

[Report 1969] / Medical Officer of Health, Wallingford and Wantage Districts Joint Public Health Committee (Wallingford Borough, Wallingford R.D.C., Wantage U.D.C., Wantage R.D.C.).

Contributors

Wallingford and Wantage Districts Joint Public Health Committee.

Publication/Creation

1969

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WALLINGFORD AND WANTAGE DISTRICTS
JOINT PUBLIC HEALTH COMMITTEE

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| 1. Mr Muston | B.415 |
| 2. Mr Morley Parry | A.421 |
| 3. Mr Perry | A.405 |

ANNUAL REPORT
OF THE
MEDICAL OFFICER
OF HEALTH

FOR THE YEAR
1969



WALLINGFORD AND WANTAGE DISTRICTS
JOINT PUBLIC HEALTH COMMITTEE

1969 - 1970

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TO THE CHAIRMAN AND MEMBERS OF THE
WALLINGFORD AND WANTAGE DISTRICTS
JOINT PUBLIC HEALTH COMMITTEE

Mr. Chairman, Madam and Gentlemen,

I am pleased to present my Annual Report for 1969. It includes as usual, the information required by Circular 1/70 from the Department of Health and Social Security.

The estimated total population of the District increased by 380 during the year. This figure would have been greater but for the transfer of part of the Wantage Rural District to Newbury and Bradfield Rural Districts under "The County of Berkshire (Bradfield, Newbury and Wantage Rural Districts) Confirmation Order 1969". Because of this, the population of the Wantage Rural District fell by 350. Consideration of the numbers of live births together with the population increases in the other three Districts suggests that very little movement of people into these localities occurred. Indeed the number of births in Wallingford Rural District exceeded the population increase by 58, so that one must presume there was an overall exodus of people from this District.

Live births were slightly reduced in number, which was in line with the National figures. The only exception was in Wantage Urban District where there were 13 more births than in 1968 (155 compared with 142). There was a small decrease in the number of illegitimate births in the Combined District (59 compared with 62); reference to the table shows that this fall was not evenly distributed over the four Districts.

The stillbirth rate remained at a satisfactorily low level, being well below the National figure, although it was slightly higher than last year. The infant mortality rate was also slightly higher than last year but again it was below the National rate. The same is true of the perinatal mortality rate (stillbirths + deaths of infants under 1 week of age), which was 20.8 per 1,000 live and still births compared with a National rate of 23. In considering these figures it is important to remember that they relate to very small numbers, so that moderate changes can produce what appear to be rather alarming swings. For instance, the infant mortality rate in Wallingford Borough rose from 7.9 in 1968 to 29 in 1969, the latter figure being well above the National rate of 18. In fact, all this means is

that there were 3 infant deaths in 1969 compared with 1 only in 1968 and this is of no significance whatever.

Of the total of 19 infant deaths under 1 year of age, 12 were under 1 week old (5 male—1 illegitimate—and 7 female); 2 were between 1 week and 4 weeks old (1 male and 1 female); and the remaining 5 were between 4 weeks and 1 year old (1 male and 4 female).

The total deaths were 2 fewer than in 1968 and the corrected death rates of three of the Districts were below the National rate of 11.9 per 1,000 population. The exception was Wantage Urban District where the rate was marginally higher (12.4 per 1,000 population). Diseases of heart and circulation (including strokes) accounted for 54% of the total deaths in the Combined District (336 out of a total of 622). Of this figure, 182 were deaths from coronary artery disease. This form of illness is undoubtedly associated with our way of life—the foods we eat and the tensions of modern living both playing important roles in its causation. Whether these factors will be modified in the future remains to be seen and in the meantime “civilized” man will continue to pay a heavy price for his eccentricities—the kindest term I can think of to apply to our present way of life. To return to more mundane matters, it is pleasing to report a considerable fall, from 27 in 1968 to 20 in 1969, in the number of cases of lung cancer; indeed the total malignancies showed a comparable fall from 129 to 101.

Notifiable diseases were reduced in 1969 by 28, largely due to the very small number of cases of measles, only 2 being notified during the year. This must, I think, be attributed to the effects of the measles vaccination programme.

There was, on the other hand, a large increase in the number of cases of sonnei dysentery, of which there were 43. Many of these were sporadic cases but there was one outbreak in Didcot during which 30 cases were discovered. This occurred in the autumn term and half of the cases were in one infant school, the remainder being mostly found as contacts of these. There was an unusually high incidence amongst adults at the school, three teachers and four members of the kitchen staff being found to be excreting the organisms. Although it seems most unlikely that the kitchen was the starting point of the outbreak, which was at no time an explosive one, it was very disturbing to find that these four ladies, only one of whom was off duty, had so small a regard for common sense hygiene that they had believed they were doing the right thing in “carrying on” instead of staying off work until their symptoms had completely disappeared and they had been told by their doctors that they might go back to work. Those who handle other people’s food in any capacity have a very special obligation in this matter—they should always stay off work and call their doctors if they are affected by any form of gastro-enteritis (vomiting or diarrhoea) and be advised by him when it is safe to return

to duty. With the introduction of appropriate measures, the incidence of new cases at the school gradually died away.

Sporadic cases of salmonella food poisoning in the District also showed a substantial increase during the year, 15 being notified compared with 8 in 1968. No particular foods were incriminated in any of these and indeed it is not to be expected that the source of an isolated case will be found, as it is usually a week or more after the onset of the illness before it is known to be caused by a specific organism. A number of the cases had picked up their infection while on holiday (always a hazard, both at home and abroad). In my last report I drew attention to one possible source of infection in food poisoning cases—the poor hygiene in some premises, where both raw and cooked meats are sold, which may well result in cross contamination of cooked meat from raw meat. Another equally important source has received a good deal of publicity recently. I refer to frozen poultry, of which as many as 15% of the birds may be contaminated with salmonella organisms, according to one investigator. The contamination of giblets is even more likely. Proper cooking will, of course, kill all these germs but it must, in the case of frozen poultry, be preceded by adequate thawing or the deeper parts of the birds will not get hot enough to kill the germs, which will subsequently multiply very rapidly. An average sized chicken will require about 8 hours defrosting at normal room temperature (70F°) but larger ones will need longer. Many frozen chickens are already labelled with these instructions and it is hoped that all will be required to carry these labels eventually. It remains for those who cook them to read and follow the directions! It should also be borne in mind that after preparing a possibly contaminated chicken, the hands and kitchen utensils may also have become contaminated. They should therefore be thoroughly washed and cleaned.

Although more the concern of next year's report, it seems appropriate here to record another source of salmonella infection, untreated farm milk, which was demonstrated at the very end of the year, when an outbreak occurred in a small group of villages in the Wallingford Rural District.

The first case was reported on 29th December by the Public Health Laboratory. This was a 3 year old girl who had been ill since mid-December. The family usually drank pasteurised milk but sometimes bought milk from the neighbouring farm, which ran a small milk round, selling untreated milk. (This is, of course, perfectly legitimate under licence and raw milk is still preferred by some people). The child's mother was also found to be positive on contact examination. The milk was not suspect at this stage.

The third case was a 7 year old from another village. Her family regularly drank the untreated milk. She was reported on 6th January, having been ill since before Christmas. Samples of the milk were now taken and shortly afterwards a report was received

from the Divisional Veterinary Officer about a specimen taken from one of the cows of the herd, which had been sick. This was positive for salmonella. When salmonellae were found in one of the milk samples and a second cow was reported positive, a heat treatment order, under regulation 20 of the Milk and Dairies (General) Regulations 1959, was placed on all milk from the herd on 19th January. It should be stated that the farmer had co-operated in all the suggested measures taken, even though they eventually put an end to his milk round.

Eight more cases were subsequently confirmed amongst consumers of the milk and a ninth case had no apparent connection. It is probable that others were also infected but did not seek medical advice.

All the organisms isolated from the human cases, the cows and the milk were later shown to be of the same phage type.

This form of infection is quite common in cows and raw milk may carry the germs to humans who drink it. Pasteurisation fortunately affords complete protection as the germs are all destroyed by the heat. The moral surely needs no pointing.

Another disease of cattle which can be passed on very easily to humans is brucellosis. This can be a very unpleasant and chronic illness but its symptomatology is rather general so that it is often difficult to diagnose. It is probable that it is more prevalent than is generally supposed, especially amongst farm workers and others who handle cattle. Its relevance in the present context is that it can also be spread in untreated milk and a case did occur in the District, early in 1970, which was definitely traced to this source. Pasteurisation is again a complete safeguard and it might seem unreasonable for the government to continue to allow untreated milk to be sold to the public, many of whom do not realise the avoidable danger its consumption involves.

It also seems doubtful whether the government policy at present being pursued to secure the eventual eradication and control of brucella infection in cattle in this country, relying as it does on a slow increase in the number of brucella free herds, secured by voluntary efforts on the part of the farmers with very little official assistance, in any way measures up to the urgency of the problem.

The figures relating to immunisation procedures in 1969 are disappointing, showing a general fall which suggests apathy on the part of the parents. Not only does a decline in the percentage of protected individuals make an outbreak of one or other of these diseases more likely but the consequences to any individual infected are likely to be just as serious as they ever were. Modern chemotherapy may work near miracles in some cases but not in all. The viral infections in particular remain intractable in treatment.

A good deal of trouble was caused during the year by a council house tenant who failed to keep himself or his premises reasonably

clean. He was a man of rather simple mind living alone in a bungalow and he and the house eventually became infested with fleas. Attempts had in the past been made to improve the situation by getting home helps in (but they did not stay long) and by redecorating the house (but it soon became dirty again). Eventually a concerted operation had to be mounted involving the Council, the County nursing, welfare and ambulance services and an Oxford hospital. The man was taken to the hospital by the district nurse (male), where he was given a bath and dusted with an appropriate insecticidal powder and given clean clothing. He was then taken to one of the welfare homes where he stayed for a week or so, proving to be a model resident and enjoying it very much, while his house was thoroughly disinfested, cleaned and redecorated and new bedding supplied. He then returned home and has since, with appropriate help, managed very well.

In conclusion I should like to thank all my colleagues and the members of the Joint and four District Public Health Committees for their help and advice during the year.

I have the honour to be,

Mr. Chairman, Madam and Gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,

F. R. HOWELL.

June, 1970.

POPULATION

District	Area in Acres	Estimated Mid-Year Population		Difference
		1968	1969	
Wallingford Borough	760	6,000	6,110	+110
Wantage Urban	2,797	7,860	8,060	+200
Wallingford Rural	21,790	23,520	23,940	+420
Wantage Rural	72,781 (74,181)	20,700	20,350	-350
Combined Districts	98,128 (99,528)	58 080	58,460	+380

LIVE BIRTHS

District	No. of live births in 1969			Crude Birth rate per 1,000 population		Corrected Birth rate per 1,000 population	
	Male	Female	Total	1968	1969	1968	1969
Wallingford Borough	56	48	104	21.2	17.0	19.7	15.8
Wantage Urban	96	59	155	18.1	19.2	18.3	19.4
Wallingford Rural	252	226	478	23.7	20.0	24.2	20.4
Wantage Rural	207	202	409	20.1	20.1	19.3	19.1
Combined Districts	611	535	1,146	21.4	19.6		
England and Wales			797,542	16.9	16.3	16.9	16.3

STILL BIRTHS

District	No. of still births		Still birth rate per 1,000 total births (live and still)	
	1968	1969	1968	1969
Wallingford Borough	2	2	15.5	19.0
Wantage Urban	0	1	0	6.0
Wallingford Rural	5	6	8.9	12.0
Wantage Rural	2	3	4.8	7.0
Combined Districts	9	12	7.2	10.4
England and Wales	12,000	10,662	14.0	13.0

ILLEGITIMATE LIVE BIRTHS

District	Number of illegitimate births per annum									
	1960	1961	1962	1963	1964	1965	1966	1967	1968	1969
Wallingford Borough	5	2	4	3	5	5	4	5	3	6
Wantage Urban	6	6	8	5	3	7	6	8	4	9
Wallingford Rural	17	15	19	28	23	25	18	37	30	30
Wantage Rural	15	11	17	17	15	17	20	16	25	14
Combined Districts	43	34	48	53	46	54	48	66	62	59
Rate per 1,000 total live births (Combined Districts)	49	39	47	53	40	46	40	56	49	51
Rate per 1,000 total live births (England and Wales)	54	59	66	69	72	77	79	84	85	84

TOTAL DEATHS

District	No. of deaths 1969			Crude death rate per 1,000 population		Corrected death rate per 1,000 population	
	Male	Female	Total	1968	1969	1968	1969
Wallingford Borough	45	58	103	17.2	16.9	9.1	9.8
Wantage Urban	47	55	102	9.5	12.7	8.3	12.4
Wallingford Rural	121	126	247	10.8	10.3	9.6	9.3
Wantage Rural	97	73	170	9.2	8.4	12.0	10.7
Combined Districts	310	312	622	10.7	10.6		
England and Wales			579,463	11.9	11.9	11.9	11.9

INFANT MORTALITY

District	No. of infant deaths under 12 months of age		Infant mortality rate per 1,000 live births	
	1968	1969	1968	1969
Wallingford Borough	1	3	7.9	29
Wantage Urban	1	1	7.0	6
Wallingford Rural	11	10	19.7	21
Wantage Rural	4	5	9.4	12
Combined Districts	17	19	13.7	16
England and Wales	15,000	14,397	18	18

DIPHThERIA, WHOOPING COUGH AND TETANUS IMMUNISATION
TRIPLE ANTIGEN 1969

District	Under 1 year	1 year	2 years	3 years	4-15 years	Others under 16	Total
Wallingford Borough							
Primary Course	22	17	5	6	5	2	57
Booster	—	30	16	5	10	—	61
Wallingford Rural							
Primary Course	106	79	10	7	7	2	211
Booster	—	185	84	—	46	4	319
Wantage Urban							
Primary Course	33	11	3	2	—	—	49
Booster	—	39	10	—	3	3	55
Wantage Rural							
Primary Course	64	54	—	—	—	—	118
Booster	123	99	21	—	16	—	259
Combined Districts	348	514	149	20	87	11	1,129

DIPHThERIA AND TETANUS IMMUNISATION 1969

District	Under 1 year	1 year	2 years	3 years	4-15 years	Others under 16	Total
Wallingford Borough							
Primary Course	—	—	—	3	2	—	5
Booster	—	—	—	2	87	9	98
Wallingford Rural							
Primary Course	—	—	—	—	4	—	4
Booster	—	—	—	8	324	38	370
Wantage Urban							
Primary Course	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Booster	—	—	—	2	87	9	98
Wantage Rural							
Primary Course	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Booster	—	—	—	2	271	26	299
Combined Districts	—	—	—	17	775	82	874

SMALLPOX VACCINATION 1969

District	9-12 months	1 year	2-4 years	5-15 years	Over 15 years	Total
Wallingford Borough						
Primary	—	46	5	4	4	59
Re-Vacc	—	—	5	10	16	31
Wallingford Rural						
Primary	7	212	18	12	—	249
Re-Vacc	—	—	4	102	31	137
Wantage Urban						
Primary	—	74	5	2	—	81
Re-Vacc	—	—	4	79	14	97
Wantage Rural						
Primary	—	155	31	7	—	193
Re-Vacc	—	—	2	73	29	104
Combined Districts	7	487	74	289	94	951

ORAL POLIOMYELITIS VACCINATION

District	Under 1 year	1 year	2 years	3 years	4-15 years	Others under 16	Total
Wallingford Borough							
Primary Course	23	15	12	—	—	—	50
Booster	—	29	12	7	74	4	126
Wallingford Rural							
Primary Course	112	74	6	5	—	—	197
Booster	—	182	66	—	315	41	604
Wantage Urban							
Primary Course	32	11	—	2	—	—	45
Booster	—	37	6	—	93	11	147
Wantage Rural							
Primary Course	62	59	4	—	—	—	125
Booster	—	118	101	4	278	14	515
Combined Districts	229	525	207	18	760	70	1,809

B.C.G. VACCINATION

School	Number positive at first skin test			Number Vaccinated		
	1967	1968	1969	1967	1968	1969
Wallingford Grammar	2	3	5	50	50	50
Blackstone County Sec.	4	5	7	89	74	67
King Alfred's Grammar	4	1	4	43	49	30
Icknield County Sec.	10	3	4	57	74	76
Didcot Girls' Grammar	4	2	5	79	36	52
St. Birinus County Sec.	3	2	4	87	78	91
St. Frideswide's Cnty. Sec.	12	3	4	119	83	87
Cranford House, P.N.E.U.	—	—	—	23	25	—
Segsbury	7	2	3	49	60	54
The Downs	16	1	1	57	56	58
Total	62	22	37	653	585	565

MEASLES VACCINATION

District	Under 1 year	1 year	2 years	3-6 years	Others under 10 years	Total
Wallingford Borough	40	6	7	11	4	68
Wallingford Rural	55	21	16	15	9	116
Wantage Urban	41	14	2	10	13	80
Wantage Rural	57	34	22	21	8	142
Combined Districts	193	75	47	57	34	406

NOTIFIABLE DISEASES

	Wfd. Boro.	Wantage U.D.	Wfd. R.D.	Wantage R.D.	Total 1969	Total 1968
Acute Encephalitis	—	—	—	—	—	—
Acute Meningitis	—	—	—	—	—	—
Acute Poliomyelitis	—	—	—	—	—	1
Anthrax	—	—	—	—	—	—
Cholera	—	—	—	—	—	—
Diphtheria	—	—	—	—	—	—
Dysentery	—	6	31	6	43	22
Food Poisoning	—	2	11	2	15	8
Infective Jaundice	3	1	1	—	5	—
Leprosy	—	—	—	—	—	—
Leptospirosis	—	—	—	—	—	—
Malaria	—	—	—	—	—	1
Measles	1	—	—	1	2	49
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	—	—	—	—	—	—
Paratyphoid Fever	—	—	—	2	2	—
Plague	—	—	—	—	—	—
Relapsing Fever	—	—	—	—	—	—
Scarlet Fever	—	—	—	2	2	1
Smallpox	—	—	—	—	—	—
Tetanus	—	—	—	—	—	—
Tuberculosis	1	2	7	2	12	17
Typhoid Fever	—	—	—	—	—	—
Typhus	—	—	—	—	—	—
Whooping Cough	—	—	—	—	—	10
Yellow Fever	—	—	—	—	—	—
Total	5	11	50	15	81	109

CAUSES OF DEATH

	Wallingford Borough		Wantage U.D.		Wallingford R.D.		Wantage R.D.		Combined Districts		
	M.	F.	Total	M.	F.	Total	M.	F.	Total	1969	1968
Enteritis and other diarrhoeal diseases	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2
Tuberculosis, other than respiratory, including late effects	—	—	—	1	—	1	—	—	1	—	—
Other infective and parasitic diseases	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Malignant neoplasm, buccal cavity	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Malignant neoplasm, oesophagus	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Malignant neoplasm, stomach	1	1	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Malignant neoplasm, intestine	1	4	5	4	—	4	2	3	5	11	12
Malignant neoplasm, lung, bronchus	1	—	1	1	2	3	10	3	10	24	—
Malignant neoplasm, breast	—	1	1	—	3	3	2	1	4	20	27
Malignant neoplasm, uterus	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	17
Malignant neoplasm, prostate	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	3
Leukaemia	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Other malignant neoplasms	1	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Benign and unspecified neoplasms	2	2	4	1	5	6	4	8	12	28	65
Diabetes mellitus	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Other endocrine, etc., diseases	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Chronic rheumatic heart disease	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Hypertensive disease	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Ischaemic heart disease	11	11	22	2	1	3	—	—	—	8	8
Other forms of heart disease	2	1	3	16	8	24	48	38	86	182	137
Other diseases of circulatory system	1	3	4	4	3	7	3	3	6	29	30
Anaemias	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—

Other diseases of blood	—	6	15	21	—	4	10	14	—	11	20	—	31	—	9	10	19	—	85	1
Cerebrovascular disease	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	—	1	1	—	2	—	—	1	1	—	4	101
Other diseases of nervous system	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	2	—	1	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	3	5
Influenza	—	—	—	—	—	3	2	5	—	7	14	—	21	—	4	7	11	—	56	7
Pneumonia	8	11	19	6	—	3	1	4	—	4	1	5	—	8	1	9	—	24	78	
Bronchitis and emphysema	5	1	6	—	—	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	24
Asthma	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	3
Other diseases of respiratory system	1	1	2	—	—	—	1	1	—	—	1	1	—	2	—	2	—	—	6	2
Peptic ulcer	—	—	—	—	—	2	2	4	—	1	1	2	—	—	1	1	2	—	8	5
Intestinal obstruction and hernia	1	—	1	—	—	—	1	1	—	—	3	3	—	2	—	2	—	—	7	1
Cirrhosis of liver	—	—	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	1	—	—	—	1	1	—	3	1
Other diseases of digestive system	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
Hyperplasia of prostate	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	7
Other diseases, genito-urinary system	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
Congenital anomalies	1	1	2	—	—	1	1	2	—	1	1	2	—	2	3	—	3	—	7	2
Birth injury, difficult labour, etc.	1	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	4	1	5	—	—	—	—	—	—	10	6
Other causes of perinatal mortality	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	2	1	3	—	—	—	2	2	—	7	8
Symptoms and ill defined conditions	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	2	3	—	—	—	1	1	—	4	3
Mental disorders	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	4	9
Diseases of skin, subcutaneous tissue	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	2	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	3	1
Diseases of musculo-skeletal system	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
Motor vehicle accidents	1	—	1	—	—	1	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2
All other accidents	—	—	—	—	—	—	4	4	—	2	3	5	—	—	2	2	4	—	13	8
Suicide and self inflicted injuries	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	4	2	6	—	—	1	—	1	—	7	2
All other external causes	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	3
Total	45	58	103	47	55	102	121	126	247	97	73	170	622	624						

CHILD WELFARE CLINICS

Centre	Address and where held
Aston Tirrold	Village Hall; First Monday, 3.0—4.0 p.m. (Advisory only).
Blewbury	Parish Hall; First Tuesday, 2.30—4.30 p.m. (Advisory only).
Brightwell	Village Hall; First Wednesday, 3.0—4.0 p.m.
Cholsey	The Sports Pavilion; Second and Fourth Wednesdays, 2.0—4.0 p.m.
Compton	Village Hall; Third Wednesday, 2.0—4.15 p.m.
East Challow	British Legion Premises; 2nd Monday, 2.30—4.0 p.m.
East Hanney	Village Hall; First Wednesday, 2.0—4.0 p.m.
East Hendred	Parish Hall; Fourth Thursday, 3.0—4.30 p.m.
Grove	Grove Hall; Second and Fourth Fridays, 2.0—4.0 p.m.
Hermitage	Village Hall; Second Monday, 2.0—4.30 p.m.
Long Wittenham	Village Hall; First Tuesday, 2.30—4.0 p.m.
Wallingford	Conservative Hall; First and Third Fridays, 2.0—4.0 p.m.

FAMILY PLANNING CLINICS

Centre	Address and where held
Wantage	Wantage Hospital; First and Third Wednesday, 2.0—3.30 p.m. Second, Third and Fourth Thursday, 7.0—8.30 p.m.
Didcot	Didcot Hospital; Every Monday and Thursday, 7.0—9.0 p.m.

CERVICAL CYTOLOGY CLINICS

Centre	Address and where held
Wantage	Wantage Hospital; Second or Fourth Wednesday, 2.0—4.0 p.m.
Wallingford	St. Mary's Hospital; Fourth Thursday, 2.0—4.0 p.m.

MOBILE CHEST X-RAY SERVICE

The Unit visits as follows:-

Didcot	The Marlborough Club, Broadway; Wednesdays 2.30 p.m.
Wallingford	Private Borough Car Park, St. George's Road; Wednesdays 2.0 p.m.
Wantage	Urban District Council Offices, Portway; Wednesdays 3.30 p.m.

The Unit remains at each site for approximately $\frac{1}{2}$ hour. It does not operate on Christmas Eve or Bank Holidays or during the month of August.

BOROUGH OF WALLINGFORD

REPORT OF THE PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR

WATER SUPPLY

The whole of the dwelling houses in the Borough are supplied with water from main piped supplies.

Twenty-eight samples of chlorinated water as distributed were taken for bacteriological examination. All were found to be satisfactory. The only complaints received regarding water supply were in respect of lack of pressure in parts of the town.

A number of industrial premises in the Borough obtain their water from private boreholes. During the year sixteen samples were taken from established bores and all found to be satisfactory. A further four samples were taken from a bore that a factory proposed to use as their water supply: three samples were found to be contaminated and the factory decided to use mains water.

The fluoride content of the water supplied from the Wallingford boreholes is 0.15 parts per million. The supply is supplemented by water from outside the Borough, the fluoride content of which is less than 0.10 parts per million. On a number of occasions the Borough Council has indicated to the Water Board that they are in favour of fluoridation of the water supply but because of the opposition of some Councils, the Water Board have so far refused to increase the natural fluoride content of the water.

SEWERAGE AND SEWAGE DISPOSAL

Sewage from the whole of the Borough is pumped for treatment to the Wallingford Rural District Council's disposal works at Cholsey and this arrangement has continued to work satisfactorily.

A study of the sewer flows taken in conjunction with rainfall and river levels led to a thorough investigation of the older sewers in the Borough and as suggested, it was found that these are in a poor state and surface water is infiltrating into them.

A scheme for the relaying of the older sewers is now in preparation.

REFUSE COLLECTION

A weekly collection of refuse from all properties in the Borough has been maintained throughout the year by a team of three loaders and a driver with a 24 cubic yard compression type refuse vehicle. An arrangement has been entered into with the Wallingford Rural District Council to hire their spare vehicle, if available.

for the times when the normal one is off the road for repair or maintenance. For the times when neither vehicle is available the Council have had made, to their own design, a cover for the trailer to convert it into a 6—7 cubic yard container. This has to be towed behind the tractor which makes the journeys to the tip rather lengthy and in consequence two days are required for one day's collection.

During the year a crisis arose when the Borough's collection vehicle was off the road for some weeks for part of which the Wallingford Rural District Council's spare vehicle was not available. The trailer was not capable of coping for more than a day or two without building up a large backlog and the hiring of a specialist collection vehicle proved impossible. It was therefore necessary to endeavour to borrow a lorry from neighbouring authorities. This was eventually possible from Abingdon Rural District Council and I am most grateful for their assistance.

This problem does show one of the advantages of an early change over to a paper sack type collection when a specialist vehicle will not be essential.

The Council also arrange the collection of extra or bulky refuse from domestic premises free of charge. From commercial premises refuse is collected at the charge of 1s. 0d. per bin or equivalent.

All refuse collected is taken to Wallingford Rural District Council's tip for disposal, where the refuse is treated by a Seedrum pulverisation plant before tipping.

Containers are provided at the Station Road Depot where the public may dump their bulky refuse free of charge. This is disposed of by private contractors, or in the case of scrap metal, sold to scrap merchants.

STREET CLEANSING

The Council employ two workmen on hand sweeping of the streets. These concentrate mainly on the centre of the town.

During the year the Council purchased a Bedford Lacre TG road sweeper which sweeps the streets of the town on a rota to ensure all streets are swept at least once a week.

PEST CONTROL

Summary of rodent work carried out:—

	<i>Inspections</i>	<i>Treatments</i>
Premises other than agricultural	92	55
Agricultural premises	11	2
	—	—
	103	57
	—	—

OTHER PESTS

One outbreak of fleas was reported from a drapers shop. Treatment which was carried out using insecticidal fumigators was complicated by the fact that the smoke used tended to affect the colour of some silk and rayon articles so trial runs had to be undertaken on samples of cloth and any likely to be affected were removed before a full scale treatment of the premises was undertaken. Two such treatments appears to have killed all the fleas as none have been reported for four months.

Twenty-one wasps nests were also destroyed during the summer months.

MILK SAMPLES

Thirty samples of milk were taken for bacteriological examination and twenty-seven samples passed the appropriate tests.

Of the three that failed one came from one of the large suppliers and investigations into the cause of the failure have proved fruitless. The other two failures were from a local supplier who sells raw milk; as a result of these the cleaning routines were improved and results at the present time are satisfactory.

CREAM SAMPLES

Thirty-eight samples of cream were taken during the year and six (over 15%) of these were found to be contaminated to some extent. None showed any pathogenic or coliform organisms so were quite safe, but the high incidence of bacteria in the samples means that an extra careful watch must be kept on this product in the future.

Cream is sold mainly in tins, jars or cartons. Cartons have the highest incidence of contamination (50%), the other types rarely show any contamination at all (less than 1%).

ICE CREAM

Nineteen premises are registered for the sale of ice cream. All registered premises have been inspected during the year and all owners or occupiers of the premises notified of any contraventions. The general standard of these premises was found to be satisfactory. No ice cream is manufactured in the Borough.

In addition to sampling from registered premises, samples were also obtained from catering establishments, using their equipment, to establish the efficiency of sterilisation of scoops and similar equipment. In most cases it was found to be satisfactory and where it was not the case, advice was given and further samples proved satisfactory.

Several companies operate vans selling ice cream in the Borough and in general the standard of hygiene was found to be satisfactory.

Fourteen samples of ice cream were taken for bacteriological examination with the following results:—

- 8 placed in Provisional Grade I.
- 3 placed in Provisional Grade II.
- 2 placed in Provisional Grade III.
- 1 placed in Provisional Grade IV.

Those placed in grades II, III, IV were resampled.

OTHER SAMPLES

A number of other samples have been taken during the year, mostly various types of cooked meats and meat products. Generally the results of these samples have been satisfactory but results from one shop have been consistently poor, in spite of the high standard of hygiene and the strict control now in force to ensure no contamination at the shop. Investigations are still in progress to try to find the cause of the contamination and then to cure it.

The most interesting results so far obtained are:—

1. Roast Pork —

- (a) 27,000 organisms per gram
- (b) 360,000 " " "
- (c) 130,000 " " "

2. Roast Silverside —

- (a) 635,000 " " "
- (b) More than 10,000,000 organisms per gram
- (c) 1,000,000 organisms per gram

Samples (a) were taken as the meat arrived at the dealers' premises and then put into a deep freeze.

Samples (b) were taken at the same time as (a) but stored in a domestic refrigerator.

Samples (c) were taken from the same joints as (a) and (b) but on the following morning. All then were taken to the laboratory together.

Samples (a) can be taken to give the state of the meat when it arrived, as growth in a deep freeze would be minimal. This indicates that a tremendous growth in bacteria can occur in a very short time even with meat stored in a refrigerator.

FOOD HYGIENE (GENERAL) REGULATIONS (1960)

Type of Business	No. of premises	Compliance with Reg. 16	No. where Reg. 19 applies	Compliance with Reg. 19
Butcher	8	8	8	8
Grocer	11	11	7	7
Fried Fish Shops	3	3	3	3
Fishmongers	2	2	2	2
Greengrocers	6	6	—	—
Cafes	10	10	10	10
Hotels	1	1	1	1
Bakers	2	2	2	2
Confectioners	11	11	—	—
Public Houses	13	13	13	13
Slaughterhouses	1	1	1	1

The following visits were made to food premises during the year:—

Type of Business	Number of visits
Butchers	46
Grocers	43
Greengrocers	24
Fried Fish Shops	16
Fishmongers	10
Cafes	53
Hotels	3
Bakers	10
Confectioners	34
Public Houses	25
Off Licences	6

Visits were also made to schools, hospitals and old people's homes kitchens, making a total of 287 visits made in connection with the Food Hygiene (General) Regulations.

Eleven informal notices were served on owners or occupiers and all were complied with.

MARKET STALLS AND DELIVERY REGULATIONS

All food stalls in the market are inspected regularly and contraventions pointed out to the stall holders. The most common fault is failure to set up washing facilities although they are available.

WALLINGFORD FAIR

The following food stalls were present at the annual fair:—

- 10 Hot dogs
- 6 Candy floss
- 4 Toffee apples and sweets
- 3 Fish and chips

All were inspected on the first evening and the following defects noted:—

4 stalls had no hot water;

5 stalls did not have the appropriate name and address displayed;

4 stalls did not have either soap, nailbrush or towel.

All stall holders were notified of the defect to their stall and on a subsequent inspection all were satisfactory.

PREMISES REGISTERED UNDER SECTION 16 OF THE FOOD AND DRUGS ACT, 1955

(a) Sale of ice cream	...	...	...	19
(b) Preparation or manufacture of sausages, potted, pressed, pickled and preserved food	...			9

METHOD OF DISPOSAL OF CONDEMNED FOOD

All fresh meat condemned as unfit for human consumption is sprayed with liquid acid green and destroyed. All condemned tinned food is disposed of by the local authority with their refuse. Condemned frozen food is disposed of in the same way as tinned food.

BAKEHOUSES

There are two bakehouses in the Borough. Both were inspected on a number of occasions and their condition was generally satisfactory.

BATHING PLACE

The Borough Council own and maintain an open air swimming pool and paddling pool at the Riverside Park near Wallingford Bridge.

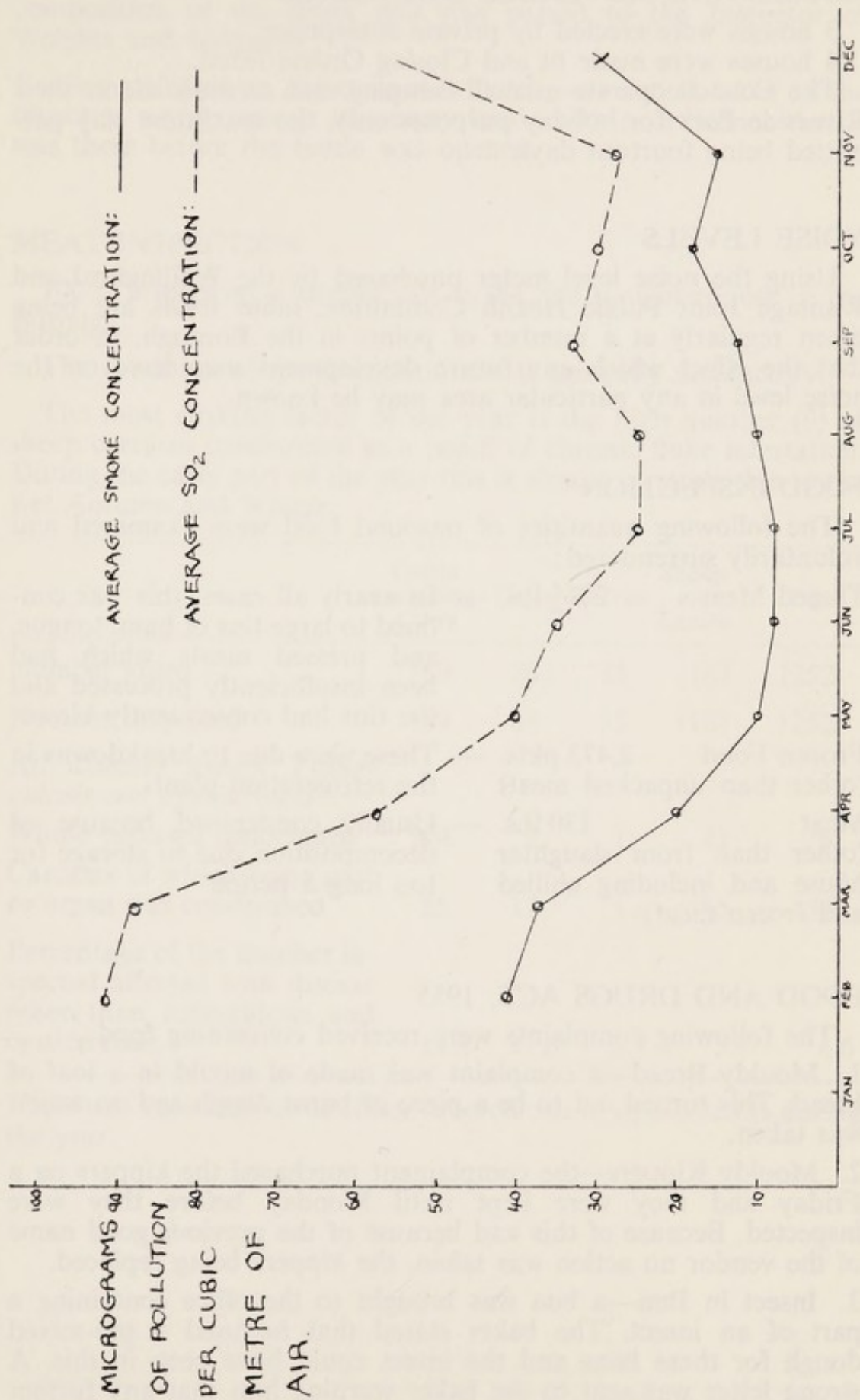
The recirculation and purification plants have continued to function satisfactorily.

In addition to the Council pool there are three school swimming pools in the Borough.

Six samples of water were taken from the pools—all were found to be satisfactory.

ATMOSPHERIC POLLUTION

The recording apparatus has now been in position for almost a year and a picture of atmospheric pollution in the Borough is being built up. This picture will be used for comparison with figures obtained when Didcot Power Station is finished, to assess what effect, if any, this has on atmospheric pollution in the Borough. (See graph opposite.)



HOUSES AND MOVEABLE DWELLINGS

3 houses were erected by private enterprises.

4 houses were made fit and Closing Orders lifted.

The Council operate a small camping and caravan site at their Riverside Park for holiday purposes only, the maximum stay permitted being fourteen days.

NOISE LEVELS

Using the noise level meter purchased by the Wallingford and Wantage Joint Public Health Committee, noise levels are being taken regularly at a number of points in the Borough, in order that the effect which any future development may have on the noise level in any particular area may be known.

FOOD INSPECTION

The following quantities of unsound food were examined and voluntarily surrendered:—

Tinned Meat	201½ lbs.	— In nearly all cases, this was confined to large tins of ham, tongue, and pressed meats which had been insufficiently processed and the tins had consequently blown.
Frozen Food (other than unpacked meat)	2,473 pkts.	— These were due to breakdowns in the refrigeration plant.
Meat (other than from slaughter house and including chilled and frozen meat)	130 lbs.	— Usually condemned because of decomposition due to storage for too long a period

FOOD AND DRUGS ACT, 1955

The following complaints were received concerning food:—

1. Mouldy Bread—a complaint was made of mould in a loaf of bread. This turned out to be a piece of burnt dough and no action was taken.
2. Mouldy Kippers—the complainant purchased the kippers on a Friday and they were kept until Monday before they were inspected. Because of this and because of the previous good name of the vendor no action was taken, the kippers being replaced.
3. Insect in Bun—a bun was brought to the office containing a part of an insect. The baker stated that he used a pre-mixed dough for these buns and the insect could have been in this. A strong letter was sent to the baker warning him that any further complaints may result in legal proceedings being instituted.

4. Complaint of strawberryade—this complaint concerned the composition of the drink and was passed to the Inspector of Weights and Measures.

5. Complaint of an object in milk bottle—no action taken as the object (a worm) was in an empty bottle with no evidence that it was there before the bottle was opened.

MEAT INSPECTION

100% inspection is carried out at the one slaughterhouse in the Borough.

The condition of the slaughterhouse is generally satisfactory.

The most striking factor of the year is the high number (9) of sheep carcasses condemned as a result of chronic fluke infestation. During the early part of the year this is almost certainly due to the wet Autumn and Winter.

	Cattle excluding Cows	Cows	Calves	Sheep and Lambs	Pigs
Number killed	169	88	35	1167	1252
Number inspected	169	88	35	1167	1252
<i>All diseases except Tuberculosis and cysticercosis</i>					
Whole carcasses condemned	Nil	2	1	11	6
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	25	17	1	55	52
Percentage of the number inspected affected with disease other than tuberculosis and cysticercosis	14.8	21.6	5.7	5.7	4.6

There was no incidence of either tuberculosis or cysticercosis during the year.

FACTORIES AND WORKSHOPS

FACTORIES ACT 1961

PART ONE OF THE ACT

1. INSPECTIONS

Premises	Number on register	Inspections	Number of written notices	Occupiers prosecuted
(1) Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6 are to be enforced by local authority	1	1	—	—
(2) Factories not included in (1) in which Section 7 is enforced by the local authority	57	33	—	—
(3) Other premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the local authority (excluding outworkers' premises)	3	6	—	—
TOTAL	61	40	—	—

There is one outworker in the Borough who is engaged in wig making.

OFFICES, SHOPS AND RAILWAY PREMISES ACT, 1963

All the premises to which the Act applies are registered and following inspection the owners or occupiers have been notified of contraventions.

REGISTRATION AND GENERAL INSPECTIONS

Class of Premises	Total number of registered premises at end of year
Offices	33
Retail Shops	86
Wholesale shops, warehouses	3
Catering establishments open to the public	11
Fuel storage depots	—
Total	133

Sixty-nine visits were carried out to premises with particular reference to the Act. Eleven informal notices were served concerning heating, first aid and cleanliness.

Two accidents were reported during the year; both were investigated and found to be caused by the carelessness of the person hurt rather than default of the employers—all were warned to take more care.

March 1970

WANTAGE URBAN DISTRICT

REPORT OF THE SENIOR PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR WATER SUPPLIES

Representation has been made to the Thames Valley Water Board to supply a new water main to the Orchard Way Estate as the pressure has been inadequate in this area. It is anticipated that this work will be commenced in the coming year. The supply continues to be drawn from the Manor Road boreholes augmented by the trunk main from Childrey Warren, the chlorine dosage being 0.25 parts per million. Natural fluoride content is 0.1 part per million.

The chemical characteristics of the water supply are as follows:—

	<i>Parts per Million</i>
Ammonia Saline	Absent
Ammonia Albumide	Absent
Permanganate Value (15 minutes)	0.12
Permanganate Value (4 hours)	0.32
Nitrogen from Nitrites	Absent
Nitrogen from Nitrates	1.6
Chlorine	20.0
Total Solid Residue	456.0
Total Hardness (as Calcium Carbonate)	344.0
Permanent Hardness (as Calcium Carbonate)	58.0
Lead	Absent
Iron in solution	Absent
Total Iron	Absent
Zinc	Absent
Copper	Absent
Ph Value	7.2
Free Chlorine	0.015

The water is without odour and of satisfactory taste and there has been no evidence of pollution or other abnormality from the chemical standpoint. The water has been found to be satisfactory for drinking and domestic purposes.

There are 2,980 properties situated in the district, of which only one is supplied by an external standpipe. There are eight private supplies in the district. Twelve samples have been taken from the Thames Valley Water Board supply, all of which have proved satisfactory. Ten samples have been taken from private supplies and some difficulty has been found with two of these as they have occasionally given unsatisfactory results. The occupiers have been

warned and strongly advised to boil all the water used for domestic and drinking purposes. It is hoped that in the coming year the occupiers who use these supplies will be persuaded to have small chlorination plants fitted, to ensure a satisfactory standard of water.

FOOD HYGIENE

There are 92 food premises within the district which are inspected from time to time. Those which are found to be unsatisfactory in any respect are inspected more frequently to ensure a satisfactory standard.

FOOD HYGIENE (GENERAL) REGULATIONS, 1960

Trade	Number	Comply with Reg. 16	Reg. 19 applies	Comply with Reg. 19
Bakers Shops, Bakehouses	4	3	4	4
Butchers	5	5	5	5
Cafes, Canteens, Restaurants	6	6	5	5
Chemists	2	2	2	2
Wet Fish	2	2	1	1
Fried Fish	1	1	1	1
Greengrocers	3	3	0	0
Grocers and General Stores	18	17	18	18
Hotels & Licensed Premises	16	14	16	16
Public Halls and Clubs	9	4	9	5
School Meals Kitchens	10	10	10	10
Sweet Shops	9	8	0	0
Other Premises	7	7	6	6
TOTALS	92	82	77	73

MILK SUPPLIES

Nine samples of milk have been taken from schools, shops and milk delivery vehicles in the district. All were found to be satisfactory. The handling and storage have continued to be satisfactory and there has been no evidence of overstocking. No samples have been taken for analysis for brucella abortus.

FOOD SAMPLES

Twenty-five samples were obtained during the year for examination by the Public Health Laboratory. These were taken from shops and public houses. Nine samples were found to be unsatisfactory. These unsatisfactory results were investigated and found to be caused by unsatisfactory handling and cross-contamination

between uncooked and cooked products. With the co-operation of the vendors, however, better standards of storage and handling were achieved and further samples proved to be satisfactory.

MEAT AND OTHER FOOD INSPECTION

The following foods were inspected and found unfit for human consumption. All of this food was voluntarily surrendered and buried or burnt at the tip under supervision.

FRESH FOODS

Meat and Offal	76 pounds
Fish	4 pounds

CANNED FOODS

Meat — 7 cans	44 pounds
Fruit — 5 cans	5 pounds

FROZEN FOODS

164 Packets Vegetables	82 pounds
121 Packets Fish	61 pounds
18 Packets Meat	11 pounds
28 Packets Poultry	230 pounds
53 Packets Pastry	31 pounds
62 Packets Milk Products	16 pounds
16 Cans Fruit Juice	6 pounds

566 pounds

There are no poultry processing premises in the district.

Routine inspection of poultry in shops is carried out, no seizures were made during the year.

ICE CREAM AND SIMILAR PRODUCTS

Twenty-two premises are registered for the sale of pre-packed ice cream.

Four cafes sell ice cream from bulk. Tonibell continue to operate from the Wantage Urban District area and sampling has continued jointly with the Rural District Council during the year.

Thirty samples have been obtained with the following results:—

Grade 1	16
Grade 2	11
Grade 3	1
Grade 4	2

Where unsatisfactory results were obtained, further samples were taken until Grade 1 was achieved. The cause of some of the unsatisfactory results was found to be due to the retention and use of soft ice-cream mix from previously opened and partly used cans. This procedure has now been stopped.

SEWERAGE AND SEWAGE DISPOSAL

Samples of sewage effluent taken by the Thames Conservancy at the Bradfield Farm Sewage Disposal Works showed that the suspended solids and BOD values were excessive and the permanganate value was rather high. However, on completion of the extensions at the sewage works, which is approximately 65% complete, the effluent should be of a satisfactory standard.

REFUSE COLLECTION AND DISPOSAL

A weekly collection of domestic and trade refuse has continued in the district. The new 60 cu. yd. refuse vehicle has proved to be satisfactory for the disposal of refuse at the tip.

In some cases daily and twice weekly collections have been undertaken from certain trade premises to prevent the occurrence of nuisance. The 'S' Hill tip off Manor Road is available to local householders on Wednesdays and Saturdays for the disposal of additional refuse.

SWIMMING BATHS

The undermentioned swimming baths are situated within this District:—

The Wantage U.D.C. Pool	(Public)
Paddling Pool	(Public)
Icknield Secondary Modern School Pool	(Private)
King Alfred's Grammar School Pool	(Private)
Garston Lane School Pool	(Private)
St. Mary's Convent School Pool	(Private)

No samples of swimming bath water were taken during 1969.

The swimming pools were inspected throughout the bathing season and no difficulties were experienced in maintaining reasonable standards.

MOVEABLE DWELLINGS

The Haven Vale caravan site, off Garston Lane, which is licensed under the Caravan Sites Control and Development Act of 1960, is inspected from time to time to ensure suitable standards of hygiene, sanitation and fire prevention. The main problem with these dwellings is excessive condensation and some difficulty is being experienced in preventing this from occurring.

DISINFECTION AND DISINFESTATION

It has not been necessary to carry out disinfection of any premises this year.

The annual fumigation of the flour mill in Mill Street was carried out in August using hydrogen cyanide.

One flea infestation was reported which was due to a cat bringing fleas into the house. Complete spraying of the house and the use of a 'branded' animal flea powder successfully eradicated the fleas.

Many cases of wasps nests were reported and these were dealt with by a private operator.

Several cases of cluster flies were reported during the latter part of the year. The use of insecticide smoke generators was not possible as the flies were located between the ceiling and insulation felt in the roof spaces. It was therefore necessary for complete removal and disposal of the insulation and then spraying to ensure disinfection.

RODENT CONTROL

Test baiting of the sewer manholes has not been necessary as the exemption gained from the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food was still in force. No evidence of manhole infestation came to light during the year.

It has been found in some cases that longer periods elapsed before Warfarin took effect. This was most noticeable on the Wantage U.D.C. 'S' Hill Tip.

	Type of Property	
	Non-Agricultural	Agricultural
1. Number of properties in district	2936	44
2. (a) Total number of properties (including nearby premises) inspected following notification	47	10
(b) Number infested by		
(i) Rats	39	8
(ii) Mice	5	0
3. (a) Total number of properties inspected for rats and/or mice for reasons other than notification	302	16
(b) Number infested by		
(i) Rats	75	4
(ii) Mice	10	0

HOUSING

	1967	1968	1969
Number of permanent houses erected	82	164	39
Number of permanent houses erected by local authority	10	113	37
Number of permanent houses erected by private enterprise	72	51	2
Number of temporary houses erected	—	—	—
Number of families on housing list	222	221	180
Number of elderly people on O.P.D. list	—	—	80
Number of houses represented as unfit	4	21	3
Number of closing orders made	2	—	3
Number of demolition orders made	2	—	—
Number of houses in area represented as unfit and included in clearance area	—	—	—

IMPROVEMENT GRANTS

Number of applications made for standard grants	9	9	5
Number of applications made for discretionary grants	—	2	2

There are no common lodging houses in the district.

FACTORIES AND WORKSHOPS

Routine inspections have continued during the year and no alarming contraventions were found.

FACTORIES ACT 1961 PART ONE OF THE ACT

1. INSPECTIONS

Premises	Number on register	Number of Inspections	Number of written notices	Occupiers prosecuted
(1) Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities	1	1	—	—
(2) Factories not included in (1) in which Section 7 is enforced by Local Authority	38	14	3	—
(3) Other premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the local authority (excluding outworkers' premises)	—	—	—	—
Total	39	15	3	—

2. CASES IN WHICH DEFECTS WERE FOUND

Particulars	Found	Remedied	No. of cases in which defects were found		No. of cases in which prosecutions were instituted
			Referred To H.M. Inspector	By H.M. Inspector	
Want of Cleanliness (S.1.)	2	2	—	—	—
Other offences against the Act (not including offences relating to Outwork)	1	1	—	—	—
Total	3	3	—	—	—

PART VIII OF THE ACT

OUTWORK — NIL.

OFFICES, SHOPS AND RAILWAY PREMISES ACT, 1963

Notification of accidents received — One.

Number of visits to premises by Inspectors — 48.

REGISTRATION AND GENERAL INSPECTION

Class of Premises	Number of premises registered during the year	Number of registered premises at end of year	Number of registered premises receiving a general inspection during the year
Offices	3	37	10
Retail Shops	2	77	33
Wholesale Shops			
Warehouses	—	1	—
Catering Establishments open to the public,			
Canteens	3	10	6
Fuel Storage Depots	—	—	—
Total	8	125	49

REGISTRATION

Of the eight premises registered this year not one enquired at the office concerning this matter. It is thus still routine for new occupants to be contacted by the Inspector.

INSPECTION

Routine inspections were carried out under the Act throughout the year. Where there was non-compliance informal action was undertaken. It is becoming more obvious that occupiers, although aware of the Act, tend to disregard the minor items until their premises are inspected.

PROSECUTIONS

No prosecutions were taken during the year.

ANALYSIS OF CONTRAVENTIONS

Section	Number of Contraventions found	
4	Cleanliness	9
5	Overcrowding	2
6	Temperature	9
7	Ventilation	1
8	Lighting	2
9	Sanitary Conveniences	7
10	Washing Facilities	10
11	Supply of Drinking Water	0
12	Clothing Accommodation	1
13	Sitting Facilities	0
16	Floors, passages and stairs	12
17	Fencing exposed parts of machinery	4
24	First Aid	8
50	Posting 'Abstract'	11
50	Other Matters	14
Total		90

PERSONS EMPLOYED ON REGISTERED PREMISES IN 1969

Work Place	Males	Females	Total
Offices	83	105	188
Retail Shops	94	276	370
Wholesale Shops and Warehouses	11	1	12
Catering Establishments	10	33	43
Fuel Depots	1	—	1
Totals	199	415	614

No exemptions were granted during the year.

SUMMARY OF VISITS BY PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR

Atmospheric Pollution and Noise	...	...	...	...	10
Building Structures	...	...	...	...	3
Diseases of Animals	...	...	...	...	3
Disinfestation	...	...	...	...	31
Drainage, Sewage Disposal	...	...	...	...	59
Factories, Workshops, etc.	...	...	...	...	14
Food Inspection, Complaints	...	...	...	...	46
Food Hygiene, Licensed Premises	...	...	...	...	75
Housing	...	...	...	...	248
Infectious Diseases	...	...	...	...	31
Miscellaneous	...	...	...	...	34
Mobile Food Shops, Vehicles, Stalls	...	...	...	...	23
Moveable Dwellings	...	...	...	...	17
Nuisances	...	...	...	...	11
Petroleum and Explosives	...	...	...	...	40
Public Conveniences	...	...	...	...	4
Refuse Collection and Disposal	...	...	...	...	16
Rent Acts	...	...	...	...	28
Rodent Control	...	...	...	...	369
Sampling	...	...	...	...	154
Shops, Offices, Hairdressers	...	...	...	...	53
Swimming and Paddling Pools	...	...	...	...	26
Water	...	...	...	...	24
Total number of visits	...	...	...	...	1319
Total number of complaints received	...	...	...	...	120
Total number of complaints substantiated	...	...	...	...	101
Number of defects or nuisances remedied	...	...	...	...	94
Number of Formal Notices served	...	...	...	...	0
Number of Informal Notices served	...	...	...	...	61

May 1970

WALLINGFORD RURAL DISTRICT

REPORT OF THE CHIEF PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR

WATER SUPPLY

During 1969, a satisfactory supply to the area was provided from boreholes at Aston Tirrold, Cholsey and Compton, whilst the South Moreton source was brought into use during the period of peak summer demand.

Additional water was brought into the area from pumping stations at Cleeve (Goring), Woods Farm and Blewbury.

The major changes in the supply arrangements have followed the development of the Board's source at Compton, resulting in the Upton and West Hagbourne works being put to standby, and the completion late in the year of the first stage of the new Hagbourne Hill Reservoir.

Samples as listed below were collected during the year:-

Aston Tirrold Works	56	Aston Tirrold Reservoir	2
Cholsey Works	48	West Hagbourne Reservoir	3
Compton Works	80	Hagbourne Hill Reservoir	3
South Moreton Works	16	Moulsford Reservoir	6
Upton Works	2	Tap & Distribution System	16
West Hagbourne Works	3		

In all, therefore, 235 samples were examined.

Of the 98 raw waters, 13 showed some contamination due to the presence of coliform organisms, while of the 107 final waters, four fell a little below the highest standard.

Chemical analyses of water from the sources at present in use are given below, results being quoted in milligrams per litre where appropriate; the natural fluoride content of these waters is low, as is that of the additional water brought into the area.

The total number of dwellings supplied at the 31st December, 1969 was 6,876.

	Aston Tirrold	Cholsey	Compton	South Moreton
Appearance	Clear and bright	Clear and bright	Clear and bright	Clear and bright
Colour (Hazen)	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Odour	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Turbidity (Silica Scale)	less than 1	less than 1	less than 1	less than 1
Electrical Conduct- ivity at 20°C	405	700	440	780
pH	7.25	7.05	7.6	7.2
Free carbon dioxide	15	35	6	30
Ammoniacal nitrogen (N)	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.22
Albuminoid nitrogen (N)	0.005	0.013	0.005	0.10
Nitrite (N)	Absent	Absent	Absent	Absent
Permanganate Value 4 hrs. at 27°C	0.05	0.10	0.02	0.95
Iron	Absent	less than 0.02	0.01	0.03
Other Metals	Absent	Absent	Absent	Absent
Carbonate Hardness CaCO ₃	185	245	195	350
Non Carbonate Hardness CaCO ₃	30	150	55	30
Total Hardness CaCO ₃	215	395	250	380
Chloride (Cl)	12.5	31.5	14.5	29.2
Nitrate (N)	4.5	1.8	10.3	0.4
Sulphate (SO ₄)	15	124	14	125
Calcium (Ca)	82.5	156	99.2	138
Magnesium (Mg)	2.3	1.5	0.5	8.5
Sodium (Na)	14	15	7.5	70
Potassium (K)	1.8	6.2	2.8	8.6
Silica (SiO ₂)	19	20	16	21
Phosphate (PO ₄)	0.05	0.15	0.05	0.02
Natural Fluoride (F)	0.1	less than 0.1	less than 0.1	less than 0.1

SEWERAGE AND SEWAGE DISPOSAL

During the past year the Council have undertaken the sewerage of fourteen properties at Manor Farm, Cholsey, and this work is now virtually complete.

The new disposal works for Didcot has received Ministry approval and it is hoped to go to tender during the next three months and commence work in the late summer.

The only village in the Rural District not sewered is Moulsoford and the existing arrangements here cause little or no trouble.

REFUSE COLLECTION AND DISPOSAL

This service is working satisfactorily. Disposal arrangements in the future are under discussion with neighbouring authorities.

RODENT CONTROL

SUMMARY OF WORK CARRIED OUT IN 1969

	Non-agricultural	Agricultural
Number of properties in district	8070	270
Number of inspections	644	568
Number of infestations (rats)	64	80
(mice)	41	1

SLAUGHTERHOUSES

There is one licensed slaughterhouse in the district. The particulars are as follows:

<i>Location</i>	<i>Owner</i>
5 Hagbourne Road, Didcot.	H. Andrews and Sons, 5 Hagbourne Road, Didcot.

MEAT INSPECTION 1969

	Cows	Steers	Heifers	Calves	Pigs	Sheep	Lambs
January	—	5	6	4	53	19	—
February	—	3	9	4	45	31	—
March	—	6	6	7	45	15	—
April	—	11	2	4	55	20	10
May	—	8	1	4	41	—	22
June	—	5	7	4	39	2	28
July	—	7	6	3	40	—	39
August	—	3	8	7	42	1	29
September	—	6	8	6	56	1	28
October	—	4	8	8	54	—	26
November	—	2	10	5	59	1	22
December	—	4	10	3	76	25	—
Total	—	64	81	59	605	115	204
<i>Tuberculosis</i>							
Whole Carcasses	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Part Carcasses/ Organs	—	—	—	—	11	—	—
Percentage	—	—	—	—	1.82	—	—
<i>Cysticercosis Bovis</i>							
Whole Carcasses	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Part Carcasses/ Organs	—	1	—	—	—	—	—
Percentage	—	0.69	—	—	—	—	—
<i>Diseases other than Tuberculosis or Cysticercosis Bovis</i>							
Whole Carcasses	—	—	—	—	—	4	—
Part Carcasses/ Organs	—	41	2	63	10	4	—
Percentage	—	28.27	3.39	10.41	12.17	1.96	—

MEAT AND OFFAL CONDEMNED AS UNFIT

Meat	336 lbs.
Offal	577 lbs.
	—
	913 lbs. (8 cwt. 0 qtrs. 17 lbs.)
	—

FOOD AND DRUGS ADMINISTRATION

MILK

All milk retailed in the district is designated. There are 28 registered distributors. No samples of milk were taken during the year.

ICE CREAM

The number of premises in the district registered for the manufacture and sale of ice cream is one. There are also 72 premises registered for the storage and sale of ice cream. No samples of ice cream were taken during 1969.

GENERAL

The undermentioned complaints relating to food offered for sale were dealt with during the year.

1. Foreign body in bread—letter of warning to bakery.
2. Packet of dates—no further action in view of Analyst's report.
3. Milk bottle contaminated by cement—letter of warning to dairy.
4. Mouldy steak and kidney pies delivered to hospital—faulty stock rotation—hospital notified accordingly.
5. Hovis loaf purchased in Reading—referred to Public Health Dept., Reading Corporation.
6. Mouldy steak and kidney pies—faulty stock rotation—letter of warning to retailer.
7. Tinned carrots—no further action in view of time delay between opening tin and reporting complaint to Public Health department.
8. Foreign body in bottle of milk—bottle opened—no further action.
9. Foreign body in bread—no further action on receipt of technical report.
10. Foreign bodies in tin of drinking chocolate—letter of warning to manufacturer.
11. Foreign body in tin of stewed steak—no further action in view of Analyst's report.

VOLUNTARY SURRENDER OF FOODS UNFIT FOR HUMAN CONSUMPTION

	<i>Weight</i>		
	<i>tons</i>	<i>cwts.</i>	<i>lbs.</i>
CANNED FOOD			
16,964 cans Fruit and Vegetables	4	7	45
73 cans Meat	—	4	27
5 cans Milk	—	—	6
FRESH FOOD			
Meat	—	1	10
Soft Roes	—	—	20
Bacon	—	—	53
DRIED FOOD			
Soup Powder	—	2	42
Baby Food	—	—	54
FROZEN FOOD			
1,448 pkts. Fruit and Vegetables	—	5	66
1,069 pkts. Meat	—	3	73
810 pkts. Fish	—	3	108
212 pkts. Milk Products	—	—	65
210 pkts. Confectionery	—	—	97
123 cans Fruit Juice	—	—	68
28 pkts. Chicken	—	—	62
Frozen Rabbit	—	—	45
Total	5	12	57

STATISTICS — FOOD HYGIENE (GENERAL) REGULATIONS 1960

FOOD PREMISES IN THE DISTRICT

Grocers	42
Confectioners	19
Hotels	6
Public Houses	25
Food Factories and Warehouses	9
Butchers	15
Greengrocers	8
Bakeries	3
Fish Shops (Wet and Fried)	4
Cafes	6
PREMISES REGISTERED UNDER SECTION 16 OF FOOD AND DRUGS ACT, 1955	
Manufacture of ice cream	1
Storage and sale of ice cream	72
Fish frying	3
Sausage making	10
Bakehouses	3
Manufacture of meat pies	1

LIQUID EGG (PASTEURISATION) REGULATIONS, 1963

There are no egg pasteurisation plants in the district.

POULTRY INSPECTION

Number of Poultry Processing premises	2
Number of visits	18
Total number of birds processed	96,975
Types of birds processed	capons, fowls, turkeys
Percentage of birds rejected as unfit	4%
Weight of poultry condemned as unfit for human consumption	7,680 lbs.

NOTICES SERVED DURING 1969

	<i>Informal</i>	<i>Statutory</i>
Offices, Shops and Railway Premises	1	—
Food Hygiene Regulations	1	—
Sanitary Conveniences	1	—
Housing Repairs	2	—
Drainage	2	—

ATMOSPHERIC POLLUTION

There were no complaints about atmospheric pollution during 1969. A number of applications were received for determination of chimney heights under Section 6 of the Clean Air Act, 1968.

NATIONAL ASSISTANCE ACT, 1948

During 1969 two persons were buried by the Local Authority under the provisions of Section 50 of the above Act.

SWIMMING BATHS

The undermentioned swimming baths are situated within the district :

Edmonds Park, Didcot (Public).

Didcot Girls' Grammar School (Private).

Cranford House School, Moulsoford (Private).

Shillingford Bridge Hotel, Nr. Wallingford (Public).

No samples of swimming bath water were taken during 1969.

HOUSING

During 1969 one house was represented as unfit for human habitation.

The following building programme was completed by the Council during 1969:

CHOLSEY — Thirty-two (2 b/r) maisonettes.

The undermentioned development was commenced during 1969:

DIDCOT — Twelve (2 b/r) bungalows, and twenty (2 b/r) maisonettes at Mereland Road.

ASTON TIRROLD — Six (2 b/r) bungalows.

The number of housing applicants on the Council's Housing Register at the end of 1969 was 687.

CARAVANS

The undermentioned licensed caravan sites are situated in the district:

SHILLINGFORD HILL CARAVAN SITE, NR. WALLINGFORD
120 permanent sites; 40 holiday sites — Satisfactory.

BLAGRAVE FARM SITE, DIDCOT
28 permanent sites — Satisfactory.

THREE POPLARS SITE, LONG WITTENHAM
32 permanent sites — Satisfactory.

HAGBOURNE ROAD SITE, DIDCOT
100 permanent sites — Unsatisfactory.

The Council are now reviewing the conditions attached to the licence for the site.

POST OFFICE SITE, CHOLSEY
12 permanent sites — Satisfactory.

BARLEY MOW SITE, LONG WITTENHAM
6 permanent sites; 40 holiday sites — Satisfactory.

DIDCOT POWER STATION
113 temporary sites — Satisfactory.

OFFICES, SHOPS AND RAILWAY PREMISES ACT, 1963

The report to the Ministry of Labour for the year was as follows:

TABLE A — REGISTRATIONS AND GENERAL INSPECTIONS

Premises	Number of premises registered during the year	Number of registered premises at end of year	Number of registered premises receiving one or more general inspections during the year
Offices	1	33	2
Retail shops	3	91	5
Wholesale shops, warehouses	—	3	—
Catering establishments open to the public, canteens	—	7	1
Fuel storage depots	—	2	—
Totals	4	136	8

TABLE B — NUMBER OF VISITS OF ALL KINDS (INCLUDING GENERAL INSPECTIONS) TO REGISTERED PREMISES

49

TABLE C — ANALYSIS BY WORKPLACE OF PERSONS EMPLOYED IN REGISTERED PREMISES AT END OF YEAR

Class of workplace	No of persons employed
Offices	227
Retail shops	437
Wholesale departments, warehouses	44
Catering establishments open to the public	49
Canteens	—
Fuel storage depots	3
Total	760
Total Males	292
Total Females	468

There were no Exemptions or Prosecutions during the year. The number of inspectors appointed under Section 52 (1) or (5) of the Act was 2.

FACTORIES AND WORKSHOPS

FACTORIES ACT 1961

PART ONE OF THE ACT

1. INSPECTIONS

Premises	Number on register	Inspections	Number of written notices	Occupiers prosecuted
(1) Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities	—	—	—	—
(2) Factories not included in (1) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority	53	3	1	—
(3) Other premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the local authority (excluding outworkers' premises)	—	—	—	—
Total	53	3	1	—

2. CASES IN WHICH DEFECTS WERE FOUND

Unsuitable or defective sanitary convenience — 1 (remedied).
Referred by H.M. Inspector.

PART VIII OF THE ACT

Outwork — Number of workers required by Section 133(1)(c):
Making, etc., of wearing apparel — 2.

March 1970.

WANTAGE RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL

REPORT OF THE SENIOR PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR

FOOD ADMINISTRATION

MILK

Licences under the Milk (Special Designations) Regulations issued by the County Council and in force during the year were as follows:

Pasteuriser	...	...	...	1
Dealers (pre-packed)	...	...	...	10

Of these dealers, 4 were selling pasteurised milk in bottles or waxed cartons, 3 sterilised milk, 7 ultra-heat treated milk in "tetrapaks". As far as is known no untreated milk was produced for sale or sold in the district during the year although one producer's licence was still valid. Consequently no samples were examined for brucella abortus.

Sampling was again restricted to school milk and one sample from each of the following suppliers was taken during the year:

Oxford Co-operative Society Ltd.

H. A. Job Ltd., Didcot.

County Dairies (Oxford) Ltd.

Each sample was reported as having satisfied both methylene blue and phosphatase tests.

Two complaints concerning dirty milk bottles were received during the year and a letter was sent to the dairy company reminding them of their responsibility and requesting increased vigilance on the part of the 'spotters'.

MILK PRODUCTS

The new yoghurt plant at the dairy in Grove became operational in the early part of the year and this was quickly followed by a re-organisation of the cream production plant. Towards the end of the year progress was being made towards the installation of an H.T.S.T. plant for pasteurising cream and when in service this should not only speed up production but give a full "pipe line" procedure in which the risks of post-pasteurisation contamination are minimal.

Re-constituted milk under the trade name of 'Komial' was also produced in small quantities for sale to certain motorway restaur-

ants. This substance is produced by pasteurising a mixture of water, skim, milk powder and vegetable fats.

SAMPLING

Thirteen samples of cream were taken during the year, six of which were not entirely satisfactory mainly due to the presence of coliforms. The reason for these failures was rather obscure as all known sources of contamination were investigated without success. It is to be hoped that with the introduction of the H.T.S.T. "pipe line" system all samples will prove to be satisfactory.

Six samples of Komil were also taken and of these two were reported as not satisfying the methylene blue test. These two failures occurred during the early stages of production and since certain teething troubles were experienced it was not entirely surprising. Samples taken later in the year were better. In all 20 visits were made to the dairy during the year.

FOOD PREMISES

The following food premises were in use during the year:

School Meals Kitchens (where main meals are produced) ...	10
Staff Canteens (U.K.A.E.A., S.R.C., A.R.C. Canteens and U.K.A.E.A. hostels) ...	8
Cafes and Tea Rooms ...	7
Public Houses (some serving main meals but most dispensing snacks only) ...	50
Grocers (including village general stores) ...	44
Butchers* ...	6
Fish and Chip Shop ...	1
Greengrocers ...	3
Confectioners ...	8
Off Licences ...	2
Bakehouses ...	3
	142

* Two licensed for the sale of game

Total number of inspections of food premises — 40.

The former butcher's shop at Hampstead Norris was re-opened under new ownership as a cafe and the public house at West Challow was sold as a private dwelling house.

A new, well-equipped, fish and chip shop opened in Grove.

The other alterations are mainly due to the fact that the parish of Hermitage ceased to be administered by Wantage R.D.C.

Improvements were carried out at 2 public houses, 2 butchers shops and 2 grocers shops.

Regulation 16 of the Food Hygiene (General) Regulations relating to wash hand basins was complied with by all except

three food premises where the amount of business conducted was very small. Regulation 19, relating to sinks was complied with in every case where applicable

MOBILE TRADERS AND FRUIT STALLS

One ice cream vendor and 2 mobile greengrocers were known to be operating from premises within the district but in addition a considerable number of traders from other districts were seen from time to time. Any infringements of the regulations were notified to the public health departments which were responsible for the trader's own district. The two market stalls in Harwell were again found to be satisfactory.

ICE CREAM

The total number of premises registered under the Food and Drugs Act for the storage and sale of ice cream was 56. No samples of pre-packed ice cream were taken due to the consistently good results obtained in earlier years. Sampling was again concentrated entirely on the soft ice cream produced by mobile vendors operating from the Tonibell Depot in Wantage since the bacteriological quality of the product depends to a large extent the operator's efficiency in sterilising his equipment. This work was once again carried out jointly with the public health inspector for the Wantage Urban District Council and the results will be found in his report.

The most significant factor during the year was the change over from pasteurised to sterilised mixes and there is no doubt that sample results have improved since the change was made.

WATERCRESS

The only cress being marketed in the district was again produced from the beds at Letcombe Bassett where the system of hypochlorite dipping was continued satisfactorily. The two springs feeding the beds were checked and found to be of an excellent bacteriological standard.

FOOD INSPECTION

The following items of food were voluntarily surrendered during the year:

Fresh meat and offal at retail shops	...	...	70 lbs.
Ice Cream	...	...	57 lbs.

The meat was surrendered because of incipient decomposition and the ice cream because of refrigeration failure.

Only four complaints were received concerning food: 2 mouldy pies, 1 mouldy fruit pie and 1 mouldy cake. Warnings were given

to the retailers of the mouldy pies pointing out the penalties to which they would be liable if prosecuted and requires them to exercise greater supervision over their stock rotation.

FOOD POISONING AND INFECTIOUS DISEASES

Sixteen visits were made in connection with food poisoning, dysentery and paratyphoid outbreaks. Approximately 40 specimens were taken for examination and fortunately none of the outbreaks spread beyond the immediate family. In the case of the paratyphoid case it was necessary to keep a food handler away from work for a period and compensation was paid.

Two visits were made to the Milk Marketing Board's premises at Warren Farm, Fawley, in connection with the potential risk run by employees in drinking raw milk from cattle affected with salmonella organisms.

POULTRY PROCESSING

No poultry processing plants were in operation in the district during the year.

OFFICES, SHOPS AND RAILWAY PREMISES ACT, 1963

The following is a summary of the Annual Report submitted to the Department of Employment and Productivity for the year ending 31st December, 1969:

Class of Premises	No. registered during year	No. registered at end of year	General Inspections	Persons employed
Offices	Nil	12	1	244
Retail Shops	Nil	44	13	124
Catering establishments open to the public	1	7	1	32
Fuel storage depots	Nil	2	Nil	5
Totals	1	65	15	405

Male employees — 189

Female employees — 216

Total number of visits to registered premises of all kinds — 29.

Due to staff shortage the number of inspections fell compared with previous years and the inspections which were made were concentrated on premises where improvements were required or where alterations were being carried out.

SLAUGHTERHOUSES

The small slaughterhouse at the Agricultural Research Council's field station at Compton continued in use during the year and the standard of hygiene was maintained at a high level.

During the year the Pig Improvement Co., of Fyfield Wick, opened a sow hysterectomy unit at Pound Croft Farm, East Hanney. The operations performed are intended to produce minimal disease piglets. Humane slaughter of the sow follows immediately and three inspections were made with a view to passing the carcase for human consumption. These inspections were made under the emergency provisions of the Meat Inspection Regulations but as the operations could hardly be termed emergency for an indefinite period the Company were advised to make application for a slaughterhouse licence. This application was under consideration at the end of the year. The premises were maintained in an extremely clean and hygienic condition as the aseptic removal of the piglets was of paramount importance but certain further improvements will be necessary if the licence is granted.

CARCASES AND OFFAL INSPECTED AND CONDEMNED IN WHOLE OR IN PART

	Cattle excluding Cows	Cows	Calves	Sheep and Lambs	Pigs
Number killed and inspected	61	73	58	178	661
<i>All diseases except tuberculosis and cysticercosis</i>					
Whole carcases condemned	Nil	6	Nil	10	4
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	3	13	2	16	5

There were no cases of tuberculosis or cysticercosis.

Total weight of meat and offal condemned — 1 ton 16 cwt. 105 lbs.

Income from meat inspection charges — £48 11s. 1d.

Slaughtermen licensed at the end of the year — 5.

Number of visits made for meat inspection and other purposes — 146.

REFUSE COLLECTION SERVICE

During the year an attempt was made to introduce an incentive bonus scheme with a view to maintaining an adequate labour force. Unfortunately no agreement was reached by the end of the year and the assistance of neighbouring authorities had to be sought on two occasions during December due to insufficient manpower.

Collections continued to be kerbside and once weekly during the period under review and disposal arrangements remained as in the previous year, i.e. controlled tipping at Hampstead Norris, Stanford-in-the-Vale and Abingdon. Towards the end of the year tipping at Hampstead Norris was discontinued.

Household refuse followed the national pattern and increased in bulk with very little increase in weight. To accommodate this extra bulk a 50 cubic yard Pakamatic vehicle replaced a 25 cubic yard machine in January and saved extra runs to tip.

In all, some 7,000 tons of refuse were collected and removed to the disposal points during the year. In addition, trade waste contracts to the value of £152 10s. 0d. were negotiated and shopkeepers appeared to appreciate the value of the service.

Many householders took advantage of the Council's arrangement to collect large and/or bulky articles and 129 special collections were made throughout the year. The demand for this service continues to increase and it is obvious that the disposal of this type of refuse is an embarrassment to householders and must become an integral part of the general service in the future.

A total of 386 visits were made by Public Health Inspectors in connection with this service.

CIVIC AMENITIES ACT 1967

During the year tipping at Hampstead Norris ceased and it became necessary to designate another place as the Council's Authorised Dump. Farnborough tip was chosen and so designated and the fact that it is more central meant that it was used far more than Hampstead Norris.

Thirty motor vehicles were found abandoned during the year and were dealt with under the appropriate sections of the Act. The cost to the Council was under £10.

Close liaison with the Berkshire County Council litter warden was maintained and on a number of occasions deposits of rubbish were removed from beauty spots at his request. Two litter bins were also provided by the Council on the Ridgeway.

A total of 47 visits were made in connection with work under this Act.

SEPTIC TANK EMPTYING SERVICE

The service provided by the one 800 gallon tanker and its driver continued but the demand for this service dropped a little when Hermitage came under the control of the Newbury R.D.C. and was sewered. This fall off in work was to some extent welcome since it became increasingly necessary to use the driver on the refuse collection service. It was, however, found possible to assist Faringdon R.D.C. on a number of occasions in the de-sludging of their sewage tanks.

Two samples of cooling water from the local dairy were taken. The first showed some contamination with faecal organisms and the tank was immediately drained, cleansed and provided with a drip-feed chlorinator. The subsequent sample proved to be highly satisfactory.

SWIMMING POOLS

During the summer a total of 12 visits were made to the 8 school pools in the district. Some improvement in operating standards was evident, mainly due to a half-day conference held in Wantage with a view to advising school staffs on chlorination, filtration, pH control and other relevant matters. There was, however, still room for further standardisation, particularly in testing kits, and the initiative taken by the Director of Education's adviser on physical education was most welcome. It is to be hoped that by Summer 1970 all schools will adopt standard procedures and will be in possession of proper codes of practice.

SEWERAGE

EAST HENDRED, WEST HENDRED, ARDINGTON AND LOCKINGE

A scheme for sewerage West Hendred and for the linking up of the villages of East Hendred, Ardington and Lockinge with a view to pumping the total flow to the joint works, now being constructed at Bradfield, Grove, is in hand.

DENCHWORTH

An outline scheme has been prepared for this village and has been submitted to the Ministry of Housing and Local Government but to date no approval has been received. The urgent need for the village to be seweraged, especially in view of a programmed Council Housing Development, is recognised by the Council.

EAST CHALLOW

A sewer extension to provide main drainage to four properties in Reynold's Way has been completed. These properties had been previously served by inefficient septic tanks.

EAST CHALLOW, WEST CHALLOW, SPARSHOLT AND CHILDREY

Consideration is being given, for inclusion in the future programme, to the preparation of a scheme of sewerage for the village of Sparsholt which will be linked with the existing systems at East and West Challow and Childrey with a view to pumping the combined flow to the joint works now being constructed at Bradfield, Grove.

DETAILS OF HOUSING, POPULATION, SEWERAGE AND WATER SUPPLIES IN PARISH ORDER

Parish	Area in acres	*Estimated population	Occupied dwellings		Total
			Private	Council	
Aldworth	1866	202	53	16	69
Ardington	2693	350	123	—	123
Beedon	2096	385	111	34	145
Blewbury	4246	1455	†433	70	503
Brightwalton	2054	292	98	15	113
Catmore	710	33	11	—	11
Chaddleworth	3400	453	117	51	168
Challow, East	1657	929	210	90	300
Challow, West	1070	174	45	21	66
Childrey	2929	492	118	41	159
Chilton	1448	875	268	41	309
Compton	3803	1382	337	105	442
Denchworth	1041	182	52	10	62
Farnborough	1886	89	34	4	38
Fawley	2190	174	45	5	50
Goosey	968	147	40	10	50
Grove	2513	3920	†1161	168	1329
Hampstead Norris	4490	722	187	64	251
Hanney, East	2200	721	186	44	230
Hanney, West	1333	490	138	27	165
Harwell	2503	2420	†635	85	720
Hendred, East	3198	1314	356	107	463
Hendred, West	2002	332	90	27	117
Ilsley, East	3017	453	106	40	146
Ilsley, West	3037	312	88	17	105
Letcombe Bassett	1631	203	50	15	65
Letcombe Regis	2155	526	146	49	195
Lockinge	3763	238	76	—	76
Peasemore	2049	198	68	12	80
Sparsholt	3329	282	75	29	104
Upton	1413	395	100	24	124
Totals	72690	20140	5557	1221	6778

* Registrar General's figures as at 30th June, 1969.

† These figures include caravans and occupants.

WATER SUPPLIES

Sewerage	Mains water standpipes	Estate supplies		Private supplies	
		Sources	dwellings	Sources	dwellings
*	—	—	—	2	4
Yes	—	2	123	—	—
*	3	—	—	1	1
Yes	1	—	—	—	—
*	1	—	—	4	7
—	—	1	10	1	1
Yes (part)	1	—	—	1	3
Yes	—	—	—	—	—
Yes	—	—	—	—	—
Yes	—	—	—	—	—
Yes	—	—	—	2	2
Yes	—	3	20	6	6
*	5	—	—	1	1
—	—	—	—	—	—
Yes	—	1	16	—	—
*	—	—	—	1	3
Yes	—	—	—	—	—
Yes	2	3	36	3	5
Yes	4	—	—	—	—
Yes	1	—	—	—	—
Yes	2	—	—	—	—
Yes	4	—	—	5	14
*	3	2	8	—	—
Yes	—	1	8	1	4
Yes	—	1	7	—	—
*	—	—	—	—	—
Yes	2	—	—	3	4
Yes	—	1	79	—	—
*	4	—	—	3	5
*	—	—	—	—	—
Yes	3	—	—	—	—
<hr/>					
	36	15	307	34	60

These figures are compiled from best available information and cannot be regarded as completely accurate.

* Small disposal works in existence for serving Council houses only.

ANIMAL BOARDING ESTABLISHMENTS

Four existing licences in respect of boarding kennels for cats and dogs at Blewbury, Brightwalton, Harwell and East Hendred were renewed for a further period of 12 months on 1st January, 1969. The small establishment at West Ilsley was not re-licenced but new kennels were opened at East Hanney and were licenced accordingly.

Inspections were made in consultation with the R.S.P.C.A. Inspector.

RODENT AND INSECT CONTROL

The following is a summary of the Annual Report submitted to the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food:

	Non-Agricultural	Agricultural
Total number of properties (including nearby premises) inspected following notification	271	—
Number infested by (a) Rats ...	265	—
(b) Mice ...	6	—
Total number of properties inspected for rats and/or mice for reasons other than notification	1565	50*
Number infested by (a) Rats ...	304	50
(b) Mice ...	5	12

* Includes 30 under contract. Total value of contracts — £674.

No sewer treatments were carried out during the year.

Contract work for pest control at A.E.R.E., Harwell, and Grove and M.P.B.W. ceased at the end of 1968.

Forty-eight complaints of insect infestation were received and dealt with as follows:

Ants	8
Flies	4
Mosquitoes	2
Earwigs	1
Flying Beetles	1
Fleas	5
Cockroaches	2
Bees and Wasps	24
Mites	1

CARAVANS

PERMANENT SITES

Charles Simpson (Caravans) Ltd., Westfield Close and The Willows, Grove. (90 caravans).

The survey commenced in 1968 was completed and as no objections were received the site licence was amended to permit the demolition of the sanitary block on Westfield Close and its replacement by a launderette, 2 small bathrooms and 16 garages. Work was proceeding satisfactorily at the end of the year. Improvements in firefighting equipment were also being made at the end of the year.

The Chiltern Caravan Co., The Barrow, Harwell. (35 Caravans).

This site was again maintained in a reasonably satisfactory condition. Several older vans were replaced by mobile homes with self-contained amenities.

Mr. R. W. Peak, Ladycroft Park, Blewbury. (60 caravans).

No major works took place on this site.

INDIVIDUAL SITES (1 caravan each)

Mr. H. S. Clargo, Bidhu, Blewbury.

Mrs. B. A. Bosley, Grove Wick Farm, Grove.

Miss H. M. I. Balcombe, Quab Hill Farm, Featherbed Lane, East Hendred.

TEMPORARY SITES

Only three licences were renewed at the beginning of the year. Two of these related to caravans occupied by elderly, single men and conditions were far from satisfactory. Attempts were made to persuade the occupants to accept Council accommodation and at the end of the year it seemed likely that one site would be cleared early in 1970. Unfortunately the occupier of the other caravan died before rehousing was possible. The contractors' site at Compton closed down during the year.

Four unauthorised sites were closed but in one case it was necessary to prosecute the site owner. A fine of £5 was imposed by the magistrates. This case was unfortunate in that the owner eventually had to obtain a Court Order before he could gain possession of the site.

GYPSIES

The site at Woodhill Lane, East Challow, continued in use but some trouble was experienced with the water supply. It became necessary to renew the complete service pipe at a cost of over £300, but half the cost will be recoverable from local farmers who share the supply.

The two gypsy families rehoused in 1968 gave up their tenancies, following the death of the father, and returned to caravans.

Following the implementation of the Caravans Act 1968, plans were being drawn up at the end of the year to bring the site up to Model Standards with financial aid from the County Council.

One hundred and two visits were made to caravan sites of all kinds.

HOUSING

Once again housing work occupied more time than any other duty but it was important in that the Ministry of Housing and Local Government required very detailed information on the demand for accommodation, particularly from elderly folk and people living in unfit or other unsatisfactory dwellings. Survey work was continued with a view to providing this information and eventually approval was given to the whole of the Council's proposed building programme. The information gathered was also valuable when, towards the end of the year, selections of tenants on a scale larger than any since the war commenced

The Housing Act 1969 came into force in the autumn and this necessitated some re-appraisal of inspection methods, particularly in relation to grant applications.

Details of the work of the Department are as follows:

IMPROVEMENT GRANTS

Assessment of all applications to ensure that when work is complete the properties will be, and will remain, fit for human habitation for the required period of years. In practice inspections were made jointly with the engineer and surveyor so that advice on all aspects of building control could be given at the earliest opportunity. Grant works approved and completed were as follows:

	Approved		Completed	
	Owner/occupied	Tenanted	Owner/occupied	Tenanted
Discretionary	8	1	2	2
Standard Grants	7	7	7	4

In 10 of the above cases repair works were carried out on request, concurrently with the improvement works and it was only necessary to serve 14 informal housing notices during the year. Work was completed in 7 cases and 1 notice served in 1968 was also complied with. No statutory notices were served. Work on the 4 cottages at Beedon purchased by the Council was about to commence at the end of the year.

UNFIT HOUSES

Reported as unfit	...	...	...	...	27
Demolition Orders made	...	...	...	...	12
Closing Orders made	...	...	...	...	3
Formal undertakings accepted	...	...	...	...	22
Demolished	...	...	...	...	15
Reconditioned (3 conversions—2 into 1)	...	...	...	...	6 from 9

MEANS OF ESCAPE IN CASE OF FIRE — one notice served in 1968 was complied with during the year.

SELECTION OF TENANTS

New dwellings were completed as follows:

7 x 2 B.R. bungalows at Blewbury.

6 x 2 B.R. bungalows at Harwell.

2 x 1 B.R. bungalows, 8 x 2 B.R. bungalows and 6 x 3 B.R. houses at East Hendred.

Thirty-nine applicants were rehoused (including 16 from unfit properties) and 32 transfers were effected.

Number of applicants visited in their homes ... 197

SUMMARY OF INSPECTIONS

Total number of properties inspected	...	...	...	...	170
Total number of visits	...	...	...	...	288

SUMMARY OF THE REMAINDER OF THE WORK OF THE PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT

LECTURES

The lectures on public health work given to fourth year students at Segsbury School in 1968 were repeated in 1969.

PETROLEUM

Administration of the Act and Regulations governing the storage of petroleum spirit and mixtures continued and 4 new tanks were tested during the year. Ninety premises were licenced at the end of the year and a total of 11 visits were made to various installations.

DRAINAGE AND SANITARY CONVENIENCES

Number of properties inspected	...	...	...	...	30
Total number of inspections	...	...	...	...	50
Number of nuisances abated (excluding work by the cess-pool emptier)	...	...	...	...	13 (2 formal notices)
Number of conservancy closets replaced by water closets (including improvement grant work)	...	...	...	...	9

OTHER NUISANCES

Animals	...	...	...	...	Inspections	...	6
					Nuisances abated	...	1
Accumulations of refuse	...	...	...	...	Inspections	...	14
					Nuisances abated	...	4
Filthy premises	...	...	...	...	Inspections	...	36
					Nuisances abated	...	3
Ditches and streams	...	...	...	...	Inspections	...	4
					Nuisances abated	...	3
Smoke, grit and dust	...	...	...	...	Inspections	...	7
					Nuisances abated	...	3
Noise	...	...	...	...	Inspections	...	5
					Nuisances abated	...	—

Total number of inspections made by Public Health Inspectors (2) 1475

(These figures do not include the work of the Pest Officer, Rodent Operator and Cleansing Staff which is included under separate headings).

FACTORIES AND WORKSHOPS

FACTORIES ACT 1961

PART ONE OF THE ACT

1. INSPECTIONS

Premises	Number on register	Inspections	Number of written notices	Occupiers prosecuted
(1) Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities	1	—	—	—
(2) Factories not included in (1) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority	32	6	—	—
(3) Other premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the local authority (excluding outworkers' premises)	5	5	—	—
Total	38	11	—	—

2. CASES IN WHICH DEFECTS WERE FOUND

Nil.

PART VIII OF THE ACT

Outwork — Number of workers required by Section 133(1)(c):
Making, etc., of wearing apparel — 1.

June 1970.

FACTORIES AND WORKSHOPS ACT 1947
PART VIII OF THE ACT

Section 10. (1) The following provisions shall apply to any factory or workshop in which the following conditions are fulfilled...

- (a) the number of persons employed in the factory or workshop exceeds 100;
- (b) the number of persons employed in the factory or workshop exceeds 50 in any one shift;
- (c) the number of persons employed in the factory or workshop exceeds 20 in any one shift;
- (d) the number of persons employed in the factory or workshop exceeds 10 in any one shift;
- (e) the number of persons employed in the factory or workshop exceeds 5 in any one shift;
- (f) the number of persons employed in the factory or workshop exceeds 2 in any one shift;
- (g) the number of persons employed in the factory or workshop exceeds 1 in any one shift;
- (h) the number of persons employed in the factory or workshop exceeds 0 in any one shift;

Total number of persons employed in the factory or workshop...

Section 11. (1) The following provisions shall apply to any factory or workshop in which the following conditions are fulfilled...

PART VIII OF THE ACT
Section 12. (1) The following provisions shall apply to any factory or workshop in which the following conditions are fulfilled...

Section 13. (1) The following provisions shall apply to any factory or workshop in which the following conditions are fulfilled...

Section 14. (1) The following provisions shall apply to any factory or workshop in which the following conditions are fulfilled...

Section 15. (1) The following provisions shall apply to any factory or workshop in which the following conditions are fulfilled...



