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COUNTY OF BANFF.

REPORT

ON THE

INSTITUTE OF SOCIAL
MEDICINE

10, PARKS ROAD,
OXFORD

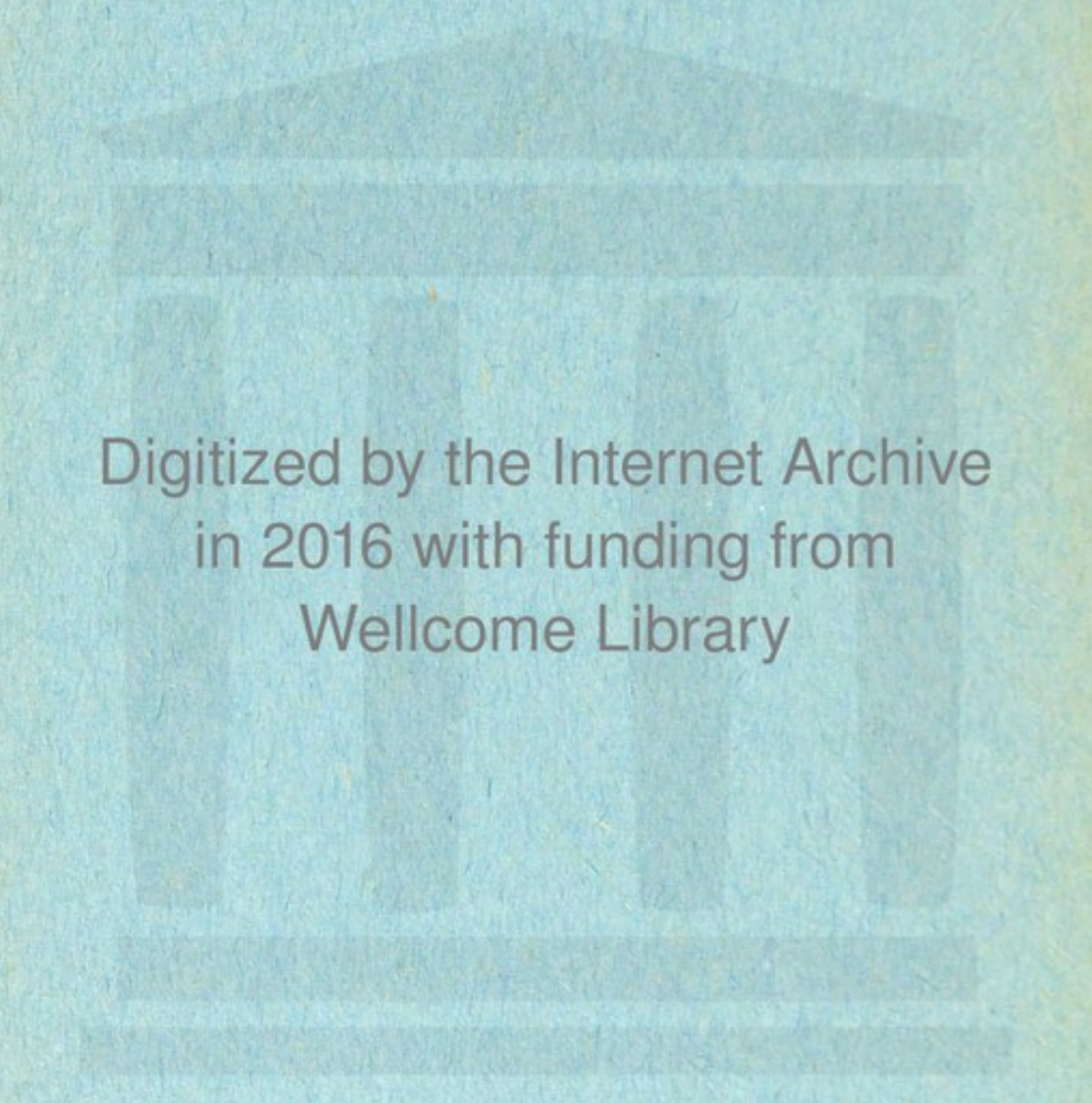
Health of the County

For the Year 1948

BY THE

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH





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COUNTY OF BANFF.

REPORT

ON THE

INSTITUTE OF SOCIAL
MEDICINE

10, PARKS ROAD,
OXFORD

Health of the County

For the Year 1948

BY THE

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH



**TO THE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH FOR SCOTLAND, AND
BANFF COUNTY COUNCIL.**

LADIES AND GENTLEMEN,

I have pleasure in submitting in terms of Sections 79 and 87 of the Local Government (Scotland) Act 1947 my Annual Report on the Health of the County during 1948.

The Report is prepared in accordance with the suggestions set forth in D.H.S. Circular No. 146/1948, dated 27th December 1948.

My thanks are due to the Chairman of the Health Committee, the Chairmen of Sub-Committees, members of the staff and officials and members of other departments of the Council for their co-operation, loyal devotion to duty, and willing help.

Ladies and Gentlemen,

I am,

Your Obedient Servant,

D. I. WALKER,

Medical Officer of Health.

July 1949.

HEALTH COMMITTEE.

1. Dickson, Rev. G. A. M., The Manse, Fordyce, Portsoy (Chairman)—1, 2, 3, 4.*
2. Abercromby, Col. Sir G. W., Bart., D.S.O., Forglen House. By Turriff—3, 4.
3. Anderson, Judge A., 9 Wallace Avenue, Buckie—1.
4. Boardman, Treasurer G. H., Strathlea, Seafeld Avenue, Keith—1.
5. Corrigall, M. A., J.P., Longhope, Rothiemay—3, 4.
6. Falconer, Provost J., The Anchorage, Portknockie—1, 2, 4.
7. Findlater, A. J., Hillside of Jackston, Longmanhill—1, 2, 3.
8. Gordon, Mrs E. G., of Buchrumb, Dufftown—1, 3.
9. Gordon-Duff, Lt.-Col. T. R., Park House, Cornhill—3.
10. Grant, G., of Glenfarclas, Banffshire—2, 3, 4.
11. Gray, Wm., Mill of Park, Cornhill—3.
12. Keir, Provost J., Ardmannoch, Cullen—1, 2, 4.
13. Lawrence, J., The Mount, Craigellachie—1, 3.
14. Milne, J. W., Paddocklaw, By Banff—3, 4.
15. Morrison, Bailie G., Market Street, Macduff.
16. Mowatt, Bailie T., 40 East Church Street, Buckie—4.
17. M'Lean, Wm. J., Mill of Rathven, Buckie—3.
18. M'Nicol, R. C. A., Knock Farm, Grange—2, 3, 4.
19. Robertson, Bailie G. O., 3 St Ann's Terrace, Banff—2.
20. Scott, Bailie J. P., 8 Blantyre Terrace, Iainstown, Buckie—2, 4.
21. Taylor, Councillor P., 97 High Street, Aberlour.
22. Thomson, Bailie J. J. M., 7 St Catherine Street, Banff.
23. Wilson, Major G. A., Hamewith, Keith—3.
24. Wood, Bailie G., Hamewith, Hill Street, Portsoy—1, 2, 4.

* *Member of Sub-Committee numbered below.*

1. *Homes.*—

Revd. G. A. M. Dickson (Chairman).
Mr A. J. Findlater (Vice-Chairman).
Ex-Provost Merson (Co-opted).
Mrs Taylor (Co-opted).

2. *Nursing and Allied Services.*—

Provost J. Keir (Chairman).
Bailie G. Wood (Vice-Chairman).

3. *Housing.*—

Mr J. Lawrence (Chairman).

4. *School Medical Inspection.*—

Bailie G. Wood (Chairman).

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STAFF.

County Medical Officer of Health.

DANIEL I. WALKER, M.A., M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.

Assistant Medical Officer of Health and School Medical Officer.

JAMES A. BUCHANAN, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.

County Sanitary Inspector.

GEORGE EATON.

Assistant Sanitary Inspector.

ALEXANDER M'BOYLE.

Superintendent of Nurses and Supervisor of Midwives.

ISABELLA FARQUHAR, S.R.N., S.C.M.

School Dentists.

LIVINGSTONE RAE, L.D.S., R.C.S. (Edin.), L.R.C.P. & S.
(Edm.), L.R.C.P. & S. (Glasgow)
(Resigned December 1948.)

K. M. YORSTON, L.D.S., R.C.S. (Edin.).

D. BUCKLAND, L.D.S. (Appointed May, 1948;
resigned December 1948).

Milk Officer.

JUANITA PHILIP.

Clerkesses.

B. MASSIE.

M. MAIR.

MIDWIVES, HEALTH VISITORS, GENERAL AND SCHOOL NURSES.

Aberlour—H. Gloyer.

Banff—I. Sim.

Boharm—I. Gordon.

Boyndie and Banff Landward—I. Moggach, appointed Feb. 1948.

Buckie and Rathven—

I. C. Ogilvie, resigned January 1948.

E. A. Fraser, resigned December 1948.

A. C. Service, appointed April 1948.

L. A. M. Ferrier, appointed December 1948.

Cabrach—E. Miller.

Dunlugas—A. Webster.

Findochty and Rathven (Eastern)—A. E. Thomson.

Fordyce and Portsoy—A. Roy.

Gardenstown and East Gamrie—M. S. Blackhall.

Grange—

M. T. Crichton, resigned July 1948.

I. G. Pearson, transferred October 1948.

Inveravon and Glenlivet—M. A. Mathieson.

Keith—A. Stronach.

Keith Landward and Botriphnie—A. R. Kidd.

Kirkmichael and Tomintoul—M. A. Gregory.

Knock, Ordiquhill and Rothiemay—A. M. R. M'Gregor.

Macduff—A. G. Campbell.

Marnoch and neighbouring parishes—

F. Donald.

P. B. Philip.

Mortlach—

M. K. M'Pherson, resigned January 1948.

I. M'Kenzie, appointed February 1948.

Portgordon and Rathven (Western)—J. Middleton.

Portknockie, Cullen and Deskford—

I. G. Pearson, appointed January 1948; transferred October 1948.

J. H. Hay, appointed October 1948.

SCHOOL NURSE.

Helen Greenlaw.

HEALTH VISITOR AND SCHOOL NURSE.

Buckie—F. Smith.

MIDWIFE (PRIVATE) (Part-Time).

Cullen, Portknockie and Deskford—F. M. Foster.

AREA AND DISTRICT OFFICERS
and (along with the Medical Officer of Health and
Assistant Medical Officer of Health)
AUTHORISED OFFICERS IN MENTAL HEALTH
SERVICE.

BUCKIE—Chief Area Officer, JOHN DONALDSON.

BANFF—Area Officer, JAMES STEWART.

KEITH—Area Officer, CHAS. G. TAYLOR.

ABERCHIRDER—District Officer, R. B. WILSON.

DUFFTOWN—District Officer, WILLIAM GORDON.

PORTSOY—District Officer, JAMES STEWART.

BURGH SANITARY INSPECTORS.

Aberchirder—George Eaton.

Aberlour—George Eaton.

Banff—David Malcolm.

Buckie—W. J. R. Guthrie.

Cullen—George Legge.

Dufftown—Edward M'Cormack.

Findochty—James Simpson (part-time).

Keith—

John Murdoch, resigned October 1948.

A. M. Lochhead, appointed November 1948.

Macduff—John C. Miller.

Portknockie—R. M. Fulton (part-time).

Portsoy—

A. M. Lochhead, resigned November 1948.

W. E. GOODFELLOW, appointed November 1948.

MATERNITY AND CHILD WELFARE CLINICS.**1. BANFF—(Monthly).**

Medical Officer—

E. H. W. Duncan, M.B., Ch.B., resigned March 1948.

H. G. Smith, M.B., Ch.B., appointed April 1948.

2. BUCKIE—(Weekly).

Medical Officer—

A. S. Paterson, M.B., Ch.B.

3. GARDENSTOWN—(Bi-Monthly)

District Nursing Sister—M. S. Blackhall.

4. KEITH—(Monthly).

Medical Officer—

N. C. Sharp, M.B., Ch.B., resigned July 1948.

J. L. Taylor, M.B., Ch.B., appointed August 1948.

5. MACDUFF—(Monthly).

Medical Officer—James Morrison, M.B., Ch.B.

6. WHITEHILLS—(Monthly)

Medical Officer—

J. C. Galloway, M.D., D.P.H., resigned February 1948.

F. J. Lees, M.B., Ch.B., appointed March 1948.

COUNTY OF BANFF.

REPORT BY THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH For the Year 1948.

GENERAL STATISTICS.

Area of County (acres)	403,053
Population of County (1931 Census)	54,835
Population estimated to middle of year	52,482
Gross Valuation	£352,347
Rateable Value	£220,445

VITAL STATISTICS.

LIVE BIRTHS (including Illegitimate)	1002
—Rate per 1000 population	19.1
LIVE BIRTHS—Illegitimate	100
—Rate per 100 live births	10.0
STILL BIRTHS	41
—Rate per 1000 total births (including still births)	39.0
MARRIAGES	368
—Rate per 1000 population	7.0
DEATHS—All causes	603
—Rate per 1000 population	11.5
—Tuberculosis—All forms	16
—Tuberculosis (Respiratory System)	15
—Principal Epidemic Diseases	3
—Children aged under 1 year	37
—Rate per 1000 Live Births	37.0

CAUSES OF DEATH.

The following Table gives the causes of the deaths occurring during the year:—

Typhoid Fever	—	Other forms of Tubercu-	
Cerebro Spinal Fever ...	1	losis	1
Scarlet Fever	—	Syphilis	—
Whooping Cough	—	Influenza	2
Diphtheria	—	Measles	—
Tuberculosis of Respira-		Other Infectious or Para-	
tory system	15	sitic Diseases	6
		Carry forward	25

Brought forward	25		
Cancer, malignant tumours	91	Other diseases of liver ...	3
Tumours, non-malignant or not defined	—	Other digestive diseases	7
Acute Rheumatism	1	Nephritis, acute or chronic	14
Diabetes, mellitus	8	Other diseases of genito-urinary system	5
Other General Diseases	3	Puerperal Sepsis	—
Meningitis, Diseases of Spinal Cord	1	Other Puerperal causes	1
Cerebral haemorrhage ...	77	Disease of skin and organs of movement	1
Other diseases of nervous system	3	Congenital debility, Prem. birth, Malformation, etc.	29
Heart disease	195	Old Age	28
Circulatory diseases	23	Suicide	1
Bronchitis	13	Road Transport Accidents	6
Pneumonia	20	Other violence	16
Other respiratory diseases	5	Causes, ill-defined or unknown	7
Gastric and duodenal ulcer	9		
Diarrhoea (all ages) ...	2	All causes	603
Appendicitis	2		
Cirrhosis of liver	2		

The number in 1947 was 633.

AGE AT DEATH.

The following table gives the age in groups of persons dying during the year:—

Age.		Age.	
—1	37	45-54	40
1-4	7	55-64	62
5-9	4	65-74	139
10-14	3	75-84	199
15-24	8	85 and over	62
25-34	12		
35-44	30	Total	603

NATIONAL HEALTH SERVICE (SCOTLAND) ACT, 1947.

A. LOCAL HEALTH AUTHORITY FUNCTIONS.

Since the inauguration of the National Health Service on the 5th of July, 1948, there occurred, in the health department of the County Council, few marked changes in the number, nature and scope of the problems which called for attention. One exception was the early and complete drop in the number of applications received from expectant mothers with a view to securing beds in hospital for their confinements. There ceased similarly, but more gradually, applications for the refund of rail and 'bus fares or the use of an ambulance in connection with attendance at out-patient departments or clinics and admission to hospital. Another item which, prior to the passing of the Act, required frequent attention, was the provision for non-insured persons of Insulin. That ceased almost at once and the surplus stock left in the hands of the County Council was disposed of to hospitals.

As to co-operation with the Executive Council and the Regional Hospital Board the Council took steps towards the setting up of an Advisory Co-ordinating Committee in terms of D.H.S. Circular 85/1947. Three members were nominated by the Health Committee of the Council to this Committee and the appropriate Executive Council and the Regional Hospital Board each nominated three members. This Committee had not met, however, by the end of the year. Many contacts were made, however, on a very large variety of points by the Medical Officer of Health with the Clerk and Administrative Officers of the Executive Council and the Regional Hospital Board. One matter which necessitated many contacts was that relating to the examination by an Ophthalmic Surgeon of and the provision of spectacles for School Children, and this matter was not finally settled by the end of the year.

Steps were also taken with a view to the preparation of a pamphlet to be published by the Executive Council detailing the services provided respectively by the Executive Council, the North-Eastern Regional Hospital Board and the Local Health Authority. A considerable amount of data was collected by the Medical Officer of Health but as several important items of service, such as ante-natal clinics, to be provided by the Regional Hospital Board had not been finally arranged for, the question of the publication of the pamphlet was held over, until the Advisory Co-ordinating Committee could meet.

Information on the functions of the Local Health Authority and the action taken in implementation of the "proposals" and arrangements approved by the Secretary of State under Sections 21 to 28 of the Act are given under the appropriate under-mentioned Sections 1 to 10 of this Report.

(1) Care of Mothers and Young Children.

No material change, in the arrangements existing in the County prior to 5th July as regards ante-natal and post-natal clinics, took place, but negotiations towards the setting up of new clinics as outlined in the proposals were entered into.

No special provision as in the case of premature infants nursed at home required to be made.

As regards dental care no persons other than school children were dealt with by the School Dental Staff. No fourth School Dentist was provided and two of the three dentists, including the Senior Dentist on the staff of the Local Health Authority at the 5th of July, resigned at the end of the year to take up private practice, reducing the school dental staff again to one. Additional staff was advertised for but no appointment was made as the only applicant received another appointment before her application could be dealt with.

Layettes were supplied to a number of mothers and a quantity of proprietary baby foods and food supplements were sold or issued to mothers mainly through the Maternity and Child Welfare Clinics. Neither beds, cots, bedding nor fuel were supplied to any mothers.

The following are the details asked for:—

(a) Ante-natal and post-natal clinics* (Maternity and Child Welfare Clinics with a doctor in attendance and included in (b) (i) below)			5	
	<i>Ante-natal.</i>	<i>Post-natal.</i>		
(i) Number of clinics at end of year provided by local health authority	5	—		
(ii) Number of clinics at end of year provided by voluntary bodies	—	—		
(iii) Total number of women who attended at the clinics during year	Unknown	—		
(b) Child Welfare Clinics*				
(i) Number of clinics at end of year provided by local health authority		7		
(ii) Number of clinics at end of year provided by voluntary bodies		—		
(iii) Total number of children under 5 years of age who <i>first</i> attended at the clinics during the year and who, on the date of their first attendance, were—				
(a) under 1 year of age			314	
(b) over 1 year of age			181	
(iv) Total number of attendances during the year made at the clinics by children who, at the end of the year, were—				
(a) under 1 year of age			2124	
(b) over 1 year of age			1700	

*"Clinics" means clinic premises, not sessions.

(c) Dental Care.

No action was taken with regard to expectant or nursing mothers or to pre-school children.

(d) Mother and Baby Homes.

No Homes provided either by the local authority or a voluntary organisation were in existence in the County.

(e) Day Nurseries.

No Nursery provided by the local authority or by others was in existence.

(f) Residential Nurseries and Children's Homes provided as part of Authority's arrangements under Section 22 of the National Health Service (Scotland) Act 1947—None.

(2) Midwifery.

(3) Health Visiting.

(4) Home Nursing.

The Local Health Authority sought affiliation with the Queen's Institute of District Nursing, Edinburgh. The terms of affiliation had not been agreed by the end of the year.

Two nurses were provided with cars, which had to be bought in the inflated second-hand market because of delay in the delivery of new cars ordered. One of these nurses had not had a car before and the other had had a loaned car, which had been returned to the owner.

In the absence of other approved records in connection with Maternity cases the appropriate parts of the records formerly in use under the Maternity Services (Scotland) Act, 1937, continued to be used by the nurses throughout the whole year. Specimen copies of suitable cards for use by doctors and midwives were sent to the Clerk to the Executive Council.

Standing instructions to nurses for the conduct of their midwifery cases, based on model instructions issued by the Department of Health for Scotland, were prepared and issued to all nurses and copies of same were also sent to the doctors practicing midwifery in the County.

In the last Annual Report of the Central Midwives Board reference is made to the changes and improvements which have been brought about in recent years in the midwifery services of the Country. The high standard of midwifery which has latterly pertained in this County was more than maintained during the year.

One death of a married woman during pregnancy or within four weeks thereafter was brought to the notice of the Medical Officer of Health by a Registrar of Deaths, namely, that of a young woman who died in a Hospital. The cause of death was certified to have been due to "Premature Labour, Anuria."

Two only of the midwives have had training in analgesia. The Central Midwives Board recently decided, however, to incorporate training in analgesia in the ordinary syllabus of training for a pupil midwife. This means that all future new candidates for posts will probably have had this training. Meantime as practically all the confinements taking place at home are carried through in conjunction with a doctor, the need for the training in analgesia of the rest of the midwife staff is not thought to be

urgent and no negotiations had been entered into with any Regional Hospital Board for the provision of post qualifying refresher courses in midwifery for the nursing staff.

One set of "Gas and Air" analgesia apparatus was provided for one of the nurses trained in the use of same and it was used during the period under review.

Steps were taken towards the provision of a telephone at the homes of nurses without such a facility and also at the home of a nurse who formerly occupied rooms only. The nurse in the Portgordon area who had been living in lodgings was allocated by the County Council a furnished house at 19 Crown Terrace, Portgordon.

An additional nurse took up duty in the Portknockie-Cullen-Deskford area of the County and was provided with a furnished house. The headquarters of the nurse who serves the Cairnie and Grange area was transferred from Grange to Keith, to the mutual advantage, it is believed, of all concerned.

A part-time health visitor became a full-time health visitor and school nurse. One of the nurses continued to do work in an area involving part of Aberdeenshire throughout the whole year and another during part of the year. Two nurses employed by Aberdeenshire did work throughout the year in an area which included parts of Banffshire. Similarly a very small portion each of Banffshire and Morayshire was nursed respectively by nurses from Morayshire and Banffshire. In each of these inter-county arrangements services were looked on as equivalent as far as the neighbouring county was concerned and therefore were looked on as not entailing any financial adjustment.

A number of articles of nursing equipment belonging to and stored at the County Depot of the Banff Branch of the British Red Cross Society was made available to persons in need of same. Over 25 persons received articles on loan. The articles loaned included wheel-chairs, air-beds, bed pans, bed rests, blankets, an Elsan closet, a Dunlopillo mattress, etc. A large quantity of gift-parcel foods and used clothing was also distributed to invalids and old people from this Depot. In addition several of the nurses had nursing equipment, which belonged to the respective District Nursing Associations, under their personal care and which they also issued on loan as required.

The following are the details asked for:—

Midwifery Service.

*Before Remainder
5.7.48 of year.*

(a) Total number of births (including still-births) occurring in the area during year—that is before correction for mother's residence*	522	487
(b) Number of births in (a) classified to show type of case and whether doctor present at confinement:—		
(i) Cases dealt with under Maternity Services (Scotland) Act, 1937—		
(a) doctor present at confinement	139	—
(b) doctor not present	59	—
(ii) Cases dealt with under Section 23 (2) of the National Health Service (Scotland) Act, 1947—		
(a) doctor engaged and present at confinement	—	160
(b) doctor engaged but not present at confinement	—	30
(c) midwife alone (no doctor engaged)	—	—
(iii) Other domiciliary cases—		
(a) doctor engaged	—	—
(b) midwife alone (no doctor engaged)	—	—
(c) conducted by outdoor staff of institution	—	—
(d) without doctor or midwife	—	—
(iv) Cases attended at institutions (including private maternity and nursing homes) in the area of the local health authority	324	297

*The combined figures, namely 522 and 487—a total of 1009—is 22 short of the number of registered births, which was 1031. The deficiency is accounted for by births not being notified to the Medical Officer of Health, chiefly where a private nurse is engaged.

Visitation by Health Visitors during year.

	Number visited for first time, excluding cases visited during the previous year and cases known to have previously been visited in another area.	Total Visits.
(a) <i>Local Health Authority Services:</i>		
Expectant Mothers†	45	423
Infants	994	9400
Children (1-5 years)‡	636	7119
Cases of Tuberculosis	6	86
Other cases	223	1016
(b) <i>School Health Service:</i>		
Follow-up work	—	30176
(c) <i>Other services:</i>		
(i) Cases visited at request of general practitioner	—	—
(ii) Cases visited at request of hospital organisation	—	—

†These visits do not include visits paid by a midwife who attended the confinement as a midwife or as a maternity nurse.

‡The figure in the first column shows the number of children visited for the first time since reaching 1 year of age.

Home Nursing.

- (1) Number of cases attended by home nurses under arrangements made by the Local Health Authority under Section 25 of the National Health Service (Scotland) Act, 1947, between 5.7.48 and end of year 717
- (ii) Number of visits paid by nurses to these cases 13870

(5) Domestic Help.

Under Section 28 of the Act and the Proposals made and approved by the Department of Health for Scotland thereunder, any Person *may* apply for the services of a domestic help for a household where such help is required owing to the presence of a person who is ill, an expectant mother, a lying-in woman, a mentally defective person, an aged person or a child not over school age within the meaning of the Education (Scotland) Act, 1946. The Council decided to carry out this work by employing approved women for part-time duties and by arranging with neighbouring women in rural areas where regular helps would be unable to attend owing to transport and other difficulties.

The following are the details as regards the working of the scheme which was not fully organised until the last month of the year.

(I) No. of Helps employed at end of year:—		
(a) whole-time	—	
(b) part-time	2	
(c) retaining fee basis	—	
(II) No. of cases taken during the year	2	
(III) Average period of assistance	—	days *

Altogether there were enrolled in the service 6 persons, all part-time.

Applications for the services of a domestic help were received from or on behalf of 6 persons, of which 2 were granted. 2 were not granted because no domestic help was available in the neighbourhood at the time and 2 because the households were not eligible for the help.

With regard to the working of the scheme—applications from prospective helps and from persons requiring help are received at the Health Office, Banff. The Medical Officer of Health enrolls suitable helps and, if a help is available he puts her in contact with a household in need of the help. At the same time he issues to the help an appropriate number of weekly time sheets, a post card for use in intimating when she takes up duty and one for use in intimating when she terminates her duty and an instruction as to where she will obtain her weekly wages.

The Medical Officer of Health also sends a copy of each application for help for which he can supply a help to the Chief Area Officer, Buckie, giving an assessment of the amount the applicant should be asked to pay weekly and the times between which the help is to attend.

The Chief Area Officer sends the particulars to the appropriate Area or District Officer who makes payment to the help on presentation of her certified time sheet at the agreed rate and subject to necessary deductions, and collects the sum due from the user of the help.

The District Nursing Sisters act in their respective area as local agents for the Medical Officer of Health both as regards recruiting suitable helps and in having the most suitable helps available sent to the home requiring help.

At the end of the year domestic helps were available in the following areas, namely :—Dufftown 3; Banff 1; Keith 1 and Newmill 1.

*both cases continued into 1949.

(6) Vaccination and Immunisation.

VACCINATION.

Leaflets explaining the desirability of infant vaccination were not prepared and issued to Registrars of Births for the Registrars to hand to persons registering the birth of a child because time did not permit of the preparation of such a leaflet and no suitable pamphlet was available otherwise.

No emergency demand for vaccination arose. No publicity measures towards the securing of vaccination were taken apart from the personal recommendations of the health visitors.

In the period from 5th July to 31st December 1948 the following vaccination returns were received from general medical practitioners.

Primarily vaccinated—

Typical vaccinia greatest 7th to 10th day	90
Accelerated (vaccinoid) reaction, 5th-7th day	1
Reaction greatest at 2nd-3rd day	1
No local reaction	7
	— 99

No. of persons re-vaccinated—

Typical vaccinia greatest at 7th-10th day	9
Accelerated (vaccinoid) reaction, 5th-7th day	1
	— 10

Total	109
-------------	-----

IMMUNISATION AGAINST DIPHTHERIA.

Leaflets describing the desirability of immunisation and the facilities available regarding same were issued to the Health Visitors.

Stocks of A.P.T. were held in the Health Department of the County Council for issue to general medical practitioners and for use at the school clinics conducted by the S.M.O. and at the M. and C.W. Clinics. Many of the general medical practitioners are, however, prescribing and using a combined Diphtheria and Whooping Cough prophylactic.

The following table shows the numbers immunised during the year :—

Under School Age	608
School Age	219
Re-immunised	863

The numbers last year were 295, 160 and 714 respectively.

No case of Diphtheria occurred in the County during the year.

(7) Prevention of Illness, Care and Aftercare.

As regards tuberculosis the Medical Officer of Health remained the statutory officer for the notification of new cases, the notification of admissions and discharges to hospitals and sanatoria, the notification of the changes of address of patients (transfers) and the disinfection of rooms, bedding, etc. He still has a register of cases to keep in accordance with the Public Health (Tuberculosis) Regulations of 1930.

The handling of tuberculosis cases otherwise should normally have passed to the specialist staff of the Regional Hospital Board but this work continued to be dealt with on an agency basis by the Medical Staff of the Council. The work in this group of illness actually increased in amount especially so as regards the weekly diagnostic clinic at Chalmers Hospital, to which an increasing number of persons were referred by general medical practitioners.

The Hospitals and Sanatoria to which the patients were admitted included Campbell Hospital, Portsoy, Chalmers Hospital, Banff, and Turner Hospital, Keith, all within the County; the City Hospital, Woodend Hospital, and the Royal Sick Children's Hospital, in Aberdeen; Tornadee Sanitorium, Milltimber; and Stracathro Hospital, Brechin.

As in past years the County was fortunate in that it was possible to find a bed in a hospital or sanatorium for all new cases of tuberculosis in need of and agreeable to accept admission, almost at once; also for all chronic cases desiring or in need of institutional treatment.

The steady fall that has taken place in the Tuberculosis Mortality, broken only by war periods, gave reasonable hope that the disease could be reduced to insignificance. The chief of the causes of this decline was perhaps the gradual improvement in the living conditions of the people. With this in mind steps were taken on several occasions to secure better housing conditions for patients discharged or about to be discharged from hospital. In a satisfactory number of cases a new house was made available by the County Council.

Four patients have wooden garden shelters at their disposal.

In a number of cases additional nourishment was supplied to patients being nursed at home and in a great many cases gift-parcels of food received from Dominion Red Cross Society Branches, through the Scottish Branch Headquarters, Glasgow, were distributed in co-operation with the Banff Branch of the Society.

The subjoined tables I. to V. give statistical details regarding the notification, the incidence, the hospitalization, etc., of tuberculosis cases.

The notifications last year and the average for the past ten years were respectively:—

Respiratory	24	Non-respiratory	30
„	20.1	„	32.9

There has been a marked decline in non-respiratory cases over the past four years.

Table 1.—RETURN OF CASES OF TUBERCULOSIS NOTIFIED DURING THE YEAR.

NUMBER OF CASES NOTIFIED AS SUFFERING FROM TUBERCULOSIS.												
AGE-GROUPS												
	Under 1	1 and under 5	5 and under 10	10 and under 15	15 and under 25	25 and under 35	35 and under 45	45 and under 65	65 and upwards	Total	Cases removed to hospital	Cases notified in a previous year and removed to hospital for the first time during 1948.
Respiratory	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
	—	—	2	—	1	2	4	3	2	14	12	—
	—	1	—	—	3	3	—	1	—	8	8	—
	—	1	2	—	4	5	4	4	2	22	20	—
Non-respiratory	1	3	6	3	2	1	—	—	—	16	13	—
	—	1	3	1	2	2	—	—	—	9	7	—
	1	4	9	4	4	3	—	—	—	25	20	—
Respiratory and Non-respiratory	1	3	8	3	3	3	4	3	2	30	25	—
	—	2	3	1	5	5	—	1	—	17	15	—
	1	5	11	4	8	8	4	4	2	47	40	—

Table II.—RETURN OF CASES NOTIFIED DURING YEAR IN WHICH DIAGNOSIS OF TUBERCULOSIS HAS BEEN CONFIRMED.

NUMBER OF CASES DIAGNOSED AS SUFFERING FROM TUBERCULOSIS.

		AGE-GROUPS										Total
		Under 1	1 and under 5	5 and under 10	10 and under 15	15 and under 25	25 and under 35	35 and under 45	45 and under 65	65 and upwards		
Respiratory	Males	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	
	Females	—	—	2	—	1	1	4	3	2	13	
	Total	—	1	—	—	3	3	—	1	—	8	
		—	1	2	—	4	4	4	4	2	21	
Non-respiratory	Males	1	2	4	3	2	1	—	—	—	13	
	Females	—	1	2	1	2	2	—	—	—	8	
	Total	1	3	6	4	4	3	—	—	—	21	
Respiratory and Non-respiratory	Males	1	2	6	3	3	2	4	3	2	26	
	Females	—	2	2	1	5	5	—	1	—	16	
	Total	1	4	8	4	8	7	4	4	2	42	

Table III.—RETURN SHOWING THE NUMBER OF CASES WITH THEIR HOME RESIDENCE IN THE AREA WHO RECEIVED TREATMENT IN SANATORIA OR OTHER INSTITUTIONS DURING THE YEAR.

		NUMBER OF PATIENTS					In institutions on December 31
		In Institutions on January 1	Admitted during the year	Discharged during the year	Died in the institutions†		
Respiratory	Adults	1	2	3	4	5	6
		17	23	13	6 5	2	19
	Children	13	17	11	4 3	—	15
		1	2	3	—	—	—
	Children	1	2	3	—	—	—
		3	2	3	—	—	2
Non-respiratory	Adults	1	5	4	—	—	4
		5	10	11	—	—	4
	Children	2	6	5	1	—	—
		43	67	53	11 9	2	44
	Total						

†In column 4 are shown those who were in final residence 28 days or over.
In column 5 are shown those who were in final residence under 28 days.

Table IV.—RETURN OF NUMBER OF PERSONS RESIDENT IN THE AREA AT 31st DECEMBER 1948 WHO WERE KNOWN TO BE SUFFERING FROM TUBERCULOSIS.

		NUMBER OF CASES IN AGE-GROUPS.											Total
		Under 1	1 and under 5	5 and under 10	10 and under 15	15 and under 25	25 and under 35	35 and under 45	45 and under 65	65 and upwards			
Respiratory.													
1. Sputum or other material examined and tubercle bacilli found	Males	—	—	—	—	4	11	9	10	—	34		
	Females	—	—	—	—	12	11	10	9	—	42		
2. Sputum or other material examined and tubercle bacilli never found	Males	—	—	3	2	14	22	15	12	—	68		
	Females	—	1	—	1	8	15	4	9	—	38		
3. Sputum or other material not examined	Males	—	—	1	—	—	—	1	—	—	2		
	Females	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	1		
Total		—	1	4	3	39	59	39	40	—	185		
Non-Respiratory.													
1. Abdominal	Males	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	1		
	Females	—	—	2	2	1	—	—	—	—	5		
2. Spine	Males	—	1	1	—	—	1	1	1	—	5		
	Females	—	—	—	—	4	—	—	—	—	4		
3. Bones and joints (exclusive of spine	Males	—	2	1	3	1	3	—	—	—	10		
	Females	—	—	1	1	3	—	—	—	—	5		
4. Superficial glands	Males	—	4	13	2	4	2	—	—	—	25		
	Females	—	4	7	4	3	4	1	—	—	23		
5. Lupus	Males	—	—	—	1	2	—	—	—	—	3		
	Females	—	—	—	—	2	—	—	—	—	2		
6. Other parts or organs	Males	—	—	—	—	2	—	—	—	—	2		
	Females	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	1		
Total		—	11	25	14	22	11	2	1	—	86		
Respiratory and Non-Respiratory													
Total		—	12	29	17	61	70	41	41	—	271		

Table V.—RETURN OF PERSONS WHO DIED FROM TUBERCULOSIS IN THE
AREA DURING THE YEAR WITH PARTICULARS AS TO PERIOD ELAPSING
BETWEEN NOTIFICATION AND DEATH AND BETWEEN DISCHARGE FROM
AN INSTITUTION AND DEATH.

Number of persons who died from tuberculosis		RESPIRATORY		NON-RESPIRATORY	
Of whom—		Males	Females	Males	Females
Not notified or notified only at or after death		—	—	—	—
Notified less than 1 month before death		2	—	—	—
" from 1 to 3 months	"	1	—	—	1
" 3 to 6	"	1	—	—	—
" 6 to 12	"	—	2	—	—
" 1 to 2 years	"	2	—	—	—
" over 2 years	"	4	3	—	—
Total	...	10	5	—	1
Number who died within 28 days after discharge from an institution		1	1	—	—
Number who died more than 28 days after discharge from an institution		2	2	—	—

(8) Control of Infectious Diseases.

The figures given below show the actual numbers of cases of infectious disease which were notified or came to the knowledge of the health department:—

Cerebro-Spinal Fever ...	—	Pneumonia, Acute Prim-	
Chickenpox	1	ary	35
Cholera	—	Pneumonia (not other-	
Continued Fever	2	wise notifiable)	3
Diphtheria	—	Poliomyelitis, Acute ...	—
Dysentery	47	Puerperal Fever	—
Encephalitis Lethargica	—	Puerperal Pyrexia	1
Erysipelas	8	Scarlet Fever	73
Jaundice, Acute infective	—	Smallpox	—
Malaria	—	Typhoid Fever	—
Measles	2	Paratyphoid A.	—
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	—	Paratyphoid B.	—
Plague	—	Typhus Fever	—
Pneumonia, Acute Influenzal	—	Whooping Cough	—
		Total	172

In 1947 the total was 183.

Of the 172, 105 were removed to hospital and 67 were not.

(9) Mental Health Service.

During the year two changes in the personnel of the Authorised Officers took place caused by the departure from the service of the Local Health Authority of Messrs A. G. Hamilton and W. M. Laird and the appointment in their place of Messrs John Donaldson and Charles G. Taylor as Chief Area Officer with headquarters in Buckie and Area Officer with headquarters in Keith respectively. No female psychiatric social worker was appointed, and the original proposal that one of the Authorised Officers be appointed a lay assistant in the Health Department of the Authority has been departed from.

No steps were taken towards the establishment of any additional suitable training centre for defectives and no approach was made by or to any voluntary body with a view to the carrying out of domiciliary training.

The detailed aspect and the administration of the work of the Mental Health Service was delegated to the Homes Sub-Committee of the Health Committee and the following particulars indicate the nature and amount of the work done:—

No. of persons removed to Mental Hospitals	21
No. of persons in the area boarded out or liberated on probation	8

(The Local Health Authority supervised the persons of unsound mind who were under guardianship, boarded out, or liberated on probation from a Mental Hospital on an agency basis for the Regional Hospital Board.)

No. of mentally defective persons 16 years and over removed to an Institution	Nil.
No. of mentally defective children under 16 years removed to an institution	3
No. of mental defectives under official guardianship ...	31

out by Inspectors of the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries as follows:—

Number of dairies involved	5
Number of individual milk samples taken	27
Number of group milk samples taken	12
Number of cows slaughtered under Tuberculosis Order of 1938	5

In one instance the investigation had not been completed at the end of the year.

Certificates of other clinical examination of Dairy Herds were supplied by officers of the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries as follows:—

Number of dairies inspected	120
Number of animals involved	4273

Last year the numbers were 100 and 3662 respectively.

Conditions found at inspection—

Mastitis	22
Induration	7
Total	29

Last year the total was 49.

Notification of the result of a Tuberculin Test of a Herd licensed to produce Tuberculin Tested (or Certified) Milk was also made as follows by the Divisional Inspector of the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries:—

Number of dairies involved	23
Number of animals involved	2187
Number of animals failing to pass the test	6
Number of animals in which test was inconclusive	1

Last year the total number of dairies involved was 19.

For reference to the work under the Scottish Milk Testing Scheme and action and progress under the Milk (Special Designations) Orders, etc., see the Report presented by the Sanitary Inspector.

(2) Ice Cream.

With regard to the administration of the Ice Cream (Scotland) Regulations 1948 no medical examination was carried out of any trade employee as none was found to be suffering from the diseases mentioned in the Regulations.

No bacteriological examinations of ice cream samples were carried out.

For further details regarding the Ice Cream Regulations see the report of the Sanitary Inspector.

(3) Meat and other Foods.

The services of a Meat Inspector were requested by the various detention officers in the County and the inspections were carried out by the following:—

Inspectors of the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries	202
Local Veterinary Surgeons	19
Medical Officers of Health	103
Total	324

Last year the total was 265.

Under the Food and Drugs Acts and allied regulations formal samples were taken by the sampling officers (members of the Police) as follows:—

Milk	23
Cocoa	3
Margarine	2
Tinned Soup	1
Ice Cream	4
Sausages	3
Chocolate Spread	3
Baking Powder	3
Ground Cinnamon	5
Herrings—Tinned Scotch	2
Vegetables—Tinned	4
Rum	2
Whisky	1
Butter	5
Bicarbonate of Soda	3
Spices—Mixed	3
Malt Vinegar	1
Pickles	6
Lard	3
Seidlitz Powder	1
Bourn-Vita	1
Mercury Ointment	1
Aspirin Tablets	4
Cheese	2
Ground Coffee	6
Extract of Malt with Cod Liver Oil	2
Cod Liver Oil Emulsion	1
	95

The number taken last year was 93.

The samples taken were genuine with the exception of the following:—

Sweet Milk.—One sample was deficient in fat and solids-not-fat as compared with the prescribed presumptive standard of 8.50% laid down by the Sale of Milk Regulations (1901) by 0.05 and 1.41 per cent. respectively. The freezing point of this sample also showed that the sample contained added water to the extent of not less than 16%.

Another sample was deficient in solids-not-fat to the extent of 0.10% compared with the presumptive limit. The freezing point of this sample did not indicate the presence of added water.

A third sample was deficient in milk fat to the extent of 0.20 per cent. In a fourth sample, which was a byre sample of the milk referred to in the third sample, a deficiency in milk fat of 0.10% was found.

Sausages.—The total meat in one sample was only 25.1 per cent. against a minimum of 50% laid down by the Meat Products and Canned Meat and Maximum Prices Control Order 1945. Another sample contained only 34.0% of meat against the minimum of 50%.

(4) Food Poisoning.

No proved case of food poisoning occurred in the County.

(5) Nutrition.

No case of defective nutrition was brought to the notice of the Medical Officer of Health.

Under the School Medical Inspection Scheme there were found during routine inspections 8 cases or .28% with slightly defective nutrition and 6 others.

E. MISCELLANEOUS.

(1) Supervision of Residential Accommodation and other functions under the National Assistance Act, 1948.

(1) Accommodation.

Under Section 21 the Local Health Authority provided accommodation for aged, infirm and other persons in need of care and attention, which was not otherwise available to them, at 6 establishments, as follows:—

	Sex of person	No. of Beds.	No. of Bed-rooms.	Category of Persons Accommodated.
Linn, Keith	F.	20	10	Aged, Infirm and handicapped
The Home, Keith	M. & F.	25	9	do. do. do.
Campbell Home, Cullen	M. & F.	10	5	do. do. do.
Wilson Home, Buckie ...	M. & F.	7	7	Able to do for themselves
Craigmoray, Elgin	M. & F.	17		
Maud Hospital	M.	1		

The accommodation at each of the first four named establishments was almost fully and constantly occupied throughout the whole year. As each is owned and operated by the Local Health Authority the supervision is complete.

Craigmoray, Elgin, is the former Poor Law Institution owned jointly by the Joint County of Moray and Nairn and the County of Banff. The Authority was entitled to admit cases so far as accommodation was available. The residents for whom the authority was responsible at the end of the year comprised 8 males, 6 females and 3 children who accompanied their parents. No proposals are meantime contemplated for a change in the Authority's interest in this joint establishment.

Maud Hospital was transferred to the Regional Hospital Board and the sole Banffshire resident will be transferred when alternative accommodation is available and the Local Health Authority will no longer regard this accommodation as available to them.

Meantime the Authority is on the look out for a vacant building suitable for the accommodation of males or persons of both sexes.

The Standard Charge fixed for the Linn and the Home, Keith, and Campbell Home, Cullen, was respectively £2 2s, £1 15s and £1 15s.

(2) *Welfare Services for Blind, Deaf, Dumb and Crippled Persons, etc.*

Negotiations were entered into with the Aberdeen Town and County Association for teaching the blind in their homes with a view to the consolidation to the authority of the services given through this agency and the Royal Blind Asylum, Aberdeen, prior to the passing of the Act. It was decided that thus the Authority could best fulfil its functions under the Act.

The number of blind persons whose residence was in the County was 74 (33 males and 41 females). One blind school child attended a special school. The majority of the blind were in the older age groups—7 males and 7 females only being under 50: 3 males and 3 females were accommodated in Hospitals or in accommodation provided in terms of Part III of the Act. 5 males and 3 female trained workers were employed in the special workshops of the Aberdeen Asylum for the Blind.

A scheme, showing how the deaf were to be dealt with on an agency basis was also prepared in conjunction with the Aberdeen Deaf and Dumb Benevolent Society.

The number of known deaf persons within the County was 35. As regards school children there were 10 with Grade III deafness in Special Schools or classes and 1 at an ordinary school.

(3) *Removal to suitable premises of persons in need of care and attention.*

Application was made regarding one aged person under Section 47 of the Act. A suitable place to which she could be removed was found and steps were taken to have the necessary application presented to the Sheriff of the County. Meantime, however, the person consented to the proposed removal and further action was discontinued. In the place to which she was taken this person died some 4 months later of cerebral thrombosis.

(2) **Nursing Homes Registration (Scotland) Act, 1938.**

Under Section 6, as they were not carried on for profit, the following hospitals were exempted from the operation of the Act for a period of one year:—Chalmers Hospital, Banff; Turner Memorial Hospital, Keith; Stephen Cottage Hospital, Dufftown; Fleming Cottage Hospital, Aberlour; Rose Innes Cottage Hospital, Aberchirder.

The following number of confinements took place in these Hospitals:—

Chalmers	252	Seafield	180
Turner	137	Fleming	—
Stephen	33	Rose Innes	19
Total			621

HEALTH EDUCATION.

In the months of April and May when a lecturer from the Ministry of Food was present in the district, a suitable talk with practical demonstrations was given at the Maternity and Child Welfare Clinics at Banff and Macduff. Otherwise talks were given throughout the year at these and other clinics by the respective Medical Officers. It was found, as in the past, that the accommodation of most of the clinics did not lend itself readily to the giving of talks.

WELFARE FOOD SERVICE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD.

In common with many other areas throughout the country and in spite of measures taken by this department and the Local Food Office Staff to increase the use of these most valuable diet supplements, the uptake continued to be disappointing. Of the total potential, the percentage uptake was for:—

Orange Juice, 18.3; Cod Liver Oil, 15.7; Vitamin A and D Tablets, 35.0.

The corresponding figures for the whole of the Northern Division of the Ministry of Food were, 21.9; 20.3 and 28.1 respectively.

These figures represent the average of the twelve monthly figures supplied by the Divisional Food Office and only in the case of the uptake of the Vitamin Tablets is the Banffshire figure above that of the Divisional figure.

The following is an extract from a circular letter prepared by the Assistant M.O.H. for the County and issued to doctors, Health Visitors and others in the joint name of the M.O.H. and the County Food Executive Officer early in the year:—

“One of the greatest principles of our day has been the high standard of infant health maintained during the war years with all these terrible restrictions in our national diet. Undoubtedly much of this has been due to the widespread use of vitamin products to supplement the infants’ diet. All concerned in this may be justly proud of the results.

But this standard must not be allowed to fall. The time to relax has not yet come. We cannot view with unconcern the recent falling off in the uptake of these products by mothers for their children. Especially are we in Banffshire concerned to note that our uptake is falling rapidly. The total returns show that of all counties in the North and North Eastern Regions, we are making the least use of these facilities—only 15% of our Orange Juice potential has been taken up, 10.8% of Cod Liver Oil and 38% of A. and D. Tablets, and the position is still deteriorating.

We think it possible that the public may not know the importance to their children of continuing with vitamin products under present conditions, or may not realise that the products offered at the Distribution Centres are just as powerful and palatable as much more expensive ones which may be purchased elsewhere, or in some cases may not even be aware of the facilities offered to them.

Much has been done by Press propaganda but a Press notice can never carry the same weight or influence or prestige as the personal advice and explanation of one such as yourself whom the public know and respect.

May we, therefore, ask you to continue with renewed vigour your interest and work in this direction. You have many opportunities in your work and daily contacts for seeing that no mother fails to take advantage on behalf of her infant, of what the Geneva Convention in its Declaration of the rights of the child put first—namely the means requisite for its normal development.

We can provide some of these means but need your help and co-operation to see that full advantage is taken of them by all. We feel sure that that help and co-operation will be forthcoming as ever and look forward to seeing Banffshire soon heading the list of vitamin products uptake for the Region. When this has been achieved, we feel sure that a great step forward will have been taken in safeguarding the welfare of our infant community."

(4) Disabled Persons (Employment) Act, 1944.

The need for full use of man-power, as well as an increased sense of social responsibility, led to the Disabled Persons (Employment) Act of 1944, under the provisions of which a proportion of disabled persons must be accepted by all employers of more than twenty people. The Act provides for registration as a means of identifying those who are qualified for its benefits, and responsibility for finding suitable employment is in the hands of Disablement Resettlement Officers (D.R.O.s) working at the Employment Exchanges.

Many contacts were made with the D.R.O. in Buckie with regard to the registration, the training for new occupations and the placing in employment of disabled persons mainly with regard to those recovered or recovering from tuberculosis.

Hitherto probably the greatest deterrent to the securing of work by the physically handicapped has been the liability of employers for accidents arising out of and in the course of employment. Replacement of the Workmen's Compensation Act by the National Insurance (Industrial Injuries) Act should greatly assist in the employment of partially disabled persons. For those judged unfit for ordinary employment, work may be found in sheltered workshops maintained under the Act by the Disabled Persons' Employment Corporation. Special provision for epileptics has been made.

(5) Bacteriological Examinations.

The following number of specimens of material were collected and sent for examination to the City Hospital Laboratory, Aberdeen:—

	Positive.	Negative.	Total.	Grand Total.
<i>Bacillary Dysentery:</i>				
Faeces	27	105	132	132
<i>Undulant Fever:</i>				
Blood agglutinations	—	—	7	7
<i>Glandular Fever:</i>				
Paul Bunnell Test	—	—	2	2
<i>Biochemical Examinations:</i>				
Bloods	—	—	46	
Urines	—	—	7	
Faeces	—	—	42	
Gastric contents	—	—	3	
Miscellaneous	—	—	1	
			—	99
<i>Haematological:</i>				
Blood counts	—	—	140	
Differential cell counts	—	—	63	
			—	203
<i>Amoebic Dysentery:</i>				
Faeces	—	—	1	1
<i>Waters:</i>				
Bacteriological examination of waters	—	—	106	
Chemical examination of waters	—	—	38	144
<i>Tuberculosis:</i>				
Sputum	46	171	217	
Urines	—	4	4	
Pus	3	22	25	
Chest Fluids	—	2	2	
Cerebro-Spinal Fluids	—	3	3	
			—	251
<i>Venereal Diseases:</i>				
Bloods for Wassermann Reactions	46	298	344	
Bloods for Kahn tests	53	292	345	
Pus Smears for Gonococci	14	78	92	
Bloods for gonococcal complement fixation test	—	17	17	
Serum for spirochaetes	—	3	3	
Cerebro-spinal Fluids for Wassermann Reactions	1	3	4	
			—	805
			Carry forward	1644

	Positive.	Negative.	Total.	Grand Total.
<i>Diphtheria:</i>				
Throat, nose and ear swabs ...	—	124	124	124
<i>Enteric and Food Poisoning:</i>				
Widals	—	—	16	
Faeces	—	—	5	
Urines	—	—	1	
			—	22
<i>Milk:</i>				
Bacteriological examination of milks	—	—	292	
Milks for fat estimation	—	—	361	
Milks for methylene blue tests	—	—	73	
Milks for organisms	—	—	1	
Empty milk bottles for organ- isms	—	—	1	
			—	728
<i>General Examinations:</i>				
Worms and Ova	—	—	6	
Blood for malaria	—	—	7	
Histological specimens	—	—	37	
Vaccines	—	—	1	
Ophthalmia neonatorum	—	2	2	
Throat swabs for Vincent's organisms	—	—	22	
Throat, nose and ear swabs for organisms	—	—	102	
Sputum for organisms	—	—	20	
Pus for organisms	—	—	49	
Cervical swabs for organisms ..	—	—	16	
Blood cultures	—	—	5	
Cerebro-Spinal Fluids (other than tuberculosis or luetic) ..	—	—	13	
Eye swabs	—	—	3	
Faeces for organisms	—	—	1	
Urines for pathological exam- ination	—	—	52	
Urines for bacteriological ex- amination	—	—	52	
			—	388
<i>Animal Inoculations:</i>				
Human specimens inoculated into guinea pigs for tub- ercle bacilli	—	—	35	
Milk specimens inoculated into guinea pigs for tubercle bacilli	—	—	106	
Urines inoculated into rabbits for pregnancy tests	—	—	1	
			—	142
				3048
The total for 1947 was 2691.				—

(6) Slaughterhouses and Knackers' Yards.

In terms of Section 33 of the Public Health (Scotland) Act (1897), licences were granted for two slaughter-houses as follows:—

William Roger, Inveravon, for premises at Marypark Bridge.
and

William Kelman, Tomintoul, for premises at 33 Main Street,
Tomintoul;

and for two Knackers' Yards as follows:—

R. L. Christie, Muirfield, Fordyce, for premises at Douglas
Brae, Keith, and

James Christie, Muirfield, Fordyce, for premises at Muirfield.

(7) Anthrax Order, 1938.

During the year 66 sudden deaths among animals were reported to the Police. One of these was diagnosed by the Veterinary Inspector as Anthrax.

F. GENERAL SANITATION.

No matter calling for special comment connected with rivers pollution, offensive trades, etc., was dealt with.

D. I. WALKER,

County Medical Officer of Health.

BANFF, *July* 1949.

