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Berro C. C.

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# RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL OF WINDSOR




1966

ANNUAL REPORT

of

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH



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WINDSOR RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL

To The Chairman and Members of the  
Windsor Rural District.

In spite of resolutions towards the early production of the Annual Report I must admit some responsibility again for delay but would mention that an annual report to be worthwhile requires a certain freedom from interruption for tranquility towards balanced thought and continuity of effort.

Apart from housing and infectious disease much more time seems to be taken up with non clinical work related to County Council duties. Only 10% of time is in theory allocated to administrative county duties but I feel that more time allocated to both District Council work and County administrative work is desirable. This may well be possible in the near future due to the change taking place in the nature of clinical work, much more of which is being taken over by general practitioners. Already within Windsor Borough the total number of clinic sessions for infants has been halved but the number attended by myself has not yet altered.

This report will not be limited to the statutory requirements and the statistics which arrived from the Registrar General in May, but I will again touch on some of the work related to County Services which affect those living within the Rural District.

S. J. McCLATCHEY.  
M.B., B.Ch., B.A.O., D.P.H.

Medical Officer of Health

HEALTH AND HOUSING COMMITTEE

Chairman.....Councillor E.H. Lane B.E.M.

Chairman of the  
Council.....Councillor J.H.F. Matthews J.P.

Members

Councillor Mrs. R. M. Carr

Councillor K. Buckenham

Councillor W. E. F. Evans

Councillor J. Nicholl

Councillor R. W. Portus

Councillor B. H. Rochford

Public Health Officials

Medical Officer of Health

S. J. McCLATCHEY, M.B., B.Ch., B.A.O., D.P.H.

Public Health Inspector and Building Surveyor

W. H. ROWSELL.

Additional Public Health Inspector and Deputy Building  
Surveyor

W. E. BARKER

Clerical Staff

MISS H. RUSSELL.

MRS. E. A. STRINGER.

Rodent Operative

G. E. FROSDICK.

Engineer in charge of Sewage Pumping Station

Blacknest - E. WOOD

Manager of Sewage Disposal Works

Bracknell - A. G. WARREN.

Foreman of Refuse Collection Staff

Sunningdale -  
Sunninghill - S. T. La COMBRE  
Old Windsor

STATISTICS

Area (in acres) ...	8,665
Home Population (Registrar-General's Estimate ... mid year 1966)	17,240
Number of inhabited houses 1966 (estimated) ...	4,891
Rateable Value at 31st December, 1966 ...	£868,822
Sum represented by a Penny Rate (year ending 31.3.67) ...	£207,200 Estd:

CAUSES OF DEATH IN THE DISTRICT DURING 1966

	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>
Other Infective and Parasitic Diseases ...	2	-
Malignant Neoplasm, Stomach ...	2	-
Malignant Neoplasm, Lung, Bronchus ...	8	2
Malignant Neoplasm, Breast ...	-	1
Malignant Neoplasm, Uterus ...	-	1
Other Malignant & Lymphatic Neoplasms ...	12	11
Leukaemia, Aleukaemia ...	-	1
Diabetes ...	1	-
Vascular lesions of Nervous System ...	16	20
Coronary Disease, Angina ...	22	13
Hypertension with Heart Disease ...	3	1
Other Heart Disease ...	8	18
Other Circulatory Disease ...	6	4
Influenza ...	1	1
Pneumonia ...	8	3
Bronchitis ...	4	6
Other Diseases of Respiratory System ...	1	1
Gastritis, Enteritis & Diarrhoea ...	1	-
Nephritis & Nephrosis ...	1	-
Hyperplasia of Prostate ...	2	-
Congenital Malformations ...	3	1
Other Defined & Ill-Defined Diseases ...	7	9
All Other Accidents ...	1	2
Suicide ...	-	3
<b>Total</b> ...	109	98

BIRTHS

				<u>LIVE BIRTHS</u>		<u>STILLBIRTHS</u>	
				<u>MALE</u>	<u>FEMALE</u>	<u>MALE</u>	<u>FEMALE</u>
Total	...	...	...	148	130	5	1
	Legitimate	...	...	139	123	4	1
	Illegitimate	..	...	9	7	1	-
				<u>WINDSOR</u>		<u>ENGLAND</u>	
				<u>R.D.</u>		<u>&amp; WALES</u>	
Birth Rate per 1,000 population				16. 1		17. 7	

INFANT DEATHS

				<u>MALE</u>	<u>FEMALE</u>
Total Deaths of Infants under 1 year				3	2
	Legitimate	...	...	3	2
	Illegitimate	...	...	-	-
Total Deaths of Infants under 4 weeks				1	1
	Legitimate	...	...	1	1
	Illegitimate	...	...	-	-
				<u>WINDSOR</u>	<u>ENGLAND</u>
				<u>R.D.</u>	<u>&amp; WALES</u>
Death Rate per 1,000 population				12. 0	11. 7
Infant Mortality Rate ... ..				18. 0	18. 9
Perinatal Mortality Rate (Stillbirths & deaths of infants under 1 week of age)				28. 2	
Maternal Mortality Rate .. ..				Nil	

INFECTIOUS DISEASE NOTIFICATIONS

	Under 1 yr.	1 to 2	3 to 4	5 to 9	10 to 14	15 to 19	20 to 34	35 to 44	45 to 64	65 & over	Total noti- fied
Scarlet Fever	-	1	3	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	6
Measles	2	3	9	8	-	-	-	-	-	-	22
Whooping Cough	-	-	-	3	-	-	1	-	-	-	4
Dysentery	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
Food Poisoning	-	-	-	-	-	-	4	-	1	5	10

Between August and December 1966 an outbreak of Salmonella Panama (Food Poisoning) occurred in Old Windsor Hospital. Four cases were notified and included in the figures above. Further investigation discovered 14 other persons who were infected although not necessarily ill.

In the end three separate sections of the hospital were involved and intensive investigation in co-operation with the hospital bacteriologist was carried out. Although there was no definite evidence it appeared possible that there could have been a carrier among the hospital staff, but it is important to note that no positive results were obtained from the food handlers. Numerous samples of food also showed negative results. It will be appreciated that not all the cases arose at one time but occurred over a period of 3 or 4 months.

General Practitioners in the area were circulated at an early stage. Outside the hospital two families were involved. One member had previously been in hospital and the two families were closely associated next door neighbours.

Discussion with colleagues has revealed similar types of outbreak in other hospitals in the country which have tended to drag on for a number of months and the general impression is that infection is due to contact with either individuals or articles rather than food.

TUBERCULOSIS

No new cases of Tuberculosis were notified during 1966 and following 2 outward transfers and 5 recoveries there were 73 cases on the register at the end of the year. This number continues to fall each year.

## PERSONAL HEALTH SERVICES IN THE RURAL DISTRICT

In last year's report reference was made to the changing pattern of health visiting so that some further detail regarding the attachment of county nursing staff to family doctors will be of interest.

Unlike the urban areas the infant welfare clinics of the County Council in the rural area have been largely covered by family doctors paid by the Local Health Authority instead of being manned full time by L.H.A. doctors. This still applies in Sunninghill, Sunningdale and Ascot but now with the attachment of health visitors to family doctors' practices it may well be felt that such work should be looked upon as part of the practitioner's duty under the National Health Service for a complete family service. At present church halls which are used as clinics leave a lot to be desired but the rent for these is paid by the local health authority. If such work is to be considered as part of the family doctor's duties then it seems that encouragement should be given to helping these doctors provide suitable premises where they do not already exist, and to cease payment of the doctors by the local health authority for this part of their work.

Within the county therefore contrasting systems are functioning.

- (1) Local Health Authority clinics manned by L.H.A. doctors for patients of all doctors in the area who wish to attend;
- (2) L.H.A. clinic (rented or purpose built) manned by general practitioners and paid for by the local authority for all comers as in (1) above;
- (3) L.H.A. clinic loaned free of charge to general practitioners (unpaid by local authority) to carry out infant welfare sessions for their own patients;
- (4) Infant welfare clinics carried out by general practitioners in their own premises for their own patients within their National Health Service contracts.

At all these clinics Health Visitors will assist.

In suitable areas the ideal is probably a health centre on which family doctors and all local health authority staff, including L.H.A. doctors, are based but apart from this the trend seems to be that family doctors will undertake the routine work as part of their normal National Health Service contract while L.H.A. doctors will concentrate on the services for early detection, treatment and support to the handicapped both physical and mental.

Within the area of the Rural District the County Council provides the following clinics -

- (1) Church halls as infant welfare clinics for two sessions monthly in Sunninghill, Sunningdale and Ascot manned by General Practitioners paid on a sessional basis by the L.H.A.;
- (2) Church hall in Old Windsor one session weekly and manned by a L.H.A. doctor once a fortnight.

HOME, HOSPITAL OR LOCAL  
AUTHORITY ACCOMMODATION

Most will appreciate that with the aged and infirm it is often difficult to draw a line and state firmly, or more important have colleagues agreement, that an individual is best placed in one or other type of accomodation.

Hospitals feel that ideally it should be possible to offer some treatment towards improvement even in the aged and infirm on admission to hospital. If this is not possible then one should try and maintain a person, even if bedridden, in their own home. This involves support in nursing and domestic help provided by the local health authority but there are still many hours in the day which must be covered by relatives, friends or neighbours.

Such ideals are often unrealistic in practice and in some cases of the aged and dying living alone, admission to hospital for the remainder of a limited life must be accepted by hospitals. Towards this end some advantage has been found in the attachment of a health visitor to the hospital Geriatric Consultant. This health visitor has the special duty of advising on the social situation in the home and covering a fairly wide area of the county she is more able to judge priorities. Friends and relatives may be expected to accept certain hardships in caring for their aged, but when this has to be carried out for many months, then even with local authority help, hardship over a long period needs more satisfactory relief. To some extent hospitals help by admission for a short period to give families at home a rest.

As far as local authority accommodation is concerned the decision is usually less critical and indeed it is often the old person who will not accept local authority accommodation when offered. This accommodation varies from some that is little better than the poor law institution of a generation ago to really fine single units in a communal setting which in fact applies to the majority within this area. In all honesty it is desirable to have some segregation of those whose habits are unacceptable to the majority.

The halfway stage between one's own home with complete independence and semi communal living in a local authority home is shown by the excellent units of old persons flatlets built by the Rural District Council. Complete independence is maintained, but a warden is in residence who is readily available to summon the various services of help which can be provided when necessary. There can be few, if any, authorities of this size which have done so well in providing this fine type of accommodation.

#### OUR CURRENT NUISANCE

Reference was made in last year's introduction to the possible future size of an efficiently working local authority. During the past year one particular problem has shown not only the limitations of a small authority, but also the need for co-ordination between neighbouring authorities. It is to be welcomed that soon discussions are to take place between a number of authorities in the neighbourhood on a joint plan for refuse disposal.

Perhaps the greatest problem of the year has been in striking a balance between complaints relating to an "egg factory" or poultry farm, whichever term appears to be more appropriate, and the apparently genuine though limited endeavours of the owner to avoid a nuisance being committed.

It is appreciated by the Public Health Department that though numerous visits have been paid to the farm when in fact no nuisance was found, those living near the farm have more continuing opportunity of noticing a nuisance when it occurs. At first one had to judge the seriousness of the complaints, when they were not at all times evident, and to consider whether the actual nuisance or smell complained of was the major concern or whether the actual presence and proximity of the farm was resented and occasional smells were being used as a lever against having a farming industry adjoining residential property.

As time went on, however, the Public Health Department staff were able to record the presence of a nuisance from smell and its recurrence sufficiently often to issue a notice. There was at this stage sufficient evidence to appear before the magistrates with some reasonable chance of being successful with proceedings. Needless to say this depended on being able to rely on the support of numerous witnesses.

Looking back on the matter two points appear from which lessons might be learned for the future.

Firstly there is the question of planning and the consultation with the Health Department prior to granting planning permission to an industry from which smell or noise might arise.

Secondly, regard must be given to the nature of the surroundings in developing it into a residential area. Most of the residences appeared after the farm, though one must admit that initially one might not have expected much trouble from a simple poultry farm. Thought has, however, to be given to the possible development of any enterprise which, seemingly innocent enough in the beginning, could later by its size or intensity of use become a nuisance.

INSPECTIONS, NOTICES SERVED & REFERENCE TO  
OTHER WORK CARRIED OUT BY PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTORS

	<u>NO: OF VISITS</u>
Drainage	149
Water supplies	14
Swimming pools	21
Milk supplies	33
Food inspections	54
Food premises	115
Itinerant food vendors	40
Bakehouses	7
Moveable dwellings	56
Infectious diseases	44
Miscellaneous nuisances	85
Streams & Water courses	104
Refuse tip	42
Sewage works	20
Pumping Stations	25
Public conveniences	28

NOTICES:-

(a)	No. of informal notices served during the year under P.H.Acts	38
(b)	No. of formal notices served during the year	11
(c)	Work carried out by Local Authority in default	Nil
(d)	Legal proceedings (see note on "Statutory Action")	2

MILK SUPPLY

Details of samples submitted for heat treatment and keeping quality are set out hereunder.

	Pasteurised T.T.		Pasteurised Channel Island		Pasteurised Homogenised	
	Satis:	Failed	Satis:	Failed	Satis:	Failed
Methylene Blue (Keeping Quality)	22	-	3	-	2	-
Phosphatase (Heat Treatment)	22	-	3	-	2	-

## FOOD PREMISES

The following is a list of food premises subject to the Food Hygiene (General) Regulations 1960, which, with one exemption all comply with the requirements Regulations 16 & 19. In accordance with the directions given in Circular 1/67 (Annual Report of the Medical Officer for 1966) the 136 premises have been grouped in categories of trade carried on in them.

Butchers/Fishmongers	-	-	14
Greengrocers	-	-	8
Grocers, Confectioners etc.	-	-	49
Restaurants & Cafes	-	-	4
Bakehouses	-	-	2
Dairies	-	-	1
Licensed Premises	-	-	31
Clubs	-	-	5
Schools	-	-	18
Factories & Offices	-	-	4

## UN SOUND FOOD

The quantity of foodstuffs calling for condemnation as unfit during the course of the year is surprisingly small as the following table shows -

### CANNED PRODUCTS

Vegetables	-	-	2 lbs
Fruit	-	-	15 lbs
Meat	-	-	114 lbs
Meat products	-	-	13 lbs
Fish, Milk products etc.	-	-	1 lb

### FRESH, FROZEN & CURED FOODSTUFFS

Meat	-	-	11 $\frac{3}{4}$ cwts
Fish	-	-	7 lbs

It is perhaps ironical that in addition to the above, 437 packages of various foods were dealt with as 'unsaleable', due to the breakdown of refrigerated display units!

## THE MEAT STAINING & STERILIZATION REGULATIONS 1960

During the year 1966 approximately 3,471 tons of imported unfit meat were released from the docks for sterilization and, or, part processing at a local animal feeding stuffs factory. The meat, (primarily horse meat, kangaroo beef, mutton and various offal) is, in the main imported at the London Docks. The part processing consists of mincing and freezing into slabs for onward transmission to another pets food factory. A system of guarantees and notifications etc is operated in conjunction with the Corporation of London, to establish some control of the meat, the circulation of which is deemed to be a matter of considerable importance from a Public Health point of view.

## WATER SUPPLY

During 1966 three samples were taken by the Local Authority from the public water supply and submitted to bacteriological and chemical examination. The supply continues to be satisfactory in quality and quantity and the following information and statistics relative to the year 1966 have been furnished by the supply Company - "2,944 samples were examined bacteriologically by this Laboratory during the year, including 1,338 samples representative of supply. 99.3% of samples representative of the water supplied by the Company were free from coliform bacteria, and only one sample contained E.Coli in minimal numbers. 715 samples were analysed chemically and 50 determinations were made of radioactivity in both raw and treated water". Weekly tests are made by the supply Company to determine the fluoride content of the water and this is found to vary between 0.2 ppm and 0.35 ppm in the untreated river water, and between 0.1 ppm and 0.2 ppm in the treated supply.

23 samples were taken in conjunction with a large educational establishment using its own chlorinated well water supply, all the samples were satisfactory bacteriologically.

The number of dwellings in the area is estimated to be -  
880 in the Parish of Sunningdale  
2,733 in the Parish of Sunninghill  
1,999 in the Parish of Old Windsor.

With the exception of Friary Island, Old Windsor, which is served by the Rickmansworth & Uxbridge Valley Water Co., the whole district is supplied from the public water mains direct to the houses, by the South West Suburban Water Co., Staines. No dwellings in this area are supplied by means of stand pipes.

## SWIMMING POOLS

There are 15 swimming pools in the district attached to commercial and educational establishments, and from these 17 samples of water have been taken during the year. In only two instances were repeat samples necessary to obtain 100% satisfactory results.

## HOUSING

In 1966 the Council completed 19 housing units including a block of flatlets and flats, and Private enterprise provided 53 dwellings. During 1966 the Council gave initial approval to the erection of 47 Old Peoples dwellings in Sunninghill and 6 in Sunningdale.

Under the Housing Act 1964 Discretionary Grants amounting to £6,443 and Standard Grants amounting to £1,293 were approved by the Council the respective number of applications were 26 and 14.

## HOUSING CONTD.

In May 1965 the Council declared an area in Old Windsor comprising 99 Dwellings, to be an Improvement Area for the purpose of Part 11 of the Housing Act 1964. Inspection revealed that of the 99 premises, 51 were tenanted and of these 12 had all the required amenities, 23 had some but not all, and 16 had none. Improvements where required have been negotiated with owners, in all except 9 instances to the stage of securing applications for Grants.

### COMMON LODGING HOUSES

As previously reported there are none in this area.

### PEST CONTROL

During 1966, 244 premises were treated by the Council's Pest Officer for the destruction of rats and mice and 10% of the Council's foul sewer manholes in the Ascot area were test baited, but no 'takes' were recorded.

### PUBLIC CONVENIENCES

Public Conveniences are established in the Parishes of Sunninghill (including Ascot) and Old Windsor, and are occasionally subjected to vandalism, but in the case of Old Windsor, closing at night which is possible by reason of the caretaker living near, has considerably reduced this trouble.

### SEWERAGE & SEWAGE DISPOSAL

The modernisation of the Council's sewage disposal works referred to at some detail in the Report for 1965 continued during the year under review. The scheme when completed will comprise three automatic pumping stations, approximately  $4\frac{1}{2}$  miles of pumping main and modern disposal works equipped to deal with a D.W.F of 640,000 gallons per day from a population of 16,000.

In April 1966 the Council sought authority to end a free cesspool emptying service, and in September 1966 this authority was obtained. A scheme was then devised to operate from April 1st 1967, by which the Council's responsibility will be limited to emptying 12 in number - 1,000 gallon loads (or the equivalent) per year from any one set of premises free of charge. Any emptyings in excess of this quantity to be a matter for the house-holder to arrange privately.

## REFUSE COLLECTION AND DISPOSAL

An Agreement with the adjoining Urban District of Egham for the partial use of their Tip was terminated by them at the end of 1966. This necessitated the whole of the refuse from the Parish of Old Windsor being brought to our own Tip at South Ascot. This Tip, as intimated in the 1965 Report, has a short 'life' which the termination of the Agreement with Egham, shortened still further. In anticipation of this, the Ministry were advised of the Council's disposal problem in November 1966, and invited to assist in organising a joint scheme between neighbouring Authorities for pulverisation, or other means of dealing with domestic refuse.

## STATUTORY ACTION

Under Section 11 of the Food and Drugs Act 1955 the Council successfully prosecuted a dairy firm for an offence. The defendants were fined £25 and costs amounting to £15. 15. 0d.

Proceedings were taken for non-compliance with an Abatement Notice, served under Section 93 of the Public Health Act 1936 and a Nuisance Order was obtained. The defendant was ordered to pay costs of 10 guineas.

## OFFICES, SHOPS & RAILWAY PREMISES ACT 1963.

The narrative report submitted to the Ministry of Labour, in respect of the year 1966 was as follows :-

"In accordance with the first paragraph of the narrative report for 1965 all registered offices in the district have now been inspected these include some large establishments in converted country houses with a fair amount of mechanisation. Some of these establishments have their own advisers on the provision of machinery guards, but the problem of adapting older machines is still a difficult one, (see paragraph 111 of the 1965 Report for this area). The impression is gained that in both shops and offices the requirements as to sanitary conveniences etc. are becoming more acceptable, no exemptions have been applied for".

"During the year fourteen written Notices were served and authority was given to institute Statutory proceedings in one instance, but closure of the business rendered this action unnecessary".

"Two minor accidents (due to falls) were formally reported".

FACTORIES ACT 1961

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

PREMISES  (1)	NUMBER ON REGISTER  (2)	NUMBER OF		
		INSPECTIONS  (3)	WRITTEN NOTICES  (4)	OCCUPIERS PROSECUTED  (5)
(i) Factories in which sections 1,2,3,4, & 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities	4	4	-	-
(ii) Factories not included in (1) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority	49	34	1	-
(iii) Other premises under the Act (excluding out workers premises)	-	-	-	-
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>53</b>	<b>38</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>-</b>

FACTORIES ACT (Ctd)

2.

CASES IN WHICH DEFECTS WERE FOUND

PARTICULARS	NUMBER OF DEFECTS				PROSECUTIONS INSTITUTED
	FOUND	REMEDIED	REFERRED TO H.M. INSPECTOR	REFERRED BY H.M. INSPECTOR	
Want of Cleanliness	-	-	-	-	-
Overcrowding	-	-	-	-	-
Ineffective drainage to floors	-	-	-	-	-
Unreasonable temperature	-	-	-	-	-
Inadequate ventilation	-	-	-	-	-
Sanitary Conveniences -					
(a) Insufficient	-	-	-	-	-
(b) Unsuitable or defective	-	1	-	1	-
(c) Not separate for sexes	-	-	-	-	-
Other Offences (not including offences relating to home work)	2	2	-	-	-
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>-</b>

OUTWORKERS

The number of outworkers returned on the August list was 3.

FACTORIES ACT (1947)

CASES IN WHICH DEFECTS WERE FOUND  
 (Classified as to nature of defect and as to the authority by which reported)

PARTICULARS TO WHICH DEFECTS WERE FOUND	NUMBER OF DEFECTS		TOTAL
	REPORTED TO N.M. INSPECTOR	REPORTED BY H.M. INSPECTOR	
Overcrowding	-	-	-
Ineffective drainage to floors	-	-	-
Unseasonable temperature	-	-	-
Inadequate ventilation	-	-	-
Sanitary conveniences -	-	-	-
(a) Inadequate	-	-	-
(b) Unavailable or defective	1	-	1
(c) Not separate for sexes	-	-	-
Other offences (not including offences relating to hours work)	-	-	-
TOTAL	1	-	1

REMARKS

The number of offences returned on the August list was 5.



