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Borough of Tewkesbury

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ANNUAL REPORT

on the

HEALTH OF THE BOROUGH

for the year 1965

STEPHEN KNIGHT, M.B., D.P.H.

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

PUBLIC HEALTH AND HOUSING COMMITTEE

Chairman: Councillor L.G. Marston.

Members: The Worshipful the Mayor of Tewkesbury,
(Councillor Dr. P.K. Holding),
Aldermen: B. Sweet, F.H. Knight, W.E. Lane,
G.T. Troughton.
Councillors: T. Adams, Mrs. A.M. Evans,
G.S. Brown, J.R. Griffiths, L.A. Husband,
G.P. Long, S. Walkley, L.A. Webber,
Mrs. G.M. Workman, H.O. Workman.

PUBLIC HEALTH STAFF

STEPHEN KNIGHT, M.B., B.S., M.R.C.S., D.P.H.,
Medical Officer of Health to Tewkesbury
Borough, the Urban District of Charlton
Kings and the Rural Districts of Gloucester
and Cheltenham, and the County Divisional
Medical Officer of Health for the North
Gloucestershire Divisional Area (North
Gloucestershire Area Health Sub-Committee).

J.H. TURNER, F.R.S.H., M.A.P.H.I., Public Health
Inspector, Inspector of Meat and Other
Foods, Housing and Petroleum Officer,
Shop Acts Inspector.

Adoptive Legislation in force in the Borough

Public Health Act, 1936, Section 75 -
Provisions of Regulation Dustbins -
adopted March 21st, 1938.

Byelaws

Tents, Vans and Sheds and similar structures
- adopted November 1st, 1938.

Handling, Wrapping and Delivery and Sale of
Food in the Open Air - adopted April 21st, 1952.

HEALTH DEPARTMENT,
MUNICIPAL OFFICES,
TEWKESBURY, GLOS.

1st July, 1966.

To the Mayor,

Aldermen and Councillors of the
Borough of Tewkesbury

Mr. Mayor, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I beg to submit the Annual Report on the health and sanitary circumstances of the Borough for the year 1965.

The Report is prepared in compliance with Regulations 5(3) and 15(5) of the Public Health Officers Regulations 1959 and Ministry of Health Circular 1/66.

I am indebted again to the Borough Engineer, Mr. F. Broxton, and the Public Health Inspector, Mr. J.H. Turner, for sections of the Report contributed by them.

On 1st April, 1965, the boundaries of the Borough were extended to include the Mitton area which comprises 156 acres; a population of about 1,162 and 332 houses; it is anticipated that eventually there will be 600 houses in this area.

This development is the chief factor leading to a marked increase in the total population of the Borough which rose from 6,000 in 1964 to 7,190 in the year under review, an increase of 1,190 persons.

Although the birth rate, 16.6 births per 1,000 population, is somewhat lower than the national average 18.1, the other health statistics are more favourable; the death rate is low, being 8.2 as compared with 11.5 for England and Wales, and Infantile Mortality is at a very low rate of 8.1 such deaths per 1,000 live births, considerably lower than similar averages for the County 16.45, and nationally 19.0.

With the exception of an epidemic of measles, there was a very low incidence of infectious disease, due in large measure to the enthusiasm with which parents accept the facilities for immunisation and vaccination.

Eighty nine Council houses were built during the year; although none were specifically for elderly people, the dwellings can be so allocated as the need arises.

The Council have one block of 18 dwellings built for the special needs of old people with warden service and adapted facilities.

Dwellings of this type enable elderly people to maintain their independence for longer than otherwise would be possible. Moreover, as the proportion of elderly people in the community becomes larger so more of these dwellings should be provided.

The Minister of Housing and Local Government confirmed one Compulsory Purchase Order in respect of the Back of Avon Clearance area comprising four houses, but did not confirm an order in respect of Nos. 1 and 2 Clearance Areas Mythe Road. The houses in these Clearance areas were found to be unfit, but it was considered that demolition should not take place in advance of approved proposals for the development of the area.

It appears to be essential to obtain Planning approval for the proposed redevelopment before proceeding with Clearance areas, especially if buildings listed as being of architectural or historic merit are involved.

During a "Welcome to Citizenship" Campaign the opportunity was taken of staging an exhibition to make the Health Services more widely known and to promote various aspects of health education.

I am grateful for this opportunity to express my sincere appreciation to the Mayor, the Chairman of the Public Health and Housing Committee, and members of the Council for their valuable support and to my colleagues for their ready co-operation during the year.

I have the honour to be
Your obedient servant,

STEPHEN KNIGHT

Medical Officer of Health

VITAL STATISTICS

These statistics give particulars of the births and deaths in the Borough, together with certain rates which are compared, where possible, with those for England and Wales.

A detailed list of the causes of death will be found in Table 1 on page 7.

1. Live Births

	<u>Total</u>	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>
Number: Legitimate	112	53	59
Illegitimate	11	6	5
Total	<u>123</u>	<u>59</u>	<u>64</u>
Crude Live Birth Rate per 1,000 population			16.55
Area comparability factor (Births)			0.93
Corrected Live Birth Rate (0.93x16.55)			15.39
Illegitimate Live Births (percentage of total live births)			9.0%

2. Still Births

	<u>Total</u>	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>
Number: Legitimate	6	4	2
Illegitimate	-	-	-
Total	<u>6</u>	<u>4</u>	<u>2</u>
Still Birth Rate per 1,000 total live and still births			46.51
Total live and still births			129

3. Infant Deaths

(i) Deaths of Infants under 1 year:-

	<u>Total</u>	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>
Number: Legitimate	1	1	-
Illegitimate	-	-	-
Total	<u>1</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>-</u>

(ii) Neo-natal Deaths of Infants under 4 weeks:-

	<u>Total</u>	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>
Number: Legitimate	-	-	-
Illegitimate	-	-	-
Total	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>

(iii) Early Neo-natal deaths, Deaths of Infants under 1 week:-

	<u>Total</u>	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>
Number: Legitimate	-	-	-
Illegitimate	-	-	-
Total	-	-	-

4. Infant Mortality Rates

Total Infant Deaths per 1,000 total live births	8.13
Legitimate Infant Deaths per 1,000 legitimate live births	9.0
Illegitimate Infant Deaths per 1,000 illegitimate live births	NIL
Neo-natal Mortality Rate (deaths under 4 weeks per 1,000 total live births)	NIL
Early Neo-natal Mortality Rate (deaths under 1 week per 1,000 total live births)	NIL
Perinatal Mortality Rate (Still births and deaths under 1 week combined per 1,000 total live and still births).. .. .	46.0
Maternal Mortality (including abortion)	
Number of deaths	NONE
Rate per 1,000 total live and still births..	NIL

5. Deaths

	<u>Total</u>	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>
Number	59	29	30
Death Rate per 1,000 population	8.21		
Area Comparability factor (deaths)	1.00		
Corrected Death Rate (8.21x1.00)	8.21		

Area Comparability Factor is prepared by the Registrar General and makes allowance for the age distribution in Tewkesbury as compared with the national average. The Corrected Birth and Death Rates could be used for purposes of comparison.

TABLES OF COMPARISON

Birth, Death, and Infantile Mortality Rates in the
Borough for the past five years

	<u>1961</u>	<u>1962</u>	<u>1963</u>	<u>1964</u>	<u>1965</u>
Birth Rate.. ..	20.2	17.0	17.8	20.6	16.55
Death Rate.. ..	14.1	14.4	13.3	12.4	8.21
Infantile Mortality Rate ..	17.4	30.0	28.3	16.0	8.13

Birth, Death and Infantile Mortality Rates
for England and Wales etc., for 1965

	<u>England and Wales</u>	<u>County of Gloucester</u>	<u>Tewkesbury</u>
Live Birth Rate (per 1,000 population)	18.1	19.82	16.55
Still Birth Rate (per 1,000 total live and still births)	15.7	13.29	46.5
Infantile Mortality Rate (deaths of infants under 1 year per 1,000 live births)	19.0	16.45	8.13
Neo-natal Mortality Rate (deaths of infants under 1 month)	13.0	10.69	-
Death Rate (per 1,000 population)	11.5	10.14	8.21

CAUSES OF DEATH IN THE BOROUGH IN 1965

Table 1 gives the causes of death in the Borough in accordance with the abbreviated list of 36 groups of the World Health Organisation Nomenclature Regulations, 1948

Table 1

	Causes of Death	Male	Female
1	Tuberculosis, respiratory ... ..	..	..
2	Tuberculosis, other ... ..	..	..
3	Syphilitic disease ... ..	..	..
4	Diphtheria ... ..	..	..
5	Whooping Cough ... ..	..	..
6	Meningococcal infections ... ..	..	..
7	Acute Poliomyelitis ... ..	..	..
8	Measles ... ..	..	..
9	Other infective and parasitic diseases ... ..	..	..
10	+ (Malignant neoplasm, stomach	1	..
11	(Malignant neoplasm, lung bronchus	4	..
12	(Malignant neoplasm, breast ... ..	..	1
13	(Malignant neoplasm, uterus ... ..	..	1
14	(Other malignant and lymphatic neoplasms	1	3
15	(Leukaemia, aleukaemia ... ..	..	..
16	Diabetes	1	..
17	Vascular lesions of nervous system	3	3
18	Coronary disease, angina	3	5
19	Hypertension with heart disease	-	-
20	Other heart disease	6	9
21	Other circulatory disease	3	1
22	Influenza ... ..	..	..
23	Pneumonia	1	1
24	Bronchitis	3	2
25	Other diseases of respiratory system	-	1
26	Ulcer of stomach and duodenum ... ..	..	..
27	Gastritis, enteritis and diarrhoea ... ..	..	..
28	Nephritis and nephrosis ... ..	..	..
29	Hyperplasia of prostate ... ..	..	..
30	Pregnancy, childbirth, abortion ... ..	..	..
31	Congenital malformations ... ..	..	..
32	Other defined and ill-defined diseases	1	1
33	Motor vehicle accidents	2	2
34	All other accidents ... ..	..	..
35	Suicide ... ..	..	..
36	Homicide and operations of war ... ..	..	..
	Total	29	30

EXPLANATORY NOTE: + Neoplasm equals Cancer

STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS
IN THE BOROUGH

Area (in acres): 2,770 (including 96 acres of water).
Population (Registrar General's estimate of Home
Population mid-1965): 7,190.
Number of inhabited houses (31st December, 1965)
according to the rate book: 2,382.
Sum represented by a penny rate £979 (net).
Rateable Value: £232,660.
General Rate: 1965-1966: 11/6d. (Mitton 11/2d.)
(County Precept: 8/4½d.)

Social Conditions and Chief Industries

Tewkesbury is an ancient and historic Borough near the confluence of the River Severn and River Avon.

The first Charter was granted in 1574. Numerous visitors come to the Town because of its situation, the historical associations, architectural features and especially for the Norman Abbey.

A flourishing catering industry serves the tourists and holidaymakers. The Council have augmented the facilities by providing caravan and camping sites, tennis courts, putting green and children's swimming pool.

Besides traditional occupations in the catering trade, flour milling and boat-building, an increasing number of people are now employed in light engineering factories. The rapid development of the Council's industrial estate at Newtown increases opportunities for employment and enhances productivity.

Traffic from the North and Midlands passes through the town to the South-West. The nuisance, day and night, from noise, fumes and dirt, becomes worse and worse. So far the construction of the extension to the Motorway which would take this traffic has not yet begun.

Employment

Miss J. Wilkinson, Manager of the local Employment Exchange, has kindly supplied the following report:-

Records for 1965 show that we started the year with 58 persons registered as unemployed. This figure dropped gradually to its lowest point in May, when there were only 36 persons unemployed. It rose again to give 51 in December, showing a percentage of 0.9 persons unemployed in the area as compared with the national average of 1.4% for the same date.

There was a slight drop in the demand for labour, but jobs were found for 318 persons of whom 61 were under eighteen years of age and 9 were Disabled Persons.

About two thirds of the vacancies notified for men were for skilled workers in the engineering industry and, for women, the emphasis was, as usual, on the catering trades and domestic work. There was a continued demand for young persons and, for them, opportunities were varied.

There was the usual interchange of workers between Tewkesbury and the adjacent Employment Exchange areas.

1965 produced no crises or emergencies in either the employment or unemployment position and workers, on the whole, appeared to be a little less inclined to move from job to job of their own accord than hitherto.

GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES IN THE BOROUGH

Laboratory Services

The examination of pathological specimens, and the bacteriological examination of milk, ice-cream and water is carried out at the Public Health Laboratory, Gloucester Royal Hospital, under the Medical Research Council's Scheme, free of charge.

Chemical analyses of water and sewage samples taken by the Public Health Inspector are carried out by the City Analyst, Worcester.

Water analyses for the North West Gloucestershire Water Board works are carried out by the Chemist to the Board.

Hospitals

Infectious disease cases are admitted to Gloucester City Isolation Hospital at Over (Gloucester, Stroud and Forest Hospital Management Committee).

Ambulance Facilities

The County Council have an Ambulance Station in Oldbury Road with an establishment of four full-time drivers.

Nursing in the Home

Three District Nurses appointed by the County Health Committee live in the Borough and give a midwifery and general nursing service in the Borough and in the neighbouring parishes of Ashchurch, Tredington and Twynning.

Home Help Service

The Home Help Service is organised by the Area Health Sub-Committee of the County Council; it provides for domestic help of the aged, sick and handicapped in their own homes. With this assistance, many old people are helped to carry on in familiar surroundings.

Mrs. J. Williams, Area Home Help Organiser, Divisional Health Office, Copt Elm Road, Charlton Kings, Cheltenham, gives the following particulars of work done during the year:-

The case load remains the same as for 1964, 45 cases were assisted, of whom 6 were maternity cases and the remainder general sickness, old age and chronically sick.

The difficulty in finding the right type of Home Help has increased, but so far all calls for assistance have been met as they arrive.

National Assistance Acts,

1948 and 1951

Under these Acts, the Council have authorised the Medical Officer of Health to arrange, if need be, for the compulsory removal to hospital or to residential hostel, of any person who is aged, sick and incapacitated, is living in insanitary conditions, is unable to care for himself and is not receiving proper care and attention from other people.

No application was made to the Court during the year, the Home Help Service being able to render sufficient assistance to enable elderly people, especially those living alone, to carry on in their own homes.

Mothers' Club

A Mothers' Club open to all mothers whose children are not over school age meets each month at the Clinic, Church Street. The Club is proving most popular and successful.

Tewkesbury Old People's Welfare Committee

The Golden Hour Club meets at fortnightly intervals. The Club premises are open at other times to members and visitors who are over 60 years of age. Lonely sick persons in hospital and at home are visited. Welfare foods at reduced cost are available to old age pensioners in the Borough.

Health Education

Talks, film shows and demonstrations were given to local organisations on various subjects. Talks were given to the eleven year classes in the Schools on the subject of the health hazards of smoking.

Chiropody Service

The chiropody service is operated under the Gloucestershire County Council National Health Scheme at a cost of 2s. per treatment, which is provided at the Golden Hour Club Headquarters.

At the end of the year 98 people were on the register of treatment and 3 people were awaiting an appointment.

Transport for physically handicapped persons in the Borough to attend for treatment is provided by the Tewkesbury Old People's Welfare Committee.

The Chiropodist devotes 4 days per 28 days to work in Tewkesbury.

Health Visiting

Three Health Visitors are employed by the County Council for Tewkesbury and the neighbouring parishes. They operate from the Clinic in Church Street. Their main functions are to co-operate with the doctors practising in the area - for the prevention of disease and to provide health education by example in the home and at the Clinic, for families under their care.

Family Social Worker

The County Council Children's Department employ a family social worker in the Borough and adjacent districts, giving advice, encouragement and where necessary, practical demonstrations in the home.

Problem Families

Gloucester County Council Rent Guarantee Scheme

The Scheme agreed between the County Council and the Borough Council for the rehabilitation of problem families living in Council houses continued to operate during the year. When arrears of rent are such as to render a family liable to eviction from a Council house, the circumstances are reported to the County Council's Social Welfare Officer. At the beginning of the year there were seven cases from the Tewkesbury Borough Council within the Rent Guarantee Scheme. At the 31st December, 1965, five cases remained within the Rent Guarantee Scheme.

CLINIC AND TREATMENT CENTRES

Child Welfare Centre

Held weekly in the Clinic, Church Street, on Thursdays from 2.30 to 4.0 p.m. and run with commendable success by a voluntary Committee: this centre is under the general administration of the Area Sub-Committee of the County Council, which includes members of this Council.

Table 2 records the number of sessions and attendances at the Centre during the year:-

Table 2:

Number of Sessions	Total No. of Attendances		
	Under 1	1 - 2 years	3 - 5 years
51	1,878	416	287

Tewkesbury Clinic, Church Street

The Clinic opens as follows:-

Ante-natal Clinic: Weekly, Wednesday afternoons, (Relaxation Classes - fortnightly, Tuesdays).
Probation Officer: Fortnightly, Thursday evenings (5-7 p.m.)
Orthopaedic Clinic: Weekly, Tuesday mornings (10 - 12 noon) Attended by an Orthopaedic Sister.
Speech Therapy Clinic: Weekly, Friday afternoons.
Dental Clinic: Monday mornings.
Welfare Foods: Thursday afternoons and Saturday mornings (9 - 12 noon).
Mothers' Club: 7.30 p.m. second Tuesday each month.
Welfare Clinic: Thursday afternoons (2.30 - 4.p.m.)

Tewkesbury Hospital, Barton Road

Chest Clinic: Fortnightly, Monday afternoons, attended by Chest Physician.
G.U. Clinic: Tuesday mornings.
Medical Clinic: Wednesday mornings.
Gynaecology Clinic: First and third Wednesday afternoons.
Orthopaedic Clinic: Second, third and fourth Thursday mornings.
Ophthalmic Clinic: Friday mornings.
General Surgical: Friday afternoons.

MORTUARIES

If necessary, use is made of the Tewkesbury Hospital Mortuary.

PREVALENCE OF, AND CONTROL
OVER, INFECTIOUS AND OTHER DISEASES

Table 3, on page 16, shows the incidence of notifiable disease by age groups. The incidence of any of the notifiable diseases was extremely light.

Diphtheria Immunisation

The number of children immunised against diphtheria during 1965:-

Age at 31.12.65. (i.e. born in year)	Under 1 year 1965	1 year 1964	2 - 4 years 61-63	5 -14 years 51-60	Under 15 years Total
Primary Immunisation	164	94	21	18	297
Reinforcing Injection	78	53	10	195	336

The state of immunisation against diphtheria continues to be satisfactory. Nearly all the babies born are immunised against diphtheria before they are a year old. Parents, doctors and nurses and the Child Welfare Centre are to be congratulated on the very high rate of immunisation achieved.

Vaccination against Whooping Cough and Tetanus

A trivalent vaccine (diphtheria, whooping cough and tetanus) is now in use so that the number of children protected against diphtheria approximates to the number protected against whooping cough and tetanus.

Vaccination against Smallpox

Persons vaccinated in the year 1965:-

Under 1 year		1 year		2 - 4 years		5 - 14 years		Over 15 years		Total	
Vacc.	Re-Vacc.	Vacc.	Re-Vacc.	Vacc.	Re-Vacc.	Vacc.	Re-Vacc.	Vacc.	Re-Vacc.	Vacc.	Re-Vacc.
17	-	76	-	10	1	1	-	1	-	105	1

Vaccination against smallpox is now advocated in the second year; the response is extremely good and compares very favourably with that elsewhere.

Vaccination against Poliomyelitis

Vaccination against poliomyelitis is successful and no case of this disease occurred, but the need to continue vaccination is all important.

Tuberculosis

There were no deaths from Tuberculosis, but the cases on the register numbered 19, and one new case was notified during the year.

Tuberculosis could be eliminated if full use were made of the preventive measures such as Mass Radiography B.C.G. Vaccination, and thorough investigation of contacts. The Borough Council plays its part in giving priority to rehousing tuberculous persons.

Mass Radiography

No public sessions were held during the year, although several factories were visited.

Tuberculosis After-Care

A Joint After-Care Committee serves the Borough and the Rural District of Gloucester.

Funds are dependent on voluntary subscriptions augmented by the County Council from the charity levy on the Sunday opening of cinemas. So far, no deserving case has been refused assistance.

Table 3

NOTIFICATION OF INFECTIOUS DISEASES IN 1965 BY AGE GROUPS

Disease	0+	1+	3+	5+	10+	15+	25+	45+	65	Age N.K.	Total
Scarlet Fever1
Whooping Cough1
Measles	.4	31	43	71	.2	.2	..	..	..	..	.5
Ac. Poliomyelitis (P)	158
Ac. Poliomyelitis (N.P.)
Tuberculosis (Respiratory)1
Tuberculosis (Meninges)
Tuberculosis (Other)
Diphtheria
Small Pox
Meningococcal Infection
Ac. Encephalitis (Inf.)
Ac. Encephalitis (Post Inf.)
Dysentery	..	.1	..	.2	..	..	..	..	..	..	.4
Ophthalmia Neonatorum
Puerperal Pyrexia
Acute Pneumonia
(Prin. or Flu)
Para-typhoid Fever
Enteric Fever
Food Poisoning
Erysipelas
Malaria (contr. E.W.)
Total	4	32	44	73	2	2	-	1	-	6	164

TUBERCULOSIS

Table 4. New, In-Transfer Cases, Deaths and Number Remaining on the Register on 31st December, 1965.

	Respiratory		Meninges/C.N.S.		Other Forms		Total
	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female	
New Cases	1	..	..	..	..	..	1
In-Transfer Cases	2	..	..	..	..	..	2
Deaths	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
On Register 31.12.65.	14	5	..	..	..	..	19

CANCER

Table 5. Death Rates from Cancer per 1,000 population.

	England and Wales	Tewkesbury Borough
	Persons	Persons
Cancer of the Lung	0.55	0.55
Other Cancer	1.67	1.0

Four persons, all men, died of cancer of the lung. The local death rate from this disease was much the same as that elsewhere.

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES IN THE BOROUGH

WATER SUPPLY

Water is supplied in bulk by the North West Gloucestershire Water Board. The supply is derived from the River Severn and receives treatment by pre-chlorination, coagulation of the suspended solids by sulphate of alumina, sedimentation in upward-flow tanks, rapid gravity filtration through sand, pH correction with lime and final sterilisation with chlorine and/or ammonia. There is no plumbo-solvent action.

Water Supplies in the Borough

In accordance with the requirements of the Ministry of Health, Table 6 shows the water supplies, number of houses and population on the 31st December, 1965.

Table 6

No. of houses	Served by	Population
2377	Mains Supply	7178
5	Stand Pipes	12

The Chemist to the Water Board (J. Henderson, Esq., B.Sc., F.R.I.C.) has kindly supplied the following report:-

The source of the supply to the Borough is purified water from the River Severn, a source which necessarily is variable in quality, both chemically and bacteriologically. Purification demands unremitting vigilance throughout all stages and it is pleasing to report that the bacteriological quality of the final product has continued to attain a high standard, despite the intense pollution to which the source is subject.

The improvement in bacterial quality of the river water, reported last year, was not maintained.

Bacteriological Examinations

Number of samples of raw water	..	..	166
" " " unsatisfactory	..	..	166
Number of samples of treated water	..		769
Number of samples of final water	..	..	896
" " " satisfactory	..	..	882

The chemical quality of the water has been satisfactory for the purposes of a public supply, although intermittently - especially during warmer weather - there have been incidents of discolouration, the cause of which is under continued investigation.

Radioactive Contamination of Water Supply and Rainfall

As was the case last year, the level of radio-activity of the rainfall has continued to decline in the absence of further nuclear experimental explosions. With a continuation of this happy state it is likely that normality should be reached during the next twelve months.

The level of activity in the river water and in the finally-treated water has always been satisfactorily low.

REPORT OF THE BOROUGH SURVEYOR

(F. Broxton, Esq., M.I.Mun.E., A.R.I.C.S.)

Sewerage

The work of constructing twelve new drying beds, each 30 ft. square, was commenced and nearly completed by the end of the year.

Several samples of the final effluent from the works were taken, some gave satisfactory results, others unsatisfactory ones.

In October the new pumping station at Cotteswold Road was completed and brought into use. This superseded the ejector which had been in continuous use since 1947 and while it had given excellent service was inadequate to deal with the increased loading and was showing signs of having reached the major repair stage.

Owing to the unsatisfactory results of some of the samples analysed the Consultants were instructed to put in hand remedial measures. These included continuous desludging of the tanks, removal and reseating of the weirs, shortening the stilling boxes and improvements to the humus tanks. This work should be done early in 1966.

Refuse Collection

The recruitment of sufficient labour to maintain this service worsened during the early part of the year and we were hard pressed to even cope with the existing collection. As the Mitton area came into the Borough on the 1st April it was necessary to review the whole position, and it was finally agreed that if the collectors had only to fetch out the bins the same men could deal with the additional area. This was put into operation on the 1st April and has worked quite well.

Refuse was again tipped on the Moats throughout the whole of the year and despite houses having been built fairly close to it no complaints were received.

Public Conveniences

Wash Basins were provided at Tolsey Lane and Gloucester Road conveniences. No other alterations were made.

SWIMMING POOL

The walls and floor of the pool were given a thorough cleaning with chemicals before it was opened. No repainting of the bath was done and because of this no trouble was experienced with the flaking paint clogging up the filters as had been the case in previous years. Good samples were obtained and the appearance of the pool was good.

The provision of a new indoor swimming pool in the old cinema building was actively pursued and a firm of architects have been asked to investigate the possibility and prepare plans for such a pool.

The comparative number of children attending during this and the previous year are as follows:-

	<u>1964</u>	<u>1965</u>
Attendance by school parties	6308	6701
Casual attendance	5362	4259
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	11670	10960
	<hr/>	<hr/>

The drop in attendance by the casual users was possibly due to the rather cooler conditions which persisted throughout much of the season.

REPORT OF THE PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR

(J.H. Turner, Esq., F.R.S.H., M.A.P.H.I.)

Public Health Department,
Oldbury Road,
Tewkesbury.

Mr. Mayor, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have pleasure in presenting the following section of the Medical Officer of Health's Annual Report, dealing with the public health inspection work carried out in 1965.

The procedure for dealing with unfit dwellings is necessarily a slow process fraught with difficulties, both legal and technical and involving human problems associated with the uprooting and rehousing of families. It is satisfying, therefore, that the demolition of most of the properties in the Oldbury Road Compulsory Purchase Order was finally achieved during the year, removing what had become a most unsightly and dangerous group of buildings.

All the work put into the Mythe Road Compulsory Purchase Order proved to be abortive in consequence of the Minister's decision not to confirm the Order. Whilst the unfitness of the dwellings was not challenged, the representations of several preservationist societies carried weight. It is hoped that these societies will maintain their interest in this area and assist both technically and financially in its preservation.

The Council has conflicting obligations when dealing with unfit houses under the Housing Acts which are also listed as having architectural or historic merit. Closure of a house is most unsatisfactory as it rapidly deteriorates and becomes derelict, yet it is beyond the financial resources of most private owners to carry out uneconomic improvements. It is my opinion that a fairly ruthless re-appraisal of all "listed" houses is necessary and the available financial resources used only to preserve those really worthy of retention. Housing Acts standards ought to be the main criteria for assessing the future of such houses, unless they are to be excluded completely from complying with these standards and given special consideration, not as dwellings, but as museum pieces, on the basis of their architectural or historic value.

In an endeavour to secure improvements in the appearance of some of the properties in the main streets of the Borough, the Council made use of the permissive power in Section 27 of the Public Health Act, 1961. Some sixty properties were served with notices requiring redecoration and restoration work, mainly to front elevations. The response of owners was reasonably good and several very dilapidated frontages have been much improved.

In conclusion, I wish to record my thanks to the Chairman and Members of the Public Health and Housing Committee and to the Medical Officer of Health and other officers, for their unfailing encouragement, courtesy and co-operation during the year.

I am,

Your obedient servant,

J.H. TURNER

Public Health Inspector.

SUMMARY OF INSPECTIONS

Table 7

	NO. OF INSPECTIONS	NOTICES SERVED		NO. OF PREMISES AT WHICH DEFECTS WERE REMEDIED AFTER NOTICE	
		Informal	Formal	Informal	Formal
Dwelling Houses:-					
Public Health Acts	94	16	1	5	-
Housing Acts	114	6	-	6	-
Housing Management	288	-	-	-	-
Slaughterhouses and Meat Inspection	122	1	-	1	-
Food Premises	69	15	-	12	-
Milk and Dairies	2	-	-	-	-
Factories	7	2	-	2	-
Pest Control	28	7	-	-	-
Drainage and Sewerage	31	8	1	8	1
Caravans and Sites	10	2	-	-	-
Water Supplies	2	-	-	-	-
Infectious Diseases	6	-	-	-	-
Offices, Shops	19	3	-	3	-
Petroleum Acts	9	7	-	4	-
Noise Abatement	-	-	-	-	-
Miscellaneous	20	5	-	5	-
TOTAL	821	72	2	46	1

HOUSING

New Dwellings erected during the year:

(a)	By the Local Authority:			
	(i) Permanent Non-traditional	..	..	NIL
	(ii) Permanent traditional	..	..	89
(b)	By other authorities	..	..	NIL
(c)	Tewkesbury Housing Society	..	..	NIL
(d)	Private enterprise	..	..	119
			Total	<u>208</u>

Dwellings under construction for the Council at 31. 12. 65:

130 houses and flats comprising:-

Houses - 32 three bedroom type

Flats - 98 two bedroom type

Dwellings constructed in the Borough since the war 1.4.45. to 31.12.65.

By the Local Authority	..	..	..	..	666
By private enterprise	..	..	..	..	352
			Total		<u>1018</u>

Number of Dwellings controlled or owned by the Council at 31. 12. 65.

(i) Under the various Housing Acts	..	..	..	..	864
(ii) Corporate property	..	..	..	..	24
			Total		<u>888</u>

Included in (i) above are 70 dwellings suitable for occupation by old people (47 one-bedroom flats, 21 one-bedroom bungalows, 2 two-bedroom bungalows) and 18 flats specifically for occupation by old people .

Unfit Dwellings

Housing Act 1957 - Part 2 - Individual Unfit Dwellings

Number of undertakings accepted (Sec.16):	2
Number of closing orders made (Sec.17):	NIL
Number of demolition orders made (Sec.17):	3
Number of houses demolished following demolition orders:	NIL
Number of closing orders (Sec.18):	NIL
Number of dwellings rendered fit by owners after (a) informal notice:	6
(b) formal notice:	NIL

Housing Act 1957 - Part 3 - Clearance Areas

Represented during the year:-

Number of areas	NIL
Houses unfit for human habitation ..	NIL
Houses included by reason of bad arrangement	NIL
Other buildings included by reason of bad arrangement.. .. .	NIL
Houses and land to be acquired under Sec.43(2)	NIL
Numbers of persons to be displaced ..	NIL
Numbers of families to be displaced ..	NIL

Action taken during the year:-

Houses demolished by local authority or owners -

(a) Unfit	-	17
(b) Others	-	6

Number of persons displaced	-	14
Number of families displaced	-	5

Improvement Grants

Standard Grants

1. Number of applications -	<u>Approved</u>	<u>Refused</u>
(a) By owner/occupiers	11	NIL
(b) By landlords	1	NIL
2. Number of dwellings improved -		
(a) By owner/occupiers	10	
(b) By landlords	1	
3. Amount paid in grants -	£1,427.	
4. Amenities provided -		
(a) Fixed bath	10	
(b) Shower.. .. .	NIL	
(c) Wash-hand basin	10	
(d) Hot water supply (to any fitting).. .. .	10	
(e) Water closet		
(i) in the dwelling	11	
(ii) accessible from the dwelling.. .. .	NIL	
(f) Food store	8	

Discretionary Grants

1. Number of applications -

(a) approved	1
(b) refused	NIL

2. Number of dwellings improved -

(a) By owner/occupiers	2
(b) By landlords	1

3. Amount paid in grants - £825.

RENT ACT 1957

No action was necessary during the year under the provisions of this Act.

COMMON LODGING HOUSES

There are no premises in the Borough which can be classified as common lodging houses.

HOUSING MANAGEMENT

The following table shows the number of applicants on the waiting list at the 31st December, 1965.

Type of accommodation required	No. of Applicants
Old People's accommodation	21
1 Bedroom accommodation	64
2 Bedroom accommodation	116
3 Bedroom accommodation	58
4 Bedroom accommodation	14
Total	273

Although 89 new dwellings were completed during the year, the number of applicants on the waiting list on 31st December, 1965 was slightly higher at 273, than last year (202).

86 applicants were rehoused during the year in either new dwellings or relets, 5 of these being from unfit properties. 76 transfers and 3 exchanges were also effected.

The construction of 42 two bedroom flats for tenants from prefabricated bungalows due for demolition was well under way. It is hoped that by early 1966 over half the total number of prefabricated and temporary bungalows will have been vacated and demolished. Some of the tenants of these bungalows are not very happy at the prospect of living in flats and it is anticipated there will be some difficulties at first.

The revised system for the annual renewal of housing applications suggested by the O & M Consultants, by which the onus is put on the applicant to renew his application, instead of receiving a letter of reminder, resulted in some 150 applicants not renewing their applications.

Although the system reduces the time spent on clerical work, I am of the opinion that some sort of reminder should be given to applicants.

Some minor alterations to the "Points" scheme for assessing priority of applications were agreed by the Council. These will, I hope, make the system more easily understood by applicants.

INSPECTION OF FOOD PREMISES AND FOOD

Table 8 gives details of the type of food premises in the Borough subject to the Food Hygiene (General) Regulations 1960, the number of inspections carried out during the year and additional information as required by Ministry of Health Circular 1/66.

Table 8

TYPE OF TRADE	No.	Inspection	No. of Premises fitted to comply with Reg.16	No. of Premises to which Reg. 19 applies	No. of Premises fitted to comply with Reg.19
Catering:					
Restaurants, cafes, snack Bars.	22	13	22	22	22
School canteens & kitchens.	9	4	9	9	9
Works canteens.	3	2	3	3	3
Boarding houses.	7	3	7	7	7
Clubs.	3	2	3	3	2
Licensed Premises.	19	8	15	19	19
Unlicensed hotel.	1	1	1	1	1
Butchers	10	8	10	10	10
Confectioners	7	4	7	7	7
Grocers & Greengrocers	32	17	32	32	32
Sweet Shops	10	2	9	9	9
Fishmongers:					
Fried Fish	2	2	2	2	2
Wet Fish	2	1	2	2	2
Dairies	1	-	-	-	-
Food Processing	2	2	2	2	2
Chemists	3	-	3	-	-
TOTAL	133	69	127	128	127

Food Hygiene

No ^{major} contravention of the Food Hygiene Regulations requiring remedial measures were observed during the year. The most common infringement found was lack of general cleanliness, due it appears to the reluctance of some staff to undertake cleaning duties, and also to some management's failure to allocate sufficient time for this most necessary task.

It has been necessary to warn two food handlers for smoking whilst handling food. The possible injurious effect to the health of the individual who smokes is well publicised and understood, but the combination of the food handler who smokes can be a hazard to the health of many people. The fingers which hold the cigarette and transport it to the mouth every few seconds may also be the ones which handle the cooked meats or serve the cream cakes. Germs from the skin, the nose and throat, carried on the fingers can contaminate food and cause illness, and the risk of this occurring is obviously greater from the food handler smoker. The Food Hygiene Regulations recognise the danger by prohibiting smoking whilst anyone is handling open food or is in any food room in which there is open food.

The seriousness of this offence does not appear to be generally appreciated and it may be that any further offenders should be dealt with more severely.

Slaughterhouses and Meat Inspection

The private slaughterhouse in the Borough continued to operate satisfactorily. 100% inspection of all animals slaughtered was maintained. Two cases of localised cysticercus bovis were found; refrigeration of the unaffected offal and carcass was carried out in accordance with Ministry recommendations.

Slaughter of Animals Act, 1958

Five slaughtermen's licences were granted during the year.

Meat Inspection

Table 9

	Cattle excl. Cows	Cows	Calves	Sheep and Lambs	Pigs	Total
Number killed (if known)	282	2	2	1245	823	2354
Number inspected	282	2	2	1245	823	2354
<u>All diseases except tuberculosis and cysticerci:</u>						
Whole carcasses condemned	-	-	-	1	-	1
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	39	-	-	27	20	86
Percentage of the number inspected affected with disease other than tuberculosis and cysticerci	13.8	-	-	2.2	2.4	-
<u>Tuberculosis only:</u>						
Whole carcasses condemned	-	-	-	-	-	-
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	-	-	-	-	9	9
Percentage of the number inspected affected with tuberculosis	-	-	-	-	1.9	-
<u>Cysticerci:</u>						
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	2	-	-	-	-	2
Carcasses submitted to treatment by refrigeration	2	-	-	-	-	2
Generalised and totally condemned	-	-	-	-	-	-

UNSOUND FOOD SURRENDERED OR CONDEMNED

Meat at Slaughterhouse

WHOLE CARCASSES

	<u>Cause</u>	<u>Wt.</u>
1 lamb	Moribund.. ..	25 lb.

PARTS OF CARCASSES & OFFAL

	<u>Cause</u>	<u>Wt.</u>
	Tuberculosis	90 lb.
	Fascioliasis	386 lb.
	Abscesses	118 lb.
	Cysts & Parasites (excl.C. Bovis) ..	128 lb.
	Cysticercus Bovis ..	8 lb.
	Pneumonia, Peritonitis, Pericarditis	16 lb.

Total weight of meat at Slaughterhouse rejected as unfit	<u>771 lb.</u>
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Inspection of Food at all other food premises

Food traders who have doubts about the soundness of food usually contact the Department for advice.

Any food found to be unsound is voluntarily surrendered by the trader and is disposed of under my guidance so as to ensure that it will not be used for human consumption. The following table lists food surrendered or condemned during the year.

Meat at Retail Shops	30 lb.
Cooked meat and meat products	15 lb.
Canned meats	34 lb.
Fish (Canned)	43 lb.
Fruit and Vegetables (Canned)	596 lb.
Other Foods	44 lb.

TOTAL 762 lb.

No complaints were received during the year from members of the public regarding suspected unsound food.

FOOD CONTROL - ADULTERATION AND QUALITY

The sampling of food and drugs to check compositional standards and quality and to detect adulteration, abstraction, substitution and false or misleading descriptions, is carried out in the Borough by the County Council's Weights and Measures Inspectorate. The following table has been abstracted from information kindly supplied by the Chief Weights and Measures Inspector.

ARTICLE	Nos. of Samples		Result		
	Formal	Informal	Genuine	Not Genuine	
Milk (including 8 @ Schools)	24	5	28	1	+
Drugs	4	-	4	-	
Sausages.. .. .	2	-	2	-	
Beverages	3	-	3	-	
Cake Mix.. .. .	2	-	2	-	
Flour, Plain, S.R... .. .	1	2	3	-	
Vinegar and Sauces.. .. .	3	-	3	-	
Cooking Oils	2	-	2	-	
Mixed Herbs	1	-	1	-	
Coffee Mate	1	-	1	-	
Canned Beans	1	-	1	-	
Ice Cream	1	-	1	-	
Gravy Browning	1	-	1	-	
Mincemeat	1	-	1	-	
Lard	1	-	1	-	
Beef Suet	1	-	1	-	
Cereals	1	-	1	-	
Fish, Fish Cakes	2	-	2	-	
Canned Soups	1	-	1	-	
Mixed Peel	1	-	1	-	
Pork Luncheon Meat.. .. .	1	-	1	-	
Spirits	4	-	4	-	
TOTAL	59	7	65	1	

+ 1 milk sample was 26.7% deficient in milk fat, but the bulk fat content of the whole consignment was satisfactory at 3.15%. The producer was advised.

Milk Supplies

The Council's principal powers controlling local milk supplies relate to the conveyance and distribution of milk including the enforcement of preventive measures against the spread of milkborne diseases.

The Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food is the statutory authority controlling milk production at dairy farms and the County Council is the authority for the issue of licences for pasteurising and sterilising plants and to dealers in specially designated milk.

Details of the registration of distributors and dairies other than dairy farms, in accordance with the Milk and Dairies (General) Regulations, 1959, are:-

Distributors registered	..	..	12
Dairies registered	..	..	1

Ice-Cream

There are 50 vendors of ice-cream in the Borough 49 retailing prepacked ice-cream which is manufactured in bulk outside the Borough and one manufacturing and retailing his own cold mix ice-cream.

Eight samples of ice-cream were obtained from vendors during the year, in order to assess the hygienic standards of manufacture, distribution and storage. Four samples were reported to be Grade 1. The test was void on the other four samples due to incorrect temperature of the water bath.

OFFICES, SHOPS & RAILWAY PREMISES ACT, 1963

Registrations of Premises

Class of Premises	No. of Premises registered during the year.	Total No. of registered premises at end of year.	No. of registered premises receiving a general inspection during the year.
Offices	-	27	1
Retail Shops	4	70	6
Wholesale Shops, warehouses	-	-	-
Catering establishments open to the public, canteens	3	17	-
Fuel storage depots	-	-	-
Totals	7	114	7

Number of visits of all kinds made to registered premises - 19

Analysis of Persons employed in Registered Premises

<u>Premises</u>	<u>No. of Persons employed</u>
Offices.. ..	..129
Retail Shops.. ..	..342
Wholesale depts, warehouses .. ..	.. 3
Catering establishments open to the public	.. ..168
Canteens. .. ..	.. 1
Fuel storage depots.. -
Total	643 (consists of 253 males and 390 females)

RODENT CONTROL

Prevention of Damage by Pests Act 1949

Rodent control duties are carried out by an employee of the Borough Engineer's Department on a part-time basis. The ready co-operation of the Borough Engineer in releasing the Rodent Operator from his other duties when required is much appreciated.

A Summary of the work carried out in the Borough during the year appears hereunder.

Property	Inspections and Re- Inspections	Treatments
Dwelling houses	146	125
All other (inc. business premises)	185	50
Local Authority (inc. tips) ..	26	21
Agricultural		
TOTAL	357	196

Selected sections of the Borough's sewerage system were treated during the year.

Details of treatments carried out on refuse tips and at the sewage works are given below.

Situation	Inspections	Treatments
Gander Lane	20	20
Sewage Works	3	-
TOTAL	23	20

DISINFESTATION

Eight treatments were given for the clearance of wasps during the year. Regular spraying of the tips was carried out from April to October to contain and reduce, if possible, the fly population.

CARAVAN AND CAMPING SITES

There are three principal sites in the Borough:-

1. Adjoining the Municipal Car Park on the Gloucester Road and close to the children's swimming pool and public conveniences, is the Council-owned caravan site. Sites are let to holiday caravanners during the summer season only.
2. At the Odessa Inn, Gloucester Road, is a privately owned caravan site, licensed for ten residential and fifteen seasonal caravans. Flush water closets, mains water and fire prevention equipment are provided on the site.
3. At the Vineyards Park is a holiday encampment owned by the Council which is in use mainly during August. Up to a hundred tents can be accommodated without congestion. An ablution block with a wash hand basin and three water closets for each sex is available on the site.

PET ANIMALS ACT, 1951

One licence was issued during the year. Satisfactory conditions were maintained at the premises in accordance with the licence provisions.

OFFENSIVE TRADES

There are no offensive trades established in the Borough.

RAG, FLOCK AND OTHER FILLING MATERIALS ACT, 1951

One upholsterer is registered under this Act.

PETROLEUM (REGULATION) ACTS, 1928 & 1936

Ten licences for the storage of petroleum spirit were issued during the year. Routine inspections and pressure tests of petroleum storage tanks ensure that licence conditions are complied with. Underground tanks at licensed premises are pressure tested using nitrogen during their fifteenth and twentieth year after installation and every second year thereafter.

ADMINISTRATION OF THE FACTORIES ACT, 1961

PART 1

Inspections for the purposes or provisions as to health

PREMISES	Number on Register	Number of Inspections	Number of Written Notices	Number of Occupiers Prosecuted
(1) Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities.	1	-	-	-
(11) Factories not included in (1) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority.	52	4	-	-
(111) Other premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding outworkers premises).	5	3	-	-
TOTAL	58	7	-	-

Cases in which defects were found

PARTICULARS	No. of Cases in which defects were found				No. of cases in which prosecutions were instituted
	Found	Remedied	Referred to H.M. Inspector	Referred by H.M. Inspector	
Want of cleanliness, S.1.	2	2	-	-	-
Overcrowding, S.2.	-	-	-	-	-
Unreasonable temperatures, S.3.	-	-	-	-	-
Inadequate ventilation, S.4.	-	-	-	-	-
Ineffective drainage of floors, S.6.	-	-	-	-	-
Sanitary Conveniences, S.7.					
(a) Insufficient	-	-	-	-	-
(b) Unsuitable or defective	-	-	-	-	-
(c) Not separate for sexes	-	-	-	-	-
Other offences against the Act, (not including offences relating to outwork)	-	-	-	-	-
TOTAL	2	2	-	-	-

PART 8

Outwork (Sections 133 and 134)

No reports of outworkers were received during the year.

