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WISBECH BOROUGH COUNCIL

AND

WISBECH PORT HEALTH AUTHORITY

ANNUAL  
HEALTH REPORT  
1970



H E A L T H

C O M M I T T E E

- THE WORSHIPFUL THE MAYOR: Councillor D.W. Perry
- CHAIRMAN: Alderman E.N. Rigg
- VICE CHAIRMAN: Councillor H.T. Pigott
- MEMBERS: Alderman G.G.J. Gibbs  
Alderman Mrs. B.M. Osborn  
Councillor F. Alberts  
Councillor Mrs. J.R. Bond  
Councillor P.M. Coulten  
Councillor S.A. Ede  
Councillor A.E. Feary  
Councillor A. Harrold  
Councillor R.C. Lake  
Councillor Mrs. B.F. Petts  
Councillor A.S. Roseberry

## O F F I C E R S

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH: M.D.C. Martin, M.B., Ch.B., D.C.H.,  
7 North Brink,  
Wisbech. (Part Time)

CHIEF PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR: D. Brook, F.A.P.H.I.,  
Town Hall,  
12 South Brink,  
Wisbech.  
  
Certificate of the Royal Society  
of Health and Public Health  
Inspectors Examination Joint  
Board.  
Cert. Inspector of Meat and Food  
Royal Society of Health.  
Smoke Inspector's Diploma, Royal  
Society of Health.  
Testamur Institute of Public  
Cleansing.

DEPUTY CHIEF PUBLIC HEALTH  
INSPECTOR: D.M. Pickles, M.A.P.H.I., M.R.S.H.,  
Certificate of the Royal Society  
of Health and Public Health  
Inspectors Examination Joint  
Board.  
Cert. Inspector of Meat and Food  
Royal Society of Health.

PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR: J.F. Pinkstone, M.A.P.H.I., M.R.S.H.,  
Diploma of Public Health Inspectors  
Education Board.

MEAT INSPECTOR: J. Keenan  
Cert. Inspector of Meat and Food  
Royal Sanitary Association of  
Scotland.  
Scottish National Meat Diploma.

TRAINEE PUBLIC HEALTH  
INSPECTOR: D.B. Reddin

CLERK: Mrs. B.F. Kerridge

-3-

REPORT OF THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH FOR THE YEAR 1970

To the Mayor, Aldermen and Councillors of the Borough of Wisbech.

Ladies and Gentlemen,

I present for your consideration the Annual Report on the Public Health of the Borough for the year ending 31st December, 1970.

It was a great disappointment that early in the year, after referral back by the full Council, the Health Committee changed its view regarding Fluoridation of the water supply and eventually recommended to the Borough Council that they should not approve this valuable measure.

During the year there have been several meetings of representatives of the various services, statutory and voluntary, which deal with the problems of drug abuse by young people. There does appear to have been an improvement in the situation and it is to be hoped that greater realisation of the dangers, both by young people and their parents, will ensure that this improvement continues.

I would like to record my gratitude to Mr. Brook and the whole staff of the Health Department for their help and co-operation at all times. The Chairman and Members of the Health Committee have always shown deep interest in the work of the department and this I very much appreciate.

I have the honour to be, Ladies and Gentlemen,  
Your Obedient Servant,

M. DOREEN C. MARTIN, M.B., Ch.B., D.C.H.,

Medical Officer of Health.

GENERAL STATISTICS

Area of Borough .....	4,666 acres
Estimated resident population mid-1970..	17,480
"          "          "          mid-1969..	17,510
Sum realised by a penny rate .....	£ 3,815
Rateable value .....	£944,274
Number of inhabited houses .....	5,827

VITAL STATISTICS

Live Births - 270

	<u>M</u>	<u>F</u>	Area comparability factor	
Total	124	146		- 1.03
Legitimate	111	127		
Illegitimate	13	19		
Rate per 1,000 population (adjusted)				- 15.9
Illegitimate live births (per cent of total live births)				- 12

Still Births - 4

	<u>M</u>	<u>F</u>		
Total	0	4		
Legitimate	0	3		
Illegitimate	0	1		
Rate per 1,000 total live and still births				- 15

Total Live and Still Births - 274

Deaths (all causes) - 260

	<u>M</u>	<u>F</u>	Area Comparability factor	
Total	135	125		- .79
Rate per 1,000 of the estimated resident mid-1979 population				- 11.8

Infant Deaths (under one year) - 9

	<u>M</u>	<u>F</u>		
Total	6	3		
Legitimate	4	2		
Illegitimate	2	1		
Rate per 1,000 total live births				- 33
Legitimate infant deaths per 1,000 legitimate live births				- 25
Illegitimate infant deaths per 1,000 illegitimate live births				- 94
Neo-natal Mortality Rate (deaths under 4 weeks per 1,000 total live births)				- 19
Early Neo-natal Mortality Rate (deaths under 1 week per 1,000 total live births)				- 19
Perinatal Mortality Rate (Stillbirths and Deaths under 1 week combined per 1,000 total live and still births)				- 33

Maternal Mortality (including abortion) - Number of deaths - 0

Rate per 1,000 total live and still births - 0

Vital Statistics cont'd .....

Causes of Deaths of Children under 1 year

Failure of Respiratory Function .....	2
Prematurity .....	2
Dysmaturity. Maternal Hypertension ....	1
Respiratory infection .....	2
Internal Hydrocephalus .....	1
Hypothermia aggravated by neglect ....	1

Deaths from Cancer (all ages) - 50

Live Birth, Still Birth, Death and Infant Mortality Rates during past six years

	1965	1966	1967	1968	1969	1970
<u>Live Birth Rate</u>						
Wisbech Borough	16.59	17.27	15.97	14.11	16.5	15.9
Cambs. & Isle of Ely	16.3	15.7	15.7	14.9	14.5	14.5
England and Wales	18.1	17.7	17.2	16.9	16.3	16
<u>Still Birth Rate</u>						
Wisbech Borough	13.98	10.17	0	32	11	15
Cambs. & Isle of Ely	10.7	15.3	14	13	9	11
England and Wales	15.8	15.4	14.8	14	13	13
<u>Death Rate</u>						
Wisbech Borough	9.55	11.15	11.43	11.32	10.7	11.8
Cambs. & Isle of Ely	9.8	10.4	10.2	11.	11	10.5
England and Wales	11.5	11.7	11.2	11.9	11.9	11.7
<u>Infant Mortality Rate</u>						
Wisbech Borough	24.82	37.67	11.11	8	11	33
Cambs. & Isle of Ely	15.6	14.9	14.	14	16	16
England and Wales	19	18.9	18.3	18	18	18



GENERAL MEDICAL SERVICES

Cambridgeshire and Isle of Ely  
Executive Council:

Vinery Road,  
Cambridge.

Clerk:

F.G. Lloyd Esq.

East Anglian Regional Hospital Board:

Union Lane,  
Chesterton,  
Cambridge.

Senior Administrative Medical Officer:

Dr. G.D. Duncan

- (a) General:
- (1) North Cambridgeshire Hospital, Wisbech.
  - (2) Clarkson Hospital, Wisbech.
  - (3) Memorial Hospital, Peterborough.
  - (4) Addenbrookes Hospital, Cambridge.
  - (5) Doddington Hospital, Doddington.

- (b) Maternity:
- (1) Bowthorpe Maternity Home, Wisbech.

All primiparous mothers may be confined in the obstetric unit and other mothers may be admitted for obstetric abnormality. Since the General Practitioners Unit was opened the number of home confinements has fallen markedly as every mother may now be confined in hospital.

- (c) Infectious Diseases:
- (1) Isolation Hospital, Peterborough.
  - (2) Hardwick Isolation Hospital, King's Lynn.

- (d) Tuberculosis:

The area chest physician holds a weekly clinic at North Cambridgeshire Hospital, Wisbech.

In-patient accommodation is provided through the East Anglian Regional Hospital Board.

- (e) Mental Illness:

Accommodation is provided through the East Anglian Regional Hospital Board, usually in Fulbourne Hospital. This is arranged directly by the local General Practitioners. The area psychiatrist holds a weekly clinic at North Cambridgeshire Hospital.

- (f) Veneral Disease:
- (1) Addenbrookes Hospital, Cambridge.
  - (2) Peterborough Memorial Hospital, Peterborough.
  - (3) West Norfolk and King's Lynn Hospital.

- (g) Medical Equipment Services:

Medical equipment is provided, on loan, by the St. John's Ambulance Division and the Red Cross Medical Loan Depot by arrangement with the County Council.

COUNTY MEDICAL SERVICES

(a) Midwifery, General Sick and Public Health Nursing:

The domiciliary nursing staff is employed by the Cambridgeshire and Isle of Ely County Council. There are 7 district nurses, 1 midwife, 1 district nurse midwife and 3 health visitors who use a large part of their time in the Borough. The midwife is qualified to administer gas/air analgesia, pethedine and trilene and the necessary machines approved by the Central Midwives Board are available for her use.

There has been a gradual change in the policy of administering the County Nursing Services. The district nurses and health visitors are attached to general medical practices in order to facilitate the professional relationship of nurses and doctors for the benefit of the population.

(b) Ambulance and Hospital Car Service:

The radio-controlled ambulance system is now working well. There is one ambulance control centre at March which directs ambulances and hospital cars with speed and economy to the points where they are required. As part of the overall scheme, 3 ambulances are stationed at Wisbech and there are 7 other ambulances throughout the Northern Area of the County.

(c) Infant and Child Welfare:

The Infant and Child Welfare Clinic in the Horsefair is held twice weekly on Wednesday and Friday afternoons.

The midwife holds an antenatal clinic for expectant mothers who are to be confined at home.

(d) School Minor Ailments Clinic:

County Clinic, The Horsefair, Wisbech.

(e) School Dental Clinic:

County Clinic, The Horsefair, Wisbech.

(f) Home Help Service:

Available for confinements, cases of illness and for social reasons in the aged.

LABORATORY SERVICES

Public Health Laboratory Service, (Director: Dr. J. Glencross)  
Peterborough and District Memorial Hospital,  
Midland Road,  
Peterborough.

Public Analyst, (S. Greenburgh P.H.D., B.Sc., F.R.I.C.)  
The Laboratory,  
Tenison Road,  
Cambridge.

OTHER SERVICES

Health Education

All primiparous women are given the opportunity of attending relaxation and mother and baby care classes during their pregnancy. Recognised Women's meetings e.g. Church Groups and Women's Rural Institute Meetings occasionally ask for a speaker on Health Education and such requests are readily complied with by the Health Department.

Lectures on Food Hygiene and the work of the department have been given by Mr. Brook and his staff to students at the Isle of Ely College and various organisations.

Meals on Wheels

For some years now, the Womens Voluntary Service has provided 'Meals on Wheels' service for the aged on two days each week. This plays an important part in helping to prevent deterioration of health in the very old who live by themselves. The food is cooked at the Metal Box Company Canteen and a very small charge is made to the recipients.

INFECTIOUS DISEASES

Notifiable Infectious Diseases                      Total notified during year

Acute Poliomyelitis .....	0
Diphtheria .....	0
Dysentery.....	0
Erysipelas .....	0
Enteric Fever .....	0
Food Poisoning .....	2
Gastro Enteritis .....	0
Infective Hepatitis .....	7
Measles .....	18
Meningococcal Meningitis ....	1
Mumps Encephalitis .....	1

Infectious Diseases contd .....

	<u>Total notified during year</u>
Ophthalmia Neonatorum .....	0
Paratyphoid Fever .....	0
Puerperal Pyrexia .....	0
Pneumonia .....	0
Scarlet Fever .....	4
Smallpox .....	0
Whooping Cough .....	0

Notifications of Tuberculosis

<u>Age Periods</u>	<u>New Cases</u>			
	<u>Pulmonary</u>		<u>Non-Pulmonary</u>	
	<u>M</u>	<u>F</u>	<u>M</u>	<u>F</u>
- 1	0	0	0	0
- 5	0	0	0	0
- 15	0	0	0	0
- 25	1	0	0	0
- 45	0	0	0	0
- 65 and over	0	0	0	0
Age unknown	0	0	0	0
	1	0	0	0

CAUSES OF DEATHS YEAR 1970

	<u>M</u>	<u>F</u>	<u>Total</u>
Malignant Neoplasm, Oesophagus .....	3	1	4
Malignant Neoplasm, Stomach .....	3	-	3
Malignant Neoplasm, Intestine .....	4	4	8
Malignant Neoplasm, Lung, Bronchus .....	10	3	13
Malignant Neoplasm, Breast .....	-	2	2
Malignant Neoplasm, Uterus .....	-	1	1
Malignant Neoplasm, Prostate .....	4	-	4
Leukaemia .....	1	-	1
Other Malignant Neoplasms .....	9	5	14
Diabetes Mellitus .....	1	2	3
Other Endocrine etc. Diseases .....	1	-	1
Anaemias .....	1	-	1
Other Diseases of Nervous System .....	3	1	4
Chronic Rheumatic Heart Disease .....	-	1	1
Hypertensive Disease .....	-	1	1
Ischaemic Heart Disease .....	27	24	51
Other Forms of Heart Disease .....	8	7	15
Cerebrovascular Disease .....	13	24	37
Other Diseases of Circulatory System .....	1	5	6

Causes of Deaths cont'd .....

	<u>M</u>	<u>F</u>	<u>Total</u>
Influenza .....	4	3	7
Pneumonia .....	10	14	24
Bronchitis and Emphysema .....	10	8	18
Other Diseases of Respiratory System .....	2	2	4
Peptic Ulcer .....	3	1	4
Cirrhosis of Liver .....	2	-	2
Other Diseases of Digestive System .....	1	1	2
Nephritis and Nephrosis .....	3	1	4
Other Diseases, Genito-Urinary System .....	-	1	1
Diseases of Musculo-Skeletal System .....	1	-	1
Birth Injury, Difficult Labour, etc .....	3	-	3
Other causes of Perinatal Mortality .....	1	1	2
Motor Vehicle Accidents .....	2	3	5
All other Accidents .....	3	9	12
Suicide and Self-inflicted Injuries .....	1	-	1
<b>Totals all causes</b>	<b>135</b>	<b>125</b>	<b>260</b>

Deaths from selected causes during the years 1964 - 1970

	1964	1965	1966	1967	1968	1969	1970
Lung Cancer	11	9	11	10	13	12	13(6)*
Motor Vehicle Accidents	4	0	2	4	1	3	5(5)*
All other accidents	4	8	4	4	2	9	12(6)*
Suicide	2	3	3	1	2	0	1(1)*
<b>TOTALS</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>31(18)*</b>

I draw your attention to these causes of death as being essentially preventable. The number of deaths from lung cancer, of course, gives no indication of the number of cases diagnosed and successfully treated.

(\*Numbers in brackets are under 65 years of age).

REPORT OF THE CHIEF PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR  
FOR THE YEAR 1970

To the Worshipful the Mayor, Aldermen and Councillors of the Borough of Wisbech.

Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have pleasure in submitting my fourteenth Annual Report relating the problems which arise in the every day life of a market town with an associated inland port.

The department left the sheltered cloisters of Exchange Square to move along with the Town Clerk's Department to more commodious office premises at 12 South Brink, a 'building of architectural interest', separated from the peaceful River Nene by the noisy traffic route of the A47.

The year 1970 passed by with notable achievements, some disappointments and one disaster.

In my opinion the area suffered a disaster in relation to the proposals to construct a sewage treatment works designed to serve the Borough together with surrounding villages in two neighbouring Rural Districts. The Minister of Housing and Local Government rejected the proposals on planning grounds in contradiction to the recommendations of the inspector who carried out the Public Inquiry. To sacrifice some agricultural land (what other type of land is to be found in the Fens) is surely a small price to pay for the cutting off the twice daily dose of concentrated pollution to the River Nene, to put an end to the smell and inconvenience associated with continued use of outdated tiny cesspools.

Clearance area activity brought more people to new homes. The demolition of a large number of houses has left some scars, over which something new will be transformed. The Housing Act 1969 engendered much public interest in the improvement of older type houses. No opportunity has been lost to publicise the new, more generous grants.

Vehement complaints continue concerning 'local' travelling families. The staff continue to try to handle the problem within the resources at their disposal. In the meantime, it can be reported that the County Council and the Borough Council are at one to seek an appropriate site on which to rehabilitate the wanderers.

Throughput of animals at the abattoir reached a new high level with killing taking place on  $5\frac{1}{2}$  days each week. Food processing is an ever changing scene whilst food retail outlets are becoming reduced in numbers.

The Port, owned and operated by the Borough Council caused some headaches. Suffice it for me to remind members that no less than 65% of the tonnage of cargoes passing through the port area are liable to create dust problems.

Finally may I express appreciation to the staff for their efforts, often under trying conditions. My thanks too to the Chairman and Members of the Health Committee for their continued interest and direction.

I am, Mr. Mayor, Ladies and Gentlemen,  
Your Obedient Servant,

D. BROOK, F.A.P.H.I.,

Chief Public Health Inspector.

PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTIONS OF DISTRICT

<u>PUBLIC HEALTH ACTS:</u>	Complaints - Housing .....	37
	Other .....	162
	Revisits .....	383
	Works in progress .....	26
	Drains inspected and/or tested ...	219
	Sewer connections .....	23
	Refuse .....	11
	Caravans .....	251
	Infectious diseases .....	80
	Verminous premises .....	13
	Miscellaneous .....	503
<u>HOUSING ACTS:</u>	Inspected and recorded .....	157
	Revisits .....	710
	Work in progress .....	44
	Housing applications .....	8
	Improvement grants .....	344
<u>FOOD AND DRUGS ACT:</u>	Slaughterhouses .....	495
	Visits for collection of samples .	126
	Hawkers .....	3
	Food Hygiene Visits .....	217
	Ice Cream Premises .....	2
	Dairy Premises .....	26
	Market stalls .....	48
	Condemned food visits .....	92
<u>QUALIFICATION CERTIFICATES:</u>	Inspections and revisits .....	75
<u>OFFICES, SHOPS AND RAILWAY PREMISES ACT:</u>	Inspections and revisits .....	55
	General .....	16
<u>FACTORIES ACT:</u>	Inspections and revisits .....	29
<u>CLEAN AIR ACT:</u>	Inspections and observations .....	50
<u>RODENT CONTROL:</u>	Inspections and revisits .....	255
<u>NOISE ABATEMENT:</u>	Inspections .....	33
<u>PORT HEALTH AUTHORITY:</u>	Inspections .....	325
<u>SCRAP METAL DEALERS ACT:</u>	Inspections .....	13
<u>RAG FLOCK ACT:</u>	Inspections .....	3
<u>ANIMAL BOARDING ESTABLISHMENT ACT:</u>	Inspections .....	3



WATER SUPPLY

A mains water supply is readily available throughout the area, the Borough Council being a constituent member of the Wisbech and District Water Board.

The supply is derived from shallow bore holes situate at Marham and Beechamwell in Norfolk. At times of peak demand it is necessary to draw water from the River Nar at Marham.

Apart from the odd dwelling awaiting clearance, all dwellings within the built up part of the town have an internal piped water supply. Elsewhere in the rural area of the Borough, five families prefer to use private water supplies drawn from well or rainwater butt.

The Council reconsidered a proposal to add fluoride to the water supply, but again following protracted discussions rejected the proposal.

Examination of Water Supply

The Manager of the Wisbech and District Water Board has made available regular monthly summaries of routine bacteriological samples taken in the Borough in addition to which the department has submitted water samples to the Public Health Laboratory, Peterborough for examination.

The samples taken by the public health inspectors included mains water from houses, offices, caravan sites, shops and public taps.

Raw Waters (at source)

	No. of samples	Coliforms	
		Negative	Positive
<u>Water Board</u>			
Bacteriological	195	188	7

The Water Board carried out 30 chemical analyses of raw water at the source and these were satisfactory.

Water Supply cont'd .....

Treated Waters

	Samples Submitted	Results	
		Satisfactory	Unsatisfactory
<u>Water Board</u>			
Bacteriological	430	430	Nil
Chemical	74	74	Nil
<u>Health Department</u>			
Bacteriological	30	30	Nil

Extensions to Mains

Beechwood Road 81 yards 3" p.v.c.

Weasenham Lane 187 yards 6" p.v.c.

Main over New Wisboch Bridge 176 yards 4"  
67 yards 9"  
241 yards 12"

—————  
TOTAL MAIN LAID 752 yards  
—————

New connections made in the  
Borough during the year 1970 133

The above results indicate a water supply which is satisfactory and chemically pure and suitable for drinking and domestic purposes. The water supply for drinking and domestic purposes is supplied from the Wisboch Bridge and Weasenham Lane Water Treatment Works.

Checked and certified by  
District and Borough Water Board

Typical Chemical Analysis  
Tapwater 10th November, 1970

Bacteriological Results

Number of bacteria growing on agar per ml. in 24 hours at 37°C .....	0
Number of bacteria growing on agar per ml. in 72 hours at 20° - 22°C .....	0
Coliform count per 100 ml. ....	0
Bact. coli I count per 100 ml. ....	0

Physical Characteristics

Appearance .....	Clear and bright	pH .....	7.2
Turbidity .....	Nil	Odour .....	Nil
Colour .....	Nil	Taste .....	Nil

Chemical results expressed in parts per million

Free carbon dioxide .....	26.4
Oxygen absorbed in 4 hours at 27°C .....	0.06
Ammoniacal nitrogen .....	Nil
Albuminoid nitrogen .....	0.02
Nitrate nitrogen .....	9.3
Nitrite nitrogen .....	Nil
Alkalinity as CaCO <sub>3</sub> .....	205
Hardness as CaCO <sub>3</sub> :	
Total .....	266
Carbonate (temporary) .....	205
Non-Carbonate (permanent) .....	61
Residual chlorine .....	0.30
Total solids, dried at 180°C .....	357
Aluminium (Al) .....	Nil
Calcium (Ca) .....	96.3
Iron (Fe) .....	Faint Trace
Magnesium (Mg) .....	6.12
Manganese (Mn) .....	Nil
Lead (Pb) .....	Nil
Sodium (Na) .....	Not examined
Zinc (Zn) .....	Nil
Silica (SiO <sub>2</sub> ) .....	5.0
Sulphate (SO <sub>4</sub> ) .....	38.4
Carbonate (CO <sub>3</sub> ) .....	123
Chloride (Cl) .....	25
Fluoride (F) .....	Nil

General Remarks

The above results indicate a water pure and wholesome in character. It is suitable both chemically and bacteriologically as a public supply for drinking and domestic purposes.

J.S. Collins  
 Chemist and Bacteriologist  
 Wisbech and District Water Board

SWIMMING BATHS

The Council own and operate an unheated open air swimming pool, capacity 120,000 gallons. Water is supplied from the main in Crabmarsh. Water treatment is effected by dosage of soda and alumina prior to passing through a slow sand filter, followed by chlorination. Water is recirculated once every 8 hours.

Essential repairs in the form of plastic lining to the swimming bath have been completed.

For some time the Council having been exploring the possibilities of providing more modern facilities for swimming. A local benefactor has set aside the sum of £30,000 towards such a scheme.

Discussions with the County Council have led up to a decision to site a new indoor swimming bath within a proposed sports complex, off Harecroft Road, on which authority to commence work has now been granted by the Department of the Environment. Completion of the work is expected in autumn 1972.

Several school swimming pools operate during the summer months -

St. Peter's School	10,000 gals.	Sand Filters
Peckover School	18,000 gals.	Cloth Filters
Queen's Boys' School	56,000 gals.	Sand Filters
Queen's Girls' School	39,000 gals.	Diatomite Filter
Ramnoth Road School	10,000 gals.	Sand Filters

Hypochlorite solution is common use in these pools to sterilise the water. Regular routine visits were made to maintain close liaison with persons in charge of school swimming pools.

Sample Results

Pool	Samples Submitted	Results	
		Satisfactory	Unsatisfactory
Crabmarsh	8	8	0
Peckover School	3	1	2
Queen's Boys' School	2	2	0
Queen's Girls' School	2	2	0
Ramnoth Road School	2	2	0
St. Peters School	2	1	1

SEWERAGE AND SEWAGE DISPOSAL

Public sewers are available throughout the urban town area apart from part of the West Ward where there are 225 properties served either by cesspools or septic tanks. The older sewers carry both foul and surface water and are liable to surcharge and create some flooding at times of heavy rain.

Sewage disposal is effected as follows:-

- (a) Sewage farm, 5 miles distant in Norfolk, 20 lagoons on silt land. (Full treatment).
- (b) Storm tanks, 2 miles distant in Norfolk, horizontal sedimentation tanks. (Partial treatment).
- (c) Direct discharge to River Nene (No treatment).  
Thus in brief a considerable amount of pollution is added to the River Nene.

Proposals to provide new and additional sewers together with a sewage treatment works became the subject of a Ministerial Inquiry in October, 1969. The scheme included provisions to extend facilities to surrounding parishes in the neighbouring rural districts. On 25th June, 1970 the findings were announced, approving in principle the Council's general sewerage proposals and accepting the need for a new sewage treatment works BUT refusing planning permission for the proposed sewage treatment works at River Road, West Walton. This was surely a sad day for many people particularly for the 10,000 persons (the majority of whom reside in rural parishes) who must continue to restrict the use of water and suffer the nausea caused by regular emptying and discharge of cesspool contents.

The decision dealt a severe blow to the many officers of the district councils involved together with the Norfolk County Council who, by their considered discussions and actions, measured every interest before making the final proposal as to the siting of the proposed treatment works.

The Minister sees no reason to believe that an alternative site for new works could not be found which would give rise to less and perhaps to no objection on agricultural grounds but equally would not place any over-riding obstacles in the way of the growth of the population at Wisbech, if this were to take place.

REFUSE COLLECTION AND DISPOSAL

A regular weekly collection of house refuse is maintained throughout the district. Additional collections are made from catering establishments at a cost equivalent to that made for trade refuse from commercial premises.

New council developments are provided with galvanised refuse bins but plastic sacks are issued for use as bin liners.

Refuse storage problems continue at commercial premises. Investigations were carried out into the possible use of refuse containers, but lack of support for this system from traders led the Council to discontinue their interest in the scheme.

The Council is a constituent member of the Wisbech and Marshland Joint Refuse Disposal Committee. All refuse is disposed of by way of controlled tipping along lengths of the disused Wisbech Canal. Effective mechanical equipment is available to ensure effective control of the operations.

PUBLIC CONVENIENCES

Situation	Women	Men	
	w.c's	w.c's	urinals
Barton Road	1	1	2
Cattle Market	2	1	2
Horsefair	3	1	6
Market Place	4	3	7
Mount Pleasant	2	1	3
Norfolk Street	3	2	4
Norwich Road	2	1	3
Old Market	3	2	6
The Park	4	2	4

No permanent attendants are employed at any one convenience.

There is an urgent need for up-to-date public conveniences near the town centre.

## PERSONAL CLEANSING

The Cleansing Station was no longer available after September, 1970. Some use of the facilities were made, particularly by young persons visiting the area during fruit picking season.

Facilities for disinfection and disinfestation of bedding and clothing continue to be available at Clarkson Hospital.

## FOOD AND DRUGS ADMINISTRATION

### FOOD HYGIENE

The Food Hygiene (General) Regulations, 1970 bring up-to-date a set of rules to be observed by those involved in the food trades. Coming into force in March 1971, the Regulations are the fourth set as amended since the original in 1956. The need for such rapid changes illustrate the public interest in food hygiene but also underline the responsibilities of the food trade which must achieve these standards. Revolutionary changes within the food industry have brought about the evolution of Food Packaging. Supermarkets and self service stores have replaced the traditional grocer. The factories and warehouses engaged in preservation and packaging must, therefore, accept the greater responsibility as any food hygiene accident raises widespread repercussions.

The staff can maintain regular contact with food personnel in factory, warehouse or shop. It is more difficult to establish effective rapport with market traders. Standards fall quickly on the open air market when vigilance by your officers is in any way relaxed.

### FOOD COMPLAINTS

More complaints are made by the public concerning food-stuffs, some are genuine, whilst at times others appear pernicky. Set out below are details of complaints which in turn created a chain reaction back through retail and wholesale outlets to the actual manufacturer.

Food Complaints cont'd .....

Complaint	Investigation Results	Action
Concrete adhering to inside surface of a milk bottle.	Milk bottles stored in dairy in close proximity to wall undergoing repairs by builders.	Reported to committee. Warning letter sent.
Stale Cornish Pasty.	Pasty found to have been inadvertently left in warming cupboard for an excessive period resulting in dehydration of filling.	Warning letter sent.
Unfit Steak and kidney pie.	Pie manufactured in factory out of town. Placed in deep freeze for unknown length of time before baking. Evidently pie had been left out of refrigerator for some period but unable to pinpoint time and place.	Reported to committee. Warning letter sent.
Mouldy Sponge pudding.	Purchased from self service store. Ascertained to be old stock placed aside by assistant but not removed from display shelf.	Reported to committee. Warning letter sent.
Dirty Milk bottle.	Complaint made in November. Bottle probably been used for fireworks. Missed by spotter in dairy.	Warning letter sent.

Shopkeepers have been regularly advised to maintain personal check on the food offered by wholesale roundsmen on a 'sale or return' basis, particularly where the roundsman is permitted to refill display stands and cabinets without supervision.



Food and Drugs Administration cont'd .....

The following tabulated list gives the number of the various types of food premises in the Borough.

Bakers and bakehouses .....	9
Cafes .....	9
Grocers and General Mixed Stores .....	51
Greengrocers .....	9
Fishmongers .....	5
Fried Fish Shops .....	11
Butchers .....	20
Food Factories .....	6
Licensed Premises and Registered Clubs .....	61
Ice Cream Manufacturers .....	1
Market Stalls .....	23
Confectioners .....	11

Food Hygiene (General) Regulations, 1970

(i) Number of premises to which the regulations apply .....	198
(ii) Number of above fitted to comply with regulation 18 (wash-basins) .....	197
(iii) Number of premises to which regulation 21 (sinks) applies .....	187
(iv) Number of premises fitted to comply with regulation 21 .....	187

UN SOUND FOOD

The following foodstuffs, apart from meat in slaughter-houses, were found unfit and surrendered.

Tins

Meat .....	161	Fruit .....	675
Fish .....	35	Fruit Juices .....	31
Vegetables .....	293	Baby Foods .....	1
Soup .....	57	Spaghetti .....	33
Milk and Cream .....	23	Puddings and pies .	9
Milk puddings .....	67	Frozen egg .....	6

1,391

Unsound Food cont'd .....

Frozen Foods

Fish .....	1,878	pkts.
Pastry .....	107	"
Fruit .....	51	"
Vegetables .....	489	"
Potato Chips .....	115	"
Meat & Meat Products ..	1,125	"
Ice Cream .....	32	"
Fruit Drinks .....	53	cans
Sausages .....	384	lbs.
Chickens .....	116	
Pies .....	252	
Cakes .....	83	
Mousse .....	673	
Trifles .....	41	

Other Foods

Meat & Meat Products ...	870 $\frac{1}{2}$	lbs.
Buttor & Other Fats ....	981	"
Pastry .....	101	"
Sugar .....	244	"
Tea .....	164	"
Biscuits .....	874 $\frac{3}{4}$	"
Cereals .....	50 $\frac{1}{2}$	"
Rice and Sago .....	3	"
Dried Vegetables .....	3	"
Dried Fruit .....	44	"
Xmas Puddings .....	50	"
Fish .....	5	"
Mustard .....	2 $\frac{1}{2}$	"
Jam .....	2	jars
Onions .....	1	"
Coffee .....	1	"
Fresh Cream .....	6	ctns.
Cheese .....	1	"
Yoghourt .....	221	"
Crisps .....	21	pkts.
Custard Powder etc. ....	63	"
Salt.....	18	"
Suet .....	13	"
Stock Cubes .....	13	"
Instant potato .....	1	"
Cakes .....	13	
Jellies .....	72	

SLAUGHTERHOUSES AND MEAT INSPECTION

Number of Animals Slaughtered since  
"Appointed Day" - 1st January, 1961

Year	Cattle including Cows	Calves	Sheep and Lambs	Pigs including Sows and Boars	Total number of animals expressed in Cattle Units
1961	1,774	15	2,554	9,650	7,115
1962	2,072	26	2,384	9,538	7,323
1963	2,392	5	2,739	9,689	7,785
1964	6,864	11	7,220	9,781	13,202
1965	8,529	23	4,597	10,893	14,899
1966	9,693	47	4,599	10,674	15,959
1967	9,617	6	4,101	12,289	16,583
1968	10,272	30	4,294	21,078	21,676
1969	9,913	18	3,475	30,055	25,639
1970	11,242	7	3,075	32,786	28,252

Slaughterhouses and Meat Inspection cont'd .....

Two licensed slaughterhouses operate in the Borough. Meat hygiene and criteria of judgement of fitness are two important subjects which call for discussion on an international basis. These topics are particularly relevant to countries forming part of or likely to become involved in the European Economic Community. Your officers experience two extreme cases. On the one hand an international meat company anxious to keep abreast of worldwide modern trends, and the alternative situation of a small private concern fighting to exist.

Bulk meat carrying vehicles have become bigger and better complete with insulation and refrigeration. Similarly the handling of by-products has at last become the subject of engineering opportunity. Hydraulic systems have been adopted to limit the personal handling - but of course leading up to the 'bigger better' principle.

Throughput of animals reached a high aggregate total during 1970 an achievement unlikely to be equalled for some years to come.

Meat (Staining and Sterilisation) Regulations  
Imported Food Regulations

Unfit meat is removed regularly from the slaughterhouses and ultimately processed for animal feeding stuff and fertiliser.

There is no knackers yard within the Borough although two premises exist within 10 mile radius of the town.

Thousands of tons of meat, offal etc. unfit for human consumption are released from ports and storage premises to be destined for an animal food canning factory in town. Surveillance of these operations is a heavy responsibility, which is only lightening by the active co-operation of the processors.

Year	Meat	Offal	Total
1970	1,200	300	1,500
1969	1,100	250	1,350
1968	1,000	200	1,200
1967	900	150	1,050
1966	800	100	900
1965	700	50	750
1964	600	0	600
1963	500	0	500
1962	400	0	400
1961	300	0	300
1960	200	0	200
1959	100	0	100
1958	0	0	0

Slaughterhouses and Meat Inspection cont'd .....

Number of animals slaughtered and  
meat condemned during the year

	Cattle excluding Cows	Cows	Calves	Sheep and Lambs	Pigs	Sows and Boars
Number killed	11,197	45	7	3,075	32,090	696
Number inspected	11,197	45	7	3,075	32,090	696
All diseases except Tuberculosis and Cysticercosis:						
Whole carcasses condemned	4	0	1	2	70	19
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	2,236	11	0	11	3,352	29
Percentage of the number inspected affected with disease other than Tuberculosis and Cysticercosis	20%	24.44%	14.28%	.42%	10.66%	6.89%
Tuberculosis only:						
Whole carcasses condemned	0	0	0	0	0	0
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	3	0	0	0	23	3
Percentage of the number inspected affected with Tuberculosis	.02%	0	0	0	.07%	.43%
Cysticercosis:						
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	16	-	-	-	-	-
Carcasses submitted to treatment by refrigeration	1	-	-	-	-	-
Generalised and totally condemned	1	-	-	-	-	-

Total number of animals slaughtered: 47,110

Quantities condemned: Tuberculosis 364 lbs.  
Other diseases 50,238 lbs.  
50,602 lbs.

MILK AND ICE CREAM

The vast majority of milk consumers take delivery of bottled pasteurised milk. A few pints only of bottled untreated milk are delivered daily in town. Heat treatment of milk though offers no excuse for unclean methods of handling. During the year much time was devoted to ensuring the effective cleansing of milk bottles at a local dairy. 144 milk bottles were submitted to the Public Health Laboratory for examination. Only half were found to be of a satisfactory bacteriological standard.

Bacteriological Examination of Milk

87 samples of milk were submitted to the Public Health Laboratory, Peterborough for examination.

Type of Milk	No. of samples	Methylene Blue Test		Phosphatase Test		Turbidity Test		Biological Test	
		Sat.	Unsat.	Sat.	Unsat.	Sat.	Unsat.	Sat.	Unsat.
Untreated	7	3	2	-	-	-	-	1	-
Pasteurised	58	44	1	58	-	-	-	-	-
Sterilised	22	-	-	-	-	22	-	-	-
<b>TOTALS</b>	<b>87</b>	<b>47</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>58</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>-</b>

15 samples resulted in void Methylene Blue Tests.

Brucella Abortus

Seven samples of untreated milk submitted for biological examination for the presence of Brucella Abortus all proved negative.

Ice Cream

Ice cream is retailed from many outlets and I suppose one may assume from experience that perhaps two-thirds the quantity is sold pre-packed and the remainder sold by mobile traders - the latter at all hours of day and night, according to the sound of gongs and bells.

80 premises are registered under Section 16, Food and Drugs Act, 1955. 1 for the manufacture, storage and sale and 79 for the storage and sale of ice cream.

26 samples of ice cream were submitted for bacteriological examination during the year, with the following results:-

Grade I .....	21	Grade III .....	0
Grade II .....	5	Grade IV .....	0

CLEAN AIR ACT: ATMOSPHERIC POLLUTION

Industrial and commercial fuel burning installations are provided with proper mechanical means of control to ensure efficient and clean combustion. Only on rare occasions is it noticed that plant becomes overloaded to an extent to create dark emissions of smoke.

In the domestic field there are at an estimate 5,000 open fires using raw coal, which for 26 weeks of the year emit pollution at low level. The Council development carried out over the past few years has been marked by the use of smokeless (and more efficient) fittings. Smoke Control Areas must surely become the practice in all urban areas.

Solid pollution has been a feature of operations in the port area. Grain cargoes continued to create dusty problems which were at times equally unpleasant whether being handled by crane grabs or by pneumatic elevators. Worst conditions of all prevailed during the discharge of crushed or milled cereals. The crises halted for some time in the latter part of the year when the offending company encountered financial trouble. New owners have purchased the grain import business and it remains to be seen whether new brooms sweep clean.

During times of high wind dust problems also arose from the handling of potash cargoes.

To the citizens of the town in close proximity to the port area I offer my deep sympathy. Perhaps they now understand the more the difficulties of any local government authority which on the one hand seeks to enforce environmental sanctions and on the other hand tries to manage a small inland port fighting for existence.

Industrial:

Furnaces (Section 3)

(a)	notifications received .....	3
(b)	applications for prior approval .....	2
(c)	number of cases in which alterations were required.	Nil
(d)	number of applications granted .....	2

Height of chimneys

(a)	number of plans submitted showing new chimneys ....	Nil
(b)	number of cases in which alterations were required.	Nil
(c)	number approved .....	Nil

HOUSING ACTS ADMINISTRATION

Clearance

Representation, rehousing and clearance continued according to the revised programme. 1970 was a good year for completion of new housing units, thus assisting the rehousing of a considerable number of families from unfit dwellings, the entire operation being carried out in an understanding exercise. The administrative process of acquisition and settlement of compensation is also a task which gives rise to many human questions and raises many inquiries.

Enhanced compensation authorised by the Housing Act, 1969 assisted the younger owner/occupiers to proceed to acquire their own alternative housing accommodation. Alternatively, the ageing person was content to accept council housing.

The following Orders were made during the year:-

Wisbech (Elm Road) Compulsory Purchase Order,  
1970 ..... 7 houses

Wisbech (Cannon Street) Compulsory Purchase  
Order, 1970 ..... 3 houses

Wisbech (Artillery Street/Charles Street)  
Compulsory Purchase Order, 1970 ..... 8 houses

Wisbech (Chapel Road) Compulsory Purchase  
Order, 1970 ..... 4 houses

Wisbech (Elm Road) Clearance Order, 1970 .... 3 houses

Wisbech (Barton Road) Clearance Order, 1970 . 3 houses

Estimated number of unfit houses remaining,  
excluding those in declared areas ..... 220

Estimated number of years necessary to deal  
with the above houses ..... 4 years

Houses completed in 1970:

Wisbech Corporation ..... 182  
Private enterprise ..... 70  
Almshouses ..... 14

Total post war houses completed ..... 2,306

Housing cont'd .....

Houses in Clearance Areas and Unfit Houses elsewhere

Return for the year ending 31st December, 1970

A. HOUSES DEMOLISHED	Houses demolished	Displaced during year	
		Persons	Families
<u>In or adjoining Clearance Areas</u>			
Houses unfit for human habitation	186	278	137
Included by reason of bad arrangement	15	17	6
On land acquired under Sec. 43(2) Housing Act, 1957	23	21	7
<u>Not in or adjoining Clearance Areas</u>			
As a result of formal or informal procedure under Secs. 16 or 17(1) Housing Act, 1957	8	23	7
Local Authority owned houses certified unfit by the Medical Officer of Health	-	-	-
Houses unfit for human habitation where action has been taken under local Acts	-	-	-
TOTALS	232	339	157
<b>B. UNFIT HOUSES CLOSED</b>			
	Number		
Under Secs. 16(4), 17(1) and 35(1) Housing Act, 1957 and 26 Housing Act, 1961	5	3	2
Parts of buildings closed under Sec. 18, Housing Act, 1957	0	0	0
<b>C. UNFIT HOUSES MADE FIT AND HOUSES INWHICH DEFECTS WERE REMEDIED</b>		By Owner	By Local Authority
After informal action by local authority		0	0
After formal action under public health acts		0	0
After formal notice under Secs. 9 and 16, Housing Act, 1957		3	0



Housing cont'd .....

Demolition of unfit houses took place at -

Clearance Areas and Compulsory Purchase Orders - 224 (\*33)

- 11,12,13,14,15,16,18,19,20,21,22,23,24,25,26,27,28,36,37,38,39,40,41,42 Bedford Street
- 11,12 Blyford Square
- 1,2,3,4,5,6,7 Burgess Square
- 7,8,9,10,11,13,14,15,15A,16 Chase Street
- 1,3,5,7,9,11,13,15,17,19,21,23,25,31,33,35,37 Duke Street
- 150 Elizabeth Terrace
- 3,5,7,9,11,13,15,39,41,43,45,47,49,40,42,44,46 Leverington Road
- 27,28,29,30,31,32,33,34,35,36,37,38,39,40,41,42,43,44 Nene Parade
- 1,2,3,4,8,9,10,11,12A,12,13,14,15, 'Holmleigh', Odom Street
- 1,2,3,4,5,43/43A Prince Street
- 1,2,3,4,5,6,7,8,9,10,11,12,13,14,15,16,17,18,19 Queen Street
- 10,12,14,18,20 Rammoth Road
- 6,7,8,9,10,11,12,13,14,15,16,17,18,19,20,21,22,23,24,25,26,27 Russell Street
- 19,20,21,22,23,24,25,26,27,28,29,30,31,32,33,34,35,36,37,38,39,40,40A,41,42,43,44,45,46,47,48 Sandyland Street
- 1,2,3,5,6,7,8,9,10,11,12,13,14,15,16,22,23,24,25,26,27,28,29,30 Silver Street
- 1,2,6,7 Tide Street
- 1,2,3,4 Wood Street

Individual Unfit Houses

(a) Formal Action - 8 (\*9)

- 7,8,9 Bedford Street
- 189 Elm Low Road
- 107 Harcroft Road
- 1 Mount Pleasant Road
- 10 North End
- 1 Walton Road

(b) Informal Action - Nil (\*26)

\* Figures in brackets are for the year 1969.

Improvement of Dwellings

Continued active involvement with individual applications has been a feature of the years work. A considerable amount of house improvement work had already been carried out under the Housing Act, 1964, thus leaving little scope for General Improvement Area activity. Nevertheless, certain parts of the town require more garages, more turning spaces and other fringe needs of the motorised age.

Housing cont'd .....

Standard Grants

The following is a summary of the action taken on grants during the year:-

Applications received .....	38
Applications passed .....	36
Applications rejected - unfit .....	1
Applications withdrawn .....	1

Cases in which work was completed and the grant paid:-

28 applications for a total of £3,834.72.

Amenities provided with the aid of grants:-

Bath in a bathroom .....	16
Wash-hand basins .....	24
Hot water systems .....	23
Internal w.c's .....	24
Sinks .....	1

Discretionary Grants

During the year 6 applications for discretionary grants were received and approved.

Qualification Certificates: Private rented property.  
Housing Act, 1969

The flow of inquiries and applications for qualification certificates continued at a gradual pace throughout the year. It was often found necessary to draw the owners attention to the need to carry out some repairs before a qualification certificate could be issued. In some instances a lot of time was spent explaining to owners the need to do the repairs, at the same time indicating the sort of rent which may be fixed for a house having all the standard amenities and in good repair.

Almshouses

All the old fashioned almshouses have been vacated. One new block of 14 flats erected on the site of former almshouses King's Walk (now King John House) became available for occupation during 1970. Erected on the instructions of the Wisbech Municipal Charities, a Housing Association, the houses represent the only new housing units to be erected and made available to let by private enterprise.

Housing cont'd .....

There is a similar need for modern self contained housing units suitable for occupation by young single persons.

Common Lodging Houses

No common lodging house is available in the area. Persons who formerly sought after this type of accommodation are now to be found occupying small caravans on licensed sites.

More facilities for local authorities became available to advance money for the purchase of houses. Because the resources are limited the facilities are limited to certain classes of people.

CARAVANS

Residential

Five licensed sites are provided within the Borough. Three sites, in one ownership, are in close proximity to each other. It is common practice for the van and pitch to be let together there being no vacancies for mobile caravans which may require temporary sites.

Every encouragement is given to site operators to uplift the standard of amenities provided. No real progress has been seen to be made in these matters and pressure has to be exerted to secure compliance with site licence conditions.

Caravan site operators signify that they are constantly under pressure from persons seeking a home. No research facilities are available but it would be interesting to have a breakdown of these enquiries. There is no surplus of vacancies in local industry, there are no extensive civil engineering operations in progress, engaged couples may be included on the Councils housing waiting list. Are the sites simply an attraction as a hide-away for persons seeking any form of shelter? Having exhausted a socialological survey, what else? Continued pressure to keep standards as high as possible.

Itinerant Caravans

The battle rages on - without victory to anyone. Travellers have always formed part of the Fenland scene, so far only consultations have been held towards an ultimate solution to the problem. I can offer no early hope of

Caravans cont'd .....

resolving the problem. On the one hand persons are aggrieved by the hide and seek game of the traveller whilst other persons living beyond the seats of ~~dere~~ ~~liction~~ seem abhorrent to the proposal of siting a recognised camp anywhere within ten miles of the Borough boundary.

FACTORIES

Several visits were made to premises and houses in which work is carried out.

Factories Act, 1937 - 1959

(1) Inspections for purposes of provision as to health.

Premises	Number on Register	Inspections	Written Notices	Occupiers Prosecuted
(1) Factories in which Secs. 1,2,3,4 and 6 are to be enforced by the local authority .....	5	17	-	-
(2) Factories not included in (1) in which Sec. 7 is enforced by local authority .....	105	10	2	-
(3) Other premises in which Sec. 7 is enforced by the local authority (excluding outworkers premises) .....	7	2	-	-
TOTALS	117	29	2	-

(2) Outwork.

Nature of work	No. of outworkers in Aug. list	No. of cases of default in sending list to Council	No. of Prosecutions for failing to supply list	No. of instances of work in unwholesome premises	Notices Served	Prosecutions
Clothing	2	-	-	-	-	-
Containers	2	-	-	-	-	-
Curtains	1	-	-	-	-	-
Labels	68	-	-	-	-	-

NON-INDUSTRIAL PREMISES

In total a considerable number of persons are employed within the Borough in wholesale and retail outlets. Since the introduction of the Offices, Shops and Railway Premises Act, 1963 there have been interesting developments. There has been a gradual reduction in the number of retail premises, albeit better facilities are provided for the staff.

Offices, Shops and Railway Premises Act, 1963

An analyses of contraventions of the Act remedied during the year is set out below:-

Abstract of act .....	5
Lack of cleanliness in premises .....	8
Evidence of rooms overcrowded .....	0
Absence of effective provision for securing and maintaining a reasonable temperature .....	2
Lack of ventilation .....	0
Insufficient natural or artificial lighting ....	4
Insufficient and lack of cleanliness in relation to sanitary conveniences .....	3
Absence of accessible washing facilities .....	6
Absence of conveniently accessible supply of drinking water .....	1
Lack of accommodation for clothing .....	3
Need of suitable facilities for sitting .....	2
Need to provide alternative types of seats .....	0
Lack of eating facilities in shop premises .....	0
Repairs and maintenance required to floors, stairs and passages .....	4
Fencing required to exposed machinery .....	1
Need to provide first aid equipment .....	6

Investigations were carried out into 3 accidents but legal action was not necessary.

RODENT CONTROL

Routine rodent control measures, including contract work for industrial and commercial premises are carried out by one full time operative. Much work is carried out on land under the control of the Council, such as allotments, sewage treatment works, port area and sites the subject of compulsory purchase order processes.


Rodent Control cont'd .....

Prevention of Damage by Pests Act, 1949  
Return for the year 1970

	Type of Property	
	Non-Agricultural	Agricultural
(1) Number of properties in local authorities districts:	7,238	100
(2) Total number of properties inspected as a result of notification:	248	12
Number infested by: Rats	167	10
Mice	81	2
(3) Total number of properties inspected for rats and/or mice for reasons other than notification:	234	11
Number infested by: Rats	0	0
Mice	2	0

WISBECH PORT HEALTH AUTHORITY

Inspections of vessels on arrival in the port are fully maintained as required.

Activities in the Port Area are mentioned in the Section of the report dealing with Clean Air. Suffice it for me to re-iterate the facts that no less than 65% of the amount of cargo passing through the Port of Wisbech is of a dusty nature and liable to create a nuisance. Similarly members are reminded that the Port is within close proximity to the town centre and residential development, that the River Nene is quite narrow and that a change of wind direction brings chaos where peace may have reigned.

Wisbech Port Health Authority cont'd .....

Amount of shipping entering the district during the year.

<u>Ships from</u>	<u>Number</u>	<u>Tonnage</u>	<u>Number inspected</u>		<u>Number of ships reported as having, or having had, during voyage, infectious disease on board</u>
			<u>by the P.H.I.</u>	<u>by the M.O.H.</u>	
Foreign Ports	253	54,138 N.R. 101,589 Cargo	147	Nil	Nil
Coastwise	34	13,319 N.R. 35,487 Cargo	18	Nil	Nil
<b>Total</b>	<b>287</b>	<b>67,457 N.R. 137,076 Cargo</b>	<b>165</b>	<b>Nil</b>	<b>Nil</b>

Character of shipping and trade during the year.

Passenger traffic: Number of passengers inwards - Nil  
Number of passengers outwards- Nil

Cargo traffic: Principal Imports: Petroleum, potash, timber, barley grit and maize.

Principal Exports: Barley and bricks.

Principal ports from which ships arrive:

Amsterdam, Antwerp, Rotterdam, Putterschoek, Gdansk, Hamina, Terneuzen, Leningrad, Cuxhaven, Kristinestad, Hamburg and Wismar.





