1960

RURAL DISTRICT

OF

CALNE & CHIPPENHAM

RURAL DISTRICT

of

CALNE AND CHIPPENHAM

THE

ANNUAL REPORT

of the

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

and

SENIOR PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR

for the

YEAR ENDING 31st. DECEMBER, 1960.

(a) MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

C.L. Broomhead, T.D., M.D., B.Ch., D.P.H.

5, High Street,
Chippenham. Tel: Chippenham 2821.

Also Medical Officer of Health for the Boroughs of Calne, Chippenham and Malmesbury and the Rural District of Malmesbury, Assistant County Medical Officer of Health and School Medical Officer.

(b) SENIOR PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR

+ H.J. Taylor, Cert. S.I.B., M.R.S.H., M.A.P.H.I.

also Surveyor to the Council.

(c) ADDITIONAL PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTORS.

+ S.H. Murray, Cert. S.I.B., M.A.P.H.I.
+ E.J. Silvester, Cert. S.I.B., M.A.P.H.I.
+ A.F.M. Howard, Cert. S.I.B., A.R.S.H., M.A.P.H.I.

+ Qualifications held by these Officers:-

Sanitary Inspectors' Certificate of the Royal Sanitary Institute, Meat and Other Foods Certificate of the Royal Sanitary Institute.
Certificate in Sanitary Science as applied to Buildings and Public Works of the Royal Sanitary Institute.
(Note - The Royal Sanitary Institute is now the Royal Society of Health).

(d) SECRETARY TO THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH.

S.G.V. Williamson, Cert. R.I.P.H.H.

(e) Committees of the Council which are concerned with matters of Public Health.

Finance, Staff and General Purposes Committee
Public Health Committee
Housing Committee

These Committees are held every four weeks throughout the year and deal with all matters appertaining to public health and housing.

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The Chairman & members,
Calne & Chippenham Rural District Council.

Mr. Chairman, Ladies & Gentlemen,

I have the honour to present my Annual Report for the year ending 31st. December, 1960 in accordance with Regulation 15(5) of the Public Health Officers Regulations, 1959.

Copies of the Report are required by the Ministry of Health, Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food, the Ministry of Housing & Local Government and H.M. Inspector of Factories; a copy is also sent to the County Medical Officer of Health.

The Report of the Senior Public Health Inspector, Mr. H.J. Taylor is incorporated and provides detailed information on environmental public health within the Rural District.

I wish to record my appreciation of the assistance and co-operation I have received from Mr. Taylor and the Staff of the Council during the year under review.

I have the honour to be,

Your obedient Servant,

C.L. BROOMHEAD,

Medical Officer of Health.

State of the Public Health.

Apart from a small outbreak of food poisoning amongst service personnel at an R.A.F. establishment and a few sporadic cases of Scarlet Fever, the Rural District was particularly free of infections during the year; in fact the incidence of notifiable infectious diseases was lower than during any year since 1956.

Nevertheless it should be appreciated that this fortunate state of affairs will not continue unless a large proportion of the child population is kept fully immunised against Smallpox, Diphtheria, Poliomyelitis and Whooping Cough.

The importance of giving a re-inforcing dose of Diphtheria prophylactic to children about to enter school is as great as ever. School age is important for a child as he there meets most of the ills of childhood having been removed from the shelter of the family circle.

There seems little doubt that the course of vaccination against Poliomyelitis now advised has produced substantial protection, yet, as in Diphtheria, it is most important that parents avail themselves of the opportunities for this prophylaxis and do not wait until an outbreak has occurred before presenting themselves and their children for immunisation.

The speed of modern air travel and the possibility of an incubating case of Smallpox reaching this country without detection makes satisfactory vaccination against this serious and sometimes fatal infection, still essential for all infants.

Notifications of cases of Tuberculosis during 1960 were considerably less than during any year since 1948, and the total number of tuberculous persons resident in the Rural District during 1960 showed, according to the register, a considerable reduction, ie 156 during 1960, 174 during 1959. In order that this satisfactory state may continue, it is necessary that those school children in the thirteen year age group who are found lacking the necessary immunity, should receive B.C.G. immunisation before leaving school.

The birth rate showed an appreciable increase by comparison with the rate of 18.9 for 1959.

The adjusted death rate for 1960 was 11.2; an increase as compared with the preceding year which was 9.7. Deaths from cancer showed a sharp increase, ie. 26 as compared with 16 during 1959. Deaths from coronary disease also showed a slight rise, ie 47 as compared with 44 during 1959.

It is unlikely, .. . in the absence of any serious epidemic, that the death rate will vary to any degree from year to year. There are, however, appreciable differences im the death rates for individual age groups, taking the country as a whole, for example, 41 per cent of all deaths in the age group 15-24 are caused by road traffic accidents.

The proportion of the elderly in the community continues to increase and it has been estimated that persons aged 65 years and over amount to nearly 12 per cent of the total population of the country. The welfare of such a large proportion becomes an increasing responsibility for the younger wage earning members of the population. Continued employment of those over the normal retiring age of 65 years, provided they are physically and mentally fit, will help to minimise this financial and physical burden.

The expectation of life shows no change since 1954, and it is stated to be 69 years for a man and 74 years for a woman. Greater numbers are however reaching these age levels as the health of the population improves; in other words the population has "grown up" or aged".

State of the Public Health (Continued).

The Public Health Laboratory Service, under the direction of Dr. Paul Mann at the Manor Hospital, Bath, provides an invaluable service in the investigation and control of infectious diseases. It is only by the regular and routine bacteriological examination of water supplies, milk, foods etc. and pathological specimens that the health of the public is maintained at its present high level. The biological examination of milk however, should not be unduly emphasised as a means to prevent infection of milk.

The continued provision of a pure water supply, clean food, air, good housing and adequate nutrition associated with a high rate of immunisation against the more serious infectious diseases, will maintain the present excellent state of public health.

On subsequent pages, detailed statistics on birth and death rates, causes of death etc. and the prevalence and control of infectious diseases, will be found. An attempt has also been made to clarify the complex legislation pertaining to the production and distribution of milk, and the use of the special designations applied to milk. The report by Mr. Taylor, the Senior Public Health Inspector includes comment on the inspections carried out and samples taken for bacteriological investigation by his staff during the year, a most valuable contribution to the maintenance and the improvement of public health.

GENERAL STATISTICS.

Area (in acres) 85, 388

Population 33, 750

No. of inhabited houses (end of 1960 according to the Rate Book) 7, 707

Rateable Value at 31.12.60 . . . . . £339,554.

Sum represented by the Penny Rate . . . . . £1345.

VITAL STATISTICS

LIVE BIRTHS

	Males	Females	Total
Legitimate	289	255	544
Illegitimate	9	8	17
Total	298	263	561

Crude Birth Rate for the District . . . . . 16.6 per 1000 of the population

Adjusted Birth Rate for the District . . . . . 21.2 per 1000 of the population

Comparative Birth Rate for England & Wales . . . . . 17.1 per 1000 of the population.

Members of the Armed Forces stationed in the area are included in the population figure shown under the heading "General Statistics". To make an approximate allowance for the way in which the sex and age distribution of the local population differs from England & Wales as a whole, the crude birth and death rates for the District are to be multiplied by a "comparability factor" given by the Registrar General. The above statistics have been so corrected.

The Birth Rate for 1960 is higher than the rate for 1959 which was 18.9 per 1000 of the population.

STILL BIRTHS

Fifteen still births were recorded during 1960. The rate per 1000 total live and still births is 26.0. The comparative rate for England & Wales is given by the Registrar General as 19.7.

INFANT MORTALITY.

Deaths of infants under 1 year of age:

	Males	Females	Total
Legitimate	4	8	12
Illegitimate	-	1	1
Total	4	9	13

nine children died during the first week of life.

Rate per 1000 live births 23.1

Comparative Rate for England & Wales 21.7

DEATHS

Deaths recorded in the Rural District during 1960 were as follows:-

Males	Females	Total
151	116	267

Crude Death Rate for the District . . . . . 7.9 per 1000 of the population

Adjusted Death Rate for the District. . . . . 11.2 per 1000 of the population

Comparative Death Rate for England & Wales 11.5

The Death Rate for the Rural District for 1960 is slightly higher by comparison with the previous year which was 9.7 per 1000 of the population.

ANALYSIS OF CAUSES OF DEATH.

	Males	Females	Total
Tuberculosis, respiratory	-	-	-
Tuberculosis, other	-	-	-
Syphilitic disease	1	-	1
Diphtheria	-	-	-
Whooping Cough	-	-	-
Meningococcal infections	-	-	-
Acute Poliomyelitis	-	-	-
Measles	-	-	-
Other infective and parasitic diseases	-	2	2
Malignant neoplasm, stomach	7	1	8
" " , lung, bronchus	10	2	12
" " breast	-	5	5
" " uterus	-	1	1
Other malignant and lymphatic neoplasms	16	7	23
Leukaemia, aleukaemia	1	3	4
Diabetes	-	-	-
Vascular lesions of nervous system	16	17	33
Coronary disease: angina	30	17	47
Hypertension with heart disease	-	1	1
Other heart disease	15	19	34
Other circulatory disease	10	8	18
Influenza	-	-	-
Pneumonia	6	3	9
Bronchitis	12	3	15
Other diseases of repiratory system	1	1	2
Ulcer of stonach and duodenum	1	1	2
Gastritis, enteritis and diarrhoea	-	1	1
Nephritis and nephrosis	-	-	-
Hyperplasia of prostate	2	-	2
Pregnancy, childbirth, abortion	-	-	-
Congenital malformations	1	5	6
Other defined and ill-defined diseases	10	15	25
Motor vehicle accidents	6	3	9
Suicide	1	-	1
Homicide and operations of war	-	-	-
All other accidents	5	1	6
TOTAL:-	151	116	267

PREVALENCE AND CONTROL OF INFECTIOUS DISEASE.

The following table lists cases of infectious disease notified during 1960. Comparative statistics have been included for previous years since 1956.

	1956		1957		1958		1959		1960	
	a	b	a	b	a	b	a	b	a	b
DISEASE										
Scarlet Fever	28	28	18	18	34	33	33	33	31	30
Whooping Cough	131	131	50	50	2	2	13	13	7	7
Diphtheria	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Measles	60	60	650	650	409	409	378	378	49	49
Ac. Poliomyelitis (Paralytic)	1	1	3	3	-	-	-	-	-	-
Ac. Poliomyelitis (Non-Paralytic)	7	1	4	3	-	-	-	-	-	-
Dysentery	71	69	95	104	11	9	46	39	9	7
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Puerperal Pyrexia	-	-	3	3	-	-	1	1	2	2
Smallpox	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Typhoid Fever	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Para Typhoid Fever	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Food Poisoning	5	2	9	8	14	14	2	2	27	27
Erysipelas	3	3	1	1	-	-	2	2	-	-
Pneumonia	3	3	19	19	14	14	8	8	3	3
Cerebro-Spinal Fever	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Encephalitis (Virus)	-	-	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-
Malaria.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1
TOTAL:-	309	298	853	860	484	481	483	476	129	126

"a" = Original numbers notified.
"b" = Final numbers after correction.

The above statistics concern cases of notifiable disease certified by General Practitioners. In addition, from time to time, information is received from Head Teachers, The Public Health Laboratory, Infectious Disease Hospitals and other sources of suspected cases of infections and enquiries are made as a result by the Public Health Inspectors. A proportion of these suspected cases are ultimately confirmed and the necessary action is taken to prevent further spread.

TUBERCULOSIS.

New cases of Tuberculosis notified and confirmed by the Chest Physician during 1960 together with comparative statistics for previous years since 1948, are given below.

YEAR	PULMONARY	NON-PULMONARY	TOTAL
1948	14	7	21
1949	11	10	21
1950	30	2	32
1951	26	7	33
1952	23	5	28
1953	24	8	32
1954	8	3	11
1955	18	1	19
1956	11	2	13
1957	10	3	13
1958	15	2	17
1959	11	2	13
1960	6	-	6

NEW CASES AND MORT. LITY DURING 1960

Age Groups	New Cases Resp. M.	New Cases Resp. F.	New Cases Non-Resp M.	New Cases Non-Resp F.	Deaths Resp. M.	Deaths Resp. F.	Deaths Non-Resp. M.	Deaths Non-Resp. F
0								
1								
5								
15	2							
25								
35		1						
45	2				++ 1			
55	1							
65 upwards								
TOTAL:	5	1	-	-	1	-	-	-

++ This case has not been listed on page 6 of this report against the heading "Tuberculosis Respiratory" as the primary cause of death was shown as "Carcinoma of the Larynx", the death therefore has been classified as "Malignant Neoplasm".

It should be noted that the above figures do not represent the total number of individuals suffering from Tuberculosis in the Rural District. In addition to the new cases notified each year, a certain proportion of tuberculous persons either move into the district or move out. According to the Register of Tuberculous Persons, the following notified and confirmed cases of Tuberculosis were living in the Rural District at the end of 1960.

	Males	Females	Total.
Pulmonary	66	45	111
Non- Pulmonary	24	21	45
Total	90	66	156

A total of 174 Tuberculous Persons were on the Register at the end of 1959.

MASS RADIOGRAPHY.

A Mobile X-Ray Unit operated at Hawthorn during January 1960. A total of 373 persons volunteered for examination with the following results:-

Active Tuberculosis found . . . . . .one male 45/59 yr Grp.
Inactive Tuberculosis found . . . . one male 45/59 yr Grp.

1. The Milk (Special Designations) Regulations, 1960 became effective on the 1st. January, 1961 and have occasioned considerable discussion; it is therefore opportune that an attempt be made to clarify, at the risk of some over simplification the legislation and the attendant administrative problems. The Milk (Special Designations) Regulations, 1960 must be considered in conjunction with the Milk & Dairies (General) Regulations, 1959 which are concerned with the methods of production, storage, handling and distribution of milk and the protection of milk against infection.

2. The Milk & Dairies (General) Regulations, 1959 and The Milk (Special Designations) Regulations, 1960 were made jointly by the Minister of Agriculture, Fisheries & Food and the Minister of Health. The Minister of Agriculture, Fisheries & Food keeps a Register of Farmers and Dairy Farms, and grants the producers licences; these last for five years. The Minister formulates certain requirements to be observed by the producer in respect of an Attested Herd under the Diseases of Animals Act, 1950 and makes Orders connected with the control of Tuberculosis.

3. Licences to sell milk named "Tuberculin Tested", "Pasteurised" or "Sterilised" are now to be issued by the Wilts. County Council; prior to the new Regulations, these were issued by Local District Authorities.

4. Local District Authorities are required to keep a Register of persons carrying on the trade of distributor and premises used as dairies. (Milk & Dairies (General) Regulations, 1959). Any person who wishes to be registered as a distributor of milk must apply in writing to the Local District Authority. The Local District Authority is concerned with those Regulations relating to the protection of milk from contamination or infection in its storage, handling or bottling, or distribution from a dairy. The Medical Officer of Health of a Local District Authority has important duties to perform, principally concerning the steps to be taken should he have satisfactory evidence that a milk supply has caused disease in a human being, or is infected with a disease communicable to man, or whenever he has knowledge that those engaged in the production or distribution of milk are suffering from or have been in contact with a notifiable disease, or a disease liable to cause infection of milk.

5. The various designated milks sold must at all times satisfy certain laboratory tests. It is for this reason that samples of milk are taken for examination by the Public Health Laboratory. Samples may be taken by an Authorised Officer, ie a Veterinary Officer or Public Health Inspector. The results give evidence that production and distribution methods are satisfactory, or otherwise, and that pasteurising or sterilisation methods are adequate. Obviously the greater the number of samples taken, the more likely are the failures to be detected. No guidance is given in the Regulations as to the frequency of sampling.

6. Milk may be infected by the cow, ie the diseases of Tuberculosis, or Brucellosis (Undulant Fever). A milch cow suffering from either of these may convey the infection by her milk and the prevention of these infections in man rests in either the elimination of the disease in cattle or alternatively, in the efficient pasteurisation or sterilisation of all milk for human consumption. It is an offence to sell milk for human consumption from any cow, which to the knowledge of the owner, has given tuberculous milk or is suffering from emaciation due to tuberculosis, or from tuberculosis of the udder. (Food & Drugs Act, 1955 Section 31). It is also an offence under Section 31 to sell milk for human consumption from a cow

6 contd suffering from any infection of the udder or teats which is likely to convey disease (Third Schedule Section 31).

7. Samples of milk for biological examination, ie an examination to ascertain whether or not they contain the organisms of bovine Tuberculosis, or Brucellosis, require an interval of six weeks before the examination can be concluded and before a report can be received. During the interval, the offending animal or animals, may have gone dry, stopped excreting or have been removed from the herd, and it is impossible therefore, after six weeks to take either action under Part V11 of the Milk and Dairies (General) Regulations, 1959, or even decide whether the current supply is infected. The Milk & Dairies (General) Regulations, 1959 do not make reference to these biological investigations. It should be appreciated that although a Public Health Inspector or Veterinary Officer may take samples for biological examinations, these activities do not prevent the infection of milk. The results of the biological examinations merely confirm or deny the fact that the particular sample when taken, was or was not infected with pathogenic organisms; if infected, the total milk it represents would have been consumed for some time before the laboratory report is received.

8. It will be apparent, since the Local District Authority has no responsibility concerning the maintenance of animal health, the registration of dairy farms, or authority over methods of milk production, that the control and elimination of diseases of animals communicable to man, for example Tuberculosis or Brucellosis, are the responsibility of the Minister of Agriculture, Fisheries & Food and the Wilts. County Council (Food & Drugs Act, 1955 Sec. 31 Sixth Schedule Sec. 57)

9. It is my opinion that the result of the biological examination of milk is principally of value to the owner of the herd and the Veterinary Officer, the Wilts. County Council and the Minister of Agriculture, Fisheries & Food. The sample for biological examination should also be taken from the cow; if taken from the bottle of milk in distribution to the consumer, it is impossible, especially after an interval of six weeks to trace the guilty cow. In the meantime, the infected milk, if such is the case, has been consumed as stated in 7 above.

10. Recent issues of the British Medical Journal and the Monthly Bulletin of the Ministry of Health and Public Health Laboratory Service, quote incidences of human tuberculous infection from the consumption of milk from attested herds. The following examples will illustrate the point.

> Routine tuberculin tests of an attested herd revealed six reactor cows, one of these was found on postmortem examination to have a tuberculous udder. Subsequent retesting after two months revealed 19 more reactors. It was suspected that a cow sold from the farm to a knacker prior to testing may have been the origination of the herd infection. Two months later, a general practitioner informed the Medical Officer of Health that a child living in one of the farm cottages receiving raw milk from the farm, had developed signs indicative of tuberculous infection; her sister was also probably infected. A second family in an adjoining cottage has also received a regular supply of raw milk from the same farm and gave strongly positive tuberculin tests. Fortunately the bulk of the milk from the herd had been sent daily for pasteurisation before retail to the public.

> A second instance came to light following the slaughter of a cow from an attested herd. The cow was found to

10 contd. be affected by tuberculosis, although six months previously all the herd, including the cow, had been found negative on testing. Subsequent enquiry revealed that the cow had suffered from clinical mastitis three months before slaughter and had probably been excreting tubercle bacilli in her milk for about six weeks before the evidence of mastitis appeared.

The May, 1961 issue of the Monthly Bulletin, directed by the Medical Research Council, describes an outbreak of tuberculous adenitis in children following the consumption of "T.T. milk" supplied to the local school. Subsequent to the diagnosis of the infection, the herd was investigated by the Divisional Veterinary Officer who discovered 31 of the 128 cattle in the herd were positive reactors. An old cow had previously been removed to the knackers yard and calves fed from this cow were found to be positive reactors also.

Incidents such as these are fortunately not common, but were commonplace 30 years ago. Pasteurisation of milk and the Attested Herd Scheme have made these types of infection rare, but, until there can be more stringent control of the safety of milk production, especially in areas where milk is drunk raw, extension of pasteurisation is desirable to safeguard public health. It is apparent that the designation of milk as "Tuberculin Tested" cannot, in the absence of pasteurisation, guarantee 100 per cent freedom from infection. It should also be remembered that T.T. Herds may be infected with Brucellosis an infection which causes Undulant Fever in those human beings who drink raw milk from such a source.

11. Milk is an admirable medium for the growth of pathogenic microbes and may be infected by the cow with other diseases in addition to Tuberculosis and Undulant Fever. The early detection of infections in dairy herds cannot be effectively carried out by Officers of a Local District Authority. Freedom of infection of raw T.T. milk on sale to the public is a responsibility of the producer and the Minister of Agriculture, Fisheries & Food and the Veterinary Officer. Sampling by a Public Health Inspector on the periphery of distribution does not prevent the infection of milk by the cow, and, as previously stated, the Laboratory result only makes one wise after the event.

12. It will be apparent that the legislation concerning milk production and distribution is complex and that, at present several individual authorities are involved in its administration; it should be appreciated also, that the production, storage, handling and distribution of milk pays no regard to local district boundaries or to county council boundaries for that matter, ie a milk may be produced in one authorities area, bottled in another, and distributed in yet another. Milk may be pasteurised in one county and sold over the border in another.

13. Samples of milk failing the Methylene Blue Test indicate that the standards of cleanliness observed in the production and/ or distribution of milk are not satisfactory. The Local District Authority, on receipt of a sample failure, investigates the dairy concerned in its methods of bottling and distribution and at the same time notifies the Divisional Executive Officer of the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries & Food at Gloucester in order that he may make arrangements for an enquiry into production methods at the farm concerned, if he considers this advisable.

13 cont Samples of pasteurised milk failing the Phosphatase test and the Methylene Blue Test are refered to the Wilts. County Council; whenever bacteriological reports on milk samples reveal the actual or presumptive presence of organisms pathogenic to man, informal arrangements are made for pasteurisation of the suspected milk pending further enquiry.

14. In a Circular 87/49 dated 7 Sep 49, the Minister of Health stresses the need for co-operation with the Divisional Inspectors of the Ministry of Agriculture&Fisheries and also for co-operation between the Medical Officers of Health of County Districts and the relevant County Medical Officer of Health both because of the responsibility of the County Councils in relation to Sec 25 Food & Drugs Act,1938 (now Sec. 31 Food & Drugs Act, 1955) and the desirability of avoiding duplication of sampling milk for biological examination.

Sampling of milk for the various statutory tests is essential to ensure that the milk on sale to the public conforms to the standards required by law, nevertheless, it is my opinion that too much importance should not be given to these procedures for the reasons stated. No amount of sampling can take the place of the stringent control of animal health and the frequent inspection by authorised officers of the means of production, handling, storage and distribution of milk for sale to the public.

IMMUNISATION

I am indebted to Dr. C.D.L. Lycett, County Medical Officer for the following information:

(a) Poliomyelitis Immunisation

Completed injections during 1960.

Persons Born	Second	Third
1943/1960	505	1341
1933/1942	289	1296
Before 1933, but who had not reached 40 yrs of age.	672	159
Expectant Mothers	24	27
Others	21	177

Arrangements were extended in February, 1960 to include all persons up to 40 years of age, from which time it was impossible to record separately expectant mothers as they can now register merely under their age groups.

(b) Diphtheria and Whooping Cough Immunisation

The following children received primary immunisation during 1960.

Under 1 yr	Ages 1-4 yrs	Ages 5-14 yrs	Total
694	171	142	1007

Total immunised child population as at 31.12.60.

Ages 0-4 yrs	Ages 5-14 yrs	Total
1558	4945	6503

(c) Smallpox Vaccination

The following children were vaccinated against Smallpox during 1960.

Under 1 yr	1- 4 yrs	5-15 yrs +	Total
274	62	189	525

WATER SUPPLY.

The following information has been supplied by Mr. R.A. Witham, the Council's Engineer.

There has been no change in the sources of water or its surroundings which could adversely affect the quality of the water; treatment of all sources is by chlorination.

There was no overall shortage of water during the year, but the demand has increased and the need for a new source is apparent. Steps are being taken by the proposed North West Wilts. Water Board to obtain additional sources from three sites near Malmesbury. The Geologists reports on these sources are encouraging.

Some isolated complaints of shortage of water were received from parts of Corsham and from Kington Langley. These were due to the local inadequacy of the distribution system and not to lack of water at the sources. In both areas new mains are being laid and when completed by the early summer of 1961 will overcome the troubles.

The following statistics may be of interest:-

	1959	1960	
Average demand	1,388,000	1,467,000	gallons per day.
Maximum demand	1,609,000	1,796,000	
Minimum demand	1,677,000	1,677,000	

Constant supervision of the sources of water and the water in supply to the public, has been exercised by the Public Health Department, and the results of the bacteriological and chemical examinations will be found in detail in the report of the Senior Public Health Inspector, annexed. Free chlorination estimations are regularly made of the water in the public mains, and also as the water leaves the reservoirs. The results of bacteriological and free chlorine estimations are given to Mr. Witham and also to Mr. Phillips, the Engineer, Chippenham Borough Council, since the Rural District receives a large amount of water from the bore sources within the Chippenham Borough.

None of the water in supply to the public is plumbo-solvent.

No information of the number of houses supplied with water in each parish is available. It is understood however, that the total number of houses (including Service Department houses) is 8557, of these, all except 454 are supplied with water from public mains.

There is a total of 14 public standpipes supplying 18 houses in the district. It is the Council's policy to remove these as they become redundant.

SEWERAGE.

Parishes with modern sewerage systems and disposal works:0

	Date provided.
Biddestone	1955
Box (first stage)	Under construction
Castle Combe	1955
Colerne	1948
Corsham	1939
Lacock	1932
Yatton Keynell	1958

Parishes with schemes in various stages of preparation:-

Kington St. Michael Kington Langley Sutton Benger Christian Malford Bremhill(East Tytherton)	North Eastern Sewerage Scheme.	Scheme prepared and approved by Council.
Calne Without (Derry Hill & Studley)		Awaiting Ministry approval.
Mile Elm		Approved by Council.
Box (2nd. Stage)		Approved by Council.
Grittleton Hilmarton		Outline schemes approved by Council.

In addition to the above the Council have agreed the preparation of schemes of sewerage for Cherhill, Heddington and Stanton St. Quinton. Some preparatory work has been done in respect of Cherhill and Stanton St. Quinton.

HOUSING

I am grateful to Mr. O.J. Baugh, the Council's Housing Manager, for the following detail.

1. Total Number of Applicants on List at 31.12. 60 . . . 560

2. Total Number of Applications received during 1960 . . 133

3. Total rehoused during year :

   (a) To Council houses - 127

   (This figure includes all "permanent accommodation", i.e. flats. It also includes 60 of 100 houses and flats which the Council are building at Corsham for the Admiralty.)

   (b) To other accommodation - 78

4. Total number of Applications for Old Person's Bungalows. . 78

5. Evicted Families - Number brought to notice and dealt with

   25 - 14 (actually rehoused)

6. Number of new houses built and occupied during 1960

   (a) By the Council - 60 houses (for Admiralty)
   12 flats.

   (b) By private enterprise . 86

Site 1A

Considerable progress was made during the year in the redevelopment of this Estate.

Number of bungalows demolished during the year - 22
Number of families rehoused during year - 22

Of the original 106 bungalows on this estate, there were 33 remaining at the end of the year.

Site 1B and Rudloe Estate

No re-development during 1960. Rudloe Estate which was managed during the year by the Council on behalf of the Ministry of Works, has been gradually run down.

Number of bungalows closed down on Rudloe Estate during the year 11

Number of bungalows remaining occupied on Rudloe Estate at 31.12.60 103

REPORT OF THE SENIOR PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR.

To:- The Chairman and Members of the
Calne and Chippenham Rural District Council.

Mr.Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have the honour and pleasure to report on the detailed work carried out in the Public Health Department during 1960.

From time to time during 1960, I reported to the Housing Committee on slum property within the Rural District, with the result that substantial progress was made towards the eradication of unfit houses. If the present momentum on this work can continue throughout 1961, the Council's Five-Year Slum Clearance Survey should be completed by the end of 1961.

A new survey will then be undertaken, as recommended by the Minister of Housing and Local Government in Circular No.2/60, dated 27th January 1960.

This survey will reveal houses which have been neglected since the original survey was commenced in 1955, and which by reason of disrepair, dampness, or lack of essential sanitary and cooking facilities etc. are deemed to be unfit for human habitation, and not reasonably suitable for occupation.

The good work in connection with Discretionary Grants for the improvement of houses has continued, and 55 applications for such grants were received, of which 47 were approved.

A great deal of your officers' time is devoted to this valuable work for the improvement of house property. In addition to the routine work of checking and certifying each application, many informal advisory visits are made at the request of property owners before formal applications are submitted for consideration by the Council.

The Standard Grants scheme, which was introduced in June,1959, when the House Purchase and Housing Act 1959 came into force, has been well received in this district, and during the year 45 applications received approval.

This simplified method of obtaining "grants" towards the provision of essential amenities has caught the imagination of the public, and in the future I foresee more applications being received for Standard Grants than for Discretionary Grants.

Discretionary Grants however, are invaluable aids towards the improvement of house property and a much higher standard of accommodation results from the improvement of properties with these grants than with Standard Grants.

The regular sampling of designated milk has been undertaken, and the number of unsatisfactory samples fell by 50%, which is a distinct improvement and emphasises the value of the close supervision of the milk supplies throughout the district.

The Minister of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food has considered it necessary to replace and consolidate with amendments the Milk (Special Designation)(Raw Milk) Regulations 1949-1954, and the Milk (Special Designation)(Pasteurised and Sterilised Milk) Regulations 1949-1953, with the Milk (Special Designation) Regulations 1960.

The functions of the former regulations, which were generally administered by district councils, will be performed by the food and drugs authority (Wilts County Council) after the 1st October 1960.

The changes in licensing procedure have been designed primarily to reduce the amount of routine work involved in the administration of the Regulations. The reason for the introduction of these new Regulations is commendable, but it is unfortunate that a public health function which has been satisfactorily discharged by district councils should now be undertaken by county councils.

There is a possibility that the County Council will seek to delegate their new responsibilities to district councils. What a Gilbertian situation!

Other new and important legislation has been enacted with regard to caravan licensing. I refer to the Caravan Sites and Control of Development Act 1960.

This, in my view, is a very useful piece of legislation which will enable local authorities to tighten their control on the stationing of caravans and the provision of new sites.

The Clerk of the Council and I have reported fully on the provisions of this Act and the necessary steps have been taken to implement this new legislation.

The Act confers on local authorities effective powers for controlling caravan sites. It also strengthens the powers of planning authorities and introduces a new licensing system, which will be administered by county district councils.

The most urgent action falling on local authorities concerns the control of existing sites. These will all be brought under review by the requirement that all occupiers must apply for site licences within two months of the 29th August 1960.

A joint Sub-Committee, composed of members of the Buildings and Planning Committee and the Public Health Committee held two meetings on the 16th and 30th November 1960, to consider what recommendations should be made to the Buildings and Planning Committee in connection with all existing caravan sites.

Such recommendations have been forwarded to the County Planning Officer in order to assist him in making his formal recommendations to this Council.

Public Health "site" licences for caravans cannot be issued until formal planning consent has been given for the use of the land for this purpose.

The Planning Authority has six months in which to consider all applications in respect of "existing" caravan sites, so consideration of the issue of public health site licences cannot be undertaken until early in 1961.

Provided the occupier of an existing caravan site has submitted a formal planning application for his existing site, he is not committing an offence under the Act, and he may remain on the site until a decision has been given on his application.

The Act also gives power to local authorities to purchase land for caravan sites and to assist in the control of caravans within the rural district; the Council has been recommended to establish additional caravan sites at Corsham, Hilmarton, Sutton Benger, and Yatton Keynell.

Important new Food and Drugs legislation has been enacted during 1960, including:

The Food Hygiene (General) Regulations 1960,
The Meat (Staining and Sterilisation) Regulations 1960,
The Authorised Officers (Meat Inspection) Regulations 1960.

Brief details of this new legislation are given later in this report.

The survey of existing private water supplies has continued in the Calne Without, Heddington, Cherhill and Compton Bassett parishes, and of the 90 water samples taken, 55 were considered suspect or unfit for drinking purposes; 31 premises were connected to the Council's water mains as a result of sampling.

The other work of the department has been undertaken, and as much attention has been given to these important public health duties as time has permitted.

The full extent of the work of the department is unfolded in the following pages of this report, and I would here like to pay a tribute to the Officers and Staff of the Public Health Department, for the very valuable work they have performed on behalf of the Council and for the benefit of the health of the rate-payers whom they serve.

I have the honour to be,
Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

H.J.TAYLOR,

Senior Public Health Inspector.

SUMMARY OF PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTORS' VISITS IN 1960:

		1960		1959
General Sanitation:				
Water supply		297		368
Drainage		289		278
Stables and piggeries		31		43
Fried fish shops		7		10
Factories - power		31		45
non-power		1		-
Tents, vans and sheds		287		280
Bakehouses		20		11
Public conveniences		42		55
Theatres and places of entertainment		1		1
Licensed premises		14		11
Refuse collection		210		401
Refuse disposal		125		94
Rats and mice		16		46
Atmospheric pollution		2		2
Schools		52		66
Shops		26		22
Nuisances		123		206
Water samples		413		404
Sewage samples		55		29
Sewage swabs		104		-
Miscellaneous sanitary visits		300		503
Housing:				
No. of houses inspected under Public Health Acts	22		16	
Re-visits to above houses		25		19
No. of houses inspected under Housing Acts	165		93	
Re-visits to above houses		303		280
No. of houses inspected for overcrowding	2		5	
Re-visits to above houses		11		-
No. of inspections of houses infested with flies or wasps		8		142
No. of filthy or verminous premises inspected	9		15	
Re-visits to above premises		3		15
No. of premises inspected in connection with Improvement Grants	151		209	
Re-visits to above premises		360		135
No. of miscellaneous housing visits		138		92
Infectious diseases:				
No. of enquiries in cases of infectious diseases		32		104
No. of visits re disinfection		13		45
No. of miscellaneous infectious disease visits		135		156
No. of food poisoning enquiries		4		-
Meat and food inspections:				
No. of visits to knacker's yard		6		4
No. of visits to shops and stalls		4		-
No. of visits to other meat premises		-		2
No. of visits to: Butchers		12		23
Canteens		3		9
Dairies and milk distributors		21		25
Fishmongers and poulterers		28		13
Food preparing premises		22		8
Grocers		61		55
Greengrocers and fruiterers		-		1
Ice cream premises		9		30
Market stalls		-		1
Restaurants and cafes		21		25
Street vendors and hawkers		5		14

	1960	1959
No. of Visits in connection with Sampling:		
Milk - bacteriological samples	122	128
biological samples	7	21
Ice cream samples	105	164
No. of Visits in connection with:		
Surveying	1648	762
Petrol and carbide	11	14
Town planning	409	348
	5972	5510

DRAINAGE.

Nuisances.

More than 400 inspections and visits have been made in connection with complaints concerning drainage nuisances. Such a high proportion of complaints only serves to emphasise how essential and urgent it is for the Council to proceed with the provision of sewage disposal schemes for the seventeen parishes still without these essential facilities. I am not unmindful of the strenuous efforts the Council is making to provide such schemes, and I sincerely hope that the Minister of Housing and Local Government will appreciate the pressing need for such amenities within rural England, and particularly within this district.

Connections to Sewers.

Biddestone.

All properties in Biddestone with unsatisfactory drainage have now been connected to the sewer with the exception of two cottages which will be converted into one when the Council re-houses one of the tenants. Seven properties have satisfactory private drainage systems and are not connected to the sewer.

Yatton Keynell.

Of 95 properties which can be connected to the sewer, 8 have satisfactory drainage or will be closed in the near future. 50 properties have been connected and schemes are in preparation for 8 more. A drive will be made during the coming year to ensure connection of the remaining properties, which include a number owned and occupied by pensioners, which will require special consideration by the Council.

Box.

This new sewerage scheme is actively under construction, and I understand from the Council's Engineer that certain sewer lengths have been connected to existing sewers discharging to the present sewage disposal works. Several new connections have been made to these sewers and the Engineer is advising me of such connections.

Sampling of Sewage Effluents.

Some fifteen sewage effluent samples have been taken from the Council's main sewage disposal works and larger sewage disposal works at the various Council housing estates.

The Engineer has been advised of the unsatisfactory results and he has immediately issued instructions for these works to receive special attention, in order to secure a satisfactory effluent.

It has again not been possible to take samples from all these disposal works, either because there has been no discharge of effluent at the time of sampling or by reason of the fact that the effluents have been highly diluted with surface water.

		Satisfactory		Unsatisfactory	
Sewage Disposal Works:		1960	1959	1960	1959
Castle Combe (Long Dean)		1	(4)	-	(1)
Colerne		1	(2)	-	(1)
Corsham		-	(3)	1	(1)
Lacock		1	(2)	-	(1)
Sewage Disposal Plants:					
Bremhill	(Wick Bridge)	-	-	1	-
Bremhill	(Loderwicks)	1	-	-	-
Calne Without	(Norley Lane)	1	-	-	-
Christian Malford	(Coronation Close)	1	-	-	(1)
Hilmarton	(Goatacre)	1	(1)	-	-
Kington Langley	(Doveys Terrace)	1	-	-	-
Kington Langley	(Plough Lane)	1	-	-	-
Kington St.Michael	(Town Close)	-	-	1	-
Langley Burrell	(Oakhurst)	-	(1)	1	(1)
Sutton Benger	(Upper Seagry)	1	-	-	(1)
Sutton Benger	(Seagry Hill)	-	-	1	(1)
		10	(13)	5	(8)

PUBLIC CONVENIENCES.

All the public conveniences provided by the Council, at Box, Castle Combe, Colerne, Corsham, and Lacock, have been maintained in a satisfactory condition. These conveniences continue to be misused by a misguided section of the public who do not appreciate that these facilities have been provided for their benefit. A great deal of damage is occasioned to locks, doors, flushing cisterns, etc., and the walls are covered with lewd drawings. As a deterrent to these maladjusted persons, I am recommending the Council to include a sum of money in next year's estimates to have the existing smooth plaster removed from the internal walls of the public conveniences at Box and Corsham and replaced with rough Tyrolean rendering, as at the Castle Combe and Colerne conveniences.

REFUSE COLLECTION AND DISPOSAL.

A fortnightly collection of refuse is maintained for the twenty-four parishes within the rural district, except for the more urban area of Corsham, which receive a weekly collection.

I received instructions however, from the Public Health Committee, to report on the possibility of introducing a weekly collection throughout the Rural District as from 1st April 1961. In October I presented a comprehensive report on the implications involved in introducing such a service within the Rural District. To provide a weekly service throughout the twenty-four parishes would have cost the Council approximately £5,570 in excess of the estimated cost of £12,000 to provide the present collection and disposal service.

A modified scheme, to enable household refuse from the more densely populated parishes of Box, Colerne, Corsham, and Lacock, would necessitate an increased expenditure of approximately £2,478. The Council decided to introduce the modified scheme during the financial year 1961/2.

The Council's present refuse staff consists of:-

One working foreman,
One tip attendant, responsible for operating the mechanical dozer,
Four drivers,
Six loaders, or ashbinmen,
One paper baler.

The Council's fleet of refuse vehicles consists of:-

One - 10 cu.yd. Bedford,	purchased	in 1951.
One - 18 cu.yd. Shelvoke & Drewry,	"	" 1954.
One - 12 cu.yd. Bedford,	"	" 1956.
One - 5 ton open Bedford lorry,	"	" 1958.
One - 12 cu.yd. Bedford,	"	" 1959.
One - Ford van,	"	" 1958.

Provision had been made in the 1960/1 estimates for the 1951 10 cu.yd. Bedford refuse lorry to be replaced by an 18 cu.yd. Shelvoke and Drewry refuse lorry with power-press, but owing to delay in delivery this vehicle was not available on the 31st December 1960.

The "Howard" Bulloader again gave considerable trouble and it was constantly in need of repair. With this machine out of action it was necessary to hire a smaller Fordson tractor with bucket attachment in order to deal with the vast volume of refuse received at the various tips. There is no doubt that this machine will have to be replaced in the very near future, otherwise there may be a complete breakdown in this service.

Late in 1960 the Melksham Urban District Council made approaches to the owner of land adjoining Inwood, which had been excavated for sand and gravel, for permission to use this land as a refuse tip. As this same land would have been urgently required by this Council in 1½-2 years' time, the Council decided to convene a joint meeting with the Melksham Urban District Council and other interested parties, to ascertain whether the requirements of both Councils could be met by joint tipping arrangements on this land being agreed. Negotiations on these lines are still proceeding.

Approximately 6924 tons of refuse were collected and disposed of at the various refuse tips.

The approximate cost of the service during 1959 is set out below:

	1960	1959
Cost of collection	£ 8207	£ 8314
Cost of disposal	3717	3082
	£11924	£11396

The cost of maintaining this service continues to increase, but every opportunity is taken to effect economies where these can be introduced, without detriment to the efficiency of the service.

The Burton refuse tip, which has been in use now for more than 20 years, is almost full, and an alternative tip will be required in the immediate future. I have made informal enquiries of the Grittleton Estate as to the possible use of a disused quarry in the Grittleton parish, and I am hopeful that satisfactory arrangements can be concluded with the Estate for this land to be used for the purpose.

SUPPLY OF DUSTBINS.

I am still unhappy about the dustbin situation in the Rural District as a whole. Although over the past years there has been a distinct improvement in the number of standard dustbins placed out for collection, many householders store their house refuse in old baths, oil drums, buckets, etc.

Castle Combe and Lacock were selected for survey this year, and as a result of informal approaches, many householders in these parishes provided the regulation dustbins.

Last year the Council supplied 177 dustbins at cost price to ratepayers in the Rural District; this year exactly 200 were sold. I am sure this unusual service is appreciated by the general public.

LITTER ACT 1958:
LITTER BASKETS AND LITTER CONTROL.

The Council has continued to provide and maintain street litter baskets and larger litter receptacles at roadside lay-bys. These receptacles are emptied bi-weekly and a considerable quantity of waste paper, cardboard, and other "contraries" are collected in this way.

There are far too many litter bugs roaming and ruining the countryside, for many stretches of highway ditches, particularly along the main roads, are used for the disposal of waste paper, empty food cans, jam jars, milk and beer bottles etc. The principal culprits in this respect are the holiday makers who stop for snacks on the most convenient roadside verge. Many of them make sure that their short stay will not go unnoticed by leaving all their litter behind as a reminder of their recent sojourn in the countryside, whilst making their way to the south coast holiday resorts.

Lorry drivers are not exempt from this criticism, as many of them misuse the large litter receptacles provided at roadside lay-bys for lunch paper, etc. So often these receptacles are full to overflowing with debris, large cardboard containers, straw fillings swept up from the floors of the lorries, and other rubbish.

WASTE PAPER.

Last year I reported that with the co-operation of the public at least 300 tons of paper could be salvaged per year. I am glad to report that this target figure has been exceeded and 335 tons of waste paper has been sent to the mills, valued at £2346. I am hoping to exceed this total in 1961, provided the public continue to salvage waste paper and place it out for collection in neat bundles or sacks, and do not incorporate it with the household refuse in the dustbin.

The Council was fortunate in being able to rent an additional salvage store at Bradford Road, Corsham, and this has proved most useful. A second Nissen hut is available on this same site and provided this can be rented, the existing salvage store at Woodlands will be demolished.

SCRAP METAL.

No scrap metal has been salvaged from the refuse by the Council, as no dealer will undertake regularly to collect and dispose of this material on behalf of the Council.

OFFENSIVE TRADES:
Public Health Act 1936, Section 107.

There are no offensive trade establishments within the area of this Council, as defined by Section 107 of the Public Health Act 1936.

A building occupied at Corsham by a feather sorter and felt hat manufacturer, did cause the Council a great deal of trouble by the manner in which he stored the waste material from his factory and carried on his business. A serious nuisance was only just averted by the Council undertaking to collect and dispose of these waste materials at their refuse tip at a fixed charge per load.

FRIED FISH SHOPS.

Seven inspections have been made of the two fish and chip shops established at Boxfields and Colerne. Informal action secured the desired improvements at one of these premises.

MOVEABLE DWELLINGS:
Public Health Act 1936, Section 269:

Licences authorising persons to erect or station and use moveable dwellings:

Parishes with Licensed Moveable Dwellings - Licences Issued:

Box	7	Heddington	1
Bremhill	4	Hilmarton	6
Calne Without	4	Kington Langley	1
Castle Combe	1	Kington St.Michael	2
Cherhill	5	Lacock	4
Chippenham Without	5	Nettleton	3
Christian Malford	5	North Wraxall	3
Colerne	5	Pewsham	1
Compton Bassett	2	Sutton Benger	5
Corsham	7	Yatton Keynell	4

Seventy-five caravan licences were issued this year, as compared with ninety-seven in 1959. The reduction in the number of licences issued is due to the re-siting of caravans which were on unsatisfactory sites, on the new Council Caravan Site at Northleaze, Bradford Road, Corsham.

In addition to the above 75 caravans, 26 and 15 caravans are stationed on permanent caravan sites at Box and Colerne respectively.

Northleaze Caravan Site, Bradford Road, Corsham.

This caravan site, which has been provided by the Council, was almost completed and ready for occupation by the end of December 1959. There was a long waiting list of applicants for standings on this site, but priority was given to occupiers of caravans stationed on existing unsatisfactory sites within the Rural District. The Northleaze Caravan Site, which is for 32 caravans, was completely occupied by the month of March of this year.

The original occupiers have been well satisfied with the amenities provided by the Council. There has been a general demand for mains water to be available at each standing and a new water main has been provided for in the 1961 estimates.

At the end of the year, 65 applicants still required caravan sites within the Rural Distroct.

CARAVAN SITES AND CONTROL OF DEVELOPMENT ACT 1960.

I have already referred briefly to the provisions of this Act, which came into operation on the 29th August 1960.

The Act, which is the legislation enabling local authorities to control the use of moveable dwellings, repeals Section 269, Paragraph (ii) of Sub-Section 5 of the Public Health Act 1936.

The new licensing procedure entailed a survey of the District to obtain a complete record of the caravans stationed within the District. This survey, which was carried out in October and November, revealed a number of caravans which had not been licensed under the Public Health Act 1936. In all, some 81 sites were found to exist, containing 178 caravans.

As explained in the introduction to this report, fresh licences cannot be issued under the new legislation until the local planning authority and district council have considered and issued the necessary planning consents for these sites. This work is actively in train and the position with regard to these caravans should be clarified early in 1961.

I am sure this Council will welcome the "Model Standards" which accompanied the new Act, for in my view these standards will form a valuable basis for the licensing conditions which will be attached to all future "site" licences.

PUBLIC HEALTH ACT 1936, SECTIONS 83-85:

Filthy or Verminous Premises or Articles and Verminous Persons.

From time to time complaints of verminous premises or articles and verminous persons are received, and these are investigated. Some nine premises were visited, and where necessary the appropriate treatment applied. It is fortunate that so few complaints are received, and it is gratifying to note that the numbers of such cases get fewer each year.

FLIES.

The number of complaints of fly infestations during 1960 were comparatively few, compared with 1959. It is most peculiar however, that the same properties seem to be plagued with flies year after year, and such infestations are not due to the neglect of the occupiers. So far, I have not been able to find the answer to this curious behavious of these flies; they seem to have developed a "homing" instinct similar to birds.

INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

Twenty environmental reports have been given to the Medical Officer of Health as compared with 32 in 1959. The usual routine enquiries have been made in each case, and terminal disinfection of the infected rooms carried out. Library books and other infected articles are similarly treated.

Dysentery, Tuberculosis and Salmonella Enquiries.

An outbreak of Sonne dysentery at Box School, which developed in December 1959, was finally cleared up by the end of March. Thirty-three cases were involved.

A total of 44 persons in various parts of the district were investigated in connection with intestinal infections. Positive reports of Sonne dysentery were obtained in twelve instances and these were duly cleared.

Enquiries were made into three reported cases of pulmonary tuberculosis. One was an inn-keeper and disinfection of the premises was carried out. In the case of a farm worker's wife, churn samples taken at the farm proved negative.

There was one case of salmonella typhi murium in a farm worker (a milker). He was found alternative employment during the 3-4 months before he was cleared.

FOOD AND DRUGS ACT 1955.

FOOD HYGIENE REGULATIONS 1955.

183 visits have been made to the 105 food premises established within the Rural District.

A successful prosecution was carried out against a bread roundsman for smoking whilst handling uncovered food, and the offender was fined £2. He had previously been warned against smoking and had taken no heed of this warning.

Food premises within the area consist of:-

Grocers	20
General stores	49
Butchers	10
Fish and fruit shops	5
Restaurants and cafes	9
Fish and chip shops	2
Bakers	10
	105

Condemned Foods.

The Council's Public Health Inspectors are from time to time called in to inspect suspected foodstuffs at food premises. During 1960 the following foodstuffs were condemned and voluntarily surrendered as being unfit for human consumption:

One - 9lb.9oz. tin pork shoulder...leaking.
Three 1-stone smoked fillets.....putrefaction.
Two - 1-stone kippers.....putrefaction.
Two - 4lb. tins chopped pork.....blown.
One - 60oz. tin ravioli.....punctured.
One - 6lb. tin corned beef.....putrefaction.

THE FOOD HYGIENE (GENERAL) REGULATIONS 1960.

These regulations consolidate and amend the Food Hygiene Regulations 1955 to 1957 and extend the regulations to food businesses carried on from home-going ships and moored vessels. The Food Hygiene Regulations 1955-1957 are revoked also Regulations 10,11 and 12 of the Food and Drugs (Whalemeat) Regulations 1949.

THE FOOD HYGIENE (DOCKS, CARRIERS, ETC.) REGULATIONS 1960.

These regulations prescribe requirements to secure the hygienic handling of food at docks, warehouses, cold stores, carriers' premises, and a number of special types of premises. The regulations follow the pattern of the Food Hygiene (General) Regulations 1960, with modifications.

POULTRY PACKING STATIONS AT CORSHAM AND SUTTON BENGER.

Routine inspections of these premises have been carried out as often as other public health work would permit. Certain improvements were required at the Corsham Poultry Packing Station, and in addition, new cold storage facilities and other extensions have been provided by the Company.

In conjunction with the Public Health Laboratory at Bath, sewer swabs have been placed at certain manholes on th drainage system to the Sutton Benger Poultry Packing Station sewage disposal works; so far, all reports have proved negative to salmonella infection.

ICE CREAM (HEAT TREATMENT ETC.) REGULATIONS 1959.

88 premises are now registered for the storage and sale of ice cream, as compared with 91 in 1959.

121 ice cream samples were taken during the year and all samples were placed within Grades I or II, which is extremely satisfactory. It is expected that the majority of ice cream samples taken from one producer should fall into Grades I or II; samples which fall into Grades III or IV suggest some faulty practice or practices in the course of production or distribution.

Premises registered for the storage and sale of Ice Cream:

Biddestone	2	Hilmarton	3
Box	11	Kington Langley	3
Bremhill	3	Kington St.Michael	2
Calne Without	2	Lacock	5
Castle Combe	3	Langley Burrell	1
Cherhill	4	Nettleton	3
Christian Malford	2	North Wraxall	2
Colerne	7	Pewsham	1
Compton Bassett	2	Stanton St.Quintin	1
Corsham	21	Sutton Benger	3
Grittleton	1	Yatton Keynell	4
Heddington	2		

Sampling of Ice Cream:

	1960	1959
Grade I	115	157
" II	6	31
" III	-	5
" IV	-	-

LICENSED PREMISES.

Voluntary major improvements have been carried out to five licensed premises at Box, Corsham, Cherhill and Nettleton.

Fourteen routine inspections of licensed premises have been made during the year.

BAKEHOUSES.

The eleven bakehouses in the Rural District have been visited and twenty inspections made. The bakehouses are distributed in the following parishes:-

Bremhill	1	Corsham	3
Castle Combe	1	Hilmarton	1
Cherhill	1	Kington St.Michael	1
Colerne	1	Sutton Benger	1

Certain improvements were required at one of the buildings used as an ablution room at the Kington St.Michael bakehouse.

FOOD AND DRUGS ACT 1955; SECTION 63.

Knacker's Yard at Heddington.

The application for the renewal of the licence for the continuance of the above premises was considered and the Council agreed to renew the same, following a satisfactory report on the general conditions prevailing at the premises.

Six surprise visits have been made to these premises and at all times the slaughterhouse, cold store, lairage, etc., have been found in a satisfactory condition.

THE MEAT (STAINING AND STERILISATION) REGULATIONS 1960.

These Regulations came into operation on the 1st November 1960. They require all butchers' meat and imported meat which is unfit for human consumption to be sterilised, and all knackers' meat to be stained or sterilised before entering the chain of distribution.

Provision is made whereby zoos, menageries, mink farms, trout farms, and processors, may obtain such meat unstained and unsterilised if it is transported in locked containers or vehicles, bearing a notice conspicuously stating that the meat is not for human consumption.

A copy of these Regulations was sent to the owner of the knacker's yard at Heddington, and a personal visit was made to explain the purposes of the new Regulations. As a result of this visit, a new sterilising plant has been installed at the premises.

THE SLAUGHTER OF ANIMALS (PREVENTION OF CRUELTY) REGULATIONS 1958.

The return of horses slaughtered at the Heddington knacker's yard showed that 18 horses were slaughtered during 1960, 16 on farms and 2 in the slaughterhouse. The total number of carcases received at the yard was 28.

THE AUTHORISED OFFICERS (MEAT INSPECTION) REGULATIONS 1960.

These Regulations prescribe a new qualification, the holder of which will be eligible to be appointed by a local authority as an authorised officer under the Food and Drugs Act, to act in relation to the examination and seizure of meat. The training of candidates for the new posts will be under the auspices of the Royal Society of Health.

The primary reason for creating the new class of officer is to help overcome the difficulty which is being experienced by some local authorities in recruiting meat inspectors for work in large pig slaughterhouses, such as bacon factories. This particular difficulty does not apply to this district, but should 100% inspection of poultry at poultry packing stations become obligatory, then additional public health staff will be required to enable this work to be undertaken.

SLAUGHTER OF ANIMALS ACT 1933.
SLAUGHTER OF ANIMALS (AMENDMENT) ACT 1954.
SLAUGHTER OF ANIMALS (PREVENTION OF CRUELTY) REGULATIONS 1958, SECTION 19.

Two new slaughterman's licences have been issued under the above Regulations. These men are employed at the knacker's yard at Heddington.

FOOD AND DRUGS ACT 1955.
THE MILK AND DAIRIES (GENERAL) REGULATIONS 1959.

Registration of Dairies, other than Dairy Farms, and of Distributors.

Regulation 3(1) requires the registration of distributors only with the local authority in whose area the premises from which the milk is distributed are situated.

No. of registered dairies 17 (17)
No. of registered distributors ... 22 (20)

Twenty-one routine inspections have been made at these dairies.

MILK (SPECIAL DESIGNATION)(PASTUERISED AND STERILISED MILK) REGULATIONS 1949-1953.

No. of dealers' licences to use the special designation "Pasteurised" 20 (18)

No. of dealers' supplementary licences to use the special designation "Pasteurised" 12 (10)

Principal Pasteurised Dealers:

Box	3	Corsham	9
Calne Without	1	Lacock	1
Christian Malford	1	Nettleton	1
Colerne	1	Yatton Keynell	1
Compton Bassett	2		

MILK (SPECIAL DESIGNATION)(RAW MILK) REGULATIONS 1949-1953.

No. of dealers' licences to use the special designation "Tuberculin Tested"..... 19 (18)

No. of dealers' supplementary licences to use the special designation "Tuberculin Tested"..... 12 (12)

Principal T.T. Dealers:

Box	3	Compton Bassett	2
Calne Without	1	Corsham	7
Castle Combe	1	Lacock	1
Christian Malford	1	Nettleton	1
Colerne	1	Yatton Keynell	1

MILK (SPECIAL DESIGNATION) REGULATIONS 1960.

These new Regulations, which came into operation on the 1st October 1960, confer upon the food and drugs authorities and the Minister the responsibility for the issue of dealers' licences, and local district councils will no longer be responsible for this work.

The Milk (Special Designation)(Raw Milk) Regulations 1949-1954, and the Milk (Special Designation)(Pasteurised and Sterilised Milk) Regulations 1949-1953, are thereby revoked.

MILK SAMPLING.

Routine milk samples have been taken each month from the milk distributors licensed by the Council, and altogether 122 samples were sent to the public health laboratories for testing.

The reports on the milk samples were as follows:-

Satisfactory	101	(132)
Unsatisfactory	11	(21)

In addition to the sampling of milk, four rinse series of milk bottles were sent to the Public Health Laboratories to check on the effectiveness of the bottle-washing process.

A close check on bottle-washing arrangements is intended during 1961, and a greater number of rinse bottles will be sent to the laboratories for examination.

SHOPS ACT 1950, SECTION 38.

26 inspections of shop premises have been made in connection with lighting, ventilation, temperature, and the provision of sanitary conveniences.

RENT ACT 1957, SECTION 2 AND 1st SCHEDULE.

No applications for "Certificates of Disrepair" have been received during 1960.

One certificate, issued in 1959 in respect of a property at Box, was cancelled as the necessary repairs had been executed.

HOUSING (FINANCIAL PROVISIONS) ACT 1958, AS AMENDED BY THE HOUSE PURCHASE AND HOUSING ACT 1959.

A great deal of the time of the public health and surveying staff has been taken up in the administration of improvement grants, both in respect of Discretionary and Standard grants. A tremendous amount of detailed technical work has to be devoted to each application received. Once a scheme has been approved a close check has to be made whilst the builder is carrying out the improvements, to ensure that the work included in the specification is executed. A final inspection is made of all property the subject of an improvement grant, before a certificate is passed to the Treasurer's department certifying payment of the grant.

Discretionary Grants:	1960	1959
No. of applications received.....	55	54
No. of applications approved.....	45	51
No. of applications refused.....	2	1
No. of applications under consideration....	15	8
No. of applications withdrawn.....	1	2
No. of houses improved with aid of grants..	47	51
Value of grants authorised.....	£13,984	£19,979

HOUSE PURCHASE AND HOUSING ACT 1959.

Standard Grants.

The new scheme for Standard grants was first introduced in June 1959, and so far as this Council is concerned, has proved an immediate success. At the 31st December 1960, some 74 applications had been received, of which 64 received approval. 31 properties have been improved with the aid of Standard grants.

The simplified method of applying for such grants, in my view, is one of the major reasons why they have proved so popular. It is not necessary for tenders to be invited for work of improvement; the grant paid is based on the actual cost of the work, subject to a maximum of £155.

	1960	1959
No. of applications received.....	46	28
No. of applications approved.....	45	19
No. of applications withdrawn.....	9	1
No. of applications under consideration ...	-	8
No. of houses improved with aid of grants..	31	-
Value of maximum permitted grants authorised.....	£ 6,280	£ 2,615

HOUSING ACTS: HOUSING ACT 1957.

The statistics given below set out the formal action taken by the Council in respect of unfit houses reported during 1960. These statistics do not give a complete picture of the action taken by the Council, as certain houses which have been represented will be inspected by the Housing Sub-Committee during the early part of 1961, before any final decision is taken concerning these properties.

The statistics are self-explanatory, and Members of the Council will see that much greater progress was made with regard to unfit houses in 1960, than for the previous year.

The parishes surveyed for unfit houses during 1960 included:

Box	North Wraxall
Cherhill	Stanton St.Quintin
Christian Malford	Sutton Benger
Corsham (part)	Yatton Keynell
Hilmarton	

Housing Statistics:	1960	1959
No. of private enterprise houses erected during year	86	
1. Inspection of dwellings during the year:		
(a) No. of dwellings inspected for housing defects under the Public Health Acts	160	(108)
(b) No. of dwellings inspected for housing defects under the Housing Acts	316	(302)
(c) No. of dwellings so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for habitation	61	(52)
(d) No. of dwellings found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for habitation	11	(9)
(e) No. of dwellings rendered fit in consequence of informal action	3	(5)
2. Proceedings under the Public Health Acts:		
(f) No. of dwellings where formal notices served ...	7	(1)
(g) No. of dwellings made fit as a result of formal notices:		
By owners	6	(1)
By the Local Authority	1	(5)
3. Proceedings under Section 16 of the Housing Act 1957:		
(h) No. of Demolition Orders made	23	(5)
(i) No. of houses demolished as a result of Demolition Orders	5	(4)
(j) No. of houses demolished as a result of informal action	-	(11)
(k) No. of undertakings accepted	23	(2)
(l) No. of undertakings completed	1	(1)

	1960	1959
4. Proceedings under Sections 17,18 and 27 of the Housing Act 1957:		
(m) No. of dwellings where Closing Orders were made	10	(4)
(n) No. of dwellings closed as a result of Closing Orders or undertakings by owners	9	(4)
(o) No. of dwellings where Closing Orders were cancelled in consequence of premises being made fit	-	-
5. Proceedings under Section 76 of the Housing Act 1957:		
(p) No. of cases of overcrowding at end of year ...	- Not known -	
(q) No. of cases of overcrowding discovered during the year	Nil.	Nil.
(r) No. of cases of overcrowding abated during the year	Nil.	Nil.

BUILDING BYELAWS: PUBLIC HEALTH ACT 1936, SECTION 61.

The amount of building work undertaken has proceeded at a very high level throughout the year and the number of new houses under construction has exceeded that of any previous year. 681 applications were considered.

	Plans received:		Work completed:	
	1960	1959	1960	1959
Additions to houses	26	26	28	8
Septic tanks and drainage	11	27	32	8
Garages	63	47	66	22
Internal alterations	3	6	5	4
Industrial buildings	3	9	8	6
Agricultural buildings	37	21	22	7
Bathrooms	81	116	119	38
Licensed premises	1	3	2	-
Business premises	38	32	35	15
New dwellings	92	72	86	56
	355	359	403	164

PUBLIC HEALTH ACT 1936 AND WATER ACT 1945.

Some 426 water samples have been taken from the various public and private water supplies within the Rural District. Of these, 336 were taken from public supplies and 90 from private wells or springs affording water to dwellinghouses not connected to the Council's public mains.

8 chemical water reports have been received in respect of the Council's main water sources. Copies of such reports are passed to the Council's Engineer for his information.

Strenuous efforts have been made to ensure that properties with unsatisfactory water supplies are connected to the Council's water mains. By persuasion or compulsion, 31 properties have been connected to water mains in the eastern area of the Council.

6 statutory notices were issued under the above Acts and all were complied with. In one instance the Council carried out the work of connection in default, and the cost of the work was charged to the owner of the property. 4 statutory notices issued in 1959 were complied with in 1960.

Analysis of Results of Samples.

Source.		Fit	Suspect	Unfit
Widdenham, Box		45	7	12
Washwells, Box		10	1	3
Goodshill, Corsham		12		
Nettleton		12	1	
Biddestone	(Regional)	4		
Grittleton	(")	3	1	
Stanton St.Quintin	(")	4		
Sutton Benger	(")	6		
East Tytherton, Bremhill	(")	5		
Burton, Nettleton	(West Glos.Water Co.)	4		
Yatesbury, Cherhill	(R.A.F.)	12		
Cherhill	(Blackfords)	6		
Cherhill	(Compton Bassett Water Co.)	4		
Theobalds Green, Calne	(Calne Borough)	4		
Langley Burrell	(Harris')	8		
Eastern Area Water Scheme:				
Hilmarton		12		
Cherhill		12		
Bremhill		4	1	
Foxham		4		
Heddington		5		
Compton Bassett		2		
Bowden Hill		49		
Nash Hill		1		
Fiveways		45		
Yewstock		37		
Private supplies		35	8	47
		345	19	62

Eight chemical samples were satisfactory.

AGRICULTURAL (SAFETY, HEALTH AND WELFARE) PROVISIONS ACT 1956.

No complaints of non-compliance with the above Act were received during the year, and owing to pressure of other work it has not been possible to carry out any routine work to ensure that agricultural units are provided with sanitary accommodation for agricultural workers.

DISEASES OF ANIMALS (WASTE FOOD) ORDER 1957.

22 premises are registered for the treatment of food waste. All these premises have been visited once during the year, and most of them twice.

A written reminder was sent to all licensees, advising them of their responsibilities under the Order and to ensure that the provisions of the Order were conscientiously observed, particularly when notification of foot-and-mouth disease had been confirmed.

CLEAN AIR ACT 1956.

It has not been necessary for any formal action to be taken under the above Act.

Lt.Cmdr.Cheetham and I, as members of the Bristol and West Clean Air Committee, attended a very interesting meeting of this Committee at Bristol, on the 6th April 1960. We submitted a joint report on the meeting, and having considered this report, the Council decided that upon the next re-issue of the Council's Building Byelaws, the provisions of Section 24 of the Clean Air Act 1956, requiring the provision of such arrangements for heating or cooking as were calculated to prevent, so far as practicable, the emission of smoke, should be included in these new Byelaws.

PET ANIMALS ACT 1951.

No licences to keep a pet shop have been issued.

FACTORIES ACT 1959.

FACTORIES ACTS 1937-1948.

The Factories Act 1959 amends the Factories Acts 1937 and 1948 and makes further provision as to health, safety, and welfare of persons employed in factories or in premises or operations to which these Acts apply.

Section 9 of the Act transfers the functions of district councils under Sections 34 and 35 of the Factories Act 1937 (which relates to means of escape in case of fire), to the local fire authority.

Consultations between the officers of the Wiltshire Fire Brigade and myself have already taken place and information on the existing "means of escape in case of fire" certificates has already been passed to them.

FACTORIES ACT 1936, SECTION 110:

Outworkers.

The number of outworkers in the Rural District has increased from 40 to 45 during 1960, these being distributed throughout the following parishes:

Box	11	Kington St.Michael	1
Calne Without	2	Lacock	2
Corsham	28	Yatton Keynell	1

PREVENTION OF DAMAGE BY PESTS ACT 1949.

Appended to this report is a detailed schedule of the work undertaken by the Council's Rodent Officer during 1960.

Less treatment work at infected private properties has been carried out than in former years, and the Rodent Officer advises me that the reason for this is that more people are carrying out their own treatments for rat and mice infestations.

Rats and mice however, are still prevalent in the Rural District, and unless a constant war is waged against these vermin, their numbers will increase rapidly, with consequent loss or contamination of foodstuffs.

The various refuse tips have been kept under constant review, and any necessary treatments undertaken.

The Council's sewers and sewage disposal works have received "test" bait treatments, and little evidence of infestations of sewers was found.

Minor infestations were found at the Box and Corsham sewage disposal works.

Surveys of the Council's other properties, including Council houses, have been carried out throughout the year.

The necessary returns, concerning sewer treatments, have been sent to the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food.

PARISH.	Private premises inspect -ed.	Treat- ments carried out.	Business premises inspect -ed.	Treat- ments carried out.	Council houses inspect -ed.	Treat- ments carried out.
Biddestone	34	4	8	-	10	-
Box	69	12	31	14	30	6
Bremhill	32	-	4	-	-	-
Calne Without	25	5	6	2	8	2
Castle Combe	36	6	23	9	-	-
Cherhill	50	2	16	2	16	4
Chippenham Without	39	3	6	2	-	-
Christian Malford	44	-	10	2	-	-
Colerne	50	2	21	3	-	-
Compton Bassett	53	6	4	-	10	-
Corsham	202	32	75	21	91	45
Grittleton	45	-	-	-	-	-
Heddington	45	2	2	-	6	2
Hilmarton	51	-	7	-	12	-
Kington Langley	42	2	3	-	-	-
Kington St.Michael	34	-	15	-	-	-
Lacock	59	10	15	-	24	-
Langley Burrell Without	36	-	2	-	-	-
Nettleton	38	-	-	-	-	-
North Wraxall	54	-	16	4	-	-
Pewsham	30	2	6	-	-	-
Stanton St.Quintin	54	4	13	-	-	-
Sutton Benger	70	14	22	7	24	11
Yatton Keynell	44	-	6	-	6	-
TOTALS:	1236	106	311	66	237	70

Refuse Tips, etc.

	Inspections	Treatments
Burton.....	22	22
Colerne.....	7	7
Inwood.....	24	22
Spirthill.....	12	13
Sutton Benger.....	22	20
Yatesbury.....	14	14
Box Sewer Beds.....	15	15
Castle Combe Sewage Works.....	1	1
Colerne Sewage Works.....	5	-
Corsham Sewage Works.....	7	7
Woodlands Paper Depot.....	14	14
TOTALS:	143	135

Banks, Hedgerows, Ditches, etc.

Inspections	Treatments
40	31

Agricultural Properties.

Inspections	Treatments
97	52

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