

**WELLAND  
AND  
NENE  
RIVER  
AUTHORITY**

**THIRD  
ANNUAL  
REPORT  
1967-1968**





WELLAND & NENE RIVER AUTHORITY

*With the Compliments of  
the Clerk of the Authority*

Oundle  
Peterborough

Telephone :  
3366





The Old Rectory  
and extensions

Fisheries and Pollution  
Prevention Department  
*(The cottage has been  
demolished)*



Head Office

Pollution Prevention  
Laboratory

*(Photography by Gordon Turnill, A.I.I.P.)*

# WELLAND AND NENE RIVER AUTHORITY

## THIRD ANNUAL REPORT

1967-1968

### *Chairman*

SYDNEY STRICKLAND, Esq.  
*(to 31st October 1967)*

T. R. PICK, Esq., O.B.E.  
*(from 1st November 1967)*

### *Vice Chairman*

T. R. PICK, Esq., O.B.E.  
*(to 31st October 1967)*

COUNTY ALDERMAN H. C. L. WARWICK  
*(from 1st November 1967)*

OUNDLE  
Peterborough

D. S. AKROYD  
*Clerk of the Authority*



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## PREFACE

This Report is published as required by section 110 of the Water Resources Act 1963, and is in the form and contains particulars as directed by the Minister of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food and the Minister of Housing and Local Government.

The Welland and Nene River Authority were constituted by the Welland and Nene River Authority Constitution Order 1964 (S.I. No. 1030) made by the Minister of Housing and Local Government and the Minister of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food in exercise of the powers conferred on them by sections 3, 7 and 134 of the Water Resources Act, 1963.

That Order provided that the number of local authority members should be as follows:

County	No. of Members
Bedford .. .. .	None
Buckingham .. .. .	None
Cambridgeshire and Isle of Ely .. .. .	One
Huntingdon and Peterborough .. .. .	Two
Leicester, Rutland .. .. .	One jointly
Lincoln, Parts of Holland .. .. .	One
Lincoln, Parts of Kesteven .. .. .	One
Norfolk .. .. .	None
Northampton .. .. .	Six
County Borough	
Northampton .. .. .	Two

One of the two members appointed by Huntingdon and Peterborough County Council shall be from among persons nominated by Peterborough Municipal Borough Council.

One of the six members appointed by Northampton County Council shall be from among persons nominated by Corby Urban District Council.

The Minister of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food in accordance with the provision of section 6 (3) of the Water Resources Act, 1963 made five appointments of persons qualified in respect of land drainage, two appointments of persons qualified in respect of fisheries, and two appointments of persons qualified in respect of agriculture.

The Minister of Housing and Local Government in accordance with the provision of that section made two appointments of persons qualified in respect of public water supply and two appointments of persons qualified in respect of industry other than agriculture.

The River Authority came into existence on the 15th October, 1964 (S.I. No. 1267) and took over the functions assigned to them on the 1st April, 1965. The first meeting was held at Peterborough on the 17th November, 1964. The first re-constitution took place on the 1st November, 1967, and the present appointments will expire on the 31st October, 1970.

The Area comprises 1,547 square miles, of which 934 square miles are in the Nene Hydro-metric area and 613 square miles are in the Welland Hydrometric area. The total length of main river on the 31st March 1968 was 478 miles, the length of the River Nene and tributaries being 244 miles and the length of the River Welland and tributaries being 234 miles. The estimated penny rate product for 1967-68 was £125,129. The precept of the County and County Borough Councils for the year ended 31st March 1968 was 2.170879 pence, and produced £271,640. The contribution required of internal drainage boards amounted to £64,123. Annual loan charges amounted to £185,224.

## MEMBERSHIP

### 1. MEMBERSHIP OF THE AUTHORITY

#### CHAIRMAN OF THE AUTHORITY

Sydney Strickland Esq.  
(to 31st October 1967)  
T. R. Pick Esq., O.B.E.  
(from 1st November 1967)

#### VICE CHAIRMAN OF THE AUTHORITY

T. R. Pick Esq., O.B.E.  
(to 31st October 1967)  
County Alderman H. C. L. Warwick  
(from 1st November 1967)

### MEMBERS AND APPOINTING AUTHORITIES

#### Appointed by Cambridgeshire and Isle of Ely County Council

County Alderman M. Payne (to 31st October 1967)  
County Councillor M. H. T. Carter (from 1st November 1967)

#### Appointed by Huntingdon and Peterborough County Council

County Alderman Lt. Col. the Hon. P. E. Brassey, J.P., D.L.  
Councillor G. A. Foster (from 26th June 1967—appointed on the nomination of Peterborough Municipal Borough Council)

#### Appointed by Leicester and Rutland County Councils, jointly

County Councillor G. S. Finch, J.P. (to 31st October 1967)  
County Alderman J. A. E. Bryan, O.B.E. (from 1st November 1967)

#### Appointed by Lincoln (Parts of Holland) County Council

County Alderman H. Waltham

#### Appointed by Lincoln (Parts of Kesteven) County Council

County Councillor G. A. Griffin

#### Appointed by Northampton County Council

County Alderman P. Campion, M.B.E.  
Councillor J. R. Carr (from 1st November 1967—appointed on the nomination of Corby Urban District Council)  
County Councillor W. A. George (to 31st October 1967)  
Alderman C. E. Goode  
County Alderman Mrs. D. P. Oxenham, J.P.  
County Alderman H. C. L. Warwick  
County Alderman E. E. Wright, M.B.E. (appointed until 31st October 1967 on the nomination of Corby Urban District Council)



**Appointed by Northampton County Borough Council**

Alderman J. B. Corrin (*from 1st November 1967*)  
 Councillor R. P. Dilleigh  
 S. Strickland Esq., (*to 31st October 1967*)

**Appointed by the Minister of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food as being qualified in respect of Land Drainage**

R. J. Berry, Esq.  
 G. H. Hoyles, Esq.  
 T. R. Pick, Esq., O.B.E.  
 A. C. Pyrah, Esq., J.P.  
 H. Cole Tinsley, Esq., M.B.E.

**Appointed by the Minister of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food as being qualified in respect of Fishery Interests**

P. H. Tombleson, Esq., F.Z.S.  
 L. G. Turnill, Esq.

**Appointed by the Minister of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food as being qualified in respect of Agriculture**

H. J. T. Carter, Esq., J.P.  
 S. T. Ward, Esq., C.B.E. (*to 31st October 1967*)  
 D. Whittome, Esq. (*from 1st November 1967*)

**Appointed by the Minister of Housing and Local Government as being qualified in respect of Public Water Supply**

Councillor C. S. Bowering (*from 1st November 1967*)  
 L. H. Brown, Esq., B.Sc., M.I.C.E., M.I.W.E.  
 A. S. Ireson, Esq., F.R.S.A. (*to 31st October 1967*)

**Appointed by the Minister of Housing and Local Government as being qualified in respect of Industry other than Agriculture**

G. C. S. Oliver, Esq.  
 N. A. Pearce, Esq., B.E.M.

**2. MEMBERSHIP OF  
STATUTORY AND STANDING COMMITTEES****Finance and General Purposes Committee**

T. R. Pick, Esq., Chairman

R. J. Berry, Esq.	S. Strickland, Esq.
Lt. Col. the Hon. P. E. Brassey	( <i>to 31st October 1967</i> )
H. J. T. Carter, Esq.	H. Cole Tinsley, Esq.
Alderman J. B. Corrin	L. G. Turnill, Esq.
( <i>from 1st November 1967</i> )	Alderman H. Waltham
Councillor R. P. Dilleigh	County Alderman H. C. L. Warwick
( <i>Vice-Chairman to 31st October 1967</i> )	( <i>Vice-Chairman from 1st November 1967</i> )
Alderman Mrs. D. P. Oxenham	County Alderman E. E. Wright
N. A. Pearce, Esq.	

**Land Drainage Committee**

R. J. Berry, Esq., Chairman

H. Cole Tinsley, Esq., Vice-Chairman

County Alderman J. A. E. Bryan	Alderman M. Payne
( <i>from 1st November 1967</i> )	( <i>to 31st October 1967</i> )
County Alderman P. Campion	T. R. Pick, Esq.
( <i>from 1st November 1967</i> )	A. C. Pyrah, Esq.
H. J. T. Carter, Esq.	S. Strickland, Esq.
County Councillor M. H. T. Carter	( <i>to 31st October 1967</i> )
( <i>from 1st November 1967</i> )	Alderman H. Waltham
Councillor G. S. Finch	S. T. Ward, Esq.
( <i>to 31st October 1967</i> )	( <i>to 31st October 1967</i> )
County Councillor W. A. George	County Alderman H. C. L. Warwick
( <i>to 31st October 1967</i> )	( <i>from 1st November 1967</i> )
Councillor G. A. Griffin	D. Whittome, Esq.
G. H. Hoyles, Esq.	( <i>from 1st November 1967</i> )

**Fisheries and Pollution Prevention Committee**

L. G. Turnill, Esq., Chairman

Councillor C. S. Bowering	A. S. Ireson, Esq.
( <i>from 1st November 1967</i> )	( <i>Vice-Chairman to 31st October 1967</i> )
Lt. Col. the Hon. P. E. Brassey	G. C. S. Oliver, Esq.
( <i>to 31st October 1967</i> )	N. A. Pearce, Esq.
L. H. Brown, Esq.	T. R. Pick, Esq.
( <i>to 31st October 1967</i> )	A. C. Pyrah, Esq.
Alderman P. Campion	S. Strickland, Esq.
Councillor J. R. Carr	( <i>to 31st October 1967</i> )
( <i>from 1st November 1967</i> )	P. H. Tombleson, Esq.
Alderman J. B. Corrin	County Alderman H. C. L. Warwick
( <i>from 1st November 1967</i> )	( <i>from 1st November 1967</i> )
County Councillor G. S. Finch	D. Whittome, Esq.
( <i>to 31st October 1967</i> )	( <i>from 1st November 1967</i> )
Councillor G. A. Foster	
( <i>Vice-Chairman from 1st November 1967</i> )	

### Water Conservation Committee

Lt. Col. the Hon. P. E. Brassey, Chairman  
Alderman E. E. Wright, Vice-Chairman

Councillor C. S. Bowering (from 1st November 1967)	Alderman C. E. Goode A. S. Ireson, Esq. (to 31st October 1967)
L. H. Brown, Esq.	G. C. S. Oliver, Esq.
County Alderman J. A. E. Bryan (from 1st November 1967)	County Alderman Mrs. D. P. Oxenham
Alderman P. Champion	T. R. Pick, Esq.
Councillor R. P. Dilleigh	S. Strickland, Esq. (to 31st October 1967)
Councillor G. A. Foster (from 1st November 1967)	County Alderman H. C. L. Warwick

### MR. SYDNEY STRICKLAND

The re-constitution of the Authority on the 1st November brought to an end Mr. Strickland's long association with River administration in the Nene valley. Northampton County Borough Council first appointed him to the Nene Catchment Board in 1938. He had sought membership of that Board because, as a Councillor for a ward in the low-lying part of the town, he had on a number of occasions gone around the streets in a rowing boat to deliver bread to the residents when the River was in flood "to the height of the gas stoves". He never forgot that experience, and it was always a matter of personal concern to him that there should be no delay in any work necessary to protect houses and property from flooding. He was particularly anxious to see the Market Harborough Flood Alleviation Scheme completed.

Mr. Strickland, who had been a member of the former Nene and Welland Fishery Board, was appointed to the Nene River Board on its constitution, and he became Chairman in 1955.

He was elected to the Chair of the Welland and Nene River Authority at their first meeting. Although always a fierce fighter for the interests he represented, he was extremely concerned to be impartial when impartiality was necessary. When elected to the Chair he said he would do his best to further the interests of the Authority, he pointed out that members had a joint responsibility for the functions which were essential for the wellbeing of the Area, and it was necessary to overcome their previous River Board loyalties. It gave him great satisfaction to feel that he had done much to ensure the harmonious working of the Authority in its initial stages.

His last act as Chairman of the Authority was to declare open the extensions to Head Office, and the members and chief officers then took the opportunity of presenting to him a silver teapot and tray to mark his retirement.

## STAFF

### 1. PRINCIPAL OFFICERS

Office	Name
Clerk of the Authority ..	D. S. Akroyd, LL.B., Solicitor.
Chief Engineer ..	H. W. Clark, A.M.I.Struct.E., M.I.W.E.
Associate Chief Engineer ..	R. L. G. Baxter, B.Sc., A.C.G.I., M.I.C.E., M.I.W.E.
Deputy Chief Engineer ..	G. E. Bowyer, B.Sc., A.M.I.C.E., A.M.I.W.E.
Treasurer ..	A. E. Lane.
Chief Fisheries and Pollution Prevention Officer ..	R. E. Field, A.M.Inst.W.P.C.

### 2. OTHER OFFICERS

(as at 31st March, 1968)

#### Clerk's Department and General Administration

Chief Assistant ..	Senior Officer
Clerical Assistant ..	Clerical 2/3
Secretary ..	Clerical 1
Field Officers (2) ..	Misc. 5/6
Typists (7) ..	Scale as appropriate
Telephonist ..	Scale as appropriate

#### Chief Engineer's Department

Senior Engineer ..	Principal Officer I
Divisional Engineers (5) ..	Senior Officer
Hydrologist ..	Senior Officer
Senior Assistant Engineer ..	Senior Officer
Assistant Engineers (4) ..	AP 3/4/5
Assistant Hydrologist ..	AP 3/4
Chief Draughtsman ..	Tech. 5
Junior Draughtsmen and Engineering Assistants (12) ..	Tech. 1 to 5
Pupil Engineers ..	As approved
Chief Clerk ..	AP 3
Clerks and Machine Operators (2) ..	Clerical 1
Typists/General Clerk (2) ..	Scales as appropriate

#### Treasurer's Department

Senior Assistants (2) ..	AP 3
Clerical Assistants (3) ..	Clerical 1/2/3
General Clerk/Machine Operator (1) ..	Clerical 1
Junior Assistants (2) ..	Clerical 1



Fisheries and Pollution Prevention Department

Chemist	..	..	..	AP 5
Senior Assistant Inspector	..	..	..	AP 5
Assistant Inspector (1)	..	..	..	AP 3/4
Junior Assistant Inspector (1)	..	..	..	Tech. 4
Trainee Inspector	..	..	..	Tech. 3/4
Laboratory Assistants (2)	..	..	..	Tech. 1
Shorthand typist	..	..	..	Scale as appropriate

3. WATER BAILIFFS

Water Bailiffs (2)	..	..	..	Misc. 4.
Honorary Water Bailiffs (77)	..	..	..	

4. LABOUR FORCE

(as at 31.3.68)

Tradesmen	..	..	..	..	15
Foremen and Under Foremen	..	..	..	..	22
Plant Drivers	..	..	..	..	44
Storekeepers, Sluicekeepers, Toll-keepers, etc.	..	..	..	..	6
Labourers	..	..	..	..	78
					<hr/> 165 <hr/>

WATER RESOURCES

1. GENERAL REVIEW

As was said in the Second Annual Report, with the completion of the issue of Licences of Right water conservation work moved into a more constructive phase, and it was possible to give more thought and attention to the tasks which have to be carried out under Part III of the Act. Progress continued to be satisfactory, both on Hydrometric work and on the consideration and control of abstractions. In particular, work continued on investigating the Lincolnshire Limestone aquifer and other ground water resources, and with ever increasing momentum on the proposed pumped storage reservoir in Rutland.

The Water Resources Board's Interim Report on the Ground Water Resources of the Lincolnshire Limestone to the north of Peterborough published in April was of great value, as it assessed the nature of the problem, outlined the findings at that time, made a provisional estimate of the ground water resources, and indicated the lines for further study. The conclusions are referred to in section 4.

Some years ago the Mid-Northamptonshire Water Board envisaged that a pumped storage reservoir as near as possible to a point of abstraction on the River Nene downstream of Oundle would be required when more water was needed, as the resources above Northampton had been fully exploited with the construction of Pitsford Reservoir in 1956. The Water Board investigated several possibilities. The need for a substantial augmentation of the resources became more imminent with the publication of the Ministry of Housing and Local Government's South East Study in 1964, which contained proposals for "new town" expansion at Northampton.

When in 1965 the Water Resources Board convened the South East Technical Committee (whose deliberations resulted in their Report on "Water Supplies in South East England" published in the following year) the Chief Engineer of the Mid-Northamptonshire Water Board was able to advise them that the only feasible sites for reservoirs were at Empingham and Manton in Rutland, supplied by river abstractions from the River Nene at Wansford (9 miles above Peterborough) and from the River Welland at Tixover (9 miles above Stamford).

As was explained in the Second Annual Report, the Water Board were proceeding with the initial investigations before 1965, and they obtained an Order under section 8 of the Water Act, 1948 to enable them to make a geological survey.

As required by section 14 of the Act, the proposals were examined and it became apparent that "new town" expansion at Peterborough (also proposed in the "South East Study") would have to be supplied from the proposed reservoirs, which came to be known as the "Rutland Project". Leicester City Water Undertaking also intimated that they would require that part of the yield as was impounded within their area of supply.

The question then arose as to whether the Water Board should proceed with the Project as a "local" scheme, or whether the Authority should undertake it as a scheme for the benefit of the Area as a whole.

As the proposal had been conceived by the Water Board, and was primarily for their benefit, it would have been understandable if they had wished to retain the responsibility in their hands, and it is satisfactory to record that their Chairman at the September meeting made the gesture of seconding the adoption of the Water Conservation Committee's recommendation: