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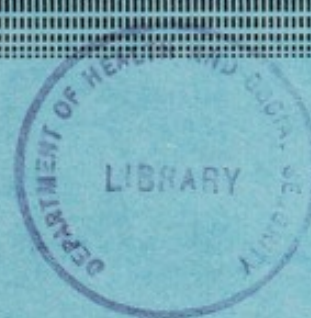
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ANNUAL REPORT

on the

HEALTH AND SANITARY
CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE
BOROUGH OF WEYMOUTH
AND MELCOMBE REGIS
FOR THE YEAR 1968

E. J. GORDON WALLACE, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.



BOROUGH OF
WEYMOUTH & MELCOMBE REGIS

*With the Compliments
of the
Medical Officer of Health*

HEALTH CENTRE,
WESTHAM ROAD,
WEYMOUTH

Telephone : Wey. ~~1645~~
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Health and Sanitary Circumstances
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E. J. GORDON WALLACE, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.
Medical Officer of Health

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PUBLIC HEALTH COMMITTEE

THE MAYOR (Councillor H. McGRATH)

Councillor G. A. HUTCHINGS (*Chairman*)

Councillor A. J. SANTONNA (*Vice-Chairman*)

Ald. E. W. PRIDDLE

Councillor A. G. BOWN

Ald. W. A. FORY

Councillor W. N. ROBINSON

Ald. Mrs. F. KENYON

Councillor C. C. WARREN

Ald. Mrs. L. M. HILL

Councillor Mrs. J. F. FRY

Councillor R. RICHMOND

Councillor L. F. PADDOCK

STAFF — PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT

Medical Officer of Health :

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Health Centre, Westham Road, Weymouth. Tel.: Weymouth 5645

Deputy Medical Officer of Health :

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Chief Public Health Inspector :

†*‡ H. HANDSCOMB, M.A.P.H.I.

District Public Health Inspectors :

†* R. G. S. NEWBOULD

†* A. L. HARRIS

†*D. A. DOLPHIN, A.R.S.H., M.A.P.H.I.

Assistant to Public Health Inspectors :

A. R. SMITH

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* Meat and Food Inspectors Certificate of the Royal Sanitary Institute

‡ Smoke Inspectors Certificate of the Royal Sanitary Institute

Public Analyst :

H. DEDICOAT, F.R.I.C.

Deputy Public Analyst :

R. L. KIDMAN, F.R.I.C.

Clerical Staff :

F. H. HOUSE

Mrs. A. HONNOR

Miss J. MARGETTS

HEALTH CENTRE,
WESTHAM ROAD,
WEYMOUTH
June, 1969

*To : His Worship the Mayor, Aldermen and Councillors of
the Borough of Weymouth and Melcombe Regis*

MR. MAYOR, LADIES AND GENTLEMEN;

I have the honour to submit for your information and consideration my Report for the year 1968 on the Health and Sanitary Circumstances of the Borough.

Once again it was a quiet year so far as infectious diseases were concerned, the only notifications to reach double figures being measles (133), whooping cough (15) and scabies (31). It is now only a matter of time before measles vaccine comes into general use and we can then expect to see very few cases of this infection.

During the year a start was made on the long awaited extension to the Health Centre and by December this was nearing completion.

In November it was reported that the Public Health Inspector employed by the Weymouth Port Health Authority would be retiring early in 1969 and the Town Council agreed to this work being undertaken by the Corporation's Public Health Inspectors with Mr. H. Handscomb as Chief Port Health Inspector.

As is usual, the report deals with the many activities of the Public Health Inspectors under the able and energetic direction of Mr. H. Handscomb, Chief Public Health Inspector, to whom I am most grateful for his help in compiling this annual record of work done to promote the health of the community.

I am again happy to record my appreciation of the co-operation in the work of the Department afforded by my professional colleagues in practice in the Borough.

In conclusion I wish to thank the members of the Town Council for their kindness and consideration and, in particular, the Chairman and Members of the Health Committee for their support. I am also most grateful to my fellow officials and the Health Department staff for their unfailing assistance throughout the year.

I have the honour to be,

Your obedient servant,

E. J. GORDON WALLACE,
Medical Officer of Health.

STATISTICS

Area (in acres) excluding 331 acres of tidal water	7,017
Mid-year Home Population (estimated by the Registrar General)	42,130
Estimated Number of Inhabited Houses (31st March 1969) ... ..	...14,843
Rateable Value (31st March, 1969)	£1,924,676
Sum represented by a Penny Rate (1968-69)	£7,625

CHIEF INDUSTRIES & EXTENT OF UNEMPLOYMENT

I am indebted to Mr. J. Mathews, Manager of the Weymouth Employment Exchange, for the following information :—
Registered Wholly Unemployed Persons

	1966			1967			1968		
	<i>Men</i>	<i>Women</i>	<i>Total</i>	<i>Men</i>	<i>Women</i>	<i>Total</i>	<i>Men</i>	<i>Women</i>	<i>Total</i>
March	231	115	346	360	158	518	349	102	451
June	145	31	176	313	89	402	251	45	296
September	146	45	191	311	70	381	319	61	380
December	316	150	466	385	139	524	423	96	519

The main industries in this area are :—

Building and Civil Engineering
 Nationalised Industries
 National and Local Government Services
 Scientific Research
 Engineering
 Distributive
 Hotel and Catering
 Transport
 Docks, Shipping and Ship Repairing
 Railways
 Laundries
 Breweries

EXTRACT FROM VITAL STATISTICS OF BOROUGH SUPPLIED BY THE REGISTRAR GENERAL FOR 1968

TOTAL LIVE and STILL BIRTHS : 597

LIVE BIRTHS : 587

		<i>Males</i>	<i>Females</i>	<i>Total</i>
Legitimate	...	259	259	518
Illegitimate	...	34	35	69
Total	...	293	294	587

Rate per 1,000 estimated population :	13.93
Comparability Factor :	1.07
Standardised Birth Rate :	14.9 (Eng. & Wales-16.9)
Illegitimate live births per cent of total live births :	11.75

STILLBIRTHS : 10

		<i>Males</i>	<i>Females</i>	<i>Total</i>
Legitimate ...		4	5	9
Illegitimate ...		1	—	1
Total ...		5	5	10

Rate per 1,000 live and still births : 16.7 (Eng. & Wales-14.0)

INFANT MORTALITY :

Deaths of Infants

	<i>Males</i>		<i>Females</i>		<i>Total</i>	
	<i>Legit.</i>	<i>Illegit</i>	<i>Legit.</i>	<i>Illegit</i>	<i>Legit.</i>	<i>Illegit</i>
Under 1 year of age	3	1	6	2	9	3
Under 4 weeks of age	3	—	6	2	9	2
Under 1 week of age	3	—	6	2	9	2

INFANT MORTALITY RATES :

(Eng. and Wales)

All Infants per 1,000 live births :	20.4	18.0
Legitimate Infants per 1,000 legitimate live births :	17.4	—
Illegitimate infants per 1,000 illegitimate live births :	43.5	—
Neo-Natal Mortality Rate :	18.7	12.3
Early Neo-Natal Mortality Rate :	18.7	10.5
Perinatal Mortality Rate :	35.2	25.0

MATERNAL MORTALITY :

No. of deaths from Pregnancy, Childbirth, Abortion :	1
Rate per 1,000 total births :	1.7

DEATHS

	<i>Male</i>	<i>Female</i>	<i>Total</i>
Total — All causes	291	272	563
Death rate per 1,000 estimate population :	13.36		
Comparability Factor :	0.86		
Standardised Death Rate :	11.49 (England & Wales 11.9)		

Causes of Death — 1968

(Supplied by Registrar General)

<i>Causes of Death</i>	<i>Males</i>	<i>Females</i>	<i>Total</i>
Tuberculosis—Respiratory ...	1	—	1
Tuberculosis—Other ...	1	—	1
Malignant Neoplasm, Stomach ...	7	4	11
Malignant Neoplasm, Lung, Bronchus ...	22	6	28
Malignant Neoplasm, Breast ...	—	11	11
Malignant Neoplasm, Uterus ...	—	2	2
Leukaemia ...	2	3	5
Other Malignant Neoplasms ...	29	26	55
Diabetes Mellitus ...	2	2	4
Other Endocrine, etc. Diseases ...	1	3	4
Anaemias ...	—	1	1
Mental Disorders ...	1	1	2
Other Diseases of Nervous System ...	—	2	2
Chronic Rheumatic Heart Disease ...	5	3	8
Hypertensive Disease ...	1	10	11
Ischaemic Heart Disease ...	83	65	148
Other forms of Heart Disease ...	10	19	29
Cerebrovascular Disease ...	43	45	88
Other Diseases of Circulatory System ...	13	7	20
Influenza ...	4	2	6
Pneumonia ...	18	22	40
Bronchitis and Emphysema ...	13	6	19
Asthma ...	2	—	2
Other Diseases of Respiratory System ...	2	2	4
Peptic Ulcer ...	2	2	4
Intestinal Obstruction and Hernia ...	1	1	2
Cirrhosis of Liver ...	—	2	2
Other Diseases of Digestive System ...	5	3	8
Nephritis and Nephrosis ...	3	1	4
Other Diseases, Genito-Urinary System ...	1	1	2
Other Complications of Pregnancy ...	—	1	1
Diseases of Musculo-Skeletal System ...	2	—	2
Birth Injury, Difficult Labour, etc. ...	3	3	6
Other causes of Perinatal Mortality ...	—	2	2
Symptoms and Ill-Defined Conditions ...	2	2	4
Motor Vehicle Accidents ...	3	1	4
All other Accidents ...	3	6	9
Suicide and Self-Inflicted Injuries ...	5	4	9
All other external Causes ...	1	1	2
TOTAL	291	272	563

Births : There were 27 fewer live births during 1968 than in the previous year. The Standardised birth rate (14.9) is slightly lower than that for England and Wales (16.9).

Deaths : Deaths from all causes totalled 563, an increase of 58 over 1967, which gives a local crude death rate of 13.36 per thousand population. By applying the Comparability Factor, the standardised death rate is found to be 11.49 which is approximately the same as that for England and Wales—11.9. (The Comparability Factor is worked out for each district by the Registrar General. Its object is to level out differences in the age and sex constitution of the population of the various districts and has been adjusted specifically to take account of the presence of any residential institution in the area. When the local crude death rate is multiplied by the appropriate area comparability factor it is comparable with the crude rate for England and Wales or with the corresponding adjusted rate for any other area).

Deaths of Infants under 4 weeks of age numbered 11 and were attributable to the following causes :

	<i>Males</i>	<i>Females</i>
Intestinal Obstruction and Hernia	—	1
Birth Injury, Difficult Labour, etc.	3	3
Other causes of Perinatal Mortality	—	2
All other accidents	—	2
	<hr/> 3	<hr/> 8

There was also an infant death under 1 year of age from Influenza.

Immunisation : Protection of the appropriate age groups against Diphtheria, Whooping Cough, Tetanus, Poliomyelitis and Small-pox is the responsibility of the Dorset County Council as Local Health Authority. Protection of school children in South Dorset remains at a high level and of those examined in 1968 98.2% had been protected against Diphtheria, 96.9% against Tetanus, and 96% against Poliomyelitis.

During the year a scheme for the protection of children against Measles was also introduced and parents of children up to the age of 15 years who had not already had Measles were invited to consent to their child(ren) being vaccinated. A total of 520 children received such vaccination.

Superannuation : During the year 46 persons were medically examined as to their fitness for inclusion in the Council's Superannuation Scheme.

Laboratory Facilities : The County Laboratory at Dorchester under the direction of Dr. T. V. Cooper and the separate Public Health Laboratory there under Dr. G. H. Tee have given every possible assistance in the work of the Health Department and their ready co-operation at all times has been very much appreciated.

INFESTATION

Scabies and Head Infestation.

Scabies is a notifiable disease under an Order made by the Town Council in 1943.

The tables which follow show that the incidence of both Scabies and Head Infestation remains low.

Scabies

<i>Year</i>	<i>Total No notified</i>	<i>No. Notified by Practitioner</i>	<i>No. Notified by Public Health Dept.</i>	<i>Total Number of Treatments (incl. contacts)</i>
1964	3	3	—	6
1965	9	9	—	18
1966	4	3	1	9
1967	23	23	—	120
1968	31	25	6	127*

* 'Treatments' include patients with suspicious skin rashes but in whom a precise diagnosis has not been made.

Head Infestation

<i>Year</i>	<i>Number of Infested Persons</i>	<i>Adult</i>	<i>School</i>	<i>Under 5</i>	<i>Total No. of Treatments</i>
1964	28	2	22	4	41
1965	93	4	84	5	154
1966	73	3	68	2	94
1967	37	4	31	2	47
1968	11	—	10	1	25

INFECTIOUS AND OTHER NOTIFIABLE DISEASES

The Public Health (Infectious Diseases) Regulations 1968 came into operation on the 1st October, 1968.

Under these new Regulations, acute primary pneumonia, acute influenza pneumonia, acute rheumatism, erysipelas and puerperal pyrexia are no longer required to be notified, while tetanus, yellow fever, and leptospirosis are included in those diseases to be notified.

Schedule 4 and 5 of the new Regulations specify measures which may be taken by the local Authority in dealing with cases

of typhus fever and relapsing fever and also food poisoning and food infections. It was recommended that the duties of the Local Authority in giving such notifications be delegated to the Medical Officer of Health.

Following my Report on these new Regulations to the Health Committee in October, 1968, the Town Council resolved :—

“ That the duties of the Local Authority in giving such notifications be delegated to the Medical Officer of Health subject to a report being submitted at the next practical meeting.”

Two deaths were recorded from Tuberculosis (1—Respiratory Tuberculosis and 1—other Forms of Tuberculosis). There were no other deaths recorded from Infectious and other Notifiable Diseases.

Infectious and other Notifiable Diseases — 1968

<i>Disease</i>	<i>Males</i>	<i>Females</i>	<i>Total</i>
Measles	62	71	133
Dysentery	—	—	—
Scarlet Fever	4	1	5
Diphtheria	—	—	—
Acute Meningitis	—	—	—
Acute Poliomyelitis : Paralytic	—	—	—
Non-Paralytic	—	—	—
Acute Encephalitis : Infective	—	—	—
Post Infectious	—	—	—
Leptospirosis	1	—	1
Paratyphoid Fever	—	—	—
Typhoid Fever	—	—	—
Food Poisoning	3	6	9
Tetanus	—	—	—
Infective Jaundice	1	—	1
Whooping Cough	9	6	15
Tuberculosis : Respiratory	3	5	8
Meninges and C.N.S.	—	—	—
Other	1	1	2
Smallpox	—	—	—
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	—	—	—
Anthrax	—	—	—
Yellow Fever	—	—	—
Scabies	12	19	31

WATER SUPPLY

Water supply in the Borough is provided by Weymouth Waterworks Company from springs at Empool and Sutton Poyntz. The water is fairly hard as will be seen from the Chemical Analysis which follows.

Both quality and quantity of the supply were satisfactorily maintained throughout the year and no outbreaks of illness which could be attributed to water have occurred.

Once again I must express my thanks to the Engineer and Manager of the Weymouth Waterworks Company, Mr. A. E. Barrey, B.Sc., A.M.I.C.E., A.M.I.W.E., for the very close co-operation which continued between the Company and the Health Department throughout the year.

WATER STANDPIPES

All houses in the Borough are supplied with water from the Waterworks Company's mains. There are no houses in the Borough supplied by water standpipes.

SUMMARY OF BACTERIOLOGICAL SAMPLES

1. Raw Water

108 samples of raw water were taken by Weymouth Waterworks Company from Empool and Sutton Poyntz supplies. Results were as follows :—

		Empool	Sutton Poyntz
Satisfactory	... ..	52	30
Suspect	... ..	3	6
Unsatisfactory	... ..	5	12
		<hr/> 60 <hr/>	<hr/> 48 <hr/>

2. From Supply—after chlorination

All 51 samples of water taken from supply, after chlorination were satisfactory.

CHEMICAL ANALYSIS

Samples taken on 15th February, 1968

Physical Examination :				Empool	Sutton Poyntz
Colour	... ..			None	None
Appearance	... ..			Clear	Clear
General Chemical Examination :					
Reaction	... ..			pH 7.07	pH 7.26
				<i>Parts per million</i>	
Ammonia (as N)					
Free	... ..			Less than .003	Less than .003
Albuminoid	... ..			Less than .003	Less than .003

Chlorine (as Chlorides)	24.5	26
equivalent to Sodium Chloride	40	43
Oxygen Absorbed (4hrs)	0.13	0.11
Nitrogen in Nitrite ...	Absent	Absent
Nitrogen in Nitrate ...	3.6	3.6
Total Solids	349	289
Loss on ignition ...	6	2
Appearance on ignition ...	No smell or charring	No smell or charring
Hardness		
Temporary	238	191
Permanent	35	30
Total	273	221
Lead Pb	Not detected (Less than 0.1)	Not detected (Less than 0.1)
Copper Cu	Not detected (Less than 0.1)	Not detected (Less than 0.1)
Calcium Ca	105	85
Magnesium Mg	3	2
Sodium Na	11	12
Potassium K	1	0.5
Carbonate CO ₃	144	115
Sulphate SO ₄	12	6
Fluoride F	0.10	0.04

PUBLIC SWIMMING BATHS

There are no public swimming baths in the Borough.

Three schools have open-air baths for the use of their children and routine sampling of the water is carried out by the Health Department of Dorset County Council.

Two hotels have open-air baths—one built in 1960 and the second during 1967. Both have continuous filtration and chlorination plants.

A fairly large swimming pool was built at one caravan park during the summer. This was equipped with four copper-silver electrolytic sterilization units. Results of bacteriological examinations of this pool were erratic at first but towards the end of the season the plant was operating smoothly and the bacteriological standard of the water was satisfactory.

SEWERAGE AND SEWAGE DISPOSAL

1. Preston Drainage Scheme

The Preston drainage scheme was completed in 1957 and by the end of 1968 a total of 629 pre-war houses in the Preston

drainage area had been connected to the sewer. The number connected during the year was 22.

During 1968 housing development continued in the Preston area and all new houses were connected to the sewer.

The Borough Engineer has provided the following information in connection with the Preston drainage scheme :—

“Drainage of the properties on the south side of Wyke Oliver Road was investigated during the year and detailed preparation of a scheme to connect the properties to the main drainage system is in hand.”

2. Surcharging of the Sewers

For a number of years I have reported on the problem of surcharging of the sewers which occurs in the following areas :

Roman Road
Roman Close
Coronation Crescent
The Meadows, Radipole
The Rectory, Radipole
Marsh Road
Weston Road
Springfield, Broadway
Littlemead, Broadway

The Town Council has for some years now refused permission for development of land in areas where the sewers, particularly the Upwey trunk sewer, are liable to surcharging. This decision was challenged in the course of an appeal against the Corporation's refusal to allow development in Littlemoor Road in January, 1964. The Minister dismissed the appeal and agreed that no development should be allowed within the areas subject to surcharging until the necessary remedial works had been carried out to the sewers.

The Borough Engineer's comments on the position as at 2nd April, 1969, are as follows :—

“(a) Coronation Crescent/Roman Road Area

“The position here is precisely as reported to you last year.” (“Work on this scheme has been completed with the exception of one short length of sewer, the ultimate line of which is proving difficult. Negotiations are proceeding.”).

(b) Marsh Road Area

The Council's Consultants have finalised their proposals in respect of the drainage of this area and the Council's intentions in this matter may be gained from item 7 of the Street and Works Committee Meeting held on 12th December, 1968, as reported on page 181 of the Agenda of the Council Meeting held on 9th January, 1969. You will see from a perusal of this Report that the Council's intentions in this matter are quite clear and it is hoped that site work will commence towards the end of the 1969/70 financial year, but this you will appreciate must depend on the issue of Loan Sanction. With regard to the temporary scheme in Weston Road I am pleased to report that the provision of the overflow sewer is now complete and the system appears to be working quite satisfactorily.

(c) Broadway Area and Radipole

Work of investigation was carried out on the Upwey Trunk Sewer system during the year. In particular a closed circuit Television Inspection was completed of the lengths of pipe where trouble has been experienced in the past, and a comprehensive report was subsequently made to the Street and Works Committee and Council indicating my proposals for the Broadway Area. I am pleased to report that the preparation of the necessary detailed scheme is now in hand as a result of the recent filling of Senior Technical Staff vacancies within my department, and while there is an immense amount of technical work involved I hope that considerable progress will be achieved in the next few months."

3. Houses not yet connected to the sewer

In March, 1965, the Council considered a detailed report from the Borough Engineer on the subject of drainage of all properties within the Borough not then connected to the Council's main sewers and, although I have stated the decision of the Town Council in my previous Annual Report, the matter is so important that I am again reprinting it :

1. That the Council approve, as a matter of policy, the carrying out of main drainage schemes at the Corporation's expense in the areas referred to in the Report of the Borough Engineer which are developed and where the estimated cost does not exceed £300 per property.
2. That the question of dealing with those areas where the cost per property to be served exceeds £300 but does not exceed £500 be deferred for the time being.
3. That the necessary action be taken forthwith for the preparation of schemes, acceptance of tenders and applica-

tions for requisite loan consent for the schemes dealing with (a) Mayfield Close and Radipole Lane and (b) Camp Road in that order.

4. That schemes be prepared for the remaining areas covered by recommendation (1) in order of priority to be decided by this Committee in consultation with the Medical Officer of Health.

5. That the Health Committee be requested to communicate with owners of those properties which are situated within 100 feet of a public sewer but which are not connected thereto with a view to early action being taken for connecting such properties to the sewer.

6. That previous resolutions of the Council be varied so far as they are inconsistent with the above recommendations.

The Borough Engineer's comments as at 2nd April, 1969, are as follows :—

“ Work has continued on the preparation of small drainage schemes in accordance with the priority list, agreed between us, and I would report as follows :—

(a) Weyview Crescent

Loan Sanction has recently been received in respect of this proposal and site work has started within the last month.

(b) Wyke Oliver Road

This scheme has already been mentioned in paragraph 1 above.

(c) Verlands Road and White Horse Drive

This matter was again considered by the Street and Works Committee in response to your request to me to carry out this work ahead of the Private Street Works procedure. The Street and Works Committee did not, however, agree to this suggestion and the drainage work will, therefore, be undertaken when the street is made up as part of the Contract works.

(d) Buxton Road and Wyke Road

A scheme and estimate for this area is now nearing completion and will be reported to the Street and Works Committee as soon as possible. It seems likely, however, that the estimated cost per property will be in excess of £500 and it is unlikely therefore that the Committee will agree to proceed with the work.

- (e) With regard to the proposals for the Old Station Road area and Sutcliffe Avenue, I regret that little investigation work has been carried out at the present time.

(f) Drainage of Markham House

A scheme for the provision of drainage on the Markham House site was prepared and reported to the Street and Works Committee. Unfortunately, in this case also, the cost per property was far in excess of £500, and the Committee decided not to proceed with the proposals.

4. Drainage of Properties at Nottingham

The Borough Engineer's comments on the position as at 2nd April, 1969, are as follows :—

“Investigation of this area was commenced during 1968, but as the technical work is being carried out by one of my Sandwich Course Students, progress was interrupted last September when he left for his six month period at Portsmouth College of Technology. I hope that the design work on this scheme will shortly re-commence.”

5. Properties in Broadwey and Upwey with drainage systems discharging to the River Wey

In December, 1967, I made a special report to Health Committee on the subject of houses in the Broadwey and Upwey areas with drainage systems discharging to the River Wey. It was found that there were 27 houses in these areas where cesspools or other forms of drainage eventually discharged to the River. My report was referred to the Street and Works Committee and it was agreed that all 27 houses should be added to the list of properties referred to in paragraph 3 (1) above.

6. Conversion to Main Drainage

During the year 25 cesspools, 9 pail closets and 2 other unsatisfactory forms of conservancy were done away with when 36 houses were re-drained to the Corporation's main drainage system.

7. Drainage—Supervision and Testing

2,451 visits were made in connection with the drainage of new and existing houses.

8. Drainage

In concluding this section of my Report, I wish to stress the vital importance of two services which I consider to be essential in the maintenance of a healthy community.

- (1) A pure and wholesome water supply,

- (2) An adequate sewerage system for the safe disposal of excreta.

We have been fortunate over the years in maintaining a very sound liaison with the Weymouth Waterworks Company, and I hope that this will continue when the Dorset Water Board takes over this function in the near future.

One cannot, however, adopt a complacent attitude about the efficiency of our sewerage system, which is grossly overloaded in several areas of the Borough. There is an ever increasing tendency to tarmac or concrete over front gardens (and sometimes even back gardens) to provide parking spaces for cars. This means that rain is not able to percolate naturally through the soil, but flows on to the roads and into the street gulleys, thereby overloading the sewers which are mostly of the combined storm water and foul sewage type.

HOUSING

UNFIT HOUSES

Progress was made in dealing with unfit houses and details of this work are contained in the following paragraphs.

There are no large Clearance Areas to be dealt with in the Borough, but as can be seen from this Report, a number of individual unfit houses come to the notice of the Department every year and are dealt with under the provisions of Part II of the Housing Act, 1957.

Action taken during the year was as follows :—

1. Closing Orders — Housing Act, 1957 — Sections 17 and 18

Closing Orders were made in respect of :

- 6 Rodwell Street
- 22 Church Street, Upwey
- 17 Turton Street
- 4 Ropers Buildings, Upwey
- 18 Penny Street
- 2 South Parade
- 27 Marsh Road
- 6 Charles Street
- 163 Abbotsbury Road
- 11 Belmont Street
- 20 Walpole Street
- 522 Dorchester Road

2. Houses Demolished

The following properties were demolished :

- 1 and 2 Malins Lea, Wyke Regis (Subject to Demolition Orders made in October, 1946).
- 1 and 2 Myrtle Cottages, Marsh Road (Subject to Undertakings not to use for human habitation made in October, 1955).
- "The Hut," Nottingham House, Nottingham Lane (Subject to a Closing Order made in March, 1961).
- 2 Seaview, Seven Acres Road, Preston (Subject to a Demolition Order made in October, 1964).
- Wooden Hut on foreshore off Old Castle Road (Subject to a Closing Order made in November, 1965).
- 72 Camp Road (Subject to a Demolition Order made January, 1962).

3. Houses Represented as Unfit for Habitation

The following house was represented as unfit for habitation but action was not completed by the end of the year :

Coombe Valley Farm Cottage, Coombe Valley Road, Preston.

4. Houses made fit following action under Section 16 and Closing Orders Determined

- 3 High Street, Wyke Regis
- 31 Newstead Road
- 589 Dorchester Road
- 57 Newstead Road
- 22 and 22a Church Street, Upwey—(converted to one dwelling).
- 602 Dorchester Road
- 2 Belmont Villas, Ground Floor Flat—converted with first floor flat into one dwelling.
- 59 Newstead Road

5. Houses made fit after Informal or Statutory Action

Forty-five houses were made fit during the year following service of Informal or Statutory Notices.

POSITION AS AT 31st DECEMBER, 1968 HOUSING ACT, 1957

<i>Premises</i>	<i>Still occupied as dwellings</i>	<i>Used as Store or work-places</i>	<i>Vacant</i>	<i>Total</i>
Houses subject to Demolition or Clearance Orders not yet demolished	—	5	3	8
Parts of Buildings subject to Closing Orders	—	1	6	7
Houses subject to Closing Orders	16	1	11	28
Houses subject to Undertaking not to re-let for human habitation	—	1	2	3

OVERCROWDING

No cases of statutory overcrowding were brought to my notice during the year.

REGISTERED COMMON LODGING HOUSES

There are no Registered Common Lodging Houses in the Borough.

RENT ACT, 1957

Certificates of Disrepair

No applications for Certificates of Disrepair were received during the year.

HOUSE PURCHASE AND HOUSING ACT, 1959

HOUSING ACT, 1964

The Health Department co-operated with the Borough Engineer's Department in dealing with applications for Improvement Grants and many old houses are now being brought up to modern standards by means of Standard and Discretionary Grants.

During the year 181 visits were made by the Public Health Inspectors in connection with applications for standard and Discretionary Grants.

Grant Applications — 1968

Standard	...	...	...	49
Discretionary	...	...	...	2
Grant works completed:				
Standard	...	...	...	60
Discretionary	...	...	...	1

By the end of 1968 some 530 applications for improvement grants had been approved but this comparatively small number granted over the past nine years indicates that little advantage has been taken of the improvement grants scheme.

APPLICATIONS FOR RE-HOUSING

The Department dealt with a considerable number of claims by applicants for priority recommendations on grounds of overcrowding or ill-health. This involved 235 visits during 1968.

The Housing Allocation Sub-Committee has a rule that applicants must be registered with the Council for a minimum period of 18 months before they can be considered for re-housing and many applications dealt with during the year could not be considered as they did not comply with this requirement.

The Health Department continued to work in close co-operation with the Borough Treasurer who is responsible for administration in connection with houses owned by the Town Council. Each applicant who calls at the Health Department is given a sympathetic hearing, a report is prepared following a home visit, and a departmental discussion is held to assess the real need in each case.

Re-housing of Elderly Persons

During the year 1968, 31 aged Peoples flats and bungalows were completed and occupied as follows :—

Six 1 bedroom bungalows	—	Cobham Drive with gas warm-air heating.
Four 2 bedroom bungalows	—	Stainforth Close with electric underfloor heating.
Five 2 bedroom bungalows	—	Spring Lane.
Sixteen 1 bedroom flats	—	Wiltshire Avenue with gas warm-air heating.

At the end of the year there were 54 bungalows and flats occupied by "Category B" tenants under the supervision of resident wardens with a further 8 flats brought into use for this purpose at Radipole Court. There were, in addition, 116 bungalows on various estates and 47 flats for occupation by aged people.

Present building comprises seven 1 bedroom bungalows at West Bay Crescent and eight 1 bedroom bungalows at Hereford Crescent, with fourteen 1 bedroom bungalows yet to be commenced at Radipole Lane. Approval has also been given to plans for a further fifteen bungalows at Hereford Crescent and thirty-four "Category B" dwellings at Bedford Road.

The number of applicants on the housing list who could be classified as Aged People totalled 218, and, in view of the very long approved list, no further applicants are being considered for the time being.

NATIONAL ASSISTANCE ACT, 1948 - 1951

Under these Acts the Town Council is empowered to take steps to secure the removal to suitable accommodation of persons in need of care and attention.

During the year nine cases were dealt with but it was not necessary to take statutory action to enforce removal of any of them to Part III accommodation (County Council Homes). All were provided with Home Help and were visited regularly by Health Visitors and Public Health Inspectors.

The Dorset County Council's Home Help Service once again proved of tremendous value throughout the year. Almost all old people wish to remain in their own homes and in many cases this would not be possible without the Home Help Service. In this connection I must again make special mention of the excellent work carried out by Mrs. M. C. Brawley, the Home Help Organiser, for the smooth running of this efficient service.

FOOD AND DRUGS ACT, 1955—SECTION 83

The Town Council co-operates in the joint local authority scheme, the constituent authorities being—the City of Southampton, the County Borough of Bournemouth and the Boroughs of Poole, Winchester and Weymouth. The scheme has operated very efficiently throughout the year and I am grateful to the Public Analyst, Mr. H. Dedicoat, F.R.I.C. and his Deputy, Mr. S. L. Kidman, F.R.I.C., for their advice and assistance to the department throughout the year.

Sampling

Seventy-eight samples of milk were subjected to the Gerber Test by the Department's officers.

One hundred and thirty-one samples of food and drugs were taken for analysis by the Public Analyst, as follows :—

FOOD				Formal	Informal	Total	Genuine	Adulterated or irregular
Ale, brown	...	...	—	2	2	2	—	—
Almonds, ground	...	...	—	1	1	1	—	—
Apricots, dried	...	...	—	1	1	1	—	—
Baby Food	...	...	—	2	2	2	—	—
Bread, White	...	...	—	3	3	3	—	—
Bread, brown	...	...	—	1	1	1	—	—
Butter	...	...	—	4	4	3	1	—
Cake Decorations	...	...	—	2	2	2	—	—
Cheese	...	...	—	1	1	1	—	—
Cheese, toasted	...	...	—	1	1	1	—	—
Cheese Spread	...	...	—	2	2	2	—	—
Chocolate Liqueurs	...	...	1	1	2	—	2	—
Christmas Pudding	...	...	—	1	1	1	—	—
Cochineal Extract	...	...	—	1	1	1	—	—

FOOD				Formal	Informal	Total	Genuine	Adulterated or irregular
Cocoa	...	...	...	—	1	1	1	—
Coffee, bottled	...	...	...	—	1	1	1	—
Cream (raw) double	...	...	...	—	2	2	2	—
Cream, canned	...	...	...	—	1	1	—	1
Cream of Tartar	...	...	...	—	1	1	1	—
Curry	...	...	...	—	2	2	2	—
Custard	...	...	...	—	1	1	1	—
Dates	...	...	...	—	1	1	1	—
Egg, liquid frozen	...	...	...	—	1	1	1	—
Fat, cooking	...	...	...	—	1	1	1	—
Fat, dripping	...	...	...	—	1	1	1	—
Fat, Lard	...	...	...	—	1	1	1	—
Figs, dried	...	...	...	—	1	1	1	—
Fish, canned	...	...	...	—	3	3	3	—
Fruit, canned	...	...	...	—	2	2	2	—
Flour, plain	...	...	...	—	2	2	2	—
Flour, self-raising	...	...	...	—	1	1	1	—
Ginger, crystallised	...	...	...	—	1	1	1	—
Honey	...	...	...	—	1	1	1	—
Jam	...	...	...	—	1	1	1	—
Jelly	...	...	...	—	3	3	3	—
Lemonade	...	...	...	—	1	1	1	—
Lemon Curd	...	...	...	1	1	2	1	1
Lemons	...	...	...	—	1	1	1	—
Malt Extract with cod liver oil	...	...	...	—	1	1	1	—
Margarine	...	...	...	—	8	8	8	—
Marzipan	...	...	...	—	2	2	2	—
Mayonnaise	...	...	...	—	1	1	1	—
Milk, canned	...	...	...	—	3	3	3	—
Milk, dried	...	...	...	—	2	2	2	—
Milk, Raw	...	...	...	—	4	4	4	—
Milk Pudding	...	...	...	—	3	3	3	—
Mincemeat	...	...	...	—	1	1	1	—
Minced Chicken in Jelly	...	...	...	—	1	1	1	—
Mints	...	...	...	—	1	1	1	—
Mustard	...	...	...	—	2	2	2	—
Nougat	...	...	...	—	1	1	—	1
Nut Oil	...	...	...	—	1	1	1	—
Nuts	...	...	...	—	1	1	1	—
Olive Oil	...	...	...	—	1	1	1	—
Onion Dip	...	...	...	—	1	1	1	—

FOOD				Formal	Informal	Total	Genuine	Adulterated or irregular
Oranges	...	.....		—	2	2	2	—
Orange, candied	...	...		—	1	1	1	—
Orange Squash	...	...		—	1	1	1	—
Pepper	...	...	...	—	1	1	1	—
Raisins, dried	...	...	...	—	1	1	1	—
Salad Cream	...	...	...	—	1	1	1	—
Sago	...	...	...	—	1	1	1	—
Salt	...	...	...	—	2	2	2	—
Sandwich Spread	...	...	...	—	1	1	1	—
Sauce	...	...	...	—	3	3	3	—
Sausages, pork	...	...	...	—	1	1	1	—
Semolina	...	...	...	—	1	1	1	—
Soup	...	...	...	—	1	1	1	—
Spirits	...	...	...	3	—	3	3	—
Steak, canned	...	...	...	—	1	1	1	—
Steak and vegetables, canned	...	...	...	—	1	1	1	—
Sultana Scones	...	...	...	—	1	1	—	1
Tapioca	...	...	...	—	1	1	1	—
Tarragon, dried leaves	...	...	...	—	1	1	1	—
Tea	...	...	...	—	3	3	3	—
Tomatoes	...	...	...	—	1	1	1	—
Tomato Juice	...	...	...	—	3	3	3	—
Tomato Paste	...	...	...	—	1	1	1	—
Tomato Pickle	...	...	...	—	1	1	1	—
Tonic Water	...	...	...	—	1	1	1	—
Turmeric, ground	...	...	...	—	1	1	1	—
Vinegar	...	...	...	—	2	2	2	—
				5	124	129	122	7

DRUGS

Calamine Lotion	...	...	...	—	1	1	1	—
Linctus	...	...	...	—	1	1	1	—
				—	2	2	2	—

PESTICIDE SURVEY SCHEME

					Total	Satisfactory	Unsatisfactory
Baby Food	...	...	...	...	2	2	—
Broad Beans	...	...	...	...	1	1	—
Butter	...	...	...	...	1	1	—
Chicken	...	...	...	...	1	1	—
Eggs	...	...	...	...	1	1	—
Lettuce	...	...	...	...	2	2	—
Raspberries	...	...	...	...	1	—	1
Strawberries	...	...	...	...	1	1	—
Total					10	9	1

FOOD AND DRUGS SAMPLES FOUND TO BE ADULTERATED OR IRREGULAR

<i>No.</i>	<i>Sample</i>	<i>Formal or Informal</i>	<i>Nature of Adulteration or irregularity</i>	<i>Observations</i>	<i>Action taken</i>
513	Nougat	Informal	Deficient in weight.	100 grams on label but only 91 grams.	Weights and Measures Department informed.
515	Chocolate Liqueurs	Informal	Label on box "filled with original Hennessy Cognac." Filling a mixture of sugar syrup and brandy cognac. Brandy not more than one quarter of the filling.	Description misleading.	Legal proceedings instituted but later withdrawn.
516	Sultana Scones	Informal	High content of baking powder. Slightly alkaline in re-action. Can often cause a bitter or "soda" taste.	Nothing present which would be a danger to health.	Letter to manufacturers
517	Chocolate Liqueurs	Formal	As No. 515.	As No. 515.	As for sample No. 515.
565	Tinned Cream	Informal	In mouldy condition on arrival.	No black specks detected apart from those associated with mould growth. Impossible to tell if present when can newly opened.	No action.
598	Lemon Curd	Informal	Deficient of lemon oil. Oil not more than 0.05%.	Should contain not more than 0.05 parts lemon in 100 parts and therefore deficient of at least 50% of required lemon oil content.	Formal sample subsequently taken was satisfactory.
634	Butter	Informal	Black patch of mould identified as <i>Cladosporium Herbarum</i> on surface.	Slightly rancid, unfit for human consumption.	Legal proceedings authorised but not taken—evidence not satisfactory.

FOOD—COMPLAINTS

Twenty-seven complaints were received with regard to the unsatisfactory condition of food, sometimes due to the presence of foreign bodies. Each complaint was followed up by a visit to the shop concerned and in a number of cases it was found that foreign bodies had found their way into the food at the factory of origin.

Legal proceedings were taken in five cases as follows :—

1. Mouldy beef sausages—Defendant fined £20 and 5 guineas costs.
2. Rubber band in a dough cake—Case dismissed without costs being awarded against the Council.
3. Mouldy cake—Defendant fined £20 and 5 guineas costs.
4. Mould in loaf—Defendant found guilty but given an absolute discharge. He was ordered to pay costs of 5 guineas.
5. Mouldy Cornish Pasty—Defendant fined £15.

Legal proceedings authorised but not taken at end of year	3
Warning letters sent to manufacturers or retailers	5
Matter taken up with producer or retailer	7
No action required	10
Visits in connection with food complaints	66

FOOD POISONING

One outbreak of food poisoning, involving nine persons, occurred during the year. The causative organism was staphylococcus aureus. Twelve visits were made in connection with suspected cases of food poisoning.

THE LIQUID EGG (PASTEURISATION) REGULATIONS, 1963

Number of egg pasteurisation plants in the district	None
Number of samples of liquid egg submitted to the	
Alpha Amylase test	1
Passed	1
Failed	—

FOOD AND DRUGS ACT, 1955—SECTIONS 16—19

REGISTRATION OF PREMISES FOR THE PREPARATION OF POTTED, ETC., FOODS

The registration of premises for the preparation of potted, etc., foods is required under the provisions of the Weymouth and Melcombe Regis (Food) Declaration, 1961 (S.I. 1961, No. 1390). There are 29 premises registered in the Borough for the preparation of potted, etc. foods.

FOOD HYGIENE—EDUCATIONAL ACTIVITY

There is no Clean Food Guild in operation in the Borough.

During the year the Chief Public Health Inspector addressed a number of local organisations on the work of the Health Department, with special emphasis on food hygiene.

POULTRY INSPECTION

There are no poultry processing premises within the Borough.

DISPOSAL OF CONDEMNED FOOD

All unsound food is disposed of by burial at the Corporation's Controlled Tip.

FOOD HYGIENE

Food Hygiene (General) Regulations, 1960

During 1968, 786 inspections were made of food premises. Once again I am pleased to say that co-operation from owners and employees in the catering industry was extremely good and the standard of food hygiene in the Borough continues to improve.

It was necessary, however, to serve 40 informal notices in respect of contraventions of the Food Hygiene Regulations. These notices covered 113 items but the majority had been remedied by the end of the year.

DETAILS OF FOOD PREMISES IN THE BOROUGH

FOOD HYGIENE (GENERAL) REGULATIONS 1960

Category	Number of Premises	No. fitted to comply with Regulation 16	No. to which Regulation 19 applies	No. fitted to comply with Regulation 19
Catering	93	93	93	93
Butchers	33	31	33	32
Greengrocers	22	22	19	19
Bakers Shops	21	21	16	16
Fishmongers Shops	9	9	9	9
Fried Fish Shops	15	14	15	15
Bakehouses	11	11	11	11
Confectionery Shops (Sugar)	54	54	34	34
Grocers	114	112	107	105
Licensed Premises (other than Restaurants and Cafes)	92	80	92	92
Off-Licence Premises (other than Food Shops)	10	10	—	—
Food Factories	3	3	3	3
Chemists Shops	17	17	17	17

ICE-CREAM

The number of inspections made of premises where ice-cream is manufactured, stored or on sale to the public was 267—an increase of 34 on the previous year.

The number of ice-cream samples taken was 83 and 98% of these were satisfactory.

At the end of the year 227 premises were registered for the storage and sale of ice-cream in the Borough. This number includes three premises where ice-cream is manufactured in quantity and 11 premises where soft ice-cream machines are in use.

Ice-Cream (Heat Treatment) Regulations, 1959

These Regulations require ingredients used in the manufacture of ice-cream to be pasteurised by one of the three specified methods of sterilisation and then kept at a low temperature until the freezing has begun.

During the year routine visits were made to all premises in the Borough where ice-cream is manufactured and I am pleased to record that all premises maintained a very good standard of hygiene.

Ice-Cream Sampling

<i>No. of Samples</i>	<i>Grades</i>			
	1	2	3	4
83	77	4	2	—

Summary of Results

Grades 1 and 2	...	...	98% Satisfactory
Grades 3 and 4	...	...	2% Unsatisfactory

MILK SUPPLIES

The responsibility for registration of dairy farms and farmers and the supervision of milk production at farms remained with the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food, except in so far as the Regulations relate to diseases communicable to man.

The Corporation is responsible for the issue of Dealers' Licences and taking routine milk samples. In view of the County Health Department's duties in connection with other aspects of milk sampling within the area, it was agreed that they should continue to take our routine milk samples and, at the end of the year, 272 such samples had been taken.

Brucella Abortus

210 samples of raw milk were taken in the Borough by the County Health Department for examination for the presence of brucella abortus. In addition, 18 samples of cream were sampled. One sample of milk proved positive for brucella abortus and immediate action was taken with the farmer concerned. Only one cow in the herd involved was found to be positive and this animal was sent for immediate slaughter.

I am once again indebted to the County Medical Officer of Health and the Officers of the County Health Department for their co-operation in this work which is yet another indication of the happy relationship which exists between the two Health Departments.

Licences under the Milk (Special Designation) Regulations, 1963

Licences in force at the end of 1968 were as follows :—

(1) Dealers' (Pre-Packed) Licences	...	...	103
(2) Dealers' (Untreated) Licences	...	...	1
(3) Dealers' (Pasteuriser's) Licences	...	...	1

Sampling

Forty-five visits were made by the Public Health Inspectors in connection with milk sampling for compositional quality.

FOOD SUPPLIES

(1) Meat Inspection

Weymouth—Slaughterhouse/Bacon Factory

This slaughterhouse and nearby cold store were demolished during the year. The majority of home killed meat for Weymouth comes from slaughterhouses in the Borough of Dorchester and the area of the Dorchester Rural District Council.

Licensing of Slaughtermen

During the year three applications for renewal of licences were received. All were granted subject to the conditions laid down in the Slaughter of Animals Act, 1958.

2. FOODSTUFFS CONDEMNED

Canned Goods

Meat Products	...	...	...	...	127 tins
Fish	...	...	...	...	81 tins
Milk and Cream	...	...	...	...	11 tins
Fruit	1816 tins
Vegetables	444 tins
Soups	21 tins

Meat

Meat Products	423 lbs.
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Fish

Mixed Fish	262 lbs.
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Other Foods

Meat Products	479 pkts.
Fish Products	260 pkts.
Vegetable Products	375 pkts.
Fruit Products	...	...	...	...	30 pkts.
Confectionery Products	...	...	...	...	88 pkts.
Cheese Products	...	...	...	...	3 pkts.
Cereal Products	...	...	...	...	4 pkts.
Bottled Flavouring	...	...	...	...	5 bottles
Bottled Ketchup	...	...	...	...	1 bottle
Marmalade	...	...	...	...	2 jars
Honey	...	...	...	...	1 jar
Lemon Curd	...	...	...	...	1 jar
Pickles	...	...	...	...	1 jar
Biscuits	...	...	...	...	48 lbs.

OFFICES, SHOPS AND RAILWAY PREMISES ACT, 1963

Registration and Inspection

The total number of premises registered at the end of the year was 532, an increase of 22 on the figure for last year. It will be noted from the figures giving details of defects remedied, that generally, the major improvements required to comply with the Act have been completed. Further general inspections are being made to ensure that conditions are being maintained up to the required standards.

The total number of visits—366—comprises general inspections, revisits to check when work is completed, investigations of accidents, enquiries relating to registration and other miscellaneous visits.

Action taken is as follows :—

No. of notices served	...	...	25
No. of defects found	...	...	73
No. of notices complied with	...	...	33
No. of Defects remedied	...	...	103

Details of defects remedied are as follows :—

No. of new wash-hand basins provided and defective basins replaced	...	...	...	10
Provision of running hot or warm water	...	...	...	1
Provision of First Aid Boxes	...	...	...	18
Improvement of clothing accommodation and the provision of drying facilities	...	...	...	1
Insufficient or defective sanitary accommodation and the need for marking sanitary conveniences	...	...	...	5
Defects to floors and staircases and obstructions	...	...	...	12
Overcrowding	...	...	...	5
Temperature and the need for thermometers	...	...	...	17
Defects in lighting	...	...	...	2
Lack of cleanliness and the need for re-decoration	...	...	...	1
Improved eating facilities	...	...	...	1
Improvement in ventilation	...	...	...	2
Improved drinking water supplies	...	...	...	2
Fencing of exposed parts of machinery	...	...	...	2
Information for employees	...	...	...	24

Accidents

Nine accidents were reported and investigated. Three involved butchers assistants with cuts on the hand or fingers. Two cases of strained back were caused by lifting in one case and stumbling on a slippery floor in the other. A slippery floor also caused a wrist injury. There was one case of electric shock, a bruising condition caused by a gas explosion in an oven and an eye injury caused by a flying piece of chopped wood.

Prosecutions

There were no prosecutions instituted under the Act.

REGISTRATIONS AND GENERAL INSPECTIONS

<i>Class of Premises</i>	<i>Number of premises registered during the year</i>	<i>Total number of registered premises at end of year</i>	<i>No. of registered premises receiving a general inspection during the year</i>
Offices	8	105	14
Retail Shops	21	345	55
Wholesale Shops, Warehouses	1	12	—
Catering Establishments open to the public, Canteens	4	68	4
Fuel Storage Depots	—	2	—
Number of visits of all kinds by Inspectors to Registered Premises	—	—	366

ANALYSIS OF PERSONS EMPLOYED IN REGISTERED PREMISES BY WORKPLACE

<i>Class of Workplace</i>	<i>Number of persons employed</i>		
Offices	868
Retail Shops	1684
Wholesale Departments, Warehouses	110
Catering Establishments open to the public	575
Canteens	11
Fuel Storage Depots	8
Total	3256
Total Males	1122
Total Females	2134

CARAVAN AND CAMPING SITES

Since the Caravan Sites and Control of Development Act, 1960, came into operation, the Town Council has issued thirteen caravan site licences which permit the holiday use of 2,281 caravans within the Borough.

Regular inspections of caravan sites were carried out — mainly during the summer months—and totalled 255. All sites were maintained to a good standard and I thank licensees for their ready co-operation with the Health Department throughout the season.

Plans were submitted for the gradual conversion of one caravan park to a chalet centre. The plans were approved and before the end of the year two chalets were constructed. On this same site a very attractive swimming pool was built and opened towards the end of the season.

Once again problems arose with touring caravans parked on Corporation land including car parks. This type of holiday-maker usually has no regard for any public health requirements as the land he chooses invariably has no water supply or sanitary facilities. For this reason it was again necessary for the Corporation to fence off parts of Lodmoor to prevent access by unauthorised persons with caravans and tents.

Tented camping was again carried out on land adjacent to two licensed caravan sites within the Borough for a maximum period of 60 days, as provided in Section 269 of the Public Health Act, 1936.

MOSQUITO AND MIDGE CONTROL

1. Radipole Lake

For a number of years it has been customary to introduce seawater into Radipole Lake at the beginning of each year in order to increase the salinity of the water and so reduce the breeding of the Chironomus midge. This procedure was carried out again at the beginning of 1968. The usual routine checks were made along the eastern and western borders of the lake during the mosquito season and evidence of mosquito breeding was found on a few occasions. The nuisance caused by the Chironomus midge was not so bad as in previous years although a few complaints were received. Unfortunately, no really effective measures have yet been found for the complete eradication of this nuisance.

2. Lodmoor

Controlled tipping continued throughout 1968 in the area north of Weymouth Bay Avenue.

Each year I give a reminder that mosquito breeding on a reducing scale will continue on Lodmoor for many years and the Corporation's policy of control by drainage and land reclamation provides the only solution to this problem. Tipping is being carried out in the particularly marshy areas and this land reclamation should in a few years' time result in a lessening of mosquito nuisance in this part of the Borough.

CLEAN AIR ACT, 1956

1. During the year ten complaints were received in connection with smoke nuisances. There were mostly in connection with the burning of rubbish on garden bonfires. Although Weymouth is not an industrial area and has no major smoke problems, a few installations continued to give occasional trouble.

In my reports for the two previous years I mentioned that the Central Electricity Generating Board had indicated that they were interested in the possibility of providing a 2,000 megawatt station within the Borough. During the year the Board was in touch with the Town Council and it was understood that no firm decision had yet been made as to the building of the station, and it was unlikely, in any case, that one would be provided before the mid 1970's.

During the year twenty-six visits were made to various premises in connection with duties under the Clean Air Acts, 1956 and 1968.

2. Volumetric Air Pollution Measurement

The Department has two volumetric air pollution measurement machines sited in areas which might be affected if an oil-fired power station was to be built on the Portland Harbour site. These continued in operation throughout the year and data obtained was forwarded to the Ministry of Technology for incorporation in the national air pollution tables.

During the year 135 visits were made in connection with volumetric air pollution measurement.

3. The Town Council continued its membership of the National Society for Clean Air during the year.

NOISE ABATEMENT ACT, 1960

Four complaints with regard to alleged noise nuisances were received. These involved twenty-four visits and in most cases some improvement resulted after action was taken by the Department.

RODENT CONTROL

The one rodent operator employed by the Department was absent on sick leave from May until the end of the year. A specialist firm was employed for the period of his absence and, although there was usually a 48-hour delay in dealing with complaints, the arrangement worked satisfactorily. It was not necessary to take any statutory action under the provisions of the Prevention of Damage by Pests Act during the year. Statistics relating to the work carried out are as follows :—

		<i>Type of Property</i>	
		<i>Non Agricultural</i>	<i>Agricultural</i>
1.	(a) Total number of properties (including nearby premises) inspected following notification.	556	4
	(b) Number infested by		
	(i) Rats	412	4
	(ii) Mice	35	—
2.	(a) Total number of properties inspected for rats and/or mice for reasons other than notification	139	32
	(b) Number infested by		
	(i) Rats	41	14
	(ii) Mice	12	4
3.	Complaints re rats and mice ...	463	
4.	In addition the Public Health Inspectors made 128 visits—mainly in connection with rat proofing and repairs to drainage systems.		

Treatment of the Sewers

Poison treatment of the sewers is carried out by specialist contractors. Three treatments were carried out during the year—in April, July and November. Slight infestation was found during the April and November sewer treatments.

PUBLIC CONVENIENCES

There are 53 public conveniences under the control of the Department and I am pleased to say that all were maintained to a good standard throughout the year.

One maintenance workman is employed in the Department for dealing with day-to-day maintenance and repairs to buildings and fittings. Urgent repairs were carried out with minimum delay and, during the winter months, time was devoted to re-decoration of the buildings.

New Conveniences

During the year the Health Committee considered the provision of additional public conveniences in the Borough and it was finally decided that these should first be provided in Wyke Regis. A site was found in Dumbarton Road and by the end of the year, plans for these conveniences had been prepared.

Free Hand Washing Facilities at Public Conveniences

The facilities for free hand-washing in public conveniences where attendants are employed were continued throughout 1968. This scheme was started in 1955 and has worked very successfully. In view of the limited size of the wash and brush-up rooms in conveniences on the sea front it was not possible to operate the scheme during the months of July, August and September.

Small wash hand basins with cold water taps for hand washing are provided in 33 of our public conveniences.

Wilful Damage

The extent of wilful damage in public conveniences showed no decrease and it involved the Department in a considerable amount of unnecessary work throughout the year. Special attention is given to the design of new conveniences so that they can be made vandal-proof as far as possible.

Supervision of Public Conveniences

Each year a considerable amount of time is devoted by the Department to the supervision of public conveniences. During 1968, 1,970 inspections were made by the Health Department staff.

Before the summer season began, Mrs. E. Thomas who has been the Supervisor of the Ladies Conveniences for more than twenty years, unfortunately had to retire on grounds of ill health. She was succeeded by a member of the existing staff—Mrs. D. F. Samways.

HAIRDRESSERS AND BARBERS BYELAWS

Byelaws "for the purpose of securing the cleanliness of premises and persons carrying on the business of hairdressers and barbers" within the Borough have been adopted by the Corporation and came into operation on the 1st May, 1964.

A total of 54 visits were made to hairdressers' and barbers' premises within the Borough during the year.

VERMINOUS PERSONS

As it is desirable that arrangements for dealing with verminous persons should be carried out with a minimum of delay, the Town Council in June, 1953, delegated their powers and duties under Section 85 of the Public Health Act, 1936, including the institution of legal proceedings, to a special committee con-

sisting of the Chairman, Vice-Chairman and one other member of the Health Committee.

It was not necessary to use these powers during the year.

VERMINOUS PREMISES

Verminous premises are treated with liquid and powder insecticides, and, where necessary, articles of clothing and bedding are treated in the Department's steam disinfectant plant.

Facilities are available at the Health Centre for personal cleansing and as far as possible the treatment of persons, their clothing and premises, is carried out simultaneously.

Forty-seven premises were disinfested during 1968. The infestations were minor in character and were generally eliminated after one thorough treatment.

For many years it has been the Council's policy to carry out disinfestation free of charge when occupiers call on the Department for advice. I am quite certain that this policy has been justified as the number of infestations occurring in a Borough of this size is comparatively small.

Details of infestations were as follows :—

Fleas	...	...	...	...	9
Bugs	...	...	...	...	2
Body Lice	...	...	...	...	1

DISINFECTION

The Department's Manlove and Alliott steam disinfectant plant was modernised in 1960.

During the year 166 articles of clothing, bedding, etc. were disinfected and 35 library books received Formaldehyde disinfection.

Four houses and other premises were disinfected after cases of infectious disease.

PET ANIMALS ACT, 1951

The number of inspections of Pet Shops carried out by Public Health Inspectors under the Pet Animals Act, 1951, was twelve. Two applications for renewal of licence were received during the year and were granted subject to appropriate conditions relating to the humane treatment of animals.

ANIMAL BOARDING ESTABLISHMENTS ACT, 1963

Two applications for licences to keep animal boarding establishments were received and granted subject to necessary conditions.

THE RIDING ESTABLISHMENTS ACT, 1964

The above Act came into operation on 1st April, 1965, and the Town Council decided that the licensing of riding establishments, which is required under the Act, should be under the control of the Health Committee.

The Act lays down requirements for riding establishments with regard to accommodation, pasture, shelter, food and drink; prevention and control of spread of disease, protection from fire, maintenance of good health, adequate accommodation for forage, bedding, stable equipment, etc.

Licences to keep riding establishments can only be issued after consideration of a report by a qualified Veterinary Officer and, for that reason, the Town Council appointed J. F. Henderson, Esq., M.R.C.V.S., as Veterinary Surgeon to advise them under the provisions of the Act.

During the year three applications were made for licences to keep riding establishments and these were granted subject to the conditions recommended by the Veterinary Surgeon.

AGRICULTURE (SAFETY, HEALTH AND WELFARE PROVISIONS) ACT, 1956

During 1960 a survey of all the agricultural holdings in the Borough was carried out and where necessary, occupiers of holdings without sanitary accommodation were requested to make such provision in order to comply with the requirements of the Act.

One visit was made under the provisions of this Act during the year.

THE SCRAP METAL DEALERS ACT, 1964

Persons dealing in scrap metal are required to register with the local authority and all dealers are required to keep detailed registers of transactions. Six dealers are registered under the provisions of this Act. The Police have the right at all times to enter such premises and inspect any of the records which the dealer is required to keep.

Registration with the local authority covers a period of three years.

OFFENSIVE TRADES

There is one rag and bone dealer's premises in the Borough which was established prior to the operation of the Public Health Act, 1936. Three visits have been made by the Public Health Inspectors during the year

HUMANE KILLER FOR CATS

The Department has the use of apparatus supplied by the Royal Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals for the humane disposal of small animals.

I must once again thank the Society for their continued co-operation with the Health Department in connection with this work.

During the year 53 cats were dealt with.

PIGEONS

Further complaints were received during the year with regard to damage and nuisance caused by pigeons, particularly in the town area.

During the year a specialist firm was employed to trap pigeons in the town area. Although more than 200 pigeons were destroyed, the campaign could not be regarded as entirely successful and, as yet, there is still no really satisfactory method for controlling pigeons in the town area. 103 visits were made in connection with pigeon control.

SUMMARY OF INSPECTIONS CARRIED OUT

<i>Reason for Inspection</i>	<i>No. of premises visited</i>	<i>Number of visits including re-visits</i>	<i>Nuisances or defects found</i>	<i>Nuisances or defects remedied</i>
Premises under Public Health Act and Housing Acts ...	220	560	104	84
Drainage Works Only :				
(a) New buildings	264	1197	—	—
(b) Existing Buildings	158	1254	16	15
Camping Sites, Vans, Tents ...	18	255	14	15
Food Premises ...	379	875	113	161
Milk & Dairies Regulations	44	74	—	—
Factories Act ...	72	131	10	4
Offices, Shops and Railway Premises Act ...	198	366	73	103
Public Conveniences	53	1970	—	—
Number of Complaints received — 220				

OTHER VISITS

Infectious Diseases	...	...	...	...	15
Controlled Tip	...	...	...	...	27
Streams and Watercourses	...	...	...	...	94
Places of Entertainment	...	...	...	...	2
Destruction of Wasps Nests	...	...	...	...	10
Flooding	...	...	...	...	40
Schools	...	...	...	...	2
Civic Amenities Act	...	...	...	...	5
Miscellaneous	...	...	...	...	777

SUMMARY OF NOTICES SERVED

<i>NOTICES</i>					
		<i>Served</i>	<i>Complied</i>		
		<i>Informal</i>	<i>Statutory</i>	<i>Informal</i>	<i>Statutory</i>
Public Health Act, 1936 :					
House Defects	...	30	1	31	—
Drainage	...	15	—	13	—
Other Defects	...	15	—	15	—
Factories Act, 1961	...	3	—	2	—
Food Hygiene (General) Regulations, 1960	...	40	—	49	—
Food Hygiene (Markets, Stalls and Delivery Vehicles) Regulations, 1966	...	8	—	14	—
Prevention of Damage by Pests Act, 1949	...	1	—	1	—
Offices, Shops and Railway Premises Act, 1963	...	25	—	33	—
Caravan Sites and Control of Development Act, 1960	...	8	—	6	—
Hairdressers Byelaws	...	1	—	1	—
Housing Acts	...	2	—	1	—
Clean Air Act	...	5	—	5	—
Agriculture (Safety, etc. Provisions) Act, 1956	...	1	—	1	—

FACTORIES ACT, 1961

Survey of Action During Year

(1) Inspection for purposes of provisions as to health

<i>Premises</i>	<i>Number on Register</i>	<i>Inspections</i>	<i>Written Notices</i>	<i>Occupiers Prosecuted</i>
(a) Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4 & 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities	8	2	—	—
(b) Factories not included in (a) above in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority ...	138	104	2	—
(c) Other premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding Outworkers Premises)	31	24	1	—
Total ...	177	130	3	—

(2) Cases in which defects were found

<i>Particulars</i>	<i>No of Cases in which Defects were found</i>				<i>No. of cases in which prosecutions were instituted</i>
	<i>Found</i>	<i>Referred To H.M. Inspector</i>	<i>By H.M. Inspec.</i>		
Want of cleanliness ...	—	—	—	—	—
Overcrowding ...	—	—	—	—	—
Unreasonable temperature	—	—	—	—	—
Inadequate ventilation	—	—	—	—	—
Ineffective drainage of floors	—	—	—	—	—
Sanitary Conveniences :					
(a) Insufficient ...	1	1	—	1	—
(b) Unsuitable or defective ...	1	1	—	—	—
(c) Not separate for sexes	—	—	—	—	—
Other offences against the Act (not including offences relating to outworkers)	1	1	—	1	—
TOTAL	3	3	—	2	—

(3) Outwork (Sections 133 and 134)

<i>Nature of Work</i>	<i>Number of Outworkers in August list required by Section 133(1)(c)</i>	<i>Number of cases of default in sending lists to the Council</i>	<i>Number of prosecutions for failure to supply lists</i>	<i>Number of instances of work in un-wholesome premises</i>	<i>Notices served</i>	<i>Prosecutions</i>
Wearing apparel (making etc., Cleaning and Washing)	7	—	—	—	—	—
Nets, other than wire nets	1	—	—	—	—	—
Total	8	—	—	—	—	—

(4) Total inspections for all purposes (including outworkers)

<i>No. of Premises visited</i>	<i>No. of visits including re-visits</i>	<i>Defects found</i>	<i>Defects remedied</i>
72	131	3	4

**BOROUGH OF WEYMOUTH AND
MELCOMBE REGIS**



**METEOROLOGICAL
DEPARTMENT**

*Summary for the
Year 1968*



Lat. 50° 36' 20" N. Long. 2° 26' 50" W.
21 feet above Sea Level



G. B. SMITH, Esq., M.A., M.Ed.
Borough Meteorologist

Meteorological Station
Weymouth

Remarks

GENERAL

The year was disappointing, chiefly owing to lack of sunshine and excess of rain, though there was one spell of twenty rainless days (17th July—5th August).

Rainfall at 37.27 inches was 7.23 inches in excess of the average, while sun-shine at 1606.8 hours fell short of the average (1764.9) by 158.1 hours. The heaviest rainfall (1.19 inches) fell on 8th January and the brightest day was 3rd June with 14.4 hours of sunshine. There was one period of 12 days (30th November—11th December) without a glimpse of sunshine.

Temperatures did not vary greatly from the normal, the highest being 79° Fah. on 1st July and the lowest 25° Fah. on 10th and 11th January and 4th February.

No snow was recorded.

Thunderstorms occurred during the day on 14th June, 21st October and 17th December, and during the nights of 3rd and 10th September.

THE WINDS

Observed daily at 0900 B.S.T. to 8 points of the Compass

1968 Month	N.	N.E.	DIRECTION				S.	S.W.	W.	N.W.	Calm
			E.	S.E.							
January	4	0	2	0			3	6	4	7	5
February	1	6	6	4			0	3	0	4	5
March	1	5	1	2			0	9	7	5	1
April	2	0	7	6			2	7	2	2	2
May	1	7	1	4			2	8	2	2	4
June	1	3	2	4			1	12	3	2	2
July	2	11	3	0			0	2	1	4	8
August	5	12	1	0			0	9	2	2	0
September	1	4	1	2			3	5	8	2	4
October	0	5	1	3			2	14	2	1	3
November	2	9	4	5			3	5	1	0	1
December	5	10	3	5			1	2	2	0	3
Total	25	72	32	35			17	82	34	31	38

PRESSURE (Inches) 9.00 a.m. B.S.T.

Barometer Readings at 0900 hours B.S.T., corrected for Temperature and Altitude

1968 Month	Mean Inches	Highest Inches	Date	Lowest Inches	Date	Relative Humidity %	Vapour Pressure (Millibars)
January	...	30.17	30.73	21st	29.51	9th	8.6
February	...	29.97	30.54	27th	29.24	6th	6.9
March	...	30.14	30.69	27th	29.34	21st	7.9
April	...	30.69	30.64	9th	29.44	29th	9.5
May	...	30.14	30.53	29th	29.65	8th	10.8
June	...	30.13	30.50	12th	29.60	23rd	13.9
July	...	30.26	30.74	13th	29.76	14th	14.3
August	...	30.13	30.45	26th	29.66	13th	15.3
September	...	30.00	30.56	7th	29.67	20th	15.0
October	...	30.12	30.40	6th & 20th	29.52	8th	14.6
November	...	30.03	30.36	21st	29.34	2nd	10.1
December	...	29.95	30.45	31st	28.81	17th	8.1
Mean	...	30.14	30.74	13th July	28.81	17th Dec.	11.3

METEOROLOGICAL ABSTRACT

	1963	1964	1965	1966	1967	1968
Highest Shade Temperature (° Fah.)	...	78	79	72	79	76
Lowest Shade Temperature (° Fah.)	...	17	23	19	24	22
Mean Maximum Temperature (° Fah.)	...	55.1	57.1	56.3	58.0	56.9
Mean Minimum Temperature (° Fah.)	...	44.3	45.8	44.6	45.7	46.1
Mean Temperature (° Fah.)	...	49.7	51.4	50.4	51.8	51.6
Total Rainfall (inches)	...	32.52	21.84	32.80	36.65	32.71
Hours of Bright Sunshine	...	1625.5	1734.5	1731.8	1778.4	1863.5
Number of Days with Sunshine	...	281	287	312	295	291
Greatest daily amount of sunshine (hours)	...	14.4	14.6	14.3	14.6	14.6
Highest Barometer Reading (inches)	...	30.76	30.97	30.72	30.50	30.79
Lowest Barometer Reading (inches)	...	29.10	29.24	28.61	29.04	29.00

BRIGHT SUNSHINE

1968 Month	Actual Sunshine (Hours)	Percentage of Average	Greatest Daily Amount (Hours)	Date	Number of Days with Sunshine Recorded	Sunless Days	Cloud Amount 1-8 9 a.m.
January	...	61	5.8	7th	17	14	5.1
February	...	101	9.7	27th	22	7	4.9
March	...	113	10.2	27th	26	5	4.3
April	...	112	12.0	12th & 14th	29	1	3.5
May	...	89	13.6	31st	29	2	4.0
June	...	88	13.4	10th	29	1	4.4
July	...	123	14.4	3rd	31	0	3.6
August	...	72	14.0	18th	24	7	5.1
September	...	102	11.6	2nd	27	3	4.4
October	...	58	8.2	10th	23	8	5.1
November	...	81	8.5	3rd	17	13	6.4
December	...	80	5.7	28th	15	16	5.9
Year	...	90	14.4	3rd July	289	77	4.7

RAINFALL

1968 Month	Total Fall Inches	Percentage of Average	Days of 0.01 inches or more	Wet Days of 0.04 inches or more	Greatest fall in 24 hours	Date	Rainless Days	
January	...	3.34	105	3	11	1.19	8th	11
February	...	2.55	110	0	10	0.65	13th	19
March	...	0.81	41	2	8	0.31	20th	16
April	...	0.85	47	2	9	0.69	27th	15
May	...	2.24	115	0	10	0.75	24th	16
June	...	3.44	237	2	10	1.11	27th	14
July	...	1.63	75	2	6	0.58	9th	23
August	...	1.52	79	1	8	0.34	16th	16
September	...	5.13	205	2	13	0.99	14th	9
October	...	5.11	158	1	16	0.86	11th	11
November	...	7.00	187	1	12	0.38	25th	14
December	...	3.65	105	1	11	0.68	15th	14
Year	...	37.27	121	17	124	1.19	8th Jan.	183

TEMPERATURE OF THE AIR (Fah.)

1968 Month	9 a.m. Mean	Max. Mean	Min. Mean	Max & Min. Mean	Differences from Average	Highest	Date	Lowest	Date
January	43.3	47.2	40.2	43.5	+1.4	52	5th, 14th 15th & 26th	25	10th & 11th
February	37.6	44.0	34.2	39.1	-2.8	49	12th	25	4th
March	44.3	50.3	39.8	45.0	+0.2	57	11th & 29th	32	1st & 14th
April	47.9	53.6	41.1	47.4	-1.5	62	22nd	32	3rd
May	53.6	58.0	45.7	51.8	-2.2	72	29th	40	12th & 19th
June	60.6	66.8	53.7	61.3	+1.9	74	14th	46	10th
July	62.3	67.4	55.0	61.2	-1.0	79	1st	46	4th
August	61.6	67.4	55.8	61.6	-1.2	77	24th	50	19th
September	59.7	63.8	54.8	59.3	-0.2	70	6th	46	25th
October	57.9	60.8	53.9	57.4	+3.4	66	6th	46	14th & 15th
November	47.7	51.0	43.8	47.4	-0.6	60	1st	30	9th & 17th
December	41.7	44.9	37.8	41.4	-2.7	54	21st & 22nd	28	14th & 15th
Year	51.5	56.3	46.3	51.3	-0.57	79	1st July	25	10th & 11th Jan. 4th Feb.

WEYMOUTH SUNSHINE HOURS RECORD SINCE 1895

<i>Year</i>	<i>Hours</i>	<i>Year</i>	<i>Hours</i>	<i>Year</i>	<i>Hours</i>	<i>Year</i>	<i>Hours</i>
1895 ...	1953.7	1914 ...	1826.8	1933 ...	1987.3	1952 ...	1895.5
1896 ...	1904.0	1915 ...	1729.8	1934 ...	1807.0	1953 ...	1916.5
1897 ...	1827.5	1916 ...	1677.5	1935 ...	1706.2	1954 ...	1711.0
1898 ...	1828.4	1917 ...	1653.5	1936 ...	1549.3	1955 ...	2009.4
1899 ...	2030.2	1918 ...	1804.9	1937 ...	1628.5	1956 ...	1855.4
1900 ...	1624.7	1919 ...	1803.5	1938 ...	1646.6	1957 ...	1851.2
1901 ...	1675.9	1920 ...	1523.4	1939 ...	1786.4	1958 ...	1607.7
1902 ...	1421.4	1921 ...	1934.6	1940 ...	1883.3	1959 ...	2083.1
1903 ...	1554.0	1922 ...	1748.0	1941 ...	1669.0	1960 ...	1834.7
1904 ...	1675.6	1923 ...	1695.6	1942 ...	1663.0	1961 ...	1835.8
1905 ...	1706.9	1924 ...	1687.6	1943 ...	1769.0	1962 ...	1845.2
1906 ...	1908.3	1925 ...	1710.1	1944 ...	1741.1	1963 ...	1622.6
1907 ...	1784.1	1926 ...	1554.4	1945 ...	1564.9	1964 ...	1734.5
1908 ...	1875.9	1927 ...	1692.7	1946 ...	1648.2	1965 ...	1731.8
1909 ...	1938.3	1928 ...	1898.9	1947 ...	1626.2	1966 ...	1778.4
1910 ...	1693.7	1929 ...	2024.1	1948 ...	1877.5	1967 ...	1863.5
1911 ...	2090.9	1930 ...	1803.7	1949 ...	2055.3	1968 ...	1606.8
1912 ...	1582.4	1931 ...	1582.8	1950 ...	1820.6		
1913 ...	1583.7	1932 ...	1554.4	1951 ...	1828.3		

Greatest amount of Sunshine in one year : 2090.9 in 1911

Least amount of Sunshine in one year : 1421.4 in 1902

Average Sunshine : 1764.9





