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**Borough of Yeovil**

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**ANNUAL REPORT**

OF THE

**MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH**

FOR THE YEAR ENDED

**31st DECEMBER, 1967**



B O R O U G H   O F   Y E O V I L

-----:::-----

Mayor:

ALDERMAN FRANCIS LEONARD MOON

Deputy Mayor:


ALDERMAN IVY SEED

PUBLIC HEALTH COMMITTEE

Alderman Mrs. H. C. Brown	:	Chairman
Alderman J. P. Kelly	:	Vice-Chairman
Councillor E. C. G. Fear		
Councillor S. C. Harding		
Councillor G. D. Blake		
Councillor Mrs. A. Cousins		

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH

Medical Officer of Health and School Medical Officer	:	P. POWER FOX, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.
Deputy Medical Officer of Health (Assistant County Medical Officer)		M. I. ROSS, M.B. Ch.B., D.P.H.
Chief Public Health Inspector	:	C. G. H. RICE, F.A.P.H.I.
Deputy Chief Public Health Inspector	:	D. F. ANTHONY, M.A.P.H.I.
Public Health Inspectors	:	G. E. ROADHOUSE, M.A.P.H.I. (retired) P. WARREN-TIBBETTS, M.A.P.H.I.



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TO THE  
MAYOR, ALDERMEN AND COUNCILLORS  
OF THE  
YEOVIL BOROUGH COUNCIL

Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to present my Annual Report for the year 1967

VITAL STATISTICS

Births

The total number of live births during the year was 351, as compared with 404 for the previous year. The Standardised Birth Rate was 14.6, as compared with 16.8 for the previous year. The rate for England and Wales was 17.2.

Deaths

The number of deaths of infants under the age of one year was 3, as compared with 9 for the previous year. The Infant Mortality Rate (i.e. deaths under 1 year per 1 000 live births) was 9, as compared with 22.5 for the previous year. The rate for England and Wales was 18.3. The Perinatal Mortality Rate was 8, as compared with 31.4 for the previous year. The rate for England and Wales was 25.4.

The Standardised Death Rate of the general population was 10.2, as compared with 11.2 for the previous year. The rate for England and Wales was 11.2. Of the total deaths of all ages, namely 299, 138 occurred in people aged 75 years and over. As in previous years, the greatest cause of death was heart disease - 102.

Infectious Diseases

The number of cases of infectious diseases notified was 80, as compared with 426 for the previous year. The decrease was mainly accounted for by the decrease in the number of cases of Measles notified, 67 in 1967, as compared with 410 in 1966.

Immunisation

A feature of previous Annual Reports has been a table setting out the number of children, and the percentage immunised against various infectious diseases. These figures were of value, since if the percentage fell below which would ensure "herd immunity", an outbreak of a particular infectious disease could occur, and therefore a fall below the level of "herd immunity" called for an intensification by all concerned to rectify what could be a dangerous state of affairs. Apart from this specific point, immunisation was also an indication of the public's concern regarding health, and bore the same relationship as Tuberculosis and Infant Mortality statistics previously had, reference the health of the community. It is regretted that the County Medical Officer of Health has stated that these figures will no longer be available.

As in my previous Annual Reports, I should like to record my appreciation of the help and co-operation received from the Council, from the Public Health Committee and from the members of the Staff.

I have the honour to be,  
Your obedient servant,

P. P. Fox  
Medical Officer of Health.

## YEOVIL BOROUGH

### STATISTICS OF THE AREA FOR THE YEAR 1967

Area (in acres)	...	...	...	2,372
Rateable Value (31.3.68)	...	...	...	£1,291,552
Estimated Produce of 1 rate (31.3.68)	...	...	...	£5,206
No. of inhabited houses	...	...	...	8,215
Population	...	...	...	25,450

### PHYSICAL FEATURES AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS

The Borough of Yeovil comprises an area of 2,372 acres, and is situated at the extreme South of the County of Somerset, on the border of Dorset, in the midst of an agricultural area.

The town is located on the Upper and Middle Liassic Formation; the sub-soil is chiefly clay, lying upon marlstone, with the Midford Sands at Hendford Hill.

### WATER SUPPLY

The water supply is derived from various sources, the majority being situated in Dorset. The sources of supply are as follows:- Spring Pond (two springs), Evershot Tunnel, Upper Haydon Wood, Stockwood and the Cattistock source, which consists of four boreholes. All the water is chlorinated, and frequent bacteriological analyses show the water to be satisfactory in quality. The present demand for the Borough is  $1\frac{1}{2}$  million gallons per day, which necessitates the water supply from the above sources being supplemented with water derived from the Sutton Bingham Reservoir.

### METEOROLOGY

The climate is mild and relaxing. There is little fog or mist.

### RAINFALL

Total rainfall = Pen Mill - 33.05 (33.84 in 1966)

### OCCUPATION

One of the main industries of Yeovil is in the manufacture of leather gloves, and includes all processes from the preparation of the raw hides to the production of the finished article. This trade gives factory and home employment to a large number of both sexes.

In addition to the gloving industry, there is a thriving aircraft industry and other light engineering industries. There is also a large factory for the manufacture of preserved foods and dairy produce.



## YEovil HOSPITAL

The Hospital Services in the Borough are administered by the South Somerset Hospital Management Committee, under the general direction of the South Western Regional Hospital Board. Situated in the Borough are:-

- (1) Yeovil & District Hospital - an acute general hospital.
- (2) Summerlands Hospital - mainly used as a geriatric hospital.
- (3) \*Yeovil Maternity Hospital (Five Crossways - 14 beds
- (4) \*Balidon Maternity Unit (G.P. Unit) - 17 beds

\*Yeovil Maternity Hospital and Balidon closed when the new maternity unit at Yeovil General Hospital was opened in July, 1967. 44 beds.

Yeovil Hospital consists of 92 beds, of which 6 beds are private. The number of patients discharged throughout the year was 3,175 (2,941 in 1966). In addition 6,598 new patients attended the Specialist and Out-patient Clinics, making a total number of 28,745 attendances. In addition, there were 2,303 attendances at the Orthoptic Department, and 36,649 units of work were carried out in the Radiological Department. Plus 10,095 casualty attendances.

## INFECTIOUS DISEASES

Cases of infectious diseases requiring hospital treatment are treated at South Petherton Hospital (50 beds). In general, only the Cubicle Block (10 beds) is required, and the other 40 beds are utilized for post-operative cases, so relieving the strain on Yeovil Hospital and for General Practitioner patients and semi-chronic sick.

## TUBERCULOSIS

A Chest Clinic is held on Mondays and Wednesdays at the Yeovil Hospital. Patients requiring in-patient treatment are admitted to Sanatoria at Taunton.

## CHRONIC SICK

Summerlands (100 beds), which is situated in Yeovil Borough, is the largest hospital in the area used for this purpose. This hospital was originally a Poor Law Institute built in 1837, and the lay-out etc., does not conform with the accepted standards of today. Further, there is a shortage of nursing staff, but despite these handicaps, valuable work is carried out by the staff of the hospital.

## LABORATORY SERVICE

A laboratory is located at Yeovil Hospital. The Public Health Laboratory Service has a laboratory at Taunton, at which bacteriological examination of swab, blood, sputum and faeces is carried out. Bacteriological and chemical analyses for the examination of milk, foods, water supplies and sewage effluents are also carried out.

## HOUSING

I am indebted to the Housing Manager for the resume showing the number of council houses erected by the Corporation.

Houses, etc., completed during the year ended 31.12.67	=	180
Houses, etc., erected post-war	=	1,783
Houses, etc., sold post-war	=	115
Houses erected by the Local Authority and still owned by them	=	3,168
No. of applicants on the waiting list as at 31.12.67	=	505

(The above figures do not include prefabricated bungalows.)

During the year ending 31st December, 1967, four "Duplex" flats have been converted into two 3 bedroom houses, four "converted" flats have been re-converted into two 3 bedroom houses and four old peoples flats have been converted into two 1 bedroom flats.



# VITAL STATISTICS OF THE YEAR

The statistics furnished by the Registrar General show the number of births and deaths after correction has been made for transfer to the normal place of residence of the individuals concerned. From these figures can be calculated the "crude" birth and death rates. As, however, the highest mortality occurs at the two extremes of life, and industrial areas in general have a bigger proportion of people living in the middle age periods of life, some correction must be made for the irregularities of distribution as regards age and sex as otherwise the death rate will afford no accurate means of comparing the healthiness of one district with another. This comparability factor is furnished by the Registrar General and applied to the "crude" birth or death rate, gives a standardised rate and enables comparison to be made with the rate for England and Wales, or with rates of other districts.

		England & Wales
Live Births	351	832,000
Live Birth Rate	13.8	17.2
Standardised Birth Rate	14.6	
Stillbirths	3	
Stillbirth Rate per 1,000 total (live and still births)	8	14.8
Total Births	354	
Infant Deaths	3	
Infant Mortality Rate per 1,000 live births	9	18.3
" " " per 1,000 legitimate births	9	
" " " per 1,000 illegitimate births	-	
Neonatal Mortality Rate (first four weeks) per 1,000 related live births	9	12.5
Early Neonatal Mortality Rate (first week) per 1,000 related live births	8	10.8
Perinatal Mortality Rate (stillbirths + deaths during the first week) per 1,000 total live and still births	8	25.4
Percentage of illegitimate live births	7.1	
Maternal Mortality (excluding abortion)	-	
Maternal Mortality Rate (including abortion) per 1,000 total births	-	

## DEATHS

	Males	Females	1967 Total	1966 Total
Total Deaths	135	164	299	319
Crude Death Rate per 1,000 pop.			11.7	12.1
Standardised Death Rate per 1,000 pop.			10.2	11.1
Deaths from Cancer (all ages)			36	56
Deaths from Heart Disease (all ages)			102	103
Deaths from Phthisis (all ages)			-	3

## BIRTHS

The total number of live births was 351, 183 male and 168 female. Of these, 25 were illegitimate, 14 male and 11 female. The table below shows the birth rate for the previous years.

## BIRTH RATES

1958	1959	1960	1961	1962	1963	1964	1965	1966	1967
13.6	15.3	14.7	15.3	15.7	15.6	15.4	15.3	15.9	14.6

## DEATHS

There was a decrease in the total number of deaths, 299 in 1967, as compared with 319 for the previous year. The Standardised Death Rate was 10.2, as compared with 11.2 for the previous year.. The Death Rate for England and Wales was 11.2.

The following table shows the age and sex incidence, and it will be noted that amongst the males, of the 135 deaths, 54 occurred amongst those between the ages of 65 and 75 years, and 46 amongst those 75 years and over. Of the females, out of the total of 164 deaths, 46 were between the ages of 65 and 75 years and 92 were 75 years and over.

Ages at death in years	Males	Females	Total
Under 1	2	1	3
1 - 5	1	-	1
5 - 15	3	4	3
15 - 25	-	-	-
25 - 35	1	-	1
35 - 45	2	3	5
45 - 55	10	8	18
55 - 65	16	14	30
65 - 75	54	46	100
75 and over	46	92	138
Total ... ..	135	164	299

The following table shows the causes of death during 1967.

CAUSES OF DEATH	Male	Female
Malignant Neoplasm, Stomach ...	3	3
Malignant Neoplasm, Lung, Bronchus ...	5	-
Malignant Neoplasm, Breast ...	-	3
Malignant Neoplasm, Uterus ...	-	1
Other malignant and lymphatic neoplasms	9	12
Leukaemia aleukaemia ...	1	-
Diabetes ...	1	1
Vascular lesions of the nervous system	20	44
Coronary Disease, Angina	39	28
Hypertension with heart disease ...	1	3
Other heart disease ...	12	19
Other circulatory disease ...	5	12
Pneumonia ...	7	15
Bronchitis ...	8	2
Other diseases of the respiratory system	3	1
Ulcer of Stomach and Duodenum ...	2	2
Gastritis, Enteritis and Diarrhoea	-	3
Nephritis and Nephrosis ...	1	1
Hyperplasia of Prostate ...	3	-
Congenital Malformations ...	3	1
Other defined and ill-defined diseases	4	11
All other accidents ...	2	1
Suicide ...	6	1
Total all causes	135	164

#### DEATH RATES

1958	1959	1960	1961	1962	1963	1964	1965	1966	1967
11.2	10.1	13.03	11.3	11.6	11.8	11.6	11.0	11.2	10.2

#### CANCER

The number of deaths due to Cancer (all forms) was 36. The table as set out below shows the incidence for previous years.

1958	1959	1960	1961	1962	1963	1964	1965	1966	1967
51	48	50	59	54	51	76	60	56	36



# CANCER DEATH RATE PER 1 000 POPULATION

	1958	1959	1960	1961	1962	1963	1964	1965	1966	1967
Yeovil Borough	2.1	1.9	2.13	2.4	2.1	2.06	3.02	2.4	2.2	1.4
County of Som't	2.08	2.12	2.157	2.22	2.17	2.17	2.31	2.2	2.23	2.28
England & Wales	2.12	2.13	2.15	2.16	2.177	2.1	2.21	2.23	2.24	2.27

## INFANT MORTALITY

The number of children dying within the first twelve months of life was 3, as compared with 9 for the previous year. The rate per 1,000 live births was 8, as compared with England and Wales - 18.3.

The following table shows the number of deaths and the Infantile Mortality Rate, as compared with previous years.

	1958	1959	1960	1961	1962	1963	1964	1965	1966	1967
No. of deaths	9	12	9	10	7	9	3	9	9	3
Rate per 1,000 live births in Yeovil	27.6	32.6	25.4	26.6	18.08	23.3	7.7	23.2	22.2	8
Rate per 1,000 live births in Eng. & Wales	22.5	22.6	21.9	22.4	20.7	22.3	20.0	19.0	18.9	18.3

## CAUSES OF DEATH AND AGE

	Under 4 weeks	4 weeks and under 1 year
Congenital Malformations	-	2
Pneumonia	-	1

### MATERNAL MORTALITY

There were no maternal deaths during the year.

### INFECTIOUS DISEASES

The following table sets out the details of infectious diseases notified during the year, and also the figures for the previous year.

Disease		1967	1966
Erysipelas	...	3	1
Measles	...	67	410
Puerperal Pyrexia	...	2	3
Scarlet Fever	...	5	3
Whooping Cough	...	-	1
Tuberculosis Pulmonary	...	3	6
Tuberculosis Non-pulmonary	...	-	1
Total	...	80	425

### TUBERCULOSIS

The number of cases of Pulmonary Tuberculosis notified during the year 1967 was 3, Non-pulmonary nil. There were no deaths recorded as due to Pulmonary Tuberculosis or Non-pulmonary Tuberculosis.

	1967	1966	1965	1964	1963	1962	1961	1960	1959
No. of cases notified Pulmonary	3	6	6	5	5	5	8	9	12
No. of cases notified Non-Pulmonary	-	1	1	2	2	1	4	1	4
No. of deaths Pulmonary	-	3	-	-	-	-	4	1	-
No. of deaths Non-pulmonary	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	1	-
Death Rate of Respiratory Tuberculosis per 1,000 pp.	-	0.10	-	-	0.04	-	0.04	0.04	0.01

AGE	NEW CASES				DEATHS			
	Pulmonary		Non-pulmonary		Pulmonary		Non-pulmonary	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
3	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
7	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
9	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
15	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
20	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
25	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
35	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
45	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-
55	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
65 & upwards	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-
Total	1	2	-	-	-	-	-	-

#### DENTAL TREATMENT

The treatment given to expectant and nursing mothers and to pre-school children during the year 1967 is shown below:-

		<u>Adults</u>	<u>Pre-School Children</u>
No. of cases inspected	...	37	100
No. found to require treatment	...	37	80
No. of cases treated	...	30	47
No. of attendances	...	91	102
Dentures Provided	...	8	-

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

#### HOME VISITS BY HEALTH VISITORS

Primary Visits (children under 1 year)	...	...	468
Primary Visits (children 1 - 5 years)	...	...	743
Total Visits 0 - 5 years	...	...	6,464
Antenatal Visits	...	...	50
Old Persons	...	...	279
Liaison Visits, Hospitals, etc.	...	...	652
Other visits	...	...	242
Futile Visits	...	...	654
			<u>9,579</u>

The normal establishment of Health Visitors for the Yeovil Borough and District is five. Since the 23rd November, 1964, there exists an arrangement for attachment of Health Visitors to individual practices in the Borough. Two of the Health Visitors resigned to take up other appointments, one September and one in October, and had not been replaced by the 31st December, 1967. This I consider accounts for the fall in the number of home visits by the Health Visitors, as compared with the previous year, (10,826).



## BLOOD EXAMINATION CLINIC

This Clinic was commenced in 1947. It was held at the Preston Road Clinic, Yeovil. Since its inception, 10,623 individual pregnant women had been examined, 456 examinations being carried out in 1967, from January to August. This Clinic was transferred to the new maternity unit at Yeovil Hospital, when it opened in July, 1967.

### INFANT WELFARE

#### Preston Road Clinic (Tuesdays)

Total number of children attending	...	...	...	598
Total number of children attending for the first time	...	...	...	236
Total number of attendances made	...	...	...	2,972

#### Southville Clinic

Total number of children attending	...	...	...	89
Total number of children attending for the first time	...	...	...	21
Total number of attendances made	...	...	...	324

#### Larkhill Clinic

Total number of children attending	...	...	...	133
Total number of children attending for the first time	...	...	...	45
Total number of attendances made	...	...	...	551

#### Monmouth Hall Clinic

Total number of children attending	...	...	...	233
Total number of children attending for the first time	...	...	...	94
Total number of attendances made	...	...	...	1,067

### HOME HELP SERVICE

#### No. of cases who received help in 1967

#### Yeovil Borough

<u>Type of case</u>					<u>1967</u>	<u>1966</u>
Mental Illness	...	...	...	...	11	7
Maternity	...	...	...	...	34	32
Old age and Infirmary	...	...	...	...	201	194
Tuberculosis	...	...	...	...	3	3
Chronic Illness	...	...	...	...	17	17
General Illness	...	...	...	...	7	19
Child Care	...	...	...	...	2	2
Post-operation	...	...	...	...	4	8
Accidents	...	...	...	...	7	6
					<hr/> 286	<hr/> 288

### NATIONAL ASSISTANCE ACT

No action was taken under Section 47 of the above Act.

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE  
CHIEF PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR.

To: The Chairman and Members of the Public Health Committee.

I present herewith my Report for the year 1967.

HOUSING ACT, 1957.

In the Medical Officer of Health's Report for 1957, the following comments regarding housing were made (At that time, there were 6037 houses in the Borough and approximately 4378 were occupied by the "working classes").

The general standard of the houses in the town is fairly good, but there are a number of old houses, which require reconditioning. The chief defects are due to the age of these properties, viz decayed timbers, and masonry, the mortar of which has perished. Due to these two factors, floors and roofs have sunk, walls have become out of plumb and are crumbling gradually.

"Representation was made with regard to one unfit house during the year".

HOUSING

A recent cursory survey put the remaining number of unfit houses to be dealt with at 15 per annum, during the next five years. The figure may vary upon the conditions found when inspections are made but in any case, now the worst of the unfit properties have been dealt with and future concern should be for prolonging the life of the properties built circa 1880 and 1910.

It is considered that there are about 1,400 in this group which might require bringing up to standard. Roughly half, by the way of Discretionary grant.

The recent White Paper on older houses admits that present legislation is cumbersome in dealing with such properties in improvement areas, a point made in previous annual reports. Plans are also outlined in the Paper for revising the grant assistance, and repair procedure, two matters which must be dealt with together if the life of such properties is to be prolonged for a worth while number of years. Grant work, carried out only, does not necessarily ensure that a dwelling is made fit. The recommendations in the White Paper have, however, to await legal backing before anything can be done on the lines indicated therein. Meanwhile, the improvement stage of this particular housing programme still remains to be tackled.

... contd.

Housing Statistics for 1967 (Form P.13).

			Total
Unfit houses.			38
<hr/>			
A.			
Unfit houses	In or	Involved by	
demolished during	adjoining	reason of	
the year.	Clearance	bad arrangements.	5
	Areas.		
		On land acquired	
		under Sec.43(2)	12
	Not in	Previously dealt	
	Clearance	with under Sec.	
	Areas.	16(4) or 17(1)	6
		L.A. Houses	
		certified as	
		unfit by the	
		M.O.H.	-
<hr/>			
B.			
Unfit Houses	Under Sec. 16 (4) 17(1)		26
Closed.			
	Under Sec. 18.		3
<hr/>			
E. Unfit Houses	After informal action by L.A.		
Made Fit.	by owners:		48
	After formal action		
	under Sec. 9 & 16.		1
	After formal P.H. Act Notice.		30
<hr/>			
Total number of houses inspected under Part II			
of the Act			69

HOUSING AND PUBLIC HEALTH ACTS.

Inspections and visits under the Housing Acts and  
Public Health Acts 789

RENT ACT, 1957.

No applications were received during the year for the  
certificates of disrepair or cancellation.

COMPLAINTS.

There were 473 complaints received during the year, comprising the  
following:

Housing defects	65
Drainage	45
Insect Pests	66
Foodstuff	29
Miscellaneous	88
Redent Pests	180

Of the various common place type dealt with it is perhaps opportune  
to mention that of fumes from some dry cleaning establishments. The number  
of premises now used for this business has increased considerably in most  
towns.

... contd.



Fortunately there have only been a few serious complaints to be dealt with but where there are no recovery units, it is possible that the fumes will permeate the atmosphere both inside and outside unless satisfactory extraction is installed and discharges are well clear of windows and other openings.

#### FACTORIES ACT. 1961.

1. Inspections for purposes of provisions as to health  
(Details as required in Appendix II Cir. 1/66.)

Premises. (1)	No of Registered. (2)	Inspections. (3)	Contra- ventions. (4)	Occupiers Prost'd. (5)
I) Factories in which Sections 1,2,3,4, & 6 are to be enforced by L.A.'s.	7	2	-	-
II Factories not included in (1) in which Sec. 7 is enforced by L.A.	171	30	5	0
III. Other premises in which Sec. 7 is enforced by the L.A. (excluding Outworkers premises.	-	-	-	-
Total:	178	32	5	-

2. Cases in which defects were found.

			No of cases in which defects were found.	No of cases in which prosecutions were instituted.	
			Referred.		
Particulars.	Found.	Remedied	To H.M. Insp'r.	By H.M. Insp'r	
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)
<hr/>					
Sanitary Conveniences S.7	-	-	-	-	-
a) Insufficient	-	-	-	-	-
b) Unsuitable or defective	4	5	-	-	-
c) Not separate accommodation for some sexes.	-	-	-	-	-
<hr/>					
Total:	4	5	-	-	-

3. Part VIII of the Act - Outworkers.

27 inspections were made, no contraventions found.

#### CLEAN AIR ACT. 1956.

During the year some further limited investigations were made into the subject of atmospheric pollution. Approx 100 tests for suspended matter and SO<sub>2</sub> content showed a low degree of atmospheric pollution attributable to combustion but at the same time, a large number of filters contained fairly heavy deposits believed to be indicative of traffic dust in the atmosphere, especially during dry periods.

..... contd.

Atmospheric pollution from industrial boilers is almost entirely due, when it occurs, to smutting. It has been found that although chimneys may be at the right height according to the Memorandum, if intermittent firing is frequent because of low steam demands, smutting may occur with low stack temperatures.

#### NOISE ABATEMENT ACT, 1960.

It is pleasing to record more satisfactory conditions towards the end of the year regarding the noise control with pneumatic equipment. Despite some prejudice, drills are being fitted with noise muffling devices which reduce the decibel to reasonable limits. It is to be hoped that the insertion of a suitable Clause in public works contracts will continue and become standard practice and so ensure that these noises are made at least tolerable. A further reduction of noise from this source can be made if operators ensure that the sides of the compressor are fitted and closed down.

There were 18 complaints received during the year, the majority of which were due to road works.

#### DISINFECTIONS AND DISINFESTATIONS.

##### Disinfestations.

0

Complaints received of infestations, other than wasps:	25
Rooms sprayed or fumigated for vermin.	11
Premises dealt with for wasps	41

##### Disinfections.

Room disinfections.	15
Fomites.	80

##### WATER SUPPLY.

##### TREATED BEFORE GOING INTO SUPPLY.

Chemical.	
Satis. Unsatis.	

Bacteriological.	
Satis. Unsatis:	

2

46

1

These figures include samples taken by the Wessex Water Board.

#### DRAINS AND SEWERS.

##### Section 24 Public Health Act, 1936.

No of lengths of sewer cleared	17
No of houses involved	68
Private sewers Sec. 38-39	3
No of houses involved	20

#### SLAUGHTERHOUSES.

In May of this year the last licenced premise in the Borough was closed. Since fresh meat first came under inspection control in 1924, up to and including 1967, the records show that approximately half a million animals passed through the slaughterhouses (there were ten in use circa 1935) and practically all carcasses and offal were inspected throughout the whole period.

..... contd.

### Carcasses inspected and Condemned.

	Cattle Excluding Cows.	Cows.	Calves.	Sheep and Lambs.	Pigs.
No killed.	45	1	-	176	208
No inspected.	45	1	-	176	208

### All diseases except T.B. & Cysticerci

Whole carcasses condemned. - - - - -

Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned. 4 - - 20 25

### Tuberculosis only.

Whole carcasses condemned. - - - - -

Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned. - - - - -

### Cysticerci.

No instances of this condition were found.

<u>UN SOUND FOOD SURRENDERED OR CONDEMNED.</u>	<u>Tons.</u>	<u>Cwts.</u>	<u>lbs.</u>
1. Meat at slaughterhouse.		1	58
2. Meat at wholesale premises.		-	-
3. Meat at retail shops.	1	2	64
4. Cooked meat and meat products.		1	17
5. Canned meats.		11	37
6. Fruit and vegetables (canned)	1	5	78
7. Fish (fresh)		5	67
8. Other Foods		2	84
Total	3	9	11
9. No of prosecutions under Sec. 2.	One		
10. No of prosecutions under Sec.8.	None.		
11. Total amount of fines and costs imposed.	£25.	15s.	0d.

### FOOD AND DRUGS ACT.

#### Markets.

The standard maintained by the stallholders in the South Street Market has improved further since the coming into force of the "Market Stalls and Delivery Vehicle Regulations, 1966. Whilst the same standard as for shop premises is not required, some pride has been shown in the satisfactory finish of the interiors of the food vending stalls.

#### Food Complaints, etc.,

The records show that of 28 complaints received many were concerning refrigerator breakdowns, 5 were in respect of unsatisfactory milk bottles. Whilst there are literally 1,000 of such bottles sent out daily from large dairy premises, despite the vigilance or lack of it, the odd bottle with something amiss, passes through, often returning to the producer via the Public Health Dept.

.... contd.



The public are right in reporting a complaint because in so doing, the opportunity is taken of pursuing the matter with a view to preventing recurrence. At the same time a word should be said about the mis-use of empty milk bottles, which are one of the lessening number of returnable liquid food containers.

They are certainly not intended to contain such substances as oil, water colours or cement and whilst the responsibility is always upon the producer to clean thoroughly before re-use, he does in these cases start with an unfair handicap which may involve him in court proceedings. Non returnable containers of material other than glass will eventually perhaps solve this problem.

A number of complaints made in respect of unsound food were in regard to mould growth in or upon foodstuff purchased. Here again, firms producing masses of poultry and pork goods take endless care to see that the articles arrive in good condition and upon time at the retailers where this care and attention unfortunately sometimes breaks down.

Foodstuff, especially when wrapped in cellophane will re-act to wide changes of temperature which will cause condensation and consequent mould growth.

FOREIGN MATTER AND MOULD. - Details of calls:

	Containing Foreign Matter.	Mould.
	Home produced food.	Imported Food.
f Milk.	1	
Meat Pies		3
Jam	1	
Confectionary	1	
Other Food.	2	
Totals.	5	3

No of prosecutions under Sec. 2. 4  
 " " " " " 8. None

Total amount of fines and costs imposed - £138. 7s. Od.

Food Hygiene (General) Regulations, 1960.

I. No. of premises.	202
II. Number of premises fitted to comply with Regs. 16.	197
III No of premises to which Reg. 19 applies.	200
IV No of premises fitted to comply with Regulation 19.	200

Section 16.

Application received for Registration of premises:

- a. for the sale and storage of ice cream. 4.
- b. for the preparation of preserved foods. 1

.... contd.

Total No of premises registered at the end of this year:-

a. for the sale and storage of ice cream.	102
b. for manufacture and retail " "	2
c. manufacture only " "	1
d. for the preparation of preserved foods	23

Samples of Ice Cream taken during the year and submitted to the Public Health Laboratory:

Total No. of samples: 125  
Results as follows:

	<u>Provisional Grades.</u>			
	<u>1.</u>	<u>2.</u>	<u>3.</u>	<u>4.</u>
Soft Ice Cream.	-	1	2	2
Other ice cream	92	14	11	3

During the year one Ice Cream Manufacturer opened in the Borough, samples therefrom were, in the main, satisfactory.

Milk Samples taken by S.C.C. of milk bottled within the Borough or in another area and retailed within the Borough.

By Somerset County Council:	<u>Pastourised.</u>		<u>Raw Milk.</u>	
	<u>Satis.</u>	<u>Unsatis.</u>	<u>Satis.</u>	<u>Unsatis.</u>
a) Bottled within the County.	146	3	29	4
b) Bottled outside the County retailed in the Borough.	54	-	1	-

#### PREVENTION OF DAMAGE BY PESTS ACT, 1949

The number of complaints regarding rats increased compared with last year, a large number of complaints stemming, as mentioned last year, from the continual practice of indiscriminate tipping, improper composting and disturbances due to demolition of buildings etc.

No. of complaints.	180
No of premises visited for pest eradication	389
No. of visits made	1,429
No of infestations cleared	217

During the year routine treatment of the refuse tip, sewage works and public sewers has been carried out.

#### OFFICES SHOPS & RAILWAY PREMISES ACT, 1963.

##### A. Registrations and General Inspections.

Class of Premises.	No of premises reg'd during the year.	No of reg. premises at end of year.	No of registered premises receiving a general inspect'n during the year.
Offices.	5	176	12
Retail shops.	6	250	44
Wholesale shops, Warehouses.	5	26	12
Catering Est's open to the public, canteens.	-	32	9
Fuel storage depots	1	3	1
Total:	17	487	78

Total Number of visits of all kinds by Inspectors  
to registered premises under the Act.

176.

#### ANALYSIS OF CONTRAVENTIONS.

<u>Section.</u>	<u>No of Contraventions found.</u>	<u>Section.</u>	<u>No of Contraventions found.</u>
4. Cleanliness.	18	13. Sitting facilities.	-
5. Overcrowding.	-	14. Seats (Sedentary Workers)	-
6. Temperature	29	15. Eating facilities	-
7. Ventilation	2	16. Floors, passages & stairs.	10
8. Lighting.	4	17. Fencing exposed parts machinery	1
9. Sanitary conveniences	4	18. Protection of young persons from dangerous machinery	-
10. Washing facilities.	4	19. Training of young persons working at dangerous machinery	-
11. Supply of drinking water.	-	23. Prohibition of heavy work.	-
12. Clothing accommodation	4	24. First aid.	8
		Other matters	42
		Total:	127

#### REPORTED ACCIDENTS.

<u>Workplace.</u>	<u>Number Reported.</u>		<u>Total No Investigated.</u>	<u>Action Recommended.</u>		
	<u>Fatal</u>	<u>Non Fatal.</u>		<u>Prosecution.</u>	<u>Formal Inform'l warn'g advice.</u>	<u>No! Act'n</u>
Offices.						7
Retail shops.		7	7		-	7
Wholesale shops						
Wharshouses		3	3			3
Catering Establishments open to public, canteens		1	1			1
Fuel storage depots.						
Totals:		11	11			11

#### Conclusions.

I would again like to express my thanks to the Chairman and Members of the Public Health Committee and also to the Members of my Staff for their continued and loyal support during the year.

C.G.H. RICE.





