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ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

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

AND

CHIEF PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR.

G. M. PAWSON, M.R.S.H., M.A.P.H.I.

OF THE

BOROUGH OF TAUNTON

FOR THE YEAR 1970





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FOR THE YEAR 1970

Your faithfully

HUGH MORRISON

Medical Officer of Health



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Public Health Department,
Chadwick House,
11 Middle Street,
Taunton.

The Mayor, Aldermen and Burgesses,
THE BOROUGH OF TAUNTON,

Mr. Mayor, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to present my Annual Report for the year 1970 which is drawn up in accordance with Ministry instructions. It follows the lines of previous reports so that comparisons with conditions of former years can easily be made. The various sections have been amended as necessary to bring the account of health matters in the Borough up to date, and fresh comment has been made on various matters.

There are changes looming up in the administration of personal and environmental health services. Already some of the work which previously was primarily a Health Department responsibility has passed to the control of the new Social Services Departments, but with friendly co-operation between departments as is the custom in this district, there is no doubt that, in the long run, a better service to the public will emerge. More sweeping changes will take place as a result of the re-organisation of local government in 1974, but comment on this topic had best be left until a later stage.

Meantime, the Borough has a good health record. The routine activities of the Health Department go on steadily throughout the year. Mr. Pawson, the Chief Public Health Inspector provides a very full and interesting account of the work of the inspecting staff during 1970. I should like to join with him in welcoming Mr. Brown who has joined the department as its first Authorised Meat Inspector and who is proving himself an able colleague

I wish again to express appreciation of the valuable help I have received during the year from the Chairman and Members of the Health and Welfare Committee, from Dr. Thomson who acts as my deputy when the occasion arises, and from fellow officials of the Council.

I am,

Yours faithfully,

HUGH MORRISON,
Medical Officer of Health.

BOROUGH OF TAUNTON

Annual Report of the Medical Officer of Health, 1970

GENERAL STATISTICS

Acreage of Borough	2,581
Population (estimated by Registrar General, mid-year) ..	37,410
Number of inhabited houses and flats (separately assessed)	12,142
Rateable value at the end of 1970	£1,741,957
Estimated product of a penny rate	£7,029

VITAL STATISTICS

It should be pointed out that in the figures which follow the standardisation of the rate for births and deaths allows for the differing age and sex distribution of the population in different areas, and is obtained by multiplying the crude rate by a comparability factor for the district furnished by the Registrar General. This enables comparison to be made with the figures for the country as a whole, or with those for other districts.

1. Births.

(a) Live Births

	M	F	Total
Legitimate	238	260	498
Illegitimate	34	26	60
Total	272	286	558

Birth Rate per 1,000 population	14.9
Standardised Birth Rate:—	
Taunton	15.2
England and Wales	16.0
Percentage illegitimate of total live births	11.0

(b) Still births

Total	8
Rate per 1,000 live and still births:—	
Taunton	14.0
England and Wales	13.0
Total live and still births	566

2. Deaths.

(a) Total deaths	428	
Death rate per 1,000 population		11.4
Standardised Death Rate:—		
Taunton		10.6
England and Wales		11.7
(b) Infant Deaths (deaths under 1 year) :—		
Total	9	
Infant Deaths per 1,000 live births:—		
Taunton		16.0
England and Wales		18.0
Legitimate Infant Deaths per 1,000 legitimate live births		16.0
Illegitimate Infant Deaths per 1,000 illegitimate live births		17.0
Neo-natal Mortality Rate (deaths under 4 weeks per 1,000 live births)		9.0
Early Neo-Natal Mortality Rate (deaths under 1 week per 1,000 live births)		5.0
Perinatal Mortality Rate (stillbirths and deaths under 1 week combined per 1,000 live and still births)		19.0

Causes of Infant Deaths

Cause of Death	Under 4 weeks	4 weeks and under 1 year	Totals under 1 year
Congenital anomalies	4	1	5
Birth injury	1	—	1
Diseases of respiratory system	—	3	3
Totals	5	4	9

(c) Maternal Mortality		
Total Maternal Deaths		Nil
(d) Deaths from Cancer		
Cancer of the lung	Males	13
	Females	2
	Total	15
Cancer in all other situations	Males	29
	Females	45
	Total	74

Number of deaths from cancer of lung—England and Wales—

1966	..	27,025
1967	..	28,250
1968	..	28,826
1969	..	29,768
1970	..	30,281

Comment on Vital Statistics

The estimated population of the Borough remained almost the same as at the end of the previous year. It was expected that a more accurate figure of population would be available as a result of the census due to take place in April 1971.

The birth rate for Taunton was lower than that of England and Wales as a whole and the death rate also was below the national figure. The infant mortality rate, often taken as an important index of the state of public health in a community, was 16 per thousand births as against 18 in the country as a whole. Eleven per cent of the live births were illegitimate.

As is always the case, diseases of the heart and blood vessels were the most frequent cause of death. These diseases are tending to become even more prominent as more people live to a greater age. In the previous report an account was given of the different conditions of heart and blood vessels which can mainly result in death and it is unnecessary to repeat this. The figure of deaths from cancer of the lung was high at 13, though showing a decline from the figure of 17 in 1969. In England and Wales as a whole, however, the figure for lung cancer deaths for the first time topped the 30,000 mark in 1970. It is good to be able to report that motor accidents were responsible for only 3 deaths as compared with 10 in 1969; but this is still three too many. No deaths from acute infectious diseases were recorded during the year.

REGISTRAR GENERAL'S TABLE OF DEATHS

<i>Cause of Death</i>	<i>Male</i>	<i>Female</i>	<i>Total</i>
Late effects of respiratory T.B.	1	—	1
Syphilis and its sequelae	1	—	1
Malignant Neoplasm, Buccal Cavity etc. ..	1	1	2
Malignant Neoplasm, Oesophagus	—	2	2
Malignant Neoplasm, Stomach	7	4	11
Malignant Neoplasm, Intestine	2	11	13
Malignant Neoplasm, Lung, Bronchus	13	2	15
Malignant Neoplasm, Breast	—	8	8

Malignant Neoplasm, Uterus	—	3	3
Malignant Neoplasm, Prostate	8	—	8
Other Malignant Neoplasms	11	16	27
Benign and Unspecified Neoplasms	1	2	3
Diabetes Mellitus	2	—	2
Other Endocrine etc. Diseases	1	1	2
Anaemias	—	1	1
Multiple Sclerosis	—	1	1
Other Diseases of Nervous System	1	1	2
Chronic Rheumatic Heart Disease	3	7	10
Hypertensive Disease	4	7	11
Ischaemic Heart Disease	44	45	89
Other Forms of Heart Disease	9	12	21
Cerebrovascular Disease	26	31	57
Other Diseases of Circulatory System	14	18	32
Influenza	7	5	12
Pneumonia	15	24	39
Bronchitis and Emphysema	7	2	9
Asthma	—	2	2
Other Disease of Respiratory System	2	1	3
Peptic Ulcer	1	4	5
Cirrhosis of Liver	1	—	1
Other Diseases of Digestive System	4	1	5
Nephritis and Nephrosis	1	1	2
Hyperplasia of Prostate	1	—	1
Other Diseases, Genito-Urinary System	7	4	11
Diseases of Musculo-Skeletal System	1	—	1
Congenital Anomalies	5	1	6
Birth Injury, Difficult Labour etc.	1	—	1
Symptoms and Ill Defined Conditions	1	1	2
Motor Vehicle Accidents	2	1	3
All Other Accidents	1	—	1
Suicide and Self-Inflicted Injuries	2	—	2

HEALTH EDUCATION

Doctors, nurses and public health inspectors are involved to an increasing extent with this activity. Education in food hygiene and handling has been undertaken. Mothercraft and child care instruction is a constant pre-occupation of the Health Visitors. Talks on the problems of drug addiction and the increase in venereal disease have been given to the various groups by medical staff. A useful exercise was mounted by the Central Council for Health Education in which a demonstration was arranged for the public to point out the benefits and indicate the methods of individual weight control and the avoidance of obesity.

INFECTIOUS DISEASES (excluding Tuberculosis)

As in the previous year, there was a high incidence of measles. There are good grounds for hoping that this infection will be very

much reduced in prevalence when the present measles vaccination scheme has had a chance to produce effects. If this happens, as we expect it to do, it is a sobering thought that the most common infectious disease affecting the population of this country apart from the common cold will then be gonorrhoea, one of the venereal diseases. Figures for this infection are not shown in the table below because the disease is not notifiable, but from other evidence it can be stated that, in line with the rest of the country, there has been a marked increase in the prevalence of gonorrhoea in this district. The other infectious disease producing a fairly substantial number of notifications in the year under review was dysentery. This was accounted for by an outbreak of dysentery of the mild Sonne type which affected mostly young children in various parts of the town and which seemed to have largely burned itself out by the end of the year.

Measles	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	131
Dysentery	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	37
Scarlet fever	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	20
Whooping cough	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	11
Infective jaundice	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	2
Acute meningitis	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	8
Food poisoning	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	3
Malaria..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1

TUBERCULOSIS

Nine new cases of this disease, eight of them pulmonary, were notified in 1970, which was an increase of four over the notifications of the previous year. This confirms the fact that, although tuberculosis has been very greatly reduced in prevalence, it is by no means yet at the point of disappearing as a problem in the community. The treatment and follow-up service is good in this area, and again the figures of forty years ago are given together with those of 1970 as a demonstration of the remarkable way in which the prevalence has lessened. In studying these figures it should be remembered that the population of Taunton in 1930 was just over 25,000 and at the present time it is over 37,000 which makes the contrast even more striking.

		<i>Pulmonary</i>	<i>Non-pulmonary</i>
1970	New cases notified during 1970	8	1
	Deaths during 1970	1	—
1930	New cases notified in 1930	55	12
	Deaths during 1930	18	2

IMMUNISATION

It is considered that this form of protection against infectious disease is one of the most important activities in the field of preventive medicine, and for this reason an up-to-date account of the procedures recommended and brief notes on the diseases which it is aimed to prevent are again included in this report. Two notable changes involve the diseases Smallpox and German Measles. Infant vaccination against smallpox is no longer to be practised as a routine measure, because the decline in incidence of this disease has brought about a situation in which the occasional serious side-effects of vaccination outweigh the dangers, in this country, of an individual falling victim of the disease. Those who travel to certain countries, and those whose occupations put them at special risk will still be advised to have vaccination. German measles immunisation is being offered to girls between the ages of eleven and thirteen with a view to avoiding the risks to the unborn child of an attack of the disease during pregnancy in later life. The actual procedure of immunisation is for the most part arranged by computer and carried out by general practitioners in this district, as described in a previous report. The scheme is outstandingly successful, with an estimated immunisation rate of 90-95 per cent of the relevant age groups in the population.

An up-to-date schedule of the immunisation programme recommended for all children is appended, together with brief notes on the diseases against which the procedure is aimed.

<i>Age</i>	<i>Vaccine</i>
4 months ..	First diphtheria/whooping cough/tetanus and oral polio vaccine.
6 months ..	Second diphtheria/whooping cough/tetanus and oral polio vaccine.
12 months ..	Third diphtheria/whooping cough/tetanus and oral polio vaccine.
13 months—2 years	Measles vaccination.
4½ years	Diphtheria/tetanus (no whooping cough) and oral polio vaccine.
Over 11 years ..	B.C.G.
11—13 years ..	German Measles Immunisation (girls only)
14½ years	Oral polio vaccine. Tetanus toxoid.

Diphtheria

Immunisation against diphtheria was the first mass campaign of protection against an infectious disease carried out in this country, apart from vaccination against smallpox which has never been applied to such a wide extent. The result is that, whereas there used to be thousands of deaths from diphtheria each year in England and Wales, the mortality is now almost down to vanishing point. It is necessary for the percentage of protected children in the community to be kept high in order to avoid the recurrence of outbreaks.

Whooping Cough

This is now probably the most generally disabling of the common infectious diseases affecting young children. There are risks to life, especially in infants, and lung complications can be severe and prolonged. Immunisation is preventive in a good proportion of cases and in the remainder modifies the disease to produce a mild attack.

Tetanus

This is an uncommon infection in this country but important because of its very severe character and the high rate of mortality in those affected. It is much commoner in some of the less developed parts of the world, and even in Europe at least 26,000 have died from this cause in the past ten years. Immunisation gives the practical certainty of complete protection.

Poliomyelitis

It is hardly necessary to stress the misery which can result from this disease in view of the widespread epidemics which have occurred in this country within recent memory. Many of the sufferers die, and others are left with a lifetime of disablement. Immunisation is now simple with the use of vaccine given by mouth and has been largely responsible for the virtual elimination of poliomyelitis as a serious epidemic risk in this country at the present time. Here again it is essential that a high proportion of children continue to be immunised in order to avoid the danger of further outbreaks.

Measles

This has always been a very common infection among children, with far from negligible risks to those in the younger age groups especially. Immunisation is now being carried out against this disease and it is hoped that widespread outbreaks will, in time, become a thing of the past.

German Measles

An extremely mild infection in itself, but having the unfortunate capability of affecting the developing foetus at an early stage of pregnancy so that if the mother suffers from the disease at that time the child may be born with one or more of a number of different congenital defects.

Tuberculosis

One of the most dramatic improvements in the state of the national health has been the enormous fall over the period since the last war, in the prevalence of tuberculosis and in the number of deaths which it causes. There are many factors responsible for this gratifying development, and one of them undoubtedly is the beneficial effect of the widespread campaign of immunisation with B.C.G. which has been carried out. The required injection is given after the age of 11 years after preliminary skin testing, to determine which children are susceptible to an attack of the disease.

Yellow Fever

This disease does not occur in Great Britain but it is still prevalent and dangerous in various parts of the world. Immunisation is very effective and is required of those proposing to travel to affected areas. Taunton Health Department is one of the centres in the South West where this procedure is carried out.

PERSONAL HEALTH SERVICES

Administered in Taunton Municipal Borough by the Somerset County Council

Health Visiting Service

There were 8 Health Visitors engaged on work in the Borough during 1970, supervised generally by the Medical Officer of Health for Taunton in the capacity of Area Medical Officer of Health, and their activities included:—

Home Visiting of Children

Number of cases dealt with:

Children under one year	.. .. .	689
Children aged one to five years	.. .. .	1,830

Ante-natal Visits

During the year the scheme was continued whereby expectant mothers booked for hospital confinement were visited and advised by the Health Visitors in co-operation with the Domiciliary Midwives.

School Medical Inspection

Each Health Visitor visits the schools in her area to assist the School Medical Officer with routine medical inspection and immunisation. When necessary she carries out hygiene surveys in the schools. Every child now has an annual eye test.

School Children

Visits are paid to children at the request of the doctor following on the work of the school medical inspections.

Old People

Special visits are paid to old people, as requested by doctors, medical social workers, welfare officers, etc.

Other visits

Amongst other matters referred to and dealt with by the Health Visitors are problems of handicapped persons, infectious diseases, difficult school conditions, etc. Visiting of tuberculosis cases and other chest conditions is carried out by a Health Visitor specialising in this work. The work of the Health Visitors in the Mental Health field has increased considerably since the coming into operation of the Mental Health Act, 1959.

Child Welfare Centres

Numbers of individual children who attended were as follows :

537 attended Tower Lane on Tuesday and Thursday afternoons.

186 attended All Saints' Church Hall, Halcon on Wednesday afternoons.

405 attended St. Peter's Church Hall, Priorswood, on Friday afternoons.

279 attended St. Michael's Church Hall, Galmington, on Monday afternoons.

Total attendances of children under 5 years of age were 7454 which was an increase of 1204 on the previous year.

A number of the local practitioners are now offering their own child welfare facilities at their practice premises. This is a development which is to be welcomed, and it is likely to increase as the years go on.

Liaison with Family Doctors

The scheme of Health Visitor and District Nurse attachment to general practises in the Borough, as outlined in the report for 1965, was brought into full operation in 1966, and is working very well indeed.

Ante-natal Clinics

The blood test clinic for ante-natal patients has been discontinued. Facilities for this service are now available at the family doctors' surgeries and at Musgrove Park Hospital.

The Ante-natal Clinic is staffed fortnightly on Mondays by domiciliary midwives who help and advise expectant mothers booked for Wellington Maternity Home or for domiciliary confinement.

Mothercraft Classes

These are held weekly in the Health Centre with a short break between each series of seven talks.

Classes for relaxation exercises and talks by a Doctor, a Health Visitor or a Midwife are given each time.

There is an average attendance of 30-36: slightly higher during the winter months. It is necessary to divide the classes into two groups, the talks being given to each group in turn while the other group is having relaxation exercises. During 1970, 135 women attended and the total number of attendances was 648..

In addition, 119 women attended doctors' surgeries for the same purpose, and made a total of 632 attendances.

Domiciliary Midwifery and Nursing

39,588 midwifery and nursing visits were made to patients in their own homes during the year by domiciliary midwives and nurses. These included a large number of special visits to old people. The demands of domiciliary nursing are increasing because of the shortage of hospital beds and the more intensive follow-up visiting demanded by the practice of earlier discharge from hospital.

Premature Baby Service

In addition to the arrangements for the care of full-term babies a special service is provided for premature infants. If there is a risk that a child will be born after less than 37 or 38 weeks gestation, arrangements are made for the admission of the expectant mother to Musgrove Park Hospital where special facilities are available and special equipment is provided where necessary.

Small or premature babies unsuitable for nursing at home are admitted to that Unit from the district and a special Oxygenaire incubator is sent by ambulance to collect them.

If the premature babies at home can be nursed there, the district midwife can obtain special equipment for this and advice, if required, from the Area Nursing Officer who follows up all premature births.

During 1970, 42 premature infants were born in hospital of whom 2 died.

Home Help Service

During 1970, 391 Taunton residents received help from the Home Help Service as against 378 in 1969.

Help was sent for the following reasons:

Maternity	13
Post and Pre-Natal	10
Old Age (aged over 65)	298
General illness	9
Chronic illness	29
Post Operation	21
Child Care	4
Mental illness	4
Accidents	3

Of these 234 were still receiving help at the end of the year 1970, being long term commitments.

This service now ceases to be the responsibility of the Health Department and becomes a unit of the new Social Services Department.

Distribution of Welfare Foods

National dried milk, orange juice and cod liver oil for infants and vitamin tablets for expectant mothers, are distributed at the Welfare Centres.

Certain proprietary brands of dried milk, babies' cereals and vitamin C syrups are sold at approximately cost price to mothers and children who attend the Clinics.

Dental Clinic, Tower Lane

The treatment given to school children during the year ended 31st December, 1970 was as follows:

Number Inspected	Number requiring Treatment	Number treated	Extractions		Fillings		Other Treatment (Dentures, Crowns, Orthodontics, X-rays, etc.)
			Decid.	Perm.	Decid.	Perm.	
6,206	3,834	2 652	1,712	674	1,905	3,690	799

The treatment given to expectant and nursing mothers and to pre-school children is shown below.

	<i>Adults</i>	<i>Pre-school children</i>
1. Number of cases inspected	15	197
2. Number found to require treatment	13	112
3. Number of cases treated	15	137
4. Number of attendances	53	295
5. Dentures provided	3	—

The above figures include a number of cases attending the Clinic from the areas surrounding Taunton Borough.

Day Nursery

The Day Nursery in Holway Road was fully stretched to provide places for pre-school children whose family circumstances made it desirable that they should be given day care. An extension to the nursery, making available ten more places, was completed in 1970, and this has eased the problem considerably. The number of play groups in the town continued to increase throughout the year. The ladies who run these are keen on the work and are providing a really valuable service for the young children in the area. Both the Nursery and play groups have now passed to the administrative control of the Social Services Department, but close liaison is being maintained with the Health Department to ensure that the medical and hygienic aspects of these activities continue to be kept under review.

MEALS ON WHEELS

This immensely valuable service continued to be provided by the Women's Royal Voluntary Service. An average of 108 recipients were taken two meals each per week during 1970. The total number delivered in the Borough in 1970 was 10,459. A source of obtaining a third meal for distribution had unfortunately still not been found.

Gratitude should be expressed to the kitchen staff of Musgrove Park Hospital and to the ladies who distribute the meals. Without their help there would be no service.

WELFARE SERVICES BY VOLUNTARY ASSOCIATIONS

The British Red Cross Society maintain a Loan Department in the Borough which does most useful work in the distribution of aids to home nursing, which are hired out to patients who can benefit from this help. The Society would welcome volunteers to assist with this work.

The St. John Ambulance Brigade run car outings for disabled persons throughout the summer months which enable patients who may seldom leave the confines of their own homes to spend pleasant and sociable afternoons in various beauty spots in the country side surrounding Taunton. Volunteer car drivers would also be welcome to help with this activity.

The Council of Social Services is proving itself to be a valuable asset to the town, and I should like again to thank Miss Duncan, the energetic Secretary, for help with a number of matters.

MASS RADIOGRAPHY

The fortnightly service was operated throughout the year at Belvedere Road Car Park.

The reports on examinations were as follows:

	Male	Female	Total
Total number examined	523	807	1,330
Abnormalities detected—			
Bronchial carcinoma	1	1	2
Benign Tumours	—	1	1
Acquired Cardiac lesion	3	3	6
Bacterial and Virus Infections of the Lungs	1	4	5
Bronchitis and Emphysema	3	1	4
Abnormality of the Diaphragm	—	1	1
Dorsal scoliosis	—	4	4
Pleural thickening	—	1	1
General Practitioner cases included			181
Other Sites Visited:—			
Pearsalls Ltd. Taunton.			
Total number examined	71	50	121
No Abnormalities detected			
Technical College, Taunton.			
Number examined	195	151	346
Abnormalities detected—			
Bacterial and Virus infections of the lungs	1	—	1

PERSONS IN NEED OF CARE AND ATTENTION

An account has been given in a previous report of the sort of circumstances which lead to the application for compulsory powers of removal of a person from their home to a hospital or institution and this need not be repeated, except that one would wish to emphasise that every other means of dealing with these difficult cases is tried before making use of the legal procedure as a last resort. It was not necessary to invoke this procedure during the year.

AMBULANCE SERVICE

The main Ambulance Station and Control for South-West Somerset is situated at Parkfield Drive, Taunton. The Ambulance Station serves a very wide area and at 31st December, 1970 the establishment of vehicles and staff was as follows:

- Vehicles—7 Ambulances
- 8 Sitting-case Ambulances
- Staff— 6 Sub-officers
- 4 Leading Ambulance men
- 22 Ambulancemen

All vehicles are equipped with two-way radio communication.

	<i>Patients carried</i>	<i>Mileage run during 1970</i>
Ambulances	12,901	128,018
Sitting-case ambulances	19,242	234,072

SEWERAGE AND SEWERAGE DISPOSAL

I am indebted to the Borough Engineer for the facts mentioned in this paragraph and also for those in the following section on refuse disposal.

During 1970, planning for re-sewering of the Borough was proceeding and contracts for constructing a storm water treatment station at Priory were in course of preparation. The extension to the sludge treatment process at the Ham sewerage works was 95% completed. This work, which is costing £62,500, will double the works capacity for sludge treatment. Plans were in hand for an early start on construction of final effluent treatment lagoons costing £7,000, and designed to improve the purification of the effluent in its final stages. Work had begun on the second stage of the Blackbrook Stream Improvement which will involve a cost of £80,000. This will eliminate a flooding hazard which has been a constant menace to certain areas of the borough.

REFUSE COLLECTION AND DISPOSAL

Approximately 2,400 cubic metres of refuse are collected weekly by the Borough Engineer's Cleansing Department. Studies

taken have shown that this has increased by about 5% in the last two years. Disposal is carried out by controlled tipping at Lambrook but this tip is approaching the end of its life and consideration is being given to the acquisition of land at Priorswood for a new tipping site. Planning permission has been obtained subject to conditions and Consulting Engineers have been engaged to prepare details of the access road, drainage and small depot which will be necessary. It is hoped that this tip will come into operation in 1972. It is proposed to share this tip with Taunton Rural District Council.

The pilot paper sack collection which commenced in 1965 has now been extended to cover the Monday and Tuesday round so that approximately 2/5ths of the domestic properties in the Borough now have the advantages of this service. Further extension has unfortunately had to be deferred for the time being for economic reasons.

WATER SUPPLY

I should like to thank the Chief Engineer to the West Somerset Water Board, Mr. J. Moat, for the details of water supplies in this district which follow :

The Taunton Division of the West Somerset Water Board in addition to supplying the Borough provides supplies for the Rural District of Taunton and the Urban and Rural Districts of Wellington.

Most of the water comes from Clatworthy Reservoir in the Brendon Hills, but some is still obtained from gathering grounds on the Blackdowns and from the River Otter. All catchment areas are inspected and supervised and the Board's chemist takes regular samples for chemical and bacteriological examination. The water is filtered and chlorinated before distribution. The quality is good as is shown by the following results of samples taken independently by the Borough Health Department.

Satisfactory	Unsatisfactory
213	0

Samples recorded as unsatisfactory are immediately investigated and any necessary action taken to set the trouble to rights.

The water is not fluoridated.

HOUSING

I am indebted to the Borough Architect and the Housing Manager for the following information :

In the period between the end of the last war and the end of 1970, the number of houses erected by the Borough, acting as Local Authority, was 3,272 and in the same period the number provided by private enterprise was 1,444.

Of the post-war houses built by the Council the majority were three-bedroomed houses, although a substantial number of two-bedroomed houses, two-bedroomed flats, one-bedroomed flats and two-bedroomed temporary bungalows had also been erected.

53 houses and flats were completed for the Council during 1970 and 39 were in course of erection. In the same period 77 houses were built by private enterprise. 49 old peoples' dwellings were completed during the period and 39 were in course of erection.

No Clearance Areas were declared, but a number of houses were dealt with individually. Details of these are given in the Chief Public Health Inspector's section of the report.

The number of applicants on the waiting list for Council houses at the end of the year was 386, and the number of applications for Old Peoples' Dwellings was 118.

IMPROVEMENT GRANTS

A new scale of Improvement Grants was introduced in August 1969 under the Housing Act 1969 to improve the amounts payable to owners.

Number of applications and houses dealt with during year:

	Received		Approved	
	Applications	No. of Dwellings	Applications	No. of Dwellings
1. Discretionary Grants	89	89	66	66
2. Standard Grants	53	53	36	36
3. Special Grants	—	—	—	—

STAFF MEDICAL EXAMINATIONS

Medical examinations carried out by the Department in connection with new appointments to the Council's staff, and in connection with the Superannuation Scheme and the Workmen's Sickness Benefit Regulations were as follows:

Department	Male	Female	Total
Architect	2	—	2
Engineer	17	1	18
Housing	—	1	1
Library	—	3	3
Market	1	—	1
Town Clerk	2	3	5
Treasurer	3	1	4
	25	9	34

ANNUAL REPORT
of the
CHIEF PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR
for the year 1970

To the Mayor, Aldermen and Burgesses,
Mr. Mayor, Ladies and Gentlemen,

It is with pleasure that I present my report for 1970. The only change in the staff was the appointment of Mr. A. Brown from Edinburgh as our first Meat Inspector. Several Public Health Inspectors have attended courses and conferences on subjects covering noise abatement, clean air, food hygiene and post-graduate studies. Mr. L. G. Hopes's position as senior public health inspector was formally recognised: and both he and Mr. Mathews have continued their very useful work in the field of health education.

The routine inspection of all premises has continued very much as usual. Meat inspection at the local bacon factory is increasing every year, but the appointment of a Meat Inspector has meant that the Public Health Inspectors are not now so fully involved there. Two further areas of the town were the subject of a comprehensive housing survey—details of which will be found in the body of the Report. All premises required to be registered under the Offices, Shops and Railway Premises Act have now received their initial detailed inspection, and are of course now the subject of routine visits.

Food hygiene is recognised as being one of our most important functions, and besides inspecting or visiting all food premises each year bacteriological sampling of food and equipment is standard practice. Such visits and sampling together with a certain amount of health education are helping to bring about a definite improvement in this particular field; but these are certainly no grounds for complacency, and it would indeed be very foolish for anyone to relax their efforts if safe food is to be guaranteed at all times.

In conclusion I wish to express my sincere gratitude to the Chairman and Members of the Health and Welfare Committee, the Medical Officer of Health and all members of the staff for their unflinching co-operation and kindness at all times.

I am,

Yours faithfully,

G. M. PAWSON.

Chief Public Health Inspector.

SUMMARY OF VISITS AND INSPECTIONS

Housing and General Sanitary Work

Houses inspected under the Public Health Acts	236
Houses inspected under the Housing and Rent Acts	343
Houses inspected under the Taunton Corporation Act	10
Re-inspections under the above Acts	1,205
Houses in Multiple Occupation inspected and re-visited	356
Miscellaneous housing inspections	23
Smoke observations, etc.	83
Moveable dwellings	55
Dealers in old metal	0
Infectious diseases and disinfections	93
Drainage, in connection with	623
Factories	795
Hairdressers	11
Infested or Verminous premises	73
Interviews	752
Meteorological Readings	365
Noise, in connection with	82
Offensive trades	16
Animal nuisances	35
Offices, Shops and Railway Premises—Inspections	283
Offices, Shops and Railway Premises—Re-visits	921
Outworkers	83
Pet Shops	22
Cinemas and Places of Entertainment	12
Refuse collection and disposal	19
Rag Flock premises	0
Rodent Control (excluding visits by Rodent Operator)	50
Schools	12
Shops (Shops Acts)	41
Swimming Baths	46
Water Sampling	212
Water Supply	46
Miscellaneous visits	320
Total	7,223

Complaints

During the year 884 complaints were received at the Health Department having reference to the following matters:

Housing conditions	69
Drainage	115
Rats or mice	178
Unsound food	206
Insect Pests	160
Miscellaneous	156

All these complaints were investigated and appropriate action taken.

Housing Repairs

As might be expected with the gradually increasing number of owner-occupiers, there has been a steady decrease in the number of complaints regarding housing defects from tenanted properties. In practically all cases where repairs have been required, they have been achieved by informal action under the Public Health Acts; and it is very exceptional to have to resort to the use of the Housing Acts where repairs are needed to domestic accommodation.

During the year 69 complaints were received concerning about 700 housing defects; and approximately 500 inspections and visits were made in connection therewith.

During the year the following work was carried out:

Drains cleared	61
Drains or sewers renewed or repaired	32
New drains provided	28
Sewers cleared	36
Cesspools emptied	—
Inspection chambers built	28
Inspection chambers repaired	1
Inspection chambers—new covers provided	3
New gullies provided	2
Yard surfaces renewed	2
Eaves gutters renewed	6
Eaves gutters repaired	1
Rainwater pipes renewed	9
Waterclosets provided	44
W.C. pans renewed	20
W.C. flushing cisterns provided	56
Flush pipes repaired	4
W.C.'s—new seats provided	0
Roofs renewed	10
Roofs repaired	20
Chimney stacks rebuilt	2
Chimney stacks repaired	1
Chimneys—flashings renewed	1
Walls rebuilt	4
External walls repaired	17
Ceilings renewed or repaired	14
Floors renewed	8
Floors repaired	13
Skirting boards renewed	3
Waste pipe renewed	4
Sub-floor ventilation improved	0
Wall rendering renewed or repaired	22
Dampness abated	3
Fireplaces renewed or repaired	7
Doors renewed or repaired	20

New windows provided	11
Windows repaired	8
Window sills renewed	4
Windows—sash cords provided	3
Artificial lighting improved	2
Natural lighting improved	2
Ventilation improved	4
Water service pipes renewed	6
Water heating systems installed	46
Bath provided	49
Wash-hand basins provided	48
Kitchen sinks provided	19
Draining Boards provided	2
Staircases repaired	3
Hand rails repaired or renewed	1
Ventilated food cupboards provided	1
Electric services repaired	8
Gas services repaired	3
Redecoration	2
Boundary fences renewed	17
Total	<hr/> 721 <hr/>

HOUSING ACTS

No Clearance Areas were declared during the year, and the twelve houses in the Tancred Street Clearance Areas are still awaiting demolition.

Details of other action under the Housing Acts are as follows :—

Houses closed under Section 17	2
Parts of houses closed under Section 18	3
Closing Orders determined	3

In addition to the above eight houses were demolished in the course of road widening or redevelopment.

10 visits were made in connection with the Taunton Corporation Act which deals with matters relating to light and air which may be adversely affected by development of adjacent properties. In all instances the problems were resolved after consultations with the developers, architects and builders involved.

HOUSES IN MULTIPLE OCCUPATION

During the year two more houses in multiple occupation were found, bringing the total of such premises to 201 with 656 separate lettings. All the houses were inspected and 356 visits were made in connection therewith. A hundred defects—mostly of a minor character—were found and all were remedied by informal action.

Summary of work carried out—Houses in Multiple Occupation

External—

Roofs repaired	4
Eavesgutters repaired or renewed	1
Rainwater pipes repaired or renewed	5
Choked drains cleared	5
Yard paving repaired or renewed	1
Water closets repaired or renewed	3

Internal—

Walls repaired or renewed	9
Ceilings repaired or renewed	1
Floors repaired	2
Doors repaired or renewed	1
Windows repaired or renewed	4
Staircases repaired	1
Rooms redecorated	7
Dampness abated	3
Lighting and/or ventilation improved	3
Ladders repaired or renewed	2
New ventilated ladders provided	1
Electric fittings repaired or provided	2
Heating installations provided/repaired	3
Hot water supply repaired or renewed	2
Hot water supply provided	8
Cold water supply repaired or renewed	3
Wash-hand basin renewed/repaired	2
Sink and/or draining board renewed	8
Cooking facilities provided or improved	6
Additional W.C.'s provided	6
Baths renewed or repaired	7
Total	100

RENT ACT, 1957

No applications for Certificates of Disrepair were received.

HOUSING ACT, 1969—Section 45(2)

This section empowers a Local Authority to issue Qualification Certificates whereby Landlords are enabled to obtain fair rents for their properties after they have been provided with the standard amenities and put into a proper state of repair.

During the year 1 Qualification Certificate was issued.

PUBLIC HEALTH ACT, 1936 Section 24

During the year 35 sewers were found to be choked, and were cleared by the Corporation. Sewers dealt with under this section are those that were maintainable by owners of property under previous Public Health Acts.

HOUSING SURVEY

As part of an organised programme of housing inspection a survey of a further 229 houses was carried out during the year; and this involved approximately 1,000 visits—many of which had to be made outside normal working hours in order to gain admission where householders were out at work all day. The houses selected—all of which were built at least 50 years ago—comprised 98 in the northern district of the town, and 131 in the southern one. As in previous years the object of the survey was to ascertain the following details:—

1. Whether the houses were owner-occupied or tenanted.
2. The general state of repair.
3. The provision or lack of standard amenities.
4. The general interest of owners or tenants in Improvement Grants; and the main reasons where applicable for not wishing to avail themselves of such grants.
5. The feasibility of declaring an Improvement Area.

The houses in the northern district were in Cyril, Jubilee and Maxwell Streets; and in the southern district Rose Cottages, Holway Avenue, Saverys Row, South Street, Trinity Road and Trinity Street. The total number of houses which were owner/occupied was 86 (87%) in the first area and 71 (54%) in the other, which represents an overall percentage of 69, and is almost identical with the figures in other areas from previous surveys.

The general state of repair was quite satisfactory especially in owner/occupied houses, and even with the tenanted ones there were only two which were in poor repair. There was one group of tenanted houses which were in a fair state of repair, but unless they receive some attention without too much delay are liable to be subject to statutory action under the Housing Acts within the next 15 years. In all instances necessary repairs have been effected by informal action.

Forty-five of the owner-occupied houses lacked all or most of the standard amenities, and in 23 instances the owners expressed an interest in an Improvement Grant. Most of the others felt that they were not in a financial position to have the work done. In the tenanted houses 25 lacked all or most amenities, and 10 wished for their houses to be provided with the amenities. Sixty per cent of the remainder again felt it was too great a financial burden, and the others—who were mainly elderly—did not want any disturbance. It is worthwhile recording that mainly as a result of publicity

ANALYSIS OF HOUSING SURVEY 1970

	OWNER OCCUPIER																	
	Total No. of all Houses	Houses Vacant		State of Repair			Amenities Provided							Premises Lacking all or most amenities				
		Total Number	Satisfactory	Fair	Poor	Bath or Shower	Wash Hand Basin	Hot Water—Bath	Hot Water—Basin	Hot Water—Sink	W.C.	Sink	I.G. Received	Total	O/O Interested in I.G.	Lack of Interest due to		
																Finance	Other	
NORTHERN DISTRICT																		
Cyril Street	39	1	36	35	1	—	33	30	32	29	35	32	36	11	11	7	3	1
Jubilee Street	29	2	27	27	—	—	24	23	23	23	25	24	27	5	4	3	1	—
Maxwell Street	30	1	23	21	2	—	16	16	16	16	16	18	23	2	7	2	4	1
TOTAL	98	4	86	83	3	—	73	69	71	68	76	74	86	18	22	12	8	2
SOUTHERN DISTRICT																		
Rose Cottages, Holway	6	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Saverys Row	14	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
South Street	72	5	46	43	3	—	33	30	31	27	33	32	46	8	20	9	7	4
Trinity Road	10	2	5	5	—	—	5	5	5	5	4	4	5	—	1	1	—	—
Trinity Street	29	4	20	18	1	1	8	18	18	18	18	18	20	2	2	1	1	—
TOTAL COMBINED TOTALS	229	15	157	149	7	1	129	122	125	118	131	128	157	28	45	23	16	6

ANALYSIS OF HOUSING SURVEY 1970

TENANTED (Average Rent £1 18s. 0d.)

Total	Houses in Multi-Occupation	State of Repair			Amenities Provided							I.G. Received	Premises Lacking all or most amenities				Tenant's Formal Application	
		Satisfactory	Fair	Poor	Bath or Shower	Wash Hand Basin	Hot Water—Bath	Hot Water—Basin	Hot Water—Sink	W.C.	Sink		Total	Tenant interested in I.G.	Lack of Interest due to			
															Finance	Other		
NORTHERN DISTRICT																		
2	—	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	2	—	2	—	1	1	—	Cyril Street
—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	Jubilee Street
6	—	3	2	1	4	4	4	3	4	4	6	1	3	2	1	—	—	Maxwell Street
8	—	4	3	1	4	4	4	3	4	5	8	1	5	2	2	1	—	TOTAL
SOUTHERN DISTRICT																		
6	—	1	5	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	6	—	6	—	4	2	—	Rose Cottages, Holway
14	—	10	4	—	5	3	4	3	7	3	14	—	9	2	3	4	—	Saverys Row
21	—	18	2	1	13	10	13	9	15	12	21	2	11	4	5	2	—	South Street
3	—	3	—	—	3	2	2	2	2	2	3	—	1	1	—	—	—	Trinity Road
5	—	4	1	—	3	2	3	2	4	4	5	1	2	1	1	—	—	Trinity Street
49	—	36	12	1	24	17	22	16	29	21	49	3	29	8	13	8	—	TOTAL
57	—	40	15	2	28	21	26	19	33	26	57	4	34	10	15	9	—	COMBINED TOTALS

and visits by the Public Health Inspectors 32 houses in these areas have already been improved with the help of Improvement Grants.

Bearing in mind the number of owner-occupiers and tenants who have definitely indicated a wish for the provision of all the amenities, and the natural rate of improvement when premises are sold, it is not recommended that an Improvement Area be declared.

District	Road	No. of Houses	Total No. of Amenities		No. of Amenities		No. of Amenities		No. of Amenities		No. of Amenities		No. of Amenities		No. of Amenities		No. of Amenities		
			Water	Electricity	Gas	Central Heating	Double Glazing	Asbestos Removal	Lead Paint	Radon	Other	Water	Electricity	Gas	Central Heating	Double Glazing	Asbestos Removal	Lead Paint	Radon	Other
NORTHERN DISTRICT	Cyl Street	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
	Judith Street	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2
	Maxwell Street	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4
	TOTAL	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7
	TOTAL		7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7
SOUTHERN DISTRICT	Rose Cottage	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
	Rowley	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4
	South Street	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2
	Tiny Road	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4
	TOTAL	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11
TOTAL		11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11

CLEAN AIR ACTS 1956-1968

The new Act besides empowering the Minister to require a local authority to submit a programme of smoke control for any particular area, also modifies and extends the requirements relating to chimney heights. Appliances emitting less than 3 pounds of sulphur dioxide per hour—which is considered to be a trivial amount—are now exempt. These recommendations on chimney heights are framed to help all concerned in determining the correct height of boiler plant chimneys up to a maximum continuous rating of 450,000 pounds per hour of steam, or furnaces of equal combustion capacity. There are no longer any exemptions for London, or for residences, shops or offices.

During the year 6 proposals for new boiler installations were considered, and any problems relating to chimney height were resolved after consultations with the architects or engineers concerned with the various projects.

NOISE

The problems relating to noise are varied and complex and cannot be accurately related to precise physical measurement as the following extract from the Wilson report so well indicates—"A noise problem must involve people and their feelings, and its assessment is a matter rather of human values and environments than of precise physical measurement. These values and environments are complex indeed. Not only do people vary in their susceptibility and adaptability to noise, but each of us may be annoyed by one noise but not another of similar physical characteristics. A sound which most people would ignore in, say, the industrial part of a city, would be a disturbing noise in a quieter environment, for example by night in a residential area or in the country. The annoyance produced by a noise is often related to the information it conveys or the association or emotion it excites rather than to its actual intensity; and a sound of small intensity, such as that from a dripping tap, may become unbearable simply from repetition. Thus, whether a sound is a noise, or whether a noise is annoying, may depend upon many factors which are independent of its physical qualities."

As the investigations of noise complaints depends on up-to-date and specialist scientific knowledge, and the use of accurate and sophisticated instruments—it is the policy of the Department to send as many public health inspectors as possible on short courses to Colleges or Universities specializing in this particular field. As we now possess a Sound Level Meter with an Octave Wave Band Filter, it is possible to investigate most noise nuisances and advise on problems of noise reduction and sound proofing.

During the year 25 complaints were received relating to noise, and 82 visits were made in connection therewith. All these complaints were resolved by consultation and informal action, except in one instance.

RODENT AND OTHER PESTS CONTROL

The Borough is indeed fortunate in having the services of such a competent and painstaking operator as Mr. L. Wood, who as always has carried out this very essential work to the satisfaction of all concerned. Since he started in 1963 more and more business premises are taking advantage of contracts whereby their premises receive regular inspections and treatments if found necessary; and in these years the number of such premises has increased from nine to thirty. The regular treatment of the sewers has continued, and in the light of previous experience the work has been concentrated on the known "black spots", which are for the most part in the central areas where the sewers are old and defective. With the advent of a new system there should be a great improvement in these areas.

The number of wasps' nests destroyed was 138 compared with 89 in the previous year. This work involves quite a lot of time, and it is the usual practice to make a nominal charge for this service, which is generally appreciated by the householder. The number of other insect pests dealt with was 54 as compared with 55 last year, and included treatments against cockroaches, ants, fleas, flies of various types, carpet beetles and bugs.

The following work was carried out during the year.

Treatments at private dwellings	231
Visits involved	608
Treatments at business premises	281
Visits involved	608
Treatments at Council premises	101
Visits involved	281
Survey visits	320
Wasps' nests destroyed	138
Other vermin etc.	54
Treatment of sewers	255
Visits involved	677
Drain tests	18

Disinfection

Disinfection of premises and bedding after the occurrence of disease, or after death, was carried out in 9 premises.

**SPECIAL CLASSES OF PREMISES AND OCCUPATIONS
SUBJECT TO CONTROL BY THE LOCAL AUTHORITY.
Public Health Act 1936—Section 107.**

This section deals with the various offensive trades which require the consent of the Local Authority for their operation. The following table gives details of such trades carried out in the Borough.

Hide and Skin Depots	2
Tanners	1
Rag and Bone Merchants	2
Fat Extractors etc.	1

The Rag and Bone Merchants are the subject of annual consent, whilst the others are without any time limitation.

With the exception of the Fat Extractor plant, all the trades have been conducted in a satisfactory manner during the last year. In the case of the Fat Extractor plant, there has been a considerable number of complaints of smell nuisance from residents of private houses adjacent to the factory. The trouble has been due to the escape of noxious odours during the periods when the plant is actually being charged or emptied. The company has experimented with the use of deodorant sprays fixed at strategic points near the roof: but these have proved to be quite ineffective. After consultation the management has given an undertaking to install a chlorinator to deal with the escaping odours, and once this has been done it should go a long way to abating the nuisance. At the time of writing this report no actual work on the project has been put in hand.

The Caravan Sites and Control of Development Act, 1960.

There are still two residential caravan sites in the Borough, but as mentioned last year one is being "run down" to make way for commercial re-development of the area and at the moment only three vans remain. The owner of the other site has embarked on a programme of replacement for all his older vans by larger modern ones, and this has necessitated some re-arrangement of the lay-out so as to maintain the requirements of the conditions attaching to the licence. He is also making improvements in the general site amenities.

All sites including three individual vans have been conducted in a satisfactory manner during the year.

The Rag, Flock and Other Materials Act, 1951

Registered premises 3
Periodically samples are sent to one of the approved laboratories for analysis.

Scrap Metal Dealers Act, 1964.

This Act requires Local Authorities to keep registers of all persons who carry on the business of scrap metal merchants in their area. Such registrations are for a maximum period of three years. Dealers must keep records of all their transactions, and are forbidden to acquire any scrap metal from a person apparently under 16 years of age. The police are kept informed of all registrations and changes, as they also have responsibilities under the Act.

Number of dealers registered under the Act 19

Pet Animals Act, 1951.

This Act provides for the inspection and licensing of Pet Shops and sets out certain conditions attaching to any such licence. There were seven licensed premises in the borough; and all were conducted in a satisfactory manner.

The Consumer Protection Act, 1961

The Oil Burners (Standards) Act, 1960

The Oil Heaters Regulations, 1962

The above legislation is designed to bring about improved standards in the design, construction and performance of all unflued oil heaters, which in the past have often been the cause of serious fires, some of which have had fatal results.

The Public Health Inspectors are authorised to examine and test all such appliances, but unfortunately this does not cover second-hand heaters which are the ones most likely to prove defective. This loop-hole in the legislation is long overdue for attention if proper and 100% control is to be made effective.

HAIRDRESSING ESTABLISHMENTS

These premises have been the subject to Bye-law control since 1964, and where staff are employed the Offices, Shops and Railway Premises Act 1963 also applies.

There are 38 establishments for ladies and 18 for men in the Borough and all are subject to regular inspection.

During the year 20 contraventions were rectified informally.

Sampling of Swimming Bath Water

During the year 204 samples of the water at the St. James Street Swimming Baths were taken at the inlets and outlets of the senior and junior pools. Such samples were examined as to the amounts of residual and total chlorine content, as well as the Ph value, and all were found to be satisfactory. This is a considerable achievement when one realizes the age of some of the purification plant, and the ever increasing number of bathers using these facilities.

From time to time during the year advice has also been given to other small pool operators in the Borough; and all these have been conducted satisfactorily.

FOOD INSPECTION

Visits in connection with the inspection and supervision of foods and food premises: and the sampling of food for bacteriological examination:

Bakers and Confectioners	84
Butchers and Fishmongers	166
Dairies and Ice Cream Premises	54
Food Preparation Premises	89
Grocers and Greengrocers	368
Licensed Premises	115
Market Stalls and Mobile Shops etc.	86
Restaurants, Cafes and Canteens	266
Sampling for various foodstuffs	485
Slaughterhouses	1,315*
Wholesale Meat Depots	156
Total	<u>3,187</u>

* Includes visits of Meat Inspector

This sphere of activity covers not only the actual inspections relating to the production, distribution and retailing of all types of food; but also deals with the construction, layout and equipment of the premises themselves from the small market stall to the large automated food factory. Each one has its own particular problems and every Public Health Inspector must be competent to give advice over a wide range of subjects in the field of health education. It is wrong to assume that if a factory, catering establishment or retail shop etc. is well constructed and fitted out with the best modern equipment that it necessarily follows that it is hygienic in all respects. Time and again such premises fall below an acceptable standard due entirely to the staff's lack of

knowledge and appreciation of even the basic principles of food hygiene. We endeavour at all times to give advice on such matters either when carrying out routine inspections or at specially arranged courses for members of the food trades. Such courses are held during the winter months at the local Technical College, but from rather small numbers attending, it is apparent that there is still considerable apathy in the food trades (at all levels from top management to the most junior of staff) generally towards this subject. Talks are also given to schools, nurses, trade groups and various organisations.

Nowadays it is standard practice when plans are submitted for new premises or for the major reconstruction of food premises, for consultations to take place with those concerned so that all the requirements of the Regulations are embodied in the new work with the minimum of trouble. During the year 17 premises were dealt with in this manner.

The whole question of the requirements relating to market stalls, delivery vehicles and mobile shops has received increased attention during the year. The response to informal notices by certain stall holders was very discouraging, and after much correspondence we were reluctantly forced to take our first prosecution under the Food Hygiene (Market Stalls and Delivery Vehicles) Regulations 1966. Three defendants were fined a total of £27 for fifteen offences: Such trivial fines with an almost complete lack of publicity can have little salutary effect on stall-holders generally, and certainly does not encourage the inspectors who are making determined efforts to raise the standard in this particular field of food hygiene.

Details of the various work carried out at all types of food premises during the year is given in the following table, and the total number of items shows an increase of about 10% over the previous year's figures. For the most part the items cover such matters as redecoration, improved lighting and ventilation and new equipment.

Summary of Works carried out at all premises in 1970

	Butchers and Fishmongers	Bakers and Dairies etc.	Grocers and Greengrocers	Catering Establishments	Licensed Premises	Market Stalls etc.	Total
Works of Major Reconstruction	3	—	4	7	3	—	17
Food Rooms							
Walls renewed or repaired	21	2	9	19	8	—	59
Walls redecorated	23	27	16	31	34	—	131
Ceilings renewed or repaired	4	2	7	11	6	—	30
Ceilings redecorated	6	8	9	25	13	—	61
Floors repaired or renewed	5	2	2	8	7	—	24
Improvement of lighting	6	5	3	5	2	—	21
Improvement of ventilation	4	2	2	7	4	—	19
Renewed or repaired drainage	2	—	2	—	—	—	4
Doors, windows etc. repaired	—	—	—	2	1	—	3
Premises cleansed	—	2	—	—	—	—	2
Equipment, etc.							
New sinks provided	6	1	1	13	3	1	25
Hot water supply provided	2	1	1	4	2	1	11
New drainage boards provided	5	—	1	12	1	—	19
Preparation tables etc. retopped ..	7	8	1	18	—	—	34
New equipment etc. provided	6	6	1	12	—	—	25
Dustbins provided	9	—	3	12	—	3	27
Means of protection for food provided	21	5	35	17	2	7	87
Refrigerators provided	4	—	1	4	—	—	9
Equipment cleansed	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Sanitary Accommodation							
New W.C.'s or urinals installed	2	1	4	—	3	—	10
New flushing cisterns provided	1	—	3	—	—	—	4
Sanitary accommodation repaired ..	2	1	6	4	6	—	19
Sanitary accommodation redecorated	8	4	4	9	9	—	34
Sanitary Notices fixed	2	3	5	10	2	—	22
Toilet Accommodation							
Wash-hand Basins provided	3	1	3	7	4	1	19
Hot water supply provided	3	1	3	8	4	4	23
Toilet requisites provided	3	3	8	9	—	4	27
Provision of lockers	2	—	1	3	—	1	7
Miscellaneous							
Protective clothing provided	6	2	4	5	2	1	20
Treatment of infestations	1	5	—	3	—	3	12
Provision of first-aid materials	3	—	4	4	2	5	18
Name and Addresses on stalls etc. ..	—	—	—	—	—	8	8
Totals	167	92	139	262	115	39	814

SPECIAL TYPES OF PREMISES SUBJECT TO REGISTRATION

Milk Supply

There are 8 registered Dairies and 45 Distributors of Milk operating within the Borough. The County Council have wide responsibilities in this field and send us monthly reports of all milk samples taken in the Borough.

Ice Cream

There were 3 new registrations under the Food and Drugs Act, and the total number of registrations is as follows:

Manufacture and Sale	.. .. .	3
Storage and Sale	.. .. .	117

Food Preparation Premises

Under Section 16 of the Food and Drugs Act, 1955 all premises where sausages or potted, pressed, pickled or preserved food intended for sale are prepared or manufactured must be registered by the local authority. Such premises mainly comprise of butchers, fried fish and chip shops and bakehouses where meat pies, pasties or faggots are manufactured or cooked.

During the year there were no new registrations and the total of such premises remains at 55.

BACTERIOLOGICAL EXAMINATION OF FOOD

The Public Health Inspectors take about thirty samples each month of a wide range of those foods which experience has shown are the most likely to be the vectors of food poisoning organisms. This practice is complementary to the many other facets of food hygiene, all of which require constant attention. Since sampling was first introduced many years ago, there has been a very marked improvement in the results which we receive from the Public Health Laboratory: and this without doubt due to the increasing awareness of all food handlers as to the necessity of proper hygiene practices at all times and in all places.

The weak link in the chain of control is the lack of any regulation requiring food handlers to have regular medical examinations including the submission of samples to detect any "carriers", who can easily "trigger off" a serious outbreak of food poisoning without being affected themselves. It is encouraging however to know that many of the more progressive food manufacturers and handlers make it compulsory for their employees to undergo regular medical examinations.

Cream

Artificial and dairy cream are sampled both at the place of production and in the retail shops. This sampling also covers

a certain percentage of branded goods manufactured outside the borough.

107 artificial and 22 dairy cream samples were examined and found to be satisfactory.

Ice Cream

During the year 44 samples were examined, 30 being of the hot mix type from national manufacturers, 4 from a local mix producer, and 10 from mobile soft ice cream vendors. Both the hot and cold mix samples were entirely satisfactory: but four of the soft ice creams were unsatisfactory.

These Soft Ice Creams present quite a few difficulties if a satisfactory standard is to be maintained at all times. In recent years it has been found that the vans concerned rarely adhere to a fixed time table and routes; so that effective sampling entails much wastage of time. Besides which the most frequent time of vending is at week-ends when laboratory facilities are not available. As it has been pointed out the actual apparatus to make soft ice cream is usually housed in a special van, and unless such apparatus is thoroughly cleaned at the end of each day the risk of contamination is very high. The vans are often housed in garages which lack adequate facilities for cleaning, and the operators themselves are usually more concerned with cash returns than techniques of hygiene. The only real answer to the problem is for such vans to be based on fully equipped depots where maintenance staff can give all the apparatus a proper cleaning at the end of each working day; rather than leave it in the hands of salesmen who are too tired to take a proper interest in what would seem a long and irksome task.

Details are as follows:—

	Grade 1	Grade 2	Grade 3
Hot Mix	39	1	—
Cold Mix	4	—	—
Soft Ice Cream	4	2	4

Liquid Egg

During the year 94 samples were taken, and of these 5 were pasteurised, 45 raw egg albumen and 44 raw whole egg. The results of the pasteurised and albumen samples were satisfactory, but four of the raw egg were affected with salmonella including two of the Agona type and one Fischerkietz phage type 1. The batches giving these positive results were traced and subjected to pasteurisation to render them innocuous.

Dessicated Coconut

Eight samples of both loose and packeted coconut were examined and found to be satisfactory.

Meat Products

During the year 145 samples of meat and meat products were taken at butchers and other retail shops. These products are high on the list of suspects when any case of food poisoning has to be investigated, and it is reassuring to know that all results were satisfactory. However this is no ground for complacency, as the staffs of nearly all food businesses are constantly changing and many of the new entrants are woefully ignorant of basic hygienic practices. Even some of the older and more experienced staff do not always have a proper appreciation of hygiene and the serious repercussions any slackness might initiate. The taking of these samples does tend to keep the persons concerned aware of the necessity of maintaining a high standard at all times.

Details of the various samples are as follows:—

Bacon	1	Beef—corned	7
Beef—minced	13	Beef—pressed	1
Black Pudding	4	Brawn	3
Cervelat	1	Chicken	1
Faggot	7	Ham roll and egg	2
Ham—cooked shoulder	6	Ham—chopped	2
Ham—cooked gammon	9	Hogs pudding	1
Lachschenken	1	Liver—lamb	2
Liver—pig	1	Ox tongue	6
Pasty	7	Pate de foie	1
Pie—steak and kidney	4	Pie—pork and egg	2
Pie—pork	1	Pie—chicken	1
Polony	2	Pork luncheon meat	6
Pork—chopped	3	Pork—stuffed roll	7
Pork—roast	6	Pork and tongue	1
Sausage—beef	5	Sausage—garlic	4
Sausage—liver	2	Sausage—pork	10
Sausage roll	4	Scotch egg	1
Steaklet	1	Tripe	8
Veal—jellied	1		

Water

A total of 213 samples were taken during the year, and included 26 of raw water taken at the works and 8 from a private borehole. All were satisfactory.

AGAR SAUSAGE SAMPLING

The taking of these samples from equipment etc. in all types of food premises is a vital adjunct in the inspection of such premises and enables a proper assessment to be made of the standard of hygiene maintained therein. The total number of samples taken

was 326 and of these 102 gave negative results, 95 slight, 49 medium and 80 heavy. These figures follow very much the pattern of the previous year. Subsequent visits to those premises where poor results were obtained, have generally elicited a genuine desire to be shown improved cleaning and washing up techniques: as it is in this field that most of the faults are to be found.

Results

<i>Item</i>	<i>Nil</i>	<i>Slight</i>	<i>Medium</i>	<i>Heavy</i>
Bottle brush	—	—	—	2
Bowls—various	7	4	3	2
Beakers	—	1	—	—
Chopping blocks	—	2	—	5
Cleaver	—	3	—	1
Cookers and ovens	1	1	—	1
Cooking pots etc... .. .	1	—	—	—
Counter tops	—	—	1	1
Cutting boards	—	—	—	2
Cups	7	3	—	1
Chip scoop	1	2	1	—
Food display cabinet	—	2	2	—
Dishcloths	2	1	—	3
Draining boards	2	1	—	2
Drink dispensers	3	—	3	—
Equipment—various	5	4	3	3
Fingers of staff	2	4	1	1
Forks	9	1	1	3
Glasses—various	4	8	1	1
Hand towels	1	—	1	1
Hot cupboards	—	1	1	—
Ice cream containers	1	1	—	—
Ice cream servers	1	—	1	—
Jugs.. .. .	—	—	1	—
Knives—preparation	3	4	2	3
Knives—table	3	4	2	—
Ladles and scoops	—	1	—	—
Machinery—various	1	1	2	—
Meat slicers	1	7	4	1
Mincing machines	2	—	1	4
Mixing machines	—	1	—	—
Overalls	1	1	2	—
Piping bag—nozzle	1	—	—	—
Plates—table	10	4	—	2
Receptacles—various	2	3	2	5
Refrigerator inside	2	4	1	3
Saucers	2	—	—	1
Saucepans	1	1	—	1
Scales—pans	2	3	2	2
Saws	1	2	—	—

Shelves	1	2	1	1
Spoons—various	8	6	—	2
Table tops	3	4	5	7
Tea cloths	2	—	—	2
Tongs	—	2	—	1
Trays	4	3	1	5
Walls	—	—	2	2
Wash hand basins	1	1	1	—
Work benches	4	2	1	9
Total	102	95	49	80

Food Inspection

As a result of inspection of food at food shops and warehouses, the following commodities were condemned:

TINNED GOODS

Fruit	1771	tins
Fruit juice	282	"
Meat	533	"
Vegetables	1555	"
Soup	242	"
Fish	333	"
Spaghetti	35	"
Cream, milk	73	"
Rice etc.	99	"
Jam, syrup	225	"
Baby food	30	"
Miscellaneous	52	"

FROZEN FOODS

Fruit	4	pkts.
Meat	2962	"
Vegetables	2376	"
Fish	2853	"
Chips, potatoes	422	"
Ice cream	577	"
Pastry	336	"
Pies	460	"
Mousse	495	"
Cakes etc.	490	"
Chicken portions	61	"
Drinks	217	"

OTHER FOODS

Cooked meat	244	lbs.
Sausages	370	"
Rabbit	140	"
Poultry	608	"
Fish	548	"
Butter	126	"
Cooking fat	129	"
Margarine	10	"
Cheese	169	"
Rice etc.	21	"
Sugar	12	"
Flour	182	"
Dried milk	55	"
Salt	54	"
Tea	24	"
Dried fruit	58	"
Liquid egg	84	"

Biscuits	75	pkts.
Cereals	122	"
Sweets, chocolates	342	"
Jellies	21	"
Orange juice	1369	bott.
Sherry, wine	10	"
Beer,	64	bott. cans
Pickles	134	jars
Mincemeat	163	"
Pies	291	"
Eggs	180	"

RAIN DAMAGED

Biscuits	218	pkts.
Chocolate	26	"
Flour	4	lbs.
Prunes	4	"

FRUIT, VEGETABLES

Apples	400	Tomatoes	98 "
Seed potatoes	18½ cwt.	Grapes	40 "
	boxes	Peas	4 "
Avocado pears	2 "	Cabbage	6 "
Strawberries	6 "	Watercress	6 "
Pears	6 "	Corn cob	3 "
Mushrooms	11 "	Alphonse	7 "
Cauliflower	12 "	Leeks	4 "
Cucumbers	15 "	Turnip	3 "
Melons	15 "	Carrot	6 "
Peaches	27 "	Switzen	2 "
Celery	1 "	Radish	3 "
Lettuce	17 "	Capsicum	3 "
Spring onions	16 "	Parsley	1 "
		Beetroot	1 bag

FOOD AND DRUGS ACT, 1955

Details of legal proceedings taken during the year are as follows:

<i>Offence</i>	<i>Result</i>
1. Business carried on in insanitary premises	£20 fine
2. Failing to keep equipment clean	Dismissed
3. Sanitary convenience opening directly to food room	£10 fine
4. Failing to provide wash hand basin	£10 fine
5. Smoking in food room	£10 fine
6. Dirty grease in wrapped bacon	£20 fine
7. Metal pin in pork pie	£20 fine
8. Failing to wear washable head covering when carrying meat	£5 fine
9. Failing to wear washable head covering when carrying meat	£5 fine
10. Selling pastry affected with mould	£20 fine
11. Selling raspberry desserts affected with mould	£25 fine
12. Bread affected with stained grease	£20 fine
13. Selling malodorous sausage rolls	£20 fine

The following proceedings relate to market stalls:—

14. Failing to wear clean and washable overclothing	£2 fine
15. Insufficient first-aid equipment	£2 fine
16. Insufficient screening of stalls at sides	£2 fine
17. Storing food on the ground	£2 fine
18. Failing to wear clean and washable overclothing	£2 fine
19. Failing to display name and address on vehicle	£1 fine
20. Failing to provide sufficient receptacles for waste	£2 fine
21. Insufficient first-aid equipment	£2 fine
22. Insufficient screens at back and sides of stall	£2 fine
23. Storing food on the ground	£2 fine
24. Failing to display name and address on vehicle	£1 fine
25. Failing to cover and screen stall at back and sides	£2 fine
26. Failing to provide sufficient refuse receptacles	£2 fine
27. Failing to provide first-aid equipment	£1 fine
28. Failing to display name and address on stall	£2 fine

MEAT INSPECTION

Slaughtering takes place in the Borough at two small private slaughterhouses and a large bacon factory which operates on the line system. The annual kill at the factory has shown a steady increase since 1960, and this year the increase was even more marked when the total annual kill was approximately 69,500 which represents a 32% increase over the previous year.

The work of inspection has been helped by the appointment of Mr. A. Brown as a full-time Meat Inspector. He joined the Department in May and has quickly adapted himself to our routine. The policy of the factory appears to be an ever-increasing "through-put" of pigs, and if there is a further appreciable increase in the coming year, serious consideration will have to be given to the appointment of a second Meat Inspector, as the work of inspection is very demanding and cannot be sustained over long periods without some loss of concentration and associated nervous strain.

The following animals were slaughtered during the year:

Beasts	186
Cows	49
Sheep and Lambs	1,256
Calves	2
Pigs	69,666
Total	71,159

The inspection of the above carcasses revealed disease as set out in the following table:

	Cattle (excl. cows)	Cows	Calves	Sheep Lambs	Pigs
Number killed	186	49	2	1,256	69,666
Number inspected	186	49	2	1,256	69,666
Whole carcasses condemned for disease other than T.B.	—	1	1	—	109
Carcasses from which some part or organ was condemned	68	—	—	14	21,290
Percentage of number inspected affected with disease other than T.B.	25%	—	50%	1.11%	30.56%
Tuberculosis only—					
Whole carcasses condemned	—	—	—	—	—
Carcasses from which some part or organ was condemned	—	—	—	—	823
Percentage of number inspected affected with T.B.	—	—	—	—	1.81%
Cysticercus Bovis—					
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	6	—	—	—	—
Carcasses subjected to treatment by refrigeration	6	—	—	—	—
Carcasses generalised and totally condemned	—	—	—	—	—

In addition, the following meat was condemned at butchers' premises on account of bone taint and other causes:

Beef	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	745 lbs.
Lamb	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	85 "
Bacon	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	684 "
Pork	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	179 "
Offal	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	240 "

METEOROLOGICAL READINGS FOR 1970

Month	Barometer			Thermometer			Sunshine			Rainfall			
	Mean	Max.	Min.	Mean	Max.	Min.	Hours	Maximum Reading	Sunless Days	Inches	Days Rain Fell	Days of .04" or more	Max. Reading
JANUARY	29.60	30.15	28.99	40.93	55	17	36.00	6.00	13	5.06	22	19	0.60
FEBRUARY	29.85	30.55	28.91	39.57	58	23	103.75	8.50	5	2.36	18	14	0.45
MARCH	29.91	30.50	29.21	41.26	60	20	138.00	9.00	4	1.46	17	12	0.22
APRIL	29.96	30.28	29.43	46.27	62	26	149.00	11.00	2	1.43	18	10	0.35
MAY	29.99	30.48	29.55	55.58	73	39	230.75	14.00	1	1.78	8	6	0.95
JUNE	30.04	30.40	29.81	61.17	81	41	233.00	15.00	1	2.36	9	7	1.44
JULY	29.95	30.32	29.63	60.97	84	46	217.5	13.75	-	1.60	11	9	0.32
AUGUST	29.96	30.24	29.54	61.30	81	41	152.75	11.50	4	3.58	13	8	1.05
SEPTEMBER	29.97	30.28	29.28	58.55	75	41	128.75	7.25	1	2.82	13	11	1.06
OCTOBER	30.11	30.42	29.52	53.18	65	32	94.25	8.50	7	1.05	12	8	0.28
NOVEMBER	29.75	30.25	29.09	47.87	61	26	60.00	6.75	9	5.62	20	19	0.70
DECEMBER	30.18	30.73	29.61	39.60	56	22	46.5	5.50	12	1.20	9	7	0.51 as snow
TOTAL	29.91	-	-	50.52	-	-	1,653.25	-	59	30.32	160	130	

METEOROLOGICAL READINGS

This has been a generally unexceptional year as far as the weather has been concerned. The total rainfall of 30.32 inches is about an inch above the average, and about $5\frac{1}{2}$ inches below the previous year's fall which was exceptionally high. Over a third of the total fell in January and November when more than 5 inches was recorded in each month. The highest single day's fall was 1.44 inches on 16th June which was otherwise a dry month. Rain fell on 160 days which was 17 below average, and .04 inches or more fell on 130 days which was 5 more than average.

The average barometer reading was 29.91 inches which is slightly below normal. The highest reading of 30.73 was in December, and the lowest of 28.91 in February.

Temperatures were slightly above average. The highest being 84°F in July and the lowest 17°F in January.

The total hours of sunshine was 1,653.25 which is about a hundred above the average, and in May, June and July each exceeded 200 hours. December was the worst month with only 36 hours of sunshine. The total number of sunless days was 59 which is 7 less than the average.

The figures below set out the main readings for 1970 as compared with those in the previous year and the annual averages.

	Mean Barometer	Mean Temperature	Hours of Sunshine	Sunless Days	Total Rainfall	Days rain fell	Days of .04 inches rain or more
1970	29.91	50.52	1,653.25	59	30.32	160	130
1969	29.94	49.99	1,659.50	83	35.73	154	110
Average	29.93	49.64	1,552.98	66	29.09	178	125

Ave. Meteorological Readings at Taunton 1919 to 1970

BAROMETER			TEMPERATURE		
					<i>degs. F.</i>
Annual Average	..	29.93	Annual Average	..	49.64
June	..	30.00	July	..	61.55
July	..	29.98	August	..	60.73
February	..	29.96	June	..	59.04
September	..	29.94	September	..	56.93
August	..	29.94	May	..	52.59
March	..	29.94	October	..	50.77
October	..	29.93	April	..	47.36
May	..	29.92	November	..	44.33
April	..	29.92	March	..	43.31
December	..	29.89	December	..	40.87
January	..	29.88	January	..	40.23
November	..	29.87	February	..	40.08

Average Meteorological Readings at Taunton 1919 to 1970

RAINFALL			NUMBER OF DAYS RAIN FELL		
		<i>inches</i>			<i>days</i>
Annual Average	..	29.09	Annual Average	..	177.59
November	..	3.41	December	..	18.23
December	..	3.12	January	..	17.46
January	..	3.03	November	..	17.40
October	..	2.90	October	..	16.06
September	..	2.49	August	..	14.44
May	..	2.38	September	..	14.25
August	..	2.33	February	..	13.88
February	..	2.21	April	..	13.85
April	..	2.12	May	..	13.59
July	..	2.02	July	..	13.27
March	..	1.92	March	..	13.15
June	..	1.63	June	..	11.17

DAYS OF RAINFALL OF .04 INCHES OR MORE

		<i>days</i>
Annual Average	..	125.21
December	..	12.89
November	..	12.71
January	..	12.31
October	..	11.39
May	..	10.10
September	..	10.08
August	..	9.94
February	..	9.77
April	..	9.67
July	..	8.94
March	..	8.94
June	..	7.94

SUNSHINE IN HOURS

Hours of Sunshine		
Annual Average	..	1552.98
June	..	219.23
May	..	205.22
July	..	202.62
August	..	187.38
April	..	151.69
September	..	130.29
March	..	117.77
October	..	101.51
February	..	75.16
November	..	60.31
January	..	46.15
December	..	39.99

Number of Sunless Days

Annual Average	..	65.96
July	..	1.35
August	..	1.57
June	..	1.57
May	..	1.96
April	..	2.98
September	..	3.06
October	..	4.49
March	..	5.27
February	..	8.04
November	..	9.65
January	..	13.40
December	..	13.94

TABLE A		(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)
		Class of premises	Number of premises newly registered during the year	Total number of registered premises at end of year	Number of registered premises receiving one or more general inspections during the year
REGISTRATION AND GENERAL INSPECTIONS		Offices	16	194	102
		Retail shops	13	301	171
		Wholesale Shops, Warehouses	—	30	2
		Catering establishments open to the public. Canteens	2	38	8
		Fuel storage Depots	—	4	—
		TOTALS	31	567	283

TABLE B Number of visits of all kinds (including General Inspections) to Registered Premises .. 1,204

TABLE C		(1)	(2)
		Class of Workplace	Number of Persons employed
ANALYSIS OF PERSONS EMPLOYED IN REGISTERED PREMISES BY WORKPLACE		Offices	2,786
		Retail Shops	2,723
		Wholesale Departments, Warehouses	269
		Catering Establishments open to the public	523
		Canteens	16
		Fuel Storage Depots	35
		TOTAL	6,352
		TOTAL MALES	2,499
		TOTAL FEMALES	3,853

During the year informal notices were served in respect of 486 items requiring attention in order to secure conformity with the Act.

These items are as detailed in the schedule below :

Type of premises	Sanitary Accommodation								Washing Facilities							
	Ventilation	Lighting	Cleanliness	Identification	Additional Accommodation	Door Fastenings	Unsuitable accommodation, discontinue use	Renew fittings	Ventilation	Lighting	Cleanliness	Toilet Requisites	Renew fittings	Hot water supply	Additional Accommodation	Drinking water
Shops	1	13	31	7	1	1	1	4	1	3	20	11	3	14	-	2
Offices	1	4	9	3	1	-	-	-	1	-	5	-	-	2	-	3
Catering Premises	-	1	5	1	-	-	-	3	-	-	2	2	-	1	-	-
Wholesale Warehouses	-	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	-	1	-	-
TOTAL	2	19	46	11	2	1	1	7	2	3	28	14	3	18	-	5

Other Items																
Cleanliness	Overcrowding	Seating facilities	Staircases, floors, passages	Temperatures	Ventilation	Lighting	Accommodation for clothing	Machinery	First Aid	Safety	Abstract of Act	Waste Bins	Registration	Unsuitable accommodation, discontinue use	Noise	
34	-	8	55	22	10	21	4	-	14	33	17	-	6	-	-	337
13	3	3	21	1	2	14	2	-	6	14	6	-	-	3	-	117
2	-	-	-	-	1	1	-	-	1	1	2	-	-	-	-	23
1	-	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	9
50	3	12	77	23	13	36	6	-	21	49	25	-	6	3	-	486

FACTORIES ACT, 1961

1. INSPECTIONS for the purposes as to provisions as to health

Premises	Number on Register	Number of		
		Inspections	Written Notices	Occupiers prosecuted
(1) Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities	17	14	—	—
(2) Factories not included in (1) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority	232	781	4	—
(3) Other premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding outworkers' premises)	6	2	1	—
TOTAL	255	797	5	—

2. Cases in which DEFECTS were found

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

OUTWORK (Sections 133 and 134)

Nature of Work	No. of out-workers in August list	Section 133		Section 134	
		No. of prosecutions for failure to supply lists	No. of instances of work in unwholesome premises	Notices served	Prosecutions
Making of wearing apparel	111	—	—	—	—

Outworkers are employed by large factories, and work is carried out in the homes of employees. The system has many advantages both for the employer and worker, as the former does not have to provide any accommodation and the worker can pick his own time when to work. However, powers are necessary to control working conditions so as to ensure equal standards to those in the factories themselves, and to safeguard against the spread of infectious diseases.

During the year 83 inspections of outworkers' premises were made, and in all instances conditions were found to be satisfactory.

Cases in which DEFECTS were found

Nature of Work	No. of out-workers in August list	Section 133		Section 134	
		No. of prosecutions for failure to supply lists	No. of instances of work in unwholesome premises	Notices served	Prosecutions
Making of wearing apparel	111	—	—	—	—
TOTAL					



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