should not be allowed to swing too much towards bleak and soul-less huge estates.

The Borough Council has decided to apply the standards laid down in the Parker Morris report as far as heating and kitchen design are concerned. This is a forward-looking attitude and will ensure that there is balance between new and old houses, indeed private houses are still being built to a lower specification than the Council accepts for its own houses or for improvement grants.

The table on grants shows what was done during the year. Most of this was done by the Borough Engineer's Department before transfer of the duties to the Public Health Department.

IMPROVEMENT GRANTS

Standard Grants

1. Applications received
- Applications approved
- Applications refused
2. No. of dwellings improved

Owner/Occupier	Tenanted	Total
36	30	66
34	13	47
-	1	1
28	33	61

3. Amount paid in grants

£10,051 8s. 9d.

4. Average grant per dwelling

£161 0s. 0d.

5. Number of amenities provided
(1)

(a) Fixed bath or shower	50
(b) Wash hand basin	51
(c) Hot water supply (to any fittings)	51
(d) Water closets	51
(e) Food storage	37
(f) Sinks	1

- Higher limit grants
(included in (1) above)

Number of dwellings	38
Additional Grant aided work	
(1) No. of bathrooms added	40
(2) No. of piped water supplies installed	-
(3) No. of septic tank or cesspool drainage systems installed	-

- Less than Full Standard
(included in (1) above)

Number of dwellings -

Discretionary Grants

	Owner/Occupied		Tenanted		Totals
	Conversion	Improvement	Conversion	Improvement	
1. Applications received	-	2	1	3	6
2. Applications approved	-	-	1	1	2
3. Applications refused	-	-	-	-	-
4. Number of dwellings provided after improvement	-	-	-	-	-
5. Number of dwellings improved	-	1	-	-	1

6. Amount paid in grants £481

7. Average grant per dwelling £481

Special Grants (Section 16 of the Housing Act 1969) - No applications received during 1969

General Improvement Areas (Section 28(1) of the Housing Act 1969) - No areas declared during 1969

Compulsory Improvement of Dwellings (Section 19(3) and 20(1) of the Housing Act 1969)

No Improvement Notices served during 1969.

Qualification Certificates

Improvement Cases	No.
Number of applications for Qualification Certificates under Section 44(2) under consideration	12
No. of Certificates of provisional approval issued	1
No. of Qualification Certificates issued under Section 46(3)	Nil

Standard Amenities already provided

No. of applications for Qualification Certificates under Section 44(1) under consideration	1
No. of Qualification Certificates issued under Section 45(2)	Nil

(b) Clearance of Unfit Houses

I have not used the word slum because it connotes extremely poor social conditions, poverty, neglect, depressed standards of behaviour. These conditions do not exist in Tamworth except in isolated instances.

There are about two hundred houses which are damp, in poor repair and have sub-standard sanitary accommodation. These are marked for demolition. There are another four hundred which, although possessing defects in varying degrees, are too good to pull down and should last for at least another thirty years if properly renovated.

Delays in demolition occur and this may lead to temporary eyesores if one or two families in a terrace cannot be found suitable accommodation quickly. This seems to be a necessary fault. The alternative course of offering a strictly limited choice in a restricted period would be inhuman.

Individual Unfit Houses Beyond Repair - Housing Act 1957

Undertakings accepted (section 16)	1
Closing Orders made	3
Demolition Orders made	3
Houses demolished after demolition orders	5
Number of displaced persons:	
(a) Individuals	36
(b) Families	14

Clearance Orders Made (Section 44)

Sheepcote Lane, Glascote (2 to 24 inclusive)	12
Kettlebrook Road, Tamworth (18 to 38 inclusive)	11
Houses Demolished following Clearance Orders	10
Number of persons displaced:	
(a) Individuals	85
(b) Families	40

Compulsory Purchase Orders Made (Section 43)

Aldergate No. 1 (Nos. 21 to 27 inclusive)	7
Houses demolished following C.P.O.	9
Number of persons displaced:	
(a) Individuals	1
(b) Families	1

(c) New House Construction and Council House Lettings:

House Lettings

The Housing Manager has provided the following statistics:

Waiting List at 1st January 1969	368
Applications received during the year	313
Number of tenancies allocated	170
Waiting List at 31st December 1969	511
Number re-housed under Birmingham Overspill Agreement	176

New Buildings

Houses constructed during 1969:

(a) Private	207
(b) Local Authority	303

3. AIR POLLUTION

(a) Industrial Pollution

It is possible to measure air pollution fairly accurately and it has been established that when certain levels of sulphur oxides and smoke are reached there is an immediate danger to health. The very young, the elderly and the chronic sick are particularly at risk. Any comments on pollution levels in Tamworth are reduced in value because in 1969 the Department possessed no recording instruments, although at the time of writing this is under consideration.

Industrial pollution is concentrated mainly in the Dosthill/Wilnecote region and is caused by fume and smoke from an aluminium smelting works and smoke from ceramics manufacturers. Pollutants include sulphur dioxide, sulphur monoxide, smoke and grit. There may be fluorine and arsenic but in what concentrations is not known. I do not want to be alarmist. There are no statistics available to indicate that mortality or sickness rates are increased in the district although air pollution has insidious effects on vitality which may not be readily evident.

I understand that a committee of experts has been studying the brickworks problem for several years and the answer may soon be provided by natural gas or butane. Gas has been available in this country for quite a while and it is to be hoped experts do not spend the next few years studying how to light it.

These problems are particularly frustrating because the Borough Council is not legally responsible for controlling the resulting pollution although there is a natural inclination for the residents to hold the Council responsible.

There were thirty-four contraventions in all of the Dark Smoke Permitted Periods Regulations. None was considered to warrant prosecution.

It is obligatory to submit to the Council details of all heating installations over 55,000 BTHU's rating.

As we had only four notifications during the year this regulation must be insufficiently known to architects and builders. Architects seem to dislike chimneys. Of the handful of notifications received we were obliged to insist on a ten feet height increase in one instance.

(b) Domestic Pollution

At one time it was believed that only large masses of houses generated significant amounts of pollution. The National Survey of Atmospheric Pollution conducted by local authorities under the guidance of the then Ministry of Technology disproved the theory. It has been established that each group of houses generates its own pollution which stays in the vicinity during normal weather conditions.

The open coal fire generates tarry smoke which is dangerous to health, dirty, corrodes building materials, fouls washing and obscures sunlight. It has an average efficiency of 30% It ought to be a relic of the past like the incandescent gas mantle and the parish pump. Amazingly, people still cling to it presumably because, by careful stoking, for part of the time a coal fire shows a cheerful flame.

It is possible to take out the impurities before the coal is marketed. This cleaner fuel is called coke. We have had coke for a long time - in Victorian days the gasworks almost had to give it away. There are coal reserves sufficient for a few hundred years. Yet in 1969 smoke control orders were postponed or abandoned because there was insufficient coke. The Government of the day allowed production to run down because either somebody thought natural gas would solve all our problems, or possibly because the problems were not thought out at all.

The British are supposed to muddle through in the end. This is one of the classic muddles of all time - let us hope that the end is not too far away. There has been rather more conversation than conservation recently and when the solid fuel industry assures us that the problem will be solved within two years they have to bridge a wide credibility gap.

Smoke Control Programme - December 31st 1969

Order Number	District	Number of Houses	Number of other building	Dates		
				Made	Confirmed	Operative
1.	Coton Lane	17	-	15. 8.67	22. 1.68	1.10.68
2.	Belgrave	153	8	14.11.67	16 9.68	1. 9.69
3.	Leyfields/ Ashby Road	1650	24	17.12.68	27. 2.69	1.10.69
4.	Wigginton Road	1229	22	28.10.69	21. 5.70	1.10.72

1969 ANNUAL REPORT - DETAILS

4. OFFICES, SHOPS AND RAILWAY PREMISES ACT 1963

290 registered premises received 93 general inspections during the year. This is a slightly higher inspection frequency rate than the Ministry's suggested minimum of four-yearly inspections but I hope that increased staff and redeployment will in future achieve annual inspections of all registered premises. I believe this to be the minimum necessary to obtain a consistently high standard.

The small proportion of offices in the total of registered premises is accounted for by the fact that in a manufacturing district offices are preponderantly attached to factories within the supervision of the Factory Inspectorate.

50 notices were served to rectify contraventions. The majority were relatively trivial but there were several defects such as imperfectly guarded slicing machines, absence of handrail, and dangerous floor coverings. A faulty hot water supply was found to be caused by a gas leak to a water heater - it is surprising that it should be necessary to take enforcement action in a case like this but it does emphasise the need for regular inspections and attention to details.

There was a serious accident at a hotel, and this was attributed to faulty gas cookers. A trainee chef was burned about the face and neck.

This accident raises some interesting points. The manager had notified his head office two years previously that he considered the cookers to be dangerous and after the accident the Gas Board certified that they should not be used again. New cookers were purchased. The hotel proprietors were negligent and as a result an employee was injured but apparently no legal powers existed to bring them to account. Presumably the powers provided by Sec. 22 Offices, Shops and Railway Premises Act 1963 could have been applied had the public health inspector been aware of the danger but it is hardly within his competence to assess the safety of gas fittings in the absence of a leak. If there are any other instances of this kind of accident they could point out the necessity for requiring statutory checks by Gas Boards in the same manner that hoists and lifts are required to be certified safe.

(a) Registrations and General Inspections

Class of Premises	Number of premises registered during the year	Number of registered premises at end of year	Number of registered premises receiving a general inspection during the year
Offices	10	69	31
Retail Shops	12	188	42
Wholesale shops, Warehouses	Nil	9	4
Catering establishments open to the public, canteens	Nil	24	16
Fuel storage depots	Nil	Nil	Nil
TOTALS	24	290	93

Total number of visits of all kinds by Inspectors to registered premises under the Act - 208

In this Schedule - "general inspection" means any inspection of premises to which the Act applies which is undertaken for the purpose of ascertaining whether all the relevant provisions of the Act and instruments thereunder are complied with as respects those premises; and "registered premises" means any premises in respect of which a notice under section 49 of the Act has been received by a local authority or by the Greater London Council and the expression "premises registered" shall be construed accordingly.

(b) Analysis of Contraventions

Section	Number of Contraventions found		Section	Number of Contraventions found	
4	Cleanliness	-	13	Sitting facilities	1
5	Overcrowding	-	14	Seats (Sedentary Workers)	-
6	Temperature	8	15	Eating facilities	-
7	Ventilation	-	16	Floors, passage and stairs	4
8	Lighting	-	17	Fencing exposed parts machinery	3
9	Sanitary conveniences	2	18	Protection of young persons from dangerous machinery	1
10	Washing facilities	3	19	Training of young persons working at dangerous machinery	1
11	Supply of drinking water	1	23	Prohibition of heavy work	-
12	Clothing accommodation	1	24	First aid	16
				Other matters	9
				TOTAL	50

(c) Exemptions

No. of applications received Nil

No. of applications granted:

- | | |
|--------------------|-----|
| (i) Space | Nil |
| (ii) Temp. | - |
| (iii) San. Conv. | - |
| (iv) Running Water | - |

(d) Prosecutions

Number of prosecutions Nil

Number of convictions Nil

(e) Reported Accidents

Workplace	Number Reported		Total Number Investigated	Action Recommended			
	Fatal	Non Fatal		Prose- cution	Formal Warning	Informal advice	No Action
Offices	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Retail Shops	-	2	1	-	-	-	2
Wholesale Shops, Warehouses	-	1	-	-	-	-	1
Catering establishments open to public, canteens	-	1	1	-	-	1	-
Fuel Storage Depots	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
TOTALS	-	4	2	-	-	1	3

Analysis of Reported Accidents

	Offices	Retail Shops	Wholesale warehouses	Catering Establishments open to public, canteens	Fuel storage depots
Machinery	-	-	-	-	-
Transport	-	-	-	-	-
Falls of persons	-	-	-	-	-
Stepping on or striking against object or person	-	-	-	-	-
Handling goods	-	2	1	-	-
Struck by falling object	-	-	-	-	-
Fires and explosions	-	-	-	1	-
Electricity	-	-	-	-	-
Use of hand tools	-	-	-	-	-
Not otherwise specified	-	-	-	-	-

5. CARAVAN SITES AND CONTROL OF DEVELOPMENT ACT, 1960

We have three registered sites containing a total of 122 caravans. Caravans are sub-standard dwellings, but as temporary accommodation they fulfill a need. The sites in Tamworth are extremely good examples and present no problems.

6. FACTORIES ACTS

The Department has responsibilities for matters like ventilation, lighting and drainage in factories without mechanical power. In factories with mechanical power H. M. Factory Inspector is responsible for everything except sanitary accommodation. As he has to spend a considerable time in some factories and comprehensively inspect the premises he ought to do everything but there is a division of responsibility where separate inspections have to be made by Public Health Department Inspectors. This is a misuse of Officials' time.

(a) Outworkers

Nature of Work	Section 133			Section 134		
	No. of Outworkers in August list required by Sec. 133(1)(c)	No. of cases of default in sending lists to the Council	No. of prosecutions for failure to supply lists	No. of instances of work in unwholesome premises	Notices served	Prosecutions
Wearing Apparel making etc.	21	-	-	-	-	-

(b) Work done

Premises	Number on Register	Number of		
		Inspections	Written Notices	Occupiers prosecuted
(i) Factories which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities	Nil	Nil	-	-
(ii) Factories not included in (1) in which Section 7 is enforced by Local Authority	151	66	6	-
(iii) Other premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding outworkers premises)	9	6	-	-
TOTAL	160	72	6	-

Cases in which Defects were found

Sanitary Conveniences (Section 7)

Six cases of unsuitable or defective sanitary conveniences were found and three were remedied by the year end.

7. NOISE ABATEMENT

Only six complaints of noise were received, an astonishingly small total. Our investigations were hampered by lack of a sound level meter, an omission since rectified. We can now make much more comprehensive investigations the results of which will be available later.

8. PEST CONTROL

It is estimated that there are about as many rats as people in this country. Rats are cunning, tenacious and unscrupulous; we do not hope to exterminate them, merely to keep their numbers down. Sewers are the main reservoir of infestation and are treated with poison regularly. A breed of rats originating on the Welsh border has become immune to Warfarin, the most commonly used poison. This immune breed is spreading eastward very slowly and may arrive in Tamworth eventually; our hope is that a substitute poison which has the safety and ease of use possessed by Warfarin is developed before they get here. Research is going on now. 507 rat infestations and 51 mice infestations were treated during the year.

Pigeons rendered Market Street very unpleasant at one period of the year. By trapping and use of repellants we have reduced the population to tolerable proportions but if the owners of all buildings in the town centre were prepared to co-operate there need be no problem at all.

9. MUNICIPAL OPEN-AIR BATHS

<u>Chemical Samples</u>	<u>Satisfactory</u>	<u>Unsatisfactory</u>
20	15	5

Bacteriological samples

Twenty-one samples were taken. The recommendations of the Public Health Laboratory Service are that the colony count should not exceed 10 in 75% of the samples and the remainder should not exceed 100. Our samples showed these proportions:-

<u>Under 10 Colonies per ml.</u>	<u>Over 10 Colonies per ml.</u>	<u>Over 100 Colonies per ml.</u>
57%	38%	5%

These figures are plainly unsatisfactory. Attempts were made to reduce bacterial activity by adjustment of chlorine content but there is a limit to how much chlorine the average bather can tolerate and the bad results were caused primarily by the inadequacy of the filtration plant.

The colony count in itself does not denote pathogenicity; it is merely an indication of poor sterilisation. More serious are the B. Coli and E. Coli counts. These were found in one sample only.

10. INSPECTIONS

The following table shows the number of visits and inspections made to various classes of premises:-

<u>Visits and Inspections</u>	<u>Number</u>
Slaughterhouses and Meat Inspection	997
Food Premises	418
Food Complaints	67
Food Condemnations	48
Sampling	35
Market Stalls	374
Mobile Vendors	57
Housing	645
Improvement Grants (figure from 1.11.69 only when this Department assumed responsibility)	175
Factories	72
Smoke Control Areas	1484
Smoke Control (Industrial)	112
Nuisances	127
Drainage	273
Infectious Diseases	18
Water Supply	34
Refuse Accumulations	60
Pest Control	1003
Swimming Pool	24
Noise abatement	71
Shops Acts	29
Caravan Sites	37
Offices, Shops and Railway Premises	109
Miscellaneous	51
	<hr/> 6310
<u>Complaints</u>	
Unsound Food	23
Requests to Inspect Food	38
Housing Defects	52
Caravans	4
Accumulations of Refuse	11
Nuisances from Animals	4
Rat and Mice Infested Premises	176
Insect Infestations	93
Dirty Premises (Fumigations)	11
Smoke Emission	18
Drainage	57
Noise Nuisances	6
Miscellaneous	51
	<hr/> 544

To secure the abatement of defective conditions, 181 informal Notices were served.

11. STAFF

Large departments offer a promotion ladder for the ambitious, and pleasant rural districts and tourist resorts provide an amenable working round.

Tamworth offers neither and in consequence we have difficulty in attracting and retaining staff. Many other authorities share our predicament and there is no foreseeable end to it. In these circumstances it is particularly gratifying to have any element of stability at all and I wish to express my appreciation to those members of staff who have helped to make the departmental changes go smoothly, particularly my deputy, Mr. G.J. Watts.

