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**Contributors**

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On the Health and Sanitary Condition of the

WARMINSTER AND WESTBURY RURAL DISTRICT

for the year

1956

Presented to the

WARMINSTER AND WESTBURY RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL

by

J. REYNOLDS,

Medical Officer of Health of  
the Warminster and Westbury  
Rural District Council.

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Health Department,  
Craven House,  
Warminster, Wilts.

To. The Chairman of the Warminster and Westbury Rural District Council.

Sir,

As directed by the Ministry of Health Circular 19/56 dated 11th December, 1956, I have pleasure in presenting my Annual Report relating to the health and sanitary circumstances of the Rural District of Warminster and Westbury for the year 1956.

It is followed by the Report of the Public Health Inspector, Mr.W.F.C.Merrett, which contains detailed information regarding the sanitary work in the district.

Again I am pleased to thank all Members of the Council for their support and co-operation and it is necessary to stress my indebtedness to your Clerk and all Members of the Public Health Department.

My thanks are also due to the family doctors practising in the district for their whole-hearted co-operation. Without the help of the Directors of the Public Health Laboratories at Bath and Salisbury much of the work could not have been done and to them also I express my gratitude.

Detailed comment where necessary is made in the body of the report and I hope this will be found interesting and to the public benefit.

Your obedient servant,

JOSEPH REYNOLDS.

WARMINSTER AND WESTBURY RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL.

Chairman of the Council. J.Marriott, J.P.

Vice Chairman. J.L.Henderson.

Chairman of the Public Health Committee. Mrs.L.Sykes.

Members of the Public Health Committee:

Councillors:	C.R.Algar, J.P.	Wing Cdr.F.J.B.Powell, M.B.E.,
	A.L.Wheeler.	J.Marriott, J.P.
	Mrs. L.Sykes.	W.Wallis.
	Mrs. F.Sykes, J.P.	K.Betts.
	Mrs. M.Pottow.	G.R.Dufosse.
	S.H.Stafford:	J.R.Drake.
	R.F.Stratton.	R.Carpenter.

Representatives on Westbury and Dilton Marsh Joint

Water Committee: Councillors: G.H.Benham  
F.G.Smith.

Representative on Trowbridge, Melksham and District

Water Board: Councillor: S.H.Stafford.

MEETING: Friday before the second Monday in each month at 2.30 p.m.

Public Health Officers of the Authority:

Medical Officer of Health.

Joseph Reynolds, M.C., L.R.C.P.Edin., L.R.C.S.Edin.,  
L.R.F.P.& S. Glas., D.P.H. (Eng.)

Chief Public Health Inspector (Part-time).

W.F.C.Merrett, M.R.S.H., M.A.P.H.I.

Additional Public Health Inspector.

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

STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE AREA.  
(Figures in Brackets refer to previous year.)

Area of District (in acres)	87,096
Population - Registrar General's Estimate as at 30.6.56.	13,350 (13,410)
Density of Population - Acres Per Person.	6.4
Number of Inhabited Houses and Flats as at 31.12.56.	4,248 (4,269)
Number of Council Houses at 31.12.56.	549 (549)
Rateable Value on 1.4.56.	£92,191 (£66,160)
Product of a Penny Rate year ending 31.3.56.	£290.6.0d. (£272.0.6d)

VITAL STATISTICS.

a) <u>Live Births.</u>	<u>Male.</u>	<u>Female.</u>
TOTAL	96 (103)	106 (91)
Legitimate	90 (98)	100 (87)
Illegitimate	6 (5)	6 (4)
<u>Live Birth Rate per 1,000 population of the Rural District.</u>	15.1 (14.4)	
<u>Live Birth Rate of the Rural District after correction by area Comparability Factor. (1.20)</u>	18.2 (17.3)	
<u>Live Birth Rate per 1,000 population of England and Wales.</u>	15.6 (15.0)	
b) <u>Still Births.</u>	<u>Male.</u>	<u>Female.</u>
TOTAL	1 (2)	4 (4)
Legitimate	1 (2)	4 (4)
Illegitimate	-	-
c) <u>Deaths.</u>		
<u>Crude Death Rate per 1,000 population of the Rural District.</u>	9.5 (8.5)	
<u>Death Rate after correction by Area Comparability Factor. (0.96)</u>	9.1 (8.1)	
<u>Death Rate per 1,000 population of England and Wales.</u>	11.7 (11.7)	
d) <u>Deaths of Infants under one year of age.</u>	<u>Male.</u>	<u>Female.</u>
TOTAL	Nil	Nil
e) <u>Deaths of Infants under 4 weeks of age.</u>		
TOTAL	Nil	Nil

f)

<u>Causes of Death.</u>	<u>Male.</u>	<u>Female.</u>	<u>Total.</u>
<u>Group A - Certain Communicable Diseases.</u>			
1. Tuberculosis, respiratory	0	0	0
2. Tuberculosis, other	0	1	1
3. Syphilitic disease	1	0	0
4. Diphtheria	0	0	0
5. Whooping Cough	0	0	0
6. Meningococcal infections	0	0	0
7. Acute poliomyelitis	0	0	0
8. Measles	0	0	0
9. Other infective and parasitic diseases (except Influenza and Pneumonia)	0	0	0
Total Group A.	1	1	2
<u>Group B - Cancer and related Malignant Disease.</u>			
10. Malignant neoplasm, stomach	4	1	5
11. Malignant neoplasm, lung bronchus	4	0	4
12. Malignant neoplasm, breast	0	4	4
13. Malignant neoplasm, uterus.	0	1	1
14. Other malignant and lymphatic neoplasms	7	8	15
15. Leukaemia, aleukaemia	1	0	1
Total Group B.	16	14	30
<u>Group C.</u>			
16. Diabetes	0	1	1
<u>Group D Heart Disease and other diseases of circulatory system.</u>			
17. Vascular lesions of nervous system	3	13	16
18. Coronary disease, angina	11	5	16
19. Hypertension with heart disease.	1	1	2
20. Other heart disease.	11	8	19
21. Other circulatory disease	9	3	17
Total Group D.	35	30	65

f) Contd.	<u>Male.</u>	<u>Female.</u>	<u>Total.</u>
<u>Causes of Death.</u>			
<u>Group E. Respiratory diseases</u> <u>(other than tuberculosis).</u>			
22. Influenza	0	0	0
23. Pneumonia	3	3	6
24. Bronchitis	1	0	1
25. Other diseases of respiratory system.	1	0	1
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
Total Group E	5	3	8
<u>Group F</u>			
26. Ulcer of Stomach and duodenum	1	1	2
27. Gastritis, enteritis and diarrhoea	0	0	0
28. Nephritis and nephrosis	1	0	1
29. Hyperplasia of prostate	1	0	1
30. Pregnancy, childbirth, abortion	0	1	1
31. Congenital malformations	0	0	0
32. Other defined and ill-defined diseases.	1	8	9
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
Total Group F	4	10	14
<u>Group G. Accidents and Violence.</u>			
33. Motor Vehicle Accidents	0	0	0
34. All other accidents	3	1	4
35. Suicide	2	1	3
36. Homicide and operations of war	0	0	0
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
Total Group G	5	2	7
37. All causes	66	61	127

The table of Vital Statistics on the opposite page shows that this Rural District is a healthy place to live in comparison with the rest of England and Wales. The population has decreased by five per cent in six years largely due to military movements and a steady exodus of urban workers and their families to adjacent towns where accommodation became available.

**TABLE OF BIRTH AND DEATH RATES.**  
(Local Rates after correction by Area Factors.)

Year	Population	Births	Rate per 1,000 population Warminster and Westbury.	Rate per 1,000 population England and Wales.	Deaths	Rate per 1,000 population Warminster and Westbury.	Rate per 1,000 population England and Wales.	Deaths of Infants under one year of age.
1950	13,570	243	18.9	15.8	173	10.5	11.6	9
1951	14,070	231	18.2	15.5	167	9.9	12.5	3
1952	13,910	198	17.4	15.3	169	10.1	11.3	4
1953	13,760	236	19.1	15.4	137	8.3	11.4	6
1954	13,620	211	18.6	15.2	120	7.7	11.3	3
1955	13,410	194	17.3	15.0	114	8.1	11.7	12
1956	13,350	202	18.2	15.6	127	9.1	11.7	Nil



## SECTION B.

### GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES IN THE AREA.

#### a) Laboratory Facilities.

The district is fortunate in having laboratory facilities available to the East and to the West, i.e. in the Pathological Department of the Salisbury Infirmary and the Public Health Laboratory in Bath. Practitioners in the district use the most convenient laboratory, a practice followed by this Department when forwarding specimens of water, milk, ice-cream, or suspected foodstuffs for bacteriological investigation.

#### b) Ambulance Service.

The Ambulance service is provided and controlled by the Wiltshire County Council. The service to this district is controlled from Bradford-on-Avon where the station is manned continuously. A sub-station in Warminster also serves the district. Non-emergency calls must originate from a doctor, dentist, or midwife.

To obtain an ambulance in an emergency:-

where there is a dialling system in operation, dial 999

where there is no dialling system, lift the receiver and ask for an ambulance.

#### c) Midwifery, Home Nursing, Health Visitors and Home Helps.

These services are provided and controlled by the Wiltshire County Council, County Hall, Trowbridge, telephone Trowbridge 3641.

#### d) Clinics and Treatment Centres.

The following Clinics serve the districts:-

##### 1. Ante Natal:

At the Maternity Hospitals concerned.  
Consultant Clinics are at Trowbridge and Bradford-on-Avon for patients referred by their own doctor or midwife.  
Baptist Chapel, West End, Westbury, Wilts. - Wednesday mornings 10.0 - 12.30 p.m.

##### 2. Infant Welfare:

Methodist Chapel, George Street, Warminster at 2.30 p.m. on the first and third Fridays of each month.

Methodist Schoolroom, Station Road, Westbury at 2.30 p.m. every Thursday.

Progressive Hall, North Bradley at 2.30 - 4 p.m. on the second and fourth Wednesdays of each month.

Trowbridge C.C. Clinic, The Halve, at 2 p.m. on every Tuesday and Thursday.

##### 3. Paediatrics.

Warminster Hospital on second Friday in each month.  
Trowbridge and District Hospital third Friday in each month.

##### 4. Diphtheria, Whooping Cough and Poliomyelitis Immunization.

Immunization is undertaken by the County Council and Medical Officers visit the schools in outlying villages at specified dates for this purpose. All family doctors will also carry out immunization.

The Warminster Clinic is held on the fourth Friday of every month at 2 p.m. at the Methodist Schoolroom, George Street, Warminster.

The Westbury Clinic is held on the fourth Thursday of every month at 2.30 p.m. at the Methodist Schoolroom, Station Road, Westbury.

5. Ear, Nose and Throat.

By invitation from the County Council or through the family doctor.

Trowbridge and District Hospital first, third and fifth Mondays, and second and fourth Thursdays in each month.

Westbury Hospital on fourth Tuesday in each month.

Warminster Hospital first Tuesday in each month.

6. Eye.

By invitation from the County Council.

Second, fourth and fifth Fridays in month at Methodist Schoolroom, Warminster.

10.30 to 1 p.m. every Monday at Trowbridge and District Hospital.

7. Orthopaedic.

At Trowbridge, by invitation from the County Council or through the family doctor.

At Warminster - First Monday, first Friday, and second and fourth Thursday in each month.

At Westbury, first Tuesday in each month.

8. Gynaecology.

At Warminster Hospital on fourth Wednesday in each month, and at Westbury Hospital on first and third Monday.

9. Chest Clinic.

Trowbridge - Wednesday mornings and every Saturday from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Cases referred by own Doctor or by invitation from County Council.

10. Rheumatism.

Alternate Wednesday at Trowbridge and District Hospital.

11. Radiotherapy Follow Up (Cancer).

At Bristol and Bath by arrangement with the County Council.

At Trowbridge and District Hospital second Thursday in each month.

12. Mental Illness.

Trowbridge and District Hospital every Tuesday afternoon.

13. Chiropody.

By arrangement with the County Council.

14. Venereal Diseases.

	<u>MEN.</u>	<u>WOMEN.</u>
General Infirmary, Salisbury.	Tuesday - 11.30 a.m. - 1 p.m.	Wednesday - 6 - 7.30 p.m.
	Friday - 6 - 7.30 p.m.	Saturday - 11.30 a.m. - 1 p.m.
Royal United Hospital, Bath.	Friday - 5 p.m. Saturday - 5 p.m.	Tuesday - 5 p.m. Friday - 2.30 p.m.
St. Martin's Hospital, Bath.	Tuesday - 2 p.m.	Tuesday - 2 p.m.

Welfare Foods are distributed at the W.V.S. Centre, 14A Market Place, Warminster, on: Monday 10.30 a.m. - 12.30 p.m., Tuesday 2.30 - 4.30 p.m., Thursday 10.30 a.m. - 12.30 p.m., Friday 2.30 - 4.30 p.m.

Nursing equipment and appliances can be loaned from the Medical Loan Depot in charge of Mrs. George Nicholls, Marshlands, Upper Marsh Road, Warminster.

e) Hospitals.

The four hospitals noted below serve the district and are controlled by the West Wiltshire Hospital Management Committee:

	<u>Beds.</u>	<u>Classification.</u>	<u>Type of case dealt with.</u>
Warminster Hospital.	30	Wholly general.	Acute medical and surgical cases. Gynaecological cases. Chronic sick patients for short periods only.
Westbury and District Hospital.	20	do.	
Sambourne Hospital.	95	Mainly chronic sick.	Aged chronic sick. Accommodation reserved to the County Council for 26 Welfare residents. Accommodation provided for 2 wayfarers (women only).
Beckford Orthopaedic Hospital, Warminster.	26	Orthopaedic	

Many residents also attend and receive treatment at several Hospitals in Bath and Salisbury.

Maternity cases are admitted to hospitals at Bradford-on-Avon, Trowbridge and Salisbury.

Cases of infectious diseases are admitted to Isolation Hospitals at Trowbridge, Bath and Salisbury. The majority of cases of Tuberculosis are admitted to Winsley Chest Hospital, the Manor Hospital, Bath, and St. John's Hospital, Trowbridge.

f) Mortuary.

An annual payment is made to the West Wiltshire Hospital Management Committee for mortuary facilities at the Sambourne Hospital, Warminster. The visiting pathologist has expressed his satisfaction with the facilities provided.

GENERAL INFORMATION.

Ministry of Labour and National Service.

Weymouth Street,  
Warminster.  
Hours: 9 - 5 p.m.  
Telephone: Warminster 2351.

Registrar of Births, Marriages and Deaths.

Market Place,  
Warminster.

Springfield Road,  
Westbury.  
Telephone: Westbury 22.

Hours: 10 - 11.30 a.m.  
Monday, Wednesday and Friday.

General Information. (Contd.)

National Assistance Board.

School Lane,  
Bellvue Road,  
Salisbury.

Bellefield House,  
Hilperton Road,  
Trowbridge.

Telephone: Salisbury 2261.

Telephone: Trowbridge 2348.

Ministry of Pensions and National Insurance.

Weymouth Street,  
Warminster.  
Telephone: Warminster 2361.  
Hours: 9 - 5 p.m.

Wallbridge House,  
Portway,  
Frome.  
Telephone: Frome 2373.

Bellefield House,  
Hilperton Road,  
Trowbridge.

Mental Health Officers.

	<u>Home Address.</u>	<u>During Office Hours.</u>
Mr. C.J. Lewis	40 Westbourne Rd., Trowbridge. Telephone: Trowbridge 2696	County Hall, Trowbridge. Telephone: Trowbridge 3641.
Deputy: Miss B.A. Bezzant	20 Wilcot, Pewsey.  Telephone: Pewsey 2243.	3 Church St., Pewsey.  Telephone: Pewsey 3259.

Outside Office Hours.

Telephone Bradford-on-Avon Ambulance  
Station to contact the office on duty.  
Tel: Bradford-on-Avon 2271.

## SECTION C.

PREVENTION AND CONTROL OF INFECTIOUS AND OTHER DISEASES.

Emergency supplies of sera for the treatment of anthrax, botulism and snake-bite are kept at the Ham Green Hospital, Bristol (Tel.31165). Supplies of serum for treatment or prophylaxis of selected cases of measles are available to medical practitioners on application to the Director of the Public Health Laboratory at Bath.

Infectious diseases notified during 1956.

	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	June	July	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	TOTAL.
Scarlet Fever	3	-	-	2	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	7
Measles	2	13	2	-	-	-	-	-	2	-	-	-	38
Whooping Cough	-	-	5	-	-	1	-	-	2	8	12	4	32
Influenzal Pneumonia	1	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2
Lobar Pneumonia	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
Erysipelas	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	1

	1949.	1950.	1951.	1952.	1953.	1954.	1955.	1956.
Measles	199	3	209	38	313	38	249	38
Whooping Cough	32	119	23	115	33	19	32	32
Scarlet Fever	2	10	18	10	3	2	10	7
Acute Poliomyelitis	3	-	1	3	4	-	-	-
Food Poisoning	1	-	-	2	6	-	-	-
Puerperal Pyrexia	1	-	-	-	2	1	-	-
Lobar Pneumonia	1	2	-	-	-	3	1	1
Influenzal Pneumonia	1	-	5	3	5	-	3	2
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	1	-	-	-	2	-	1	-
Typhoid Fever	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-
Malaria	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Erysipelas	-	5	3	2	1	1	1	1
Dysentery	1	-	2	-	-	-	-	-
Cutaneous Anthrax	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-
Virus Meningitis	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-
Diphtheria	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-

The table (supra) demonstrates the biennial pattern of measles epidemics. As yet vaccination against whooping cough has not reached the level for diphtheria. The case of diphtheria notified in 1954 was in an adult. A later table will shew that parents no longer faced with this disease are becoming complacent and not seeking protection for their children. This could have dire results.

Legislation is promised making brucellosis and infectious hepatitis notifiable diseases. This is a necessary step since such notification would have placed these diseases third and fourth in/

numerical significance during the past eight years. Search for cases of brucellosis has lead to a few cases of psittacosis being discovered in the district, probably contracted from pigeons.

Tuberculosis.

	<u>Pulmonary.</u>		<u>Non-Pulmonary.</u>	
	<u>Male.</u>	<u>Female.</u>	<u>Male.</u>	<u>Female.</u>
Cases on Register at 31.12.56.	38	20	16	7
New Cases notified during 1956.	3	2	2	-
Transfers in.	2	1	-	-
Deaths	-	1	-	-
Recovered	1	1	1	1
Transferred out of District	2	6	-	-

Notifications and Deaths during the year:-

<u>Year.</u>	<u>Pulmonary Tuberculosis.</u>		<u>Non-Pulmonary Tuberculosis.</u>		<u>Totals.</u>	
	<u>Notifi- cations.</u>	<u>Deaths.</u>	<u>Notifi- cations.</u>	<u>Deaths.</u>	<u>Notifi- cations.</u>	<u>Deaths.</u>
1949	7	4	1	-	8	4
1950	7	3	8	-	15	3
1951	14	1	10	-	24	1
1952	9	4	2	-	11	4
1953	7	2	3	1	10	3
1954	10	-	2	1	12	1
1955	7	-	2	-	9	-
1956	5	1	2	-	7	1

Number of Cases on Register at end of each year:-

<u>Year.</u>	<u>Pulmonary.</u>	<u>Non-Pulmonary.</u>	<u>Total.</u>
1949	39	19	58
1950	39	21	60
1951	47	30	77
1952	51	30	81
1953	58	27	85
1954	61	23	84
1955	61	23	84
1956	58	23	81

Section 47. National Assistance Act, 1948.

No action under this section has been necessary during 1956.

**DIPHTHERIA IMMUNIZATION AND VACCINATION AGAINST SMALLPOX STATISTICS.**  
 From figures supplied by courtesy of Dr. C.D.L.Lycett, G.M.O.H., Wiltshire.

Live Births	Age Group	Under 1	1	2	3	4	5 - 9	10 - 14	Total under 15.
During 1953 - 236	Primary imms. completed during .....	61	79	14	3	4	13	5	179
1954 - 211	..... 1953	78	71	18	10	4	13	2	196
1955 - 194	..... 1954	78	---	62	---	---	---	17	157
1956 - 202	..... 1955	87	52	---	21	---	18	1	179
	..... 1956	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---
	Reinf.injs.administered during .....	---	---	12	---	---	---	364	376
	..... 1953	---	---	13	---	---	---	272	285
	..... 1954	---	---	4	---	---	---	158	162
	..... 1955	---	---	7	---	---	218	49	274
	..... 1956	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---
	Total immunized child population at 31st December .....	11	86	40	153	145	148	363	2334
	..... 1953	9	106	124	152	157	160	388	2474
	..... 1954	10	121	156	132	171	209	326	2745
	..... 1955	40	94	132	154	139	207	414	2546
	..... 1956	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---

\* Immunized before 1.1.52      \*\* Immunized since 1.1.52.

Age Group	Under 1	1	2 - 4	5 - 14	15 or over
Vaccinations against Smallpox .....	85	6	5	3	8
..... 1953	92	4	6	2	4
..... 1954	86	7	5	5	1
..... 1955	76	2	2	1	17
..... 1956	---	---	---	---	---
Re-vaccinations	---	---	---	---	17

From the figures relating to diphtheria immunization it can be roughly deduced that about 35% of children are immunized before reaching the age of one year and that this percentage has reached 85 before the children leave school. But why wait! Since obviously 85% of parents eventually agree to this step why not seek protection from the first months of infancy. The wise parents get full value by not brooking delay.

About the same percentage of babies are vaccinated against smallpox but little more vaccination is done later in life except for the purpose of proceeding overseas. To neglect vaccination in infancy is fraught with danger to the individual and the community. The speed of travel has caused the world to shrink and centres of smallpox are no longer 10 - 14 days from England but 5 - 6 hours distant and the numbers travelling from such centres increase day by day. I have yet to see a baby in the district not truly loved by the mother. One factor in the full demonstration of such love is to have the baby vaccinated.



SECTION D.

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD.

Milk.

There are now twenty-eight firms or dealers distributing milk in the district, an increase of six during the year. Licences granted during the year to sell designated milk as provided by the Milk and Dairy Regulations were:-

Dealers' Licences to use the special designation Sterilised	- 1
Dealers' Licences to use the special designation Tuberculin Tested	- 14
Dealers' Licences to use the special designation Pasteurised	- 11
Supplementary Licences to use the special designation Tuberculin Tested	- 14
Supplementary Licences to use the special designation Pasteurised	- 12

Milk Sampling.

Milk supplied in the Rural District is also extensively supplied in the adjacent Urban Areas which enables me to have a better knowledge of its condition than that derived from sampling in the Rural District alone.

Twenty-three samples of tuberculin tested milk from six producers were submitted for examination. Biological examination shewed the milks to be free from tuberculosis. Seven samples from three producers gave positive results for brucellae but in only one sample was it possible to culture the organisms. All the local family doctors are cognisant of the situation and brucellosis is always in mind but no infection in human beings was discovered during the year.

Three samples of Pasteurised milk were satisfactory and one milk examined on suspicions of its being infected with streptococci gave negative results.

I repeat the advice I give annually. The only safe milk to drink is pasteurised milk. No other milk is supplied to any school within the district.

Milk Bottle Washing.

Towards the end of the year the attention of one retailer was directed to his bottle washing machine. A change of method and much education and supervision has led to a great improvement. This process is to be the subject of further investigation.

Ice Cream.

Forty-six premises are now registered for the sale of ice cream. None is manufactured in the District.

Food Premises.

There are sixty-nine food shops, including cafes, and as in previous years the Public Health Inspectors and myself paid many visits to such places and in general a high standard of hygiene was found. The number and condition of sanitary conveniences at licenced houses still leave much to be desired. Five Slaughtermen hold licences and there is one private slaughterhouse in the district. Regular inspections were carried out to ensure compliance with the conditions of the licence.

## SECTION E.

### SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA.

#### Water Supplies.

The Authority controls six sources of supply; two at Codford described as the Codford borehole and the W.D. borehole, the third at Luccombe, near Bratton, a fourth at Diver's Bridge, Chapmanslade, a fifth, taken over during the year, at Longhedge which supplies the village of Corsley, and a small supply in Steeple Ashton.

During the year pumping from the W.D. borehole at Codford ceased.

It is the practice of the Public Health Inspector, who is also the Water Engineer, to supply a copy of the bacteriologist's report to any ratepayer who asks for a supply to be examined. Many misconceptions have arisen as a result of this practice particularly with regard to the safety of small private supplies. Because of this I quote freely from the Ministry of Health's advice contained in the Special Report on the Bacteriological Examination of Water Supplies, Page 1. "Each supply must be judged on the sum of knowledge obtained by topographical and laboratory examination in the light of accumulated hygienic experience of water supplies in general. No bacteriological examination, however careful, can take the place of a complete knowledge of the conditions at the sources of supply and throughout the distribution system. Such contingencies as cesspool leakage and possible faults or fissures in water-bearing strata, casual contamination of gathering grounds, junctions with impure water sources, leaks in water mains, ball-cocks and stop-valves and the effects on these of variations in pressure or of temporary cessation of supply must all be envisaged, since they may more or less abruptly pollute a supply which has previously passed all the laboratory tests. A single laboratory examination of a water, however favourable the result, does not justify the conclusion that all is well and the supply suitable for drinking purposes. The impression of security given by bacteriological testing of a water at lengthy intervals may, in fact, be quite false." Later in the report "The interpretation of the results of bacteriological examination in terms of hygienic quality of water demands not only careful consideration of all the relevant factors, but also considerable experience. It is not the function solely of the Medical Officer of Health and the Sanitary Engineer to make this interpretation; the bacteriologist, as a result of experience, necessarily acquires special knowledge of the significance of both major and minor observations, so that it is both his right and his duty to offer an opinion on the question in his report to the health authority. It cannot yet be said that final decisions have been reached as to the meaning of all the information obtainable in the laboratory; conclusions are still to some extent reflections of individual experience and therefore variable. Hence it is difficult to lay down definite numerical standards with which all waters intended for drinking without treatment should comply. The bacteriological condition of a water has to be considered in relation to many factors such as season, the nature and topography of the source, engineering details of the supply, frequency of examination, etc." And again "Once more the importance of adequate topographical examination must be stressed. No matter how satisfactory the bacteriologist's analysis may be, a water can never be regarded as safe which is exposed to known sources of pollution. Water undertakings are advised to concentrate on the protection of their gathering grounds, and on the adequate treatment of the water supplied, and to use the bacteriologist's report mainly as a check on the success of their endeavours."

Below are the statistics relating to the bacteriology of the supplies within the District. Their interpretation has been a matter in which I have had the closest personal co-operation of Dr. Paul Mann, the Director of the Public Health Laboratory in Bath. We have spent much time together visiting, surveying and discussing the supplies and I again express my deep gratitude for his co-operation. The general conclusion is that a regional supply of wholesome water is imperative. In many villages it is essential to boil water for drinking purposes and many isolated agricultural dwellings are dependant on a polluted well.

CODFORD.

The supply from this borehole has not given the bad results of previous years. It is known to be unsuitable for supply without treatment. During the year the reservoir was treated with anti-rust compound and emulsion paints which resulted in many complaints with regard to the marked odour and taste which developed. Chemical examination was not informative and after a short period the odour and taste disappeared. In the future the Water Engineer has agreed to use different compounds for this purpose.

Sample of Water taken from The Reservoir at Codford.

Received 23.5.56.

Chemical Analysis.

Sample taken following treatment of reservoir with anti-rust compound, red oxide and special emulsion paint, with resultant smell and taste when reservoir was put back into service. Treated with Chlorine.

Physical Characters. Clear colourless water with marked odour and taste.

Tests for Tar Acid and Bases = Negative.

Tests for Zinc and Iron = Negative. Free Chlorine (3.25 p.m. 23.5.56) : Nil.

It is not possible to test for organic poisons. Methods of removal of tastes and odours include aeration, filtration through carbon, and addition of oxidising agents such as chlorine ozone. Chlorination, however, sometimes accentuates tastes and odours. We cannot prove that this water is non-poisonous.

<u>Bacteriological Analysis.</u>			<u>Bact:</u>	<u>Est.</u>	<u>Est.</u>
<u>(a) Untreated Water.</u>			<u>Count</u>	<u>Coli</u>	<u>Faecal</u>
<u>Date.</u>	<u>Source of Supply.</u>	<u>Source of Sample.</u>	<u>Cols:</u>	<u>genes</u>	<u>B.Coli</u>
			<u>per</u>	<u>count</u>	<u>count</u>
			<u>1 m.l</u>	<u>per</u>	<u>per</u>
				<u>100 m.l</u>	<u>100 m.l.</u>
23.2.56	Borehole, Codford. (Surface water)	Borehole, Codford.	-1	-1	Nil
23.2.56	do. (Deep water)	do.	-1	-1	Nil
3.4.56	do. (Deep)	do.	-1	-1	Nil
3.4.56	do. (Surface)	do.	-1	-1	Nil
16.4.56	do. (Deep)	do.	-1	-1	Nil
16.4.56	do. (Surface)	do.	-1	-1	Nil
18.4.56	do. (Surface)	do.	2	-1	Nil
18.4.56	do. (Deep)	do.	-	-1	Nil
25.4.56	do. (Deep)	do.	-1	-1	Nil
25.4.56	do. (Surface)	do.	2	-1	Nil
1.5.56	do. (Deep)	do.	-	-1	Nil
1.5.56	do. (Surface)	do.	2	-1	Nil
3.5.56	do. (Surface)	do.	-1	-1	Nil
3.5.56	do. (Deep)	do.	-1	-1	Nil
9.5.56	do. (Deep)	do.	-1	-1	Nil
9.5.56	do. (Surface)	do.	-1	-1	Nil
16.5.56	do. (Deep)	do.	-1	-1	Nil
16.5.56	do. (Surface)	do.	6	-1	Nil

<u>Codford. (Contd.)</u>			<u>Bact:</u>	<u>Est.</u>	<u>Est.</u>
<u>(a) Untreated water.</u>			<u>Count</u>	<u>Aero-</u>	<u>Faecal</u>
			<u>Colis:</u>	<u>genes</u>	<u>B.Coli</u>
<u>Date.</u>	<u>Source of Supply.</u>	<u>Source of Sample.</u>	<u>per</u>	<u>count</u>	<u>count</u>
			<u>1 m.l</u>	<u>per</u>	<u>per</u>
				<u>100 m.l</u>	<u>100 m.l</u>
23.5.56	Borehole, Codford.	Borehole, Codford.			
	(Surface)	do.			
23.5.56	do. (Deep)	do.	-1	-1	Nil
31.5.56	do. (Surface)	do.	1	-1	Nil
31.5.56	do. (Deep)	do.	-1	-1	Nil
4.6.56	do. (Deep)	do.	-1	-1	Nil
4.6.56	do. (Surface)	do.	-1	-1	Nil
11.6.56	do. (Deep)	do.	-1	-1	Nil
11.6.56	do. (Surface)	do.	-1	-1	Nil
14.6.56	do. (Surface)	do.	350	-1	Nil
14.6.56	do. (Deep)	do.	4	-1	Nil
19.6.56	do. (Deep)	do.	-1	-1	Nil
19.6.56	do. (Surface)	do.	-1	-1	Nil
26.6.56	do. (Surface)	do.	-1	-1	Nil
26.6.56	do. (Deep)	do.	-1	-1	Nil
4.7.56	do. (Deep)	do.	-1	-1	Nil
4.7.56	do. (Surface)	do.		-1	Nil
11.7.56	do. (Deep)	do.	2	-1	Nil
11.7.56	do. (Surface)	do.	-1	-1	Nil
18.7.56	do. (Surface)	do.	-1	-1	Nil
18.7.56	do. (Deep)	do.	-1	-1	Nil
23.7.56	do. (Surface)	do.	-1	-1	Nil
23.7.56	do. (Deep)	do.	-1	-1	Nil
26.7.56	do. (Deep)	do.	-1	-1	Nil
26.7.56	do. (Surface)	do.	-1	-1	Nil
30.7.56	do. (Surface)	do.	-1	-1	Nil
30.7.56	do. (Deep)	do.	-1	-1	Nil
8.8.56	do. (Deep)	do.	-1	-1	Nil
8.8.56	do. (Surface)	do.	357	-1	Nil
13.8.56	do. (Deep)	do.	8	1	1
13.8.56	do. (Surface)	do.	4	-1	Nil
28.8.56	do. (Deep)	do.	1	1	Nil
28.8.56	do. (Surface)	do.	17	-1	Nil
3.9.56	do. (Deep)	do.	-1	-1	Nil
3.9.56	do. (Surface)	do.	1	-1	Nil
3.10.56	do. (Deep)	do.	1	-1	Nil
3.10.56	do. (Surface)	do.	2	-1	Nil
10.10.56	do. (Deep)	do.	104	1	Nil
10.10.56	do. (Surface)	do.		-1	Nil
21.11.56	do. (Surface)	do.		-1	Nil
21.11.56	do. (Deep)	do.		-1	Nil
26.11.56	do. (Deep)	do.		-1	Nil
26.11.56	do. (Surface)	do.		-1	Nil
18.12.56	do. (Deep)	do.		1	Nil
18.12.56	do. (Surface)	do.		-1	Nil

(b) Treated Water.

9.1.56	Tap in Pumphouse, Codford.	do.	1	-1	Nil
24.1.56	do.	do.	-1	-1	Nil
23.2.56	do.	do.	1	-1	Nil
20.3.56	do.	do.	1	-1	Nil
3.4.56	do.	do.	-1	-1	Nil
16.4.56	do.	do.	-1	-1	Nil
18.4.56	do.	do.	-1	-1	Nil
25.4.56	do.	do.	-1	-1	Nil
1.5.56	do.	do.	-1	-1	Nil
3.5.56	do.	do.	-1	-1	Nil
9.5.56	do.	do.	-1	-1	Nil
16.5.56	do.	do.	-1	-1	Nil
23.5.56	do.	do.	1	-1	Nil
31.5.56	do.	do.	-1	-1	Nil

(b) <u>Codford (Contd.)</u> <u>Treated Water.</u>	<u>Date.</u>	<u>Source of Supply.</u>	<u>Source of Sample.</u>	<u>Bact:</u>	<u>Est.</u>	<u>Est.</u>
				<u>Count</u>	<u>Coli</u>	<u>Faecal</u>
				<u>Cols:</u>	<u>Aero-</u>	<u>B. Coli</u>
				<u>per</u>	<u>genes</u>	<u>count</u>
				<u>per</u>	<u>count</u>	<u>per</u>
				<u>1 m.l</u>	<u>per</u>	<u>per</u>
					<u>100 m.l</u>	<u>100 m.l</u>
	4. 6.56	Tap in Pumphouse, Codford.	Borehole, Codford.	-1	-1	Nil
	11.6.56	do.	do.	-1	-1	Nil
	14.6.56	do.	do.	-1	-1	Nil
	19.6.56	do.	do.	-1	-1	Nil
	26.6.56	do.	do.	-1	-1	Nil
	4.7.56	do.	do.	-1	-1	Nil
	11.7.56	do.	do.	-1	-1	Nil
	18.7.56	do.	do.	-1	-1	Nil
	23.7.56	do.	do.	-1	-1	Nil
	26.7.56	do.	do.	-1	-1	Nil
	30.7.56	do.	do.	-1	-1	Nil
	8.8.56	do.	do.	2	-1	Nil
	13.8.56	do.	do.	-1	-1	Nil
	28.8.56	do.	do.	-1	-1	Nil
	3.9.56	do.	do.	14	-1	Nil
	3.10.56	do.	do.	9	-1	Nil
	10.10.56	do.	do.		-1	Nil
	18.10.56	Tap, Hillside Cafe, Codford.	do.		-1	Nil
	13.11.56	Tap, Post Office, Codford.	do.		-1	Nil
	26.11.56	Tap, Hillside Cafe, Codford.	do.		13	Nil
	3.12.56	do.	do.		-1	Nil
	10.12.56	Council Houses, Codford.	do.		1	Nil
	18.12.56	do.	do.		-1	Nil

(c) Treated Water.

9.1.56	Tap, Codford Pumphouse.	Ex W.D. Supply.	-1	-1	Nil
24.1.56	do.	do.	-1	-1	Nil
23.2.56	do.	do.	2	-1	Nil

(.....Use discontinued.....)

LUCCOMBE.

This supply is derived from adits driven into the chalk to which surface water has easy access. It is therefore necessary to ensure chlorination. Apart from the lapse in January this was effective.

Bacteriological Analysis.

(a) Treated Water.

9. 1.56	Council House, Bratton.	Luccombe.	3	3	Nil
24. 1.56	The Duke Hotel, Bratton.	do.	60	-1	Nil
7.3. 56	2 Cleeve Terrace, Bratton.	do.	1	-1	Nil
21. 3.56	do.	do.		-1	Nil
1. 5.56	Council House, Bratton.	do.		-1	Nil
16. 5.56	do.	do.		-1	Nil
31. 5.56	do.	do.		-1	Nil
19. 6.56	do.	do.		-1	Nil
26. 6.56	do.	do.		-1	Nil
4. 7.56	do.	do.		-1	Nil
11. 7.56	do.	do.		-1	Nil
18. 7.56	do.	do.		-1	Nil
23. 7.56	do.	do.		1	Nil
30. 7.56	do.	do.		-1	Nil
13. 8.56	do.	do.		-1	Nil
28. 8.56	do.	do.		-1	Nil
13.11.56	do.	do.		-1	Nil
22.11.56	do.	do.		-1	Nil
26.11.56	do.	do.		-1	Nil
3.12.56	do.	do.		-1	Nil

<u>Luccombe (Contd.)</u>			<u>Est.</u>	<u>Est.</u>
<u>(b) Treated Water.</u>		<u>Bact:</u>	<u>Coli</u>	<u>Faecal</u>
		<u>Count</u>	<u>genes</u>	<u>B.Coli</u>
		<u>Cols:</u>	<u>count</u>	<u>count</u>
<u>Date.</u>	<u>Source of Supply.</u>	<u>per</u>	<u>per</u>	<u>per</u>
	<u>Source of Sample.</u>	<u>1 m.1</u>	<u>100 m.1</u>	<u>100 m.1</u>
24.9.56	New Inn, Hinton.	Luccombe	-1	Nil

(c) Untreated Water.

9. 1.56	Collecting Chamber.	do.	2	-1	Nil
24. 1.56	do.	do.	20	3	3
7. 3.56	do.	do.		-1	Nil
21. 3.56	do.	do.		-1	Nil
18. 4.56	do.	do.		1	Nil
1. 5.56	do.	do.		-1	Nil
16. 5.56	do.	do.		-1	Nil.
11. 6.56	do.	do.		3	1
26. 6.56	do.	do.		-1	Nil.
11. 7.56	do.	do.		1	Nil
3. 9.56	do.	do.		-1	Nil

During a dry period the Water Engineer reported his doubts as to whether the supply could be maintained and it was suggested that water be pumped from the lake below the adits. Two samples were taken with this purpose in mind but topographical survey shewed the water to be certain to be polluted and unsuitable for supply without much treatment, which could not be given.

3.10.56	Lake, Luccombe House.	Luccombe.		180+	18+
15.11.56	do.	do.		5	1

WESTBURY AND DILTON MARSH.

This Water Board supplies water to Dilton Marsh from its source at Wellhead. The water has been of the highest standard throughout the year.

1. 5.56	Council House, Dilton Marsh.	W. and D.M. Supply		-1	Nil
12.9.56	do.	do.		-1	Nil

TROWBRIDGE AND MELKSHAM WATER BOARD.

This Authority supplies water to Upton Scudamore, Southwick, North Bradley, and Heywood. The unsatisfactory samples noted below were reported to the Water Engineer who took the necessary steps to ensure more efficient treatment and a wholesome supply was proved by his sampling.

9. 1.56	Council House, Upton Scudamore.	Trowbridge, Melksham and District Water Board.	-1	-1	Nil
10.10.56	do.	do.		3	3
21.11.56	do.	do.		-1	Nil
3.12.56	do.	do.		5	Nil
12. 9.56	Council Houses, North Bradley.	do.		-1	Nil
24. 9.56	49 Woodmarsh, North Bradley.	do.		5	1

The following reports or samples taken in the Rural District were submitted by the Engineer to the Trowbridge, Melksham and District Water Board:

Date.	Source of Sample.	Bact:	Est.	Est.
		Count	Coli	Faecal
		Cols:	Aero-	B.Coli
		per	genes	count
		1 m.1	count	per
			per	100 m.1
			100 m.1	100 m.1
10.10.56	Tap (Upton Scudamore Waterworks.)	Nil	Nil	Nil
10.10.56	Tap, 49 Eastcotes, North Bradley.	Nil	Nil	Nil
17.10.56	Upton Scudamore Tank.	1	3	Nil
17.10.56	Tap, Council House, Upton Scudamore.	3	Nil	Nil
17.10.56	Council House, Upton Scudamore.	1	Nil	Nil
17.10.56	Tap on Upton Main at Waterworks.	2	Nil	Nil
19.11.56	Tap on delivery main of No.2 Borehole.	3	Nil	Nil
19.11.56	Tap on delivery main from No.3 Borehole.	Nil	Nil	Nil
19.11.56	Tapping on delivery main from No.4 "	Nil	Nil	Nil
19.11.56	Tap on No.5 Borehole Pump.	2	Nil	Nil
19.11.56	Tapping on Pump to Upton Scudamore Village.	3	Nil	Nil
17.12.56	Tapping on pump to Upton Scudamore Village.	Nil	Nil	Nil

#### HEYTESBURY.

This village supply was derived from a well adjacent to the River Wylve. The shallow well was open to pollution and the village was given a supply from the Codford source in 1957.

24. 1.56	The Angel Hotel, Heytesbury.	Heytesbury Estate Supply.	-1	1	1
20. 3.56	Messrs. Sharp's, Heytesbury.	do.		-1	Nil
3. 5.56	Council House, Heytesbury.	do.		-1	Nil
13.11.56	Sharp's, Heytesbury.	do.		3	3

#### SUTTON VENY.

This village is supplied from a source at Swancombe which was controlled by the War Department. Chlorination at the Reservoir gave satisfactory results.

9. 1.56	Standpipe outside No.106 Sutton Veny.	(W.D.Supply) Swancombe Springs, Shearwater.	1	-1	Nil
20.3. 56	Standpipe outside Wool Pack, Sutton Veny.	do.		-1	Nil
25. 4.56	do.	do.		-1	Nil
4. 6.56	Council House, Sutton Veny.	do.		-1	Nil
26. 6.56	Standpipe, Woodpack, Sutton Veny.	do.		-1	Nil
13.11.56	do.	do.		-1	Nil

#### CHITTERNE.

Part of the village is supplied from War Department sources and chlorination has been effective. The other part is given water from a private supply.

16. 2.56	93 Shrewton Road, Chitterne.	Stratton's Supply.	2	1	Nil
16. 2.56	Council House, Chitterne.	W.D.Supply	-1	-1	Nil
16. 2.56	Post Office, Chitterne.	do.	2	-1	Nil
14. 6.56	New Council Houses, Chitterne.	do.		-1	Nil

Chitterne (Contd.)

Date.	Source of Supply.	Source of Sample.	Bact:	Est.	Est.
			Count	Coli	Faecal
			Cols:	Aero-	B.Coli
			per	genes	count
			1 m.1	count	per
				per	100 m.1
				100 m.1	
18.10.56	Council House, Chitterne.	W.D.Supply.		-1	Nil
18.10.56	Standpipe, Shrewton Road, Chitterne.	do.		-1	Nil
26.11.56	93 Shrewton Road, Chitterne.	Stratton's Supply.		-1	Nil
26.11.56	Council House, Chitterne.	W.D.Supply.		-1	Nil
26.11.56	Post Office, Chitterne.	do.		-1	Nil

UNTRATED WATER.Divers Bridge.

Water is pumped from the collecting chamber at Divers Bridge to the reservoir supplying the village of Chapmanslade. This water is subject to intermittent pollution and attempts to sterilise it by hand dosage of hypochloride to the reservoir were not successful. The users have been advised to boil this water before drinking it.

18.4.56	Council House, Chapmanslade.	Springs, Divers Bridge, Chapmanslade.		-1	Nil
8.8.56	Pumping Station, Chapmanslade.	do.		-1	Nil
15.8.56	do.	do.		-1	Nil
12.9.56	Council House, Chapmanslade.	do.		18+	18+
12.9.56	Collecting Chamber, Divers Bridge, Chapmanslade.	do.		1	
18.9.56	do.	do.		1	1
24.9.56	do.	do.		-1	Nil
9.10.56	do.	do.		24	Nil
18.10.56	do.	do.		24	Nil
13.11.56	do.	do.		-1	Nil
13.11.56	Council House, Chapmanslade.	do.		-1	Nil
21.11.56	Collecting Chamber, Divers Bridge, Chapmanslade.	do.		-1	Nil
26.11.56	do.	do.		-1	Nil
3.12.56	do.	do.		1	Nil
10.12.56	do.	do.		-1	Nil
18.12.56	do.	do.		1	1
18.12.56	do.	do.		-1	Nil

CORSLEY.

This village receives a supply derived from a source at Longhedge previously owned by the Longleat Estate. The few samples were satisfactory.

7.3.56	The Royal Oak, Corsley.	Longleat Supply.	-1	-1	Nil
18.9.56	Council House, Corsley.	do.		-1	Nil
18.10.56	do.	do.		-1	Nil
10.12.56	do.	do.		-1	Nil

HORNINGSHAM.

Both supplies owned by the Longleat Estate are subject to pollution and users have been boiling the water for drinking purposes for some years.

17.3.56	The Bath Arms, Horningsham	Horningsham	-1	-1	Nil
18.9.56	do.	Supply.		24	1
10.12.56	do.	do.		-1	Nil



THE DEVERILLS AND RYE HILL.

Longbridge-Deverill (and part of Crockerton) is supplied from the source at Swancombe. The supply is subject to pollution and the Engineers state it is impracticable to chlorinate it. The users are advised to boil the water before using it for drinking. Similarly the small supplies to Rye Hill, Monkton Deverill and Hill Deverill are intermittently polluted and boiling is advised.

<u>Date.</u>	<u>Source of Supply.</u>	<u>Source of Sample.</u>	<u>Bact:</u>	<u>Est.</u>	<u>Est.</u>
			<u>Count</u>	<u>Coli</u>	<u>Faecal</u>
			<u>Coli</u>	<u>Aero-</u>	<u>B.Coli</u>
			<u>count</u>	<u>genes</u>	<u>count</u>
			<u>per</u>	<u>per</u>	<u>per</u>
			<u>1 m.l.</u>	<u>100 m.l</u>	<u>100 m.l</u>
16.2.56	52 Longbridge Deverill.	Longleat Estate Supply.	-1	-1	Nil
10.12.56	53 Longbridge Deverill.	do.		3	3
18.9.56	Council House, Crockerton.	do.		-1	Nil
10.12.56	Council Houses, Rye Hill.	Rye Hill Farm Supply.		-1	Nil
18.9.56	Council House, Monkton Deverill.	Shallow Well.		35	Nil

EAST COULSTON.

This supply is intermittently polluted and is being investigated. The Public Health Inspector is finding out which properties are connected and users are advised to boil the water.

21.3.56	Tap in house, East Coulston.	Baynton House Supply.		3	Nil
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STEEPLE ASHTON.

This small supply was brought into use when the Luccombe supply was low. Little is known of it and the water in the Reservoir was dosed by hand.

3.10.56	House, 4 Ashton Common.	Luccombe		-1	Nil
3.10.56	Pumphouse, Steeple Ashton.	Well, Steeple Ashton.		.8	Nil
10.10.56	do.	Luccombe		-1	Nil
10.10.56	House, 4 Ashton Common	do.		-1	Nil
18.10.56	Pumphouse, Steeple Ashton	Well, Steeple Ashton.		-1	Nil
18.10.56	House, 4 Ashton Common	Luccombe		-1	Nil
22.11.56	Chestnut Cottage, Ashton Common.	do.		-1	Nil
26.11.56	Tap, Ashton Common.	do.		-1	Nil

STOCKTON.

There are two separate supplies under private ownership to this village.

(a) Stockton Estate.

This supply to the western part of the village has been satisfactory throughout the year.

(a) Stockton Estate (Contd.)

Date.	Source of Supply.	Source of Sample.	Bact: Count Cols: per 1 m.l	Est.	Est.
				Coli Aero- genes count per 100 m.l	Faecal B.Coli count per 100 m.l
24. 1.56	Standpipe, opp. Carrier's Arms, Stockton.	Stockton Estate Supply.	1	-1	Nil
16. 2.56	do.	do.	-1	-1	Nil
23. 2.56	do.	do.	1	-1	Nil
7. 3.56	do.	do.	-1	-1	Nil
20. 3.56	do.	do.		-1	Nil
3. 4.56	do.	do.		-1	Nil
16. 4.56	do.	do.		-1	Nil
18. 4.56	do.	do.		-1	Nil
25. 4.56	do.	do.		-1	Nil
3. 5.56	do.	do.		-1	Nil
9. 5.56	do.	do.		-1	Nil
23. 5.56	do.	do.		-1	Nil
31. 5.56	do.	do.		-1	Nil
4. 6.56	do.	do.		-1	Nil
11. 6.56	do.	do.		-1	Nil
14. 6.56	do.	do.		-1	Nil
19. 6.56	do.	do.		-1	Nil
4. 7.56	do.	do.		-1	Nil
11. 7.56	do.	do.		-1	Nil
18. 7.56	do.	do.		-1	Nil
23. 7.56	do.	do.		-1	Nil
30. 7.56	do.	do.		-1	Nil
8. 8.56	do.	do.		-1	Nil
13. 8.56	do.	do.		-1	Nil
28. 8.56	do.	do.		-1	Nil
3. 9.56	do.	do.		-1	Nil
3. 10.56	do.	do.		-1	Nil
10. 10.56	do.	do.		-1	Nil
13. 11.56	do.	do.		-1	Nil
3. 12.56	do.	do.		-1	Nil
18. 12.56	do.	do.		-1	Nil

(b) Yeatman-Biggs' Supply.

This supply from a bore south of the Railway has shown intermittent pollution. During 1957 this became much worse and users were advised to boil water for drinking purposes until a wholesome supply could be assured.

16. 2.56	Council House, Stockton.	Yeatman-Biggs' Supply.	-1	-1	Nil
23. 2.56	do.	do.	-1	-1	Nil
7. 3.56	do.	do.	-1	-1	Nil
20. 3.56	do.	do.		-1	Nil
3. 4.56	do.	do.		-1	Nil
16. 4.56	do.	do.		-1	Nil
18. 4.56	do.	do.		-1	Nil
25. 4.56	do.	do.		-1	Nil
3. 5.56	do.	do.		-1	Nil
9. 5.56	do.	do.		-1	Nil
23. 5.56	do.	do.		-1	Nil
31. 5.56	do.	do.		-1	Nil
4. 6.56	do.	do.		-1	Nil
11. 6.56	do.	do.		17	Nil
14. 6.56	do.	do.		-1	Nil
19. 6.56	do.	do.		-1	Nil
4. 7.56	do.	do.		1	1
11. 7.56	do.	do.		11	11
18. 7.56	do.	do.		2	2
19. 7.56	do.	do.		3	3
23. 7.56	do.	do.		1	1
30. 7.56	do.	do.		-1	Nil

<u>STOCKTON.</u>			<u>Bact:</u>	<u>Est.</u>	<u>Est.</u>
(b) <u>Yeatman-Biggs' Supply. (Contd.)</u>			<u>Count</u>	<u>Aero-</u>	<u>Faecal</u>
<u>Date.</u>	<u>Source of Sample.</u>	<u>Source of Sample.</u>	<u>Cols:</u>	<u>genes</u>	<u>B.Coli</u>
			<u>per</u>	<u>count</u>	<u>count</u>
			<u>1 m.l</u>	<u>per</u>	<u>per</u>
				<u>100 m.l</u>	<u>100 m.l</u>
8.8.56	Council Houses, Stockton.	Yeatman-Biggs' Supply.		1	1
28.8.56	do.	do.		3	3
3.9.56	do.	do.		92	18+
3.10.56	do.	do.		3	3
10.10.56	do.	do.		5	5
13.11.56	Stockton School	do.		1	Nil
3.12.56	do.	do.		1	Nil
18.12.56	Council House, Stockton.	do.		54	13+

The general conclusion is that a regional supply of wholesome water is imperative. In many villages it is essential to boil water for drinking purposes and many isolated agricultural dwellings are dependent on a polluted well.

#### ATMOSPHERIC POLLUTION.

The Local Authority co-operates with the Department of Scientific and Industrial Research in the National Survey of atmospheric pollution. Data is now available for this rural area which would permit comparison should a cement works operate in the area, at a later date.

The apparatus used is that approved by the D.S.I.R. consisting of a glass collecting funnel of known area which feeds into a bottle of about 10 litres capacity. The bottle is changed each month and the sample bottle submitted to the Public Analyst for the City of Bristol. Examination reveals the rainfall and the amount of soluble and insoluble matter deposited during the period. A period of eleven months in 1956 gave the following figures for the Rural District Gauge and I am indebted to the Public Analyst for the use of the other figures for comparison.

	<u>Total Annual Deposit</u>	<u>Total Rainfall</u>
	<u>Tons per sq.mile.</u>	<u>in inches.</u>
Zoological Gardens, Bristol.	100.83	26.86
South Road, Portishead.	202.54	24.87
Street Farm, Dursley, Glos.	72.23	24.57
Fullingbridge Farm, Warminster and Westbury R.D.	48.47	20.57

Mr. W.F.C. Merrett, Senior Public Health Inspector, reports as follows:-

SEWERAGE.

The position of sewage disposal within the district continues to be extremely difficult owing to greater use being made of the recently available water supplies and use by a large number of inhabitants of the Council's powers to give Improvement Grants for the installation of bathrooms and waterborne sanitation. Coupled with this situation is the ever increasing number of small sewage disposal plants on Council House Estates which now need even more careful maintenance owing to difficulty in disposing of the resulting effluent.

There are fifty seven plants of various types and sizes most of which discharge their effluent to ditches. These have to be maintained in addition to the great amount of ditch cleansing by five men.

The work of emptying the various septic tanks is still carried out by The Cleansing Service (Southern Counties) Ltd., of Botley and owing to the expenditure involved I repeat my suggestion that it would be an economical proposition for the Council to purchase and use a cesspool emptying vehicle of their own.

HOUSING.

(a) Future Housing Programme.

The Council decided during the year to cease building operations. The matter was twice reviewed during the year and is to be again reviewed in 1957.

(b) Private Enterprise Housing.

Eighteen houses were completed during the year and thirteen were under construction at the end of December, 1956.

(c) Improvement Grants.

Much greater demand for these facilities was forthcoming during the year and in all twenty-six applications in respect of forty-three properties were received. Twenty-five of these, in respect of forty-two properties were approved and one was refused. Two applications in respect of three houses were later withdrawn. It is pleasing to note that so many members of the public are taking advantage of this scheme which not only helps to provide amenities which are essential to the present day community, but also raises the rateable value of the district which in time will offset any expenditure incurred by this Council.

(d) Housing Repairs and Rents Act.

No application for certificates of disrepair were received during 1956.

(e) Housing Act, 1936, and Public Health Act, 1936.

Four Informal Notices were served. Two of these, together with two carried over from 1955, were complied with by the end of the year.

(f) Camps and Requisitioned Property.

Only one hut is still in use as living accommodation at Keever Hill, all other sites have now been closed.

## TENTS, VANS AND SHEDS.

One of the two licensed sites was greatly improved during the year by the provision of Waterborne Sanitation and the permitted number of caravans was increased to thirty.

There are still a number of individual caravans sited in the district but where possible, applicants are requested to site their caravans on a licensed site either in this or adjoining districts.

## REFUSE DISPOSAL.

Difficulty in disposing of paper and cardboard waste was experienced during the year and this was accentuated by the imposition of petrol rationing at the end of the period under review. No cut was made in the allocation of fuel for the refuse vehicle and regular collections were thus maintained.

A bulldozer was employed at Knook and Penleigh Tips during the year on levelling and general tidying up.

## RODENT CONTROL.

No. of Complaints.....		74
No. of dwellinghouses and business premises inspections and re-inspections. ....	2,226	
No. of Agricultural inspections and re-inspections .....	220	2,446
No. of dwellinghouses and business premises found infested .....	481	
No. of Agricultural properties found infested .....	112	
No. of dwellinghouses and business premises treated by Local Authority...	391	
No. of Agricultural properties treated by Local Authority .....	6	

## CONTROL OF VERMIN AND VERMINOUS PREMISES.

The few infestations reported to this Department were all dealt with satisfactorily.

## FACTORIES.

The number of factories on the register at the end of 1956 is thirty-seven. No action was required during the year. One hundred and fifty two outworkers were employed in the district, mainly on glovemaking.

## ATMOSPHERIC POLLUTION.

The dust gauge was moved in October, to a new site at Crossroads Farm, Edington, and the deposits are measured monthly by the City Analyst of Bristol. Thanks are due to the farmer concerned who has given his fullest co-operation in the siting of the gauge and also to the City Analyst at Bristol and his staff.

## WATER SUPPLY.

The mains previously owned by the Longleat Estate serving the parish of Corsley were taken over during the year and some work has been carried out to improve the supply position.

Negotiations to take over the mains etc. in the parish of Heytesbury are continuing and it is hoped that final details will be settled early in 1957.

Due to breakdowns in the equipment owned by The Heytesbury Estate a supply was given to this parish through a connecting link at Knock, from the R.D.C. source at Codford.

As in previous years an acute shortage of water was experienced at Luccombe Springs and various arrangements were made to maintain the supply to the North Eastern Area in case of need.

The Pumphouse at Steeple Ashton was brought into use for a short time to augment the supply to the villages of Steeple Ashton and Great Hinton.

Considerable trouble has again been experienced during the year with the mains in the North Eastern Area which were laid in 1949/1950, bursts having occurred at widely separated points. Investigations as to the cause of failure have been carried out, the results of which have shown that a seam of clay, noted for its corroding effect runs along the line of main from Edington to Keevil. A further small seam has been traced in the Bratton/Caps Lane area. It is the Council's intention to relay the 5" main from Edington to Bulkington/Keevil junction with lengths of asbestos pipe as it becomes necessary.

### Number of dwellinghouses supplied direct from Public Water Mains.

<u>Parish.</u>	<u>No. of Dwellinghouses at</u>			
	<u>31.12.53.</u>	<u>31.12.54.</u>	<u>31.12.55.</u>	<u>31.12.56.</u>
Bratton .....	194	205	208	209
Bishopstrow .....	46	46	46	46
Bulkington .....	60	63	63	63
Chapmanslade .....	124	126	130	131
Codford .....	92	94	102	107
Corsley .....				200
Dilton Marsh .....	376	376	376	376
East Coulston .....	23	25	25	25
Edington .....	146	152	178	180
Heywood .....	133	135	135	135
Hinton .....	75	76	77	77
Keevil .....	77	79	81	83
North Bradley .....	278	278	278	281
Steeple Ashton .....	213	218	222	227
Sutton Veny .....	135	136	138	138
Southwick .....	175	176	176	177
Upton Scudamore .....	45	45	46	48
Upton Level .....	31	37	41	43
West Ashton .....	45	47	52	52

### Number of Dwellinghouses supplied by means of Standpipes from Public Mains.

<u>Parish.</u>	<u>No. of Dwellinghouses at</u>			
	<u>31.12.53.</u>	<u>31.12.54.</u>	<u>31.12.55.</u>	<u>31.12.56.</u>
Sutton Veny .....	30	30	29	26
Upton Scudamore .....	8	8	8	8
East Coulston .....	1	1	-	1

FOOD HYGIENE REGULATIONS, 1955/1956.

These regulations were brought to the notice of all persons concerned and advice given where necessary.

MEAT AND FOOD INSPECTION.

The work of inspecting carcasses at the licensed slaughterhouse proceeded smoothly and details of the inspections are given below. The condition of this slaughterhouse and of butchers shops generally has been satisfactory.

Carcasses and offal inspected and condemned in whole or part:

	Cattle exclud- ing Cows	Cows	Calves	Sheep and Lambs	Pigs	Horses
Number killed (if known)	73	15	60	100	103	-
Number inspected	73	15	60	100	103	
<b>ALL DISEASES EXCEPT TUBERCULOSIS AND CYSTICERCI.</b>						
Whole carcasses condemned	1	-	-	-	-	-
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	8	1	1	-	4	-
Percentage of number inspected affected with disease other than Tuberculosis and Cysticerci	12.3%	6.6%	1.7%	-	3.8%	-
<b>TUBERCULOSIS ONLY</b>						
Whole carcasses condemned	-	-	-	-	-	-
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	4	-	1	1	2	-
Percentage of the number inspected affected with Tuberculosis	5.4%	-	1.7%	1%	1.8%	-
<b>CYSTICEROSIS</b>						
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	9	-	-	-	-	-
Carcasses submitted to treatment by Refrigeration	-	-	-	-	-	-
Generalised and totally condemned	-	-	-	-	-	-

## INSPECTIONS OF THE DISTRICT.

The following is a summary of inspections and visits made during 1956:-

No. of complaints	125
No. of inspections	73
Pests and vermin	8
Infectious diseases	5
Disinfection and fumigation	4
Fly infestations	4
Tents, Vans, Sheds	69
Water supplies and samples	485
Drainage, Sewage Works, Ditches	345
Factories with power	3
Factories without power	1
<u>Housing and Public Health Acts.</u>	
Houses inspected	123
Re-visits to above	120
New cases of overcrowding	2
Re-visits to above	3
Cases abated	1
Meat and Food inspections	156
Slaughterhouses	143
Butchers Shops	24
Dairies	33
Stalls and Vehicles	2
Bakehouses	1
Cafes	10
Ice Cream Premises	10
Grocers Shops	3
Fried Fish Shops	1
Licensed Premises	8
Visits re Milk Samples	22
Refuse Disposal	111
Atmospheric Pollution	27
Improvement Grants	127
Works in Progress	281
Town and Country Planning and Building Byelaws	72
Water Tests to Drains	77
Council Estates	24
Petroleum Acts	3
Miscellaneous Visits	89

### Miscellaneous goods condemned during 1956.

No goods were condemned during the year (for meat see table on previous page.)

At the present time any food condemned is returned by the retailer to his wholesaler together with a certificate from this Authority. Efforts are being made to arrange for the wholesaler to provide a copy of the receipt, issued to the retailer, to this Department.



FACTORIES ACTS, 1937 and 1948.

1. INSPECTIONS for purposes of provisions as to health  
(including inspections made by Public Health Inspectors).

Premises	Number on Register	Number of		
		Inspections	Written notices	Occupiers prosecuted
i) Factories in which Sections 1,2,3,4 and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities	3	-	-	-
ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority.	32	17	-	-
iii) Other Premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding out-workers' premises).	2	10	-	-
TOTAL	37	27	Nil	Nil

2. CASES IN WHICH DEFECTS WERE FOUND.

Particulars	Number of cases in which defects were found				Number of cases in which prosecutions were instituted.
	Found	Remedied	Referred to H.M. Inspector	by H.M. Inspector	
Sanitary Conveniences (S.7)-					
(a) Insufficient	-	-	-	-	-
(b) Unsuitable or defective	-	-	-	-	-
TOTAL	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil

OUTWORK (Sections 110 and 111)

No. of out-workers in August  
list required by Sect.110(1)(c).

Wearing apparel (making, etc.)	144
Umbrellas, etc.	7
Basket making	1

TOTAL ..... 152

HOUSING ACTS, 1936 - 1954.

Total number of permanent dwellings in district 1956, December.....	4,248
Total number of permanent dwellings owned by local authority	549
Number of temporary dwellings occupied .....	9
Number of houses unfit for human habitation within the meaning of Section 9 Housing Repairs and Rent Act, 1954, and suitable for action under Section 11 or Section 25 Housing Act, 1956 .....	68
<u>Action during year.</u>	
1. Number of houses in Clearance Areas for which	
(a) Clearance Orders have been made .....	Nil
(b) Compulsory Purchase Order made .....	Nil
(c) Purchased by agreement .....	Nil
2. Number of houses in Clearance Areas still to be made ....	Nil
3. Number of houses in Clearance Areas which have been patched for temporary accommodation under Section 2 Housing Repairs and Rents Act, 1954.....	Nil
4. Number of houses demolished under Section 25 Housing Act, 1936 .....	Nil
5. Number of houses demolished under Section 11 Housing Act, 1936 .....	1
6. Number temporary dwellings demolished .....	1
7. Number houses closed as result of Closing Orders or undertakings by owners .....	1
8. Number of unfit houses occupied under licence .....	Nil
9. Number of houses overcrowded .....	Unknown
10. <u>Number of houses made fit during year.</u>	
(a) Informal action .....	49
(b) Statutory action .....	Nil
11. <u>Estimated number of houses required.</u>	
(a) To replace houses scheduled for demolition .....	68
(b) To abate overcrowding .....	Unknown
(c) For other purposes .....	Unknown
12. Number of applications for Council houses at end of year.	No waiting list kept.
13. Number of Council houses sold during year .....	Nil





