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Contributors

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ABINGDON AND FARINGDON DISTRICTS
JOINT PUBLIC HEALTH COMMITTEE

REPORT
OF THE
MEDICAL OFFICER
OF HEALTH

FOR
THE YEAR ENDING DECEMBER THIRTY-FIRST
NINETEEN HUNDRED AND FIFTY FOUR



ABINGDON AND FARINGDON DISTRICTS JOINT PUBLIC HEALTH COMMITTEE

Members 1954-55

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*TO THE CHAIRMAN AND MEMBERS
OF THE ABINGDON AND FARINGDON DISTRICTS
JOINT HEALTH COMMITTEE*

Ladies and Gentlemen:

I beg to present my Annual Report for the year 1954.

ABINGDON ALLOWED TO LEAD

Five years ago at the suggestion of the Ministry of Food, Abingdon, in common with most other Local Authorities, adopted some Model Bye-Laws on Food Handling. I urged the inclusion of a Bye-Law making the provision of a simple First Aid Kit obligatory in all food handling premises on the grounds that one of the three major sources of food poisoning outbreaks is septic places on the skin of food handlers. This, however, was at that time not known to certain lay officials in the Ministry of Food with the result that I had great difficulty, extending over many months, in getting the necessary permission for its inclusion. A year later I heard that Abingdon was the only Local Authority in England and Wales to have adopted this requirement. Now in January 1956 the Food Hygiene Regulations made by the Ministries of Health and Agriculture, Fisheries and Food have followed Abingdon's lead and made it the law of the land in all food premises.

NOT YET ALLOWED

A year ago I warned that unless we gave up preparing to fight a European war there would be no public left alive in this area to have any health at all. I explained in some detail, and at considerable personal expense, the seriousness of the danger and made some simple suggestions as to what we might do to try to preserve the lives of those in the area.

I did not think it necessary to demonstrate that the war for which we are preparing would—if it came—not only kill us all but would also affect the sanitary circumstances, the sanitary administration and the vital statistics of the area for it is fairly widely understood that the word "Sanitary" here means health and "vital statistics" include deaths. I am now asked to believe that I must not discuss how to avoid the coming war on the grounds that it is outside the scope of "the

sanitary circumstances, the sanitary administration and the vital statistics of the district". I cannot, of course, believe it but I do not propose to delay the publication of this report further and will omit the page that has been the subject of dis-agreement until wiser counsels prevail.

PAST HEALTH

The tables which follow show that the year was again a very healthy one. The Birth rate, Death rate and Infant Death rate was each better than the National figure, the notifications of Infectious Diseases were exceptionally low and there was no case of Polio or of a Maternal Death. Notifications of Tuberculosis increased but in so far as they can be attributed to early detection through Mass Radiography that can be considered a good thing.

Two Mass Radiography Units visited the area during 7 weeks in May and June. A static unit was in Abingdon Market Square for 4 weeks and in Faringdon 2½ weeks, while a mobile unit visited 12 sites in Abingdon Rural District and 8 sites in Faringdon Rural District.

T.B. SHOULD GO

Numbers X-rayed were 5,180 in Abingdon and 4,178 in Abingdon Rural District, making a total of 9,358 or 33% of the population aged over 14. In Faringdon Rural District 2,487 were examined, or 23% over 14. Twenty-two new active cases of Pulmonary Tuberculosis were discovered and treatment started.

Percentages X-rayed, though good compared with many areas, were sadly low and show that legislation is needed to make it the rule. A recent report from Australia says, "The people have accepted compulsory surveys readily, as a reasonable civic duty and a valuable public health service".

The time is overdue when a regular X-ray should be a condition of employment of certain occupations. We should start with school teachers and might go on to bus conductors, shop assistants, waiters, hairdressers, barmen, and, yes, even dentists and doctors.

DISCRIMINATE DEMOLITION

During the year the Ministry of Housing and Local Government asked for a Survey to be made with a view to Slum Clearance. Abingdon Borough reported 150 dwellings to be sub-

standard and to be dealt with in the first 5 years. Abingdon Rural District reported 143 needing demolition and a further 366 which were unfit but which might possibly be saved, and Faringdon Rural district reported 131 houses to be included in clearance areas and a further 155 to be demolished in the first 5 years.

The decrease of 590 in the population of Faringdon Rural District is attributed by the Registrar General to the closing of a Contractor's Camp at Stanford which used to house some 350 persons and to adjustments made in 1954 when the final figures of the 1951 census became available.

At the end of the year there was published the volume giving the details relating to Berkshire of the Census taken in 1951. This has made possible for the first time a reasonable degree of accuracy in the figures given in our tables showing the populations and the numbers of houses in the various parishes. In addition the following notes relevant to this area have been extracted from the book.

EXTRACTIONS FROM THE CENSUS

In the 20 years 1931 to 1951 the population of the County increased by 29.4%—roughly one-third. This was a greater increase than in most other counties in England and Wales. Abingdon Borough and Faringdon increased in roughly the same proportion, namely one-third, but Abingdon Rural District increased by no less than 100.7%—a rate much higher than any other district in the County. An analysis of this increase shows that it was made up of a 30% increase due to the excess of births over deaths in the District and a 70% increase by immigration into the District. These two rates compare with rates of 9% and 20% respectively for the whole of the County. The extent to which these entrants to this area consisted of evacuees, etc., who moved here in 1940 and 1941 is not detailed by districts but it would appear that only about 1 in 5 of the increase is due to that cause, for figures show that for West Berkshire as a whole the civilian population went up by a maximum increase of 29% by 1941 and that of these 29, 20 had left the area by mid-1945.

MOSTLY PLUS

In Abingdon Rural District Parishes having increases of over 50% were St. Helen Without +719 per cent., North Hinksey per cent., Radley +135 per cent., Kennington +115 per cent.,

→ +364 per cent., Draycott Moor +212 per cent., Wootton +167 Sutton Courtenay +114 per cent., Steventon +71 per cent., Drayton +69 per cent., Cumnor +66 per cent., and Besselsleigh +57 per cent. Only Lyford -19 per cent. and Wytham -12 per cent. had decreases.

In the Faringdon Rural District increases were Watchfield +373 per cent., Shrivenham +123 per cent., Stanford +65 per cent., Pusey +63 per cent., Bourton +49 per cent., Fernham +36 per cent., Kingston Lisle +21 per cent. and Faringdon +19 per cent. Decreases were Compton Beauchamp -22 per cent., Little Coxwell -17 per cent. and Buscot and Coleshill -15 per cent.

LIVING ROOM OR ROOMS

The increase in the number of dwellings in the County was 32,812 (41.5%) since 1931. When this is compared with the increase in population noted above (29.4%) it might appear that the proportion of houses available per family had improved satisfactorily but, alas, it was not so as the number of separate households had increased even more, namely by 44%. The explanation lies in the fact that in 1951 households were smaller with an average of 3.24 persons per household compared with 3.65 in 1931.

The number of persons per room in Berkshire, which in 1931 stood at 0.72, which at that time was much lower than in England and Wales (0.83), had in 1951 improved so little, namely to 0.71 that it had almost lost its advantage over the rest of the country which by 1951 had become 0.73 persons per room.

If on the other hand the grossest overcrowding be considered as represented by the percentage of those living at a density of more than 2 per room, it is found that from 1931 to 1951 this percentage was reduced in Abingdon Borough from 4.59 to 2.17, in Abingdon Rural from 4.82 to 2.26 and in Faringdon from 5.12 to 2.07.

The percentage of households in Berkshire that were sharing dwellings was 10.8 which was appreciably better than the rest of the country at 15.1%.

THE FIVE AMENITIES OR THEIR LACK

As regards household arrangements every district in the county showed at least a quarter of its households entirely without a fixed bath; Abingdon Borough having the best figure of 28% and Faringdon being one of the worst with over 50%. Abingdon

Borough had the highest percentage in the county, 65, of households having the 5 amenities listed, namely Piped water, Cooking stove, Kitchen sink, Water closet and Fixed bath. Abingdon Rural District was not far behind with 57%. In this respect Faringdon ranked lowest with 34%. The percentages of households in Faringdon having no exclusive use of 4 out of the 5 amenities were the worst in the county, namely Piped Water in the house 39 per cent., Kitchen sink 30 per cent., Water closet 49 per cent., and Fixed bath 59 per cent. Lack of exclusive use of a cooking stove, which appears to be the most important from the point of view of harmony, was happily rare, varying from 3 per cent. to 10 per cent., with Faringdon in this respect at 5 per cent. better off than Abingdon Rural with 6 per cent. and Abingdon Borough with 8 per cent.

It is worth noting that even Abingdon Borough had 18 per cent. of households that had no exclusive use of piped water within the house, of whom 13 per cent. shared it and 5 per cent., or 162 households, had to go outside the house for water.

THE WEAKER SEX?

Over the age of 65 the sex ratio rises to 1,449 females to every 1,000 males and reminds one of the much greater powers of survival of old women compared with old men. This is attributed by some to the more sheltered lives that women have lived in the homes, but I think is no less due to the fact that men have not in the past learned either to look after themselves in the home nor to be sufficiently interested in activities and pursuits within the home to keep themselves alive.

The table showing the marital condition of the population shows that in each of the 5-year age groups between 25 and 70, the number of widows is from 3 to 4 times the number of widowers. This is attributed in the report to the higher death rates of males as compared with those of females. I would suggest that it is rather due to the fact that widowers not only find it much more necessary but also very much easier to remarry than do widows.

MORE WEDLOCK AND UNLOCK

The increase in the proportions of those over 15 who were married at 1951 (66 per cent. of men and 60 per cent. of women) as compared with 1931 (59 per cent. of men and 52 per cent. of women) was due largely to the younger ages at which men, and especially women, were entering matrimony. At ages 20—24 this proportion had increased from 12 per cent. of men and 23 per-

cent. of women in 1931 to 22 per cent. of men and 48 per cent. of women in 1951.

The statement that the proportion of divorced people in Berkshire increased to about seven times what it was in 1931 is somewhat relieved by finding that the 1951 figure is 7.3 per thousand aged over 15 as compared with 1 per thousand in 1931.

The percentage in the age group 15—19 of girls in full time education shows that in Berkshire in 1951 the figure was 17.1 compared with Great Britain's figure of 14.8 and a figure of 9.7 for 1921 (Berks.). Men on the other hand are only 14.5 in Berkshire as compared with 14.8 in Great Britain and 14.9 in 1921.

THE WORLD NEXT DOOR

With regard to the country of birth, comparing 1951 with 1931 Berkshire had in every thousand 38 more per thousand born outside England than in 1931. Of these 38, 8 were from Wales, 6 from Scotland, 2 from North Ireland, 5 from Eire, 3 from the Commonwealth, etc., and 12 from Foreign countries. Comparing the proportions with those of England and Wales, Berkshire had roughly 800 more from Scotland, 800 more from Ireland, 1600 more from the Commonwealth and 1200 more from foreign countries.

In Berkshire those born in Foreign countries numbered — Germany 1,158, Poland 1069, U.S.A. 555, Russia 553, France 434, Austria 391, Italy 382, Egypt 249 and Yugoslavia 201. The only Asiatic country with more than 50 was China with 94. Those from Poland, Russia and Yugoslavia were very largely men while from Germany, France and Austria women predominated.

THANK YOU ALL

Finally, I am glad to express my sincerest thanks to the Chairman and members of the various Councils and Committees with which I work for their courtesy and friendliness, to the General Practitioners and the Nurses of the area for their willing support and co-operation and by no means least to the Sanitary Inspectors for their loyalty and cheerfulness in the midst of many difficulties and for their considerable industry and efficiency to which many of the pages in this report bear ample testimony.

Your obedient Servant,

NORMAN PARFIT,

Medical Officer of Health.

VITAL STATISTICS

In this first section are collected the various tables which summarise the vital statistics of the three Authorities grouped together. It is followed by sections which deal separately with matters affecting the health of each Authority.

AREA AND POPULATION

The following table shows the area of each district with the estimated population at the middle of 1954. The table shows that Abingdon Borough is slightly less crowded than the average urban area in England and Wales, which has a density of 7.1 persons per acre; that Abingdon Rural District is considerably more densely populated than the average Rural area (.20) and that Faringdon Rural District is very close to the average.

District	Area in Acres	Est. Mid- 1954 Pop.	Inc/Dec. on 1953	Persons per Acre
Abingdon Borough	1,754	11,740	+300	6.69
Abingdon Rural District	41,185	24,450	+570	.59
Faringdon Rural District	55,726	13,200	-590	.23
Totals	98,665	49,390	+280	.49

BIRTHS AND DEATHS

The following table shows the totals of Births and Deaths and the 'corrected' rates per 1,000 of Population. 'Corrected' rates are those which take due account of the actual age and sex composition of each area by being multiplied by the 'comparability factor' supplied by the Registrar General. They may then be fairly compared with those of the nation as a whole, or with the corrected rates of any other area. The factors for Births and Deaths are as follows: Abingdon Borough .96:1.03; Abingdon Rural 1.04:1.18 and Faringdon Rural 1.04:1.06. Figures for 1953 are in brackets.

District	Births	Birth rate per 1000 of Pop.	Deaths	Death rate per 1000 of Pop.
Abingdon Borough	247 (218)	20.16	87 (87)	7.4
Abingdon Rural	460 (421)	19.5	206 (158)	9.9
Faringdon Rural	249 (267)	19.6	118 (93)	9.4
Totals	956 (906)	19.7	411 (338)	9.2
England and Wales		15.2 (15.5)		11.3 (11.4)

INFANT MORTALITY

District	Deaths of Infants under 1 year	Live Births	Infant Mortality per 1000 live births
Abingdon Borough	2	239	8.1
Abingdon Rural District	8	453	17.6
Faringdon Rural District	7	245	28.5
Totals	17 (16)	937 (888)	18.1 (18.0)
England and Wales			25.5 (26.8)

CAUSES OF DEATH

The 411 deaths in the area were accounted for as follows:

Cause	Abingdon Borough	Abingdon Rural	Faringdon Rural	Total
Heart Disease	22	60	45	127
Vascular lesions of the Nervous system (Stroke)	12	28	20	60
Other Diseases of the Circulatory system	7	9	6	22
Cancer	19	41	18	78
Bronchitis	4	8	5	17
Pneumonia	5	7	3	15
Influenza	—	1	—	1
Other Diseases of the Respiratory system	1	1	2	4
Pulmonary Tuberculosis	6	3	—	9
Non-Pulmonary Tuberculosis	—	—	—	—
Road Accidents	1	4	1	6
All other accidents	2	2	4	8
Ulcer of Stomach	1	4	—	5
Suicide	—	3	1	4
Congenital Malformations	—	4	—	4
Nephritis	—	2	1	3
Gastritis, Enteritis, Diarrhoea	—	2	1	3
Hyperplasia of Prostate	1	1	—	2
Leukaemia	—	2	—	2
Diabetes	—	1	—	1
Measles	—	—	1	1
Acute Poliomyelitis	—	—	—	—
All other causes	6	23	10	39
Total all causes	87	206	118	411

STILL BIRTHS

District	Legitimate	Illegitimate	Total	Per 1000 total births
Abingdon Borough	8	—	8	32.4
Abingdon Rural District	7	—	7	15.2
Faringdon Rural District	4	—	4	16.0
Totals	19	—	19	19.9
England and Wales				24.0

MATERNAL MORTALITY

There were no maternal deaths attributed to accidents of childbirth.

INFECTIOUS DISEASES

The following table gives the number of cases of infectious disease (other than tuberculosis) notified during 1954, with the 1953 figures in brackets.

Disease	Abingdon Borough	Abingdon Rural	Faringdon Rural	Total all Districts
Measles	3(329)	88(740)	66(551)	157(1620)
Whooping Cough	23 (74)	57 (98)	19 (92)	99 (264)
Scarlet Fever	15 (33)	26 (50)	9 (13)	50 (96)
Pneumonia	15 (22)	19 (26)	— (20)	34 (68)
Food Poisoning	4 (—)	2 (—)	— (—)	6 (—)
Erysipelas	1 (3)	3 (2)	— (—)	4 (5)
Dysentery	— (2)	1 (9)	— (2)	1 (13)
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	1 (—)	— (—)	— (—)	1 (—)
Diphtheria	— (—)	— (6)	— (—)	— (6)
Puerperal Pyrexia	— (1)	— (3)	— (—)	— (4)
Poliomyelitis	— (2)	— (—)	— (2)	— (4)
Total	62(467)	196(936)	94(680)	352(2083)

TUBERCULOSIS (New Cases)

The following table shows the number of new cases of Tuberculosis notified during the year, distinguishing between the more serious cases affecting the lungs (Pulmonary) and those affecting other parts of the body. 46 of the 59 Pulmonary cases, or 78%, were aged 20 to 55.

Age Periods	Abingdon Borough		Abingdon Rural		Faringdon Rural		Totals (all Districts)	
	Pul.	Non. Pul.	Pul.	Non. Pul.	Pul.	Non. Pul.	Pul.	Non. Pul.
0—1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
1—5	1	—	—	—	—	—	1	—
5—10	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	1
10—15	2	—	—	—	—	1	2	1
15—20	—	1	1	1	—	—	1	2
20—25	1	—	4	1	1	—	6	1
25—35	6	—	10	1	—	1	16	2
35—45	3	—	9	1	—	—	12	1
45—55	2	—	8	—	2	—	12	—
55—65	1	—	2	—	—	—	3	—
Over 65	3	—	3	—	—	—	6	—
Total	19	2	37	4	3	2	59	8
1953 figures	8	2	24	2	10	3	42	7

ABINGDON BOROUGH

HOUSING CONSTRUCTION

New houses completed during the year numbered 271. These consisted of 235 Council houses and 36 built by private enterprise. A further 102 houses were under construction on 31st December, 1954, of which 92 were Council houses and 10 were private.

The above brought the number of Council houses to a total of 1,292 of which 570 were built before the war and 722 completed since the war.

The rents of the pre-war houses ranged from 12/6d. to 19/10, including rates, with an average of 16/2 per week. Rents for post-war houses ranged from 12/9 to 69/4 including rates, the average being approximately 27/3 per week. The number of applications for new Council houses on 31st December was 475, as compared with 601 a year before.

CARAVANS

The Council continued to maintain on one of the Council Estates, a small caravan site which accommodates 21 caravans. This met a steady demand and the facilities provided are appreciated by the occupants. In addition there are 10 caravans licensed on private sites, and a private site is licensed to accommodate 11, making a total of 42 caravans.

74 caravans were inspected prior to their entry into the Borough on the occasion of the Michaelmas Fair.

REFUSE DISPOSAL

Household refuse was collected weekly, while trade refuse was collected under contract. Tipping continued on the site at the rear of the Abbey House grounds. This land has now been scheduled for industrial development.

SALVAGE

The waste paper market improved during the year and with the continued steady sale of rags and waste paper, etc., realised £396.11.8 as follows:—

Paper	£298.3.8
Rags	£86.3.0
Misc.	£12.5.0

MORTUARY

The management of the Mortuary presented little difficulty during the year and was used on 47 occasions including 33 post-mortem examinations.

DRAINAGE AND SEWERAGE

With regard to the proposed improvement in the Borough's sewerage system and sewage disposal works, survey work was done on the first stages of the scheme for relief sewers and the re-equipping of the pumping station but due to shortages in staff there have been delays in proceeding with the design work involved in the preparation of these contracts.

WATER

The water supply is obtained from two sources:

- (1) Adits and wells at Wootton and Lashford Lane which supply approximately one-third of the town.
- (2) Bulk supply from the Oxford City Council's Water Undertaking serving the remainder of the town.

Both supplies of water are hard, the total hardness varying from 30—32 parts per 100,000.

Consumption during the year was again approximately 19½ gallons per head per day, which remains little more than half what would be expected if the metering of the water to domestic consumers could be given up. The committee are considering means of obtaining further supplies of water from Oxford in order to improve the general supplies and with a view to the eventual discontinuance of this metering.

MILK

During the year 8 samples of milk as delivered to the schools in the Borough were submitted for bacteriological examination and all proved satisfactory.

MEAT

A private slaughterhouse was re-licensed during October after being re-built and modernised. The rebuilding was carried out to meet the needs of the owner, local butchers and to some extent the wholesale market.

The following tables show the numbers inspected and the results:

Type of Animal	No. Inspected	Carcases Affected	Carcases Condemned
Steers and Heifers	542	70	1
Cows	158	73	5
Bulls	1	1	—
Calves	73	—	—
Sheep	365	37	—
Pigs	9642	720	8

All diseases except tuberculosis

Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned:

Type of Animal	Carcases Affected	Carcases Condemned	Percentage Affected
Steers and Heifers	39	—	7.19
Cows	34	1	21.51
Bulls	—	—	—
Calves	—	—	—
Pigs	519	3	5.38
Sheep	37	—	11.04

Tuberculosis only

Type of Animal	Carcases Affected	Carcases Condemned	Percentage Affected
Steers and Heifers	31	1	3.29
Cows	39	4	24.69
Bulls	1	—	100.00
Calves	—	—	—
Sheep	—	—	—
Pigs	201	5	2.08

OTHER FOODS

The following foodstuffs were condemned:

1075 lbs. Beef	13 lbs. Cheese
24 lbs. Corned Beef	98 lbs. Lentils
16 lbs. Tinned Pork	31 lbs. Cake
43 lbs. Tinned Ham	10 lbs. Prawns
6 lbs. Ox Tongues	2 stone Skate
6 lbs. Jellied Veal	62 lbs. Sausages
485 lbs. Dried Fruit	70 tins Evaporated Milk
376 tins or jars of various foodstuffs	

Meat and offal condemned at the private slaughterhouse is disposed of in a digester and processing plant adjoining the slaughterhouse. Other foods are collected and buried on the Council's refuse tip.

FOOD PREMISES

The number of the various types of premises in the Borough and the number of visits paid to them during the year was as follows:

Type	No. Visits	Type	No. Visits
Bacon Factory	1 288	Bakeries	6 3
Abattoir	1 198	Licensed Premises, including	
Sale and Manufacture of Preserved Food	3 83	3 Off Licences	39 10
Grocers and General Stores	38 58	Dairies	2 5
Sale of Ice-Cream	36 26	Fresh and Fried Fish Merchants	6 3
Butchers	10 37	Greengrocers	10 2
Cafes & Restaurants	17 31		

ICE CREAM

34 samples were taken and submitted for analysis to the Public Health Laboratory, and were provisionally graded as shown below. Comparison with previous years shows that the steady improvement was maintained.

	1954	1953	1952	1951	1950
Grade I	26	33	28	14	16
Grade II	5	5	14	5	6
Grade III	2	1	3	2	4
Grade IV	1	2	1	1	4
Totals	34	41	46	22	30

HOUSING TABLE

No. of new Dwelling houses built:—

(1) by Local Authority	235
(2) by Private Persons	36

1. Inspections of Dwelling houses during the year:

(i) (a) Total number of houses inspected for housing defects	70
(b) Number of inspections made	116
(ii) Number of dwelling houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation	4
(iii) Number of dwelling houses (exclusive of those referred to under the preceding sub-heading) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation	41

2. Remedy of Defects during the year:

Number of defective dwelling houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action	5
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3. Action under Statutory Powers during the year:

Number of dwelling houses in respect of which the Council accepted undertakings not to re-let for human habitation	2
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FACTORY AND WORKSHOPS ACTS

1. Inspections

Premises	No. on Register	Inspections made	No. of written notices	Prosecutions
Factories (including laundries)	10	5	—	—
Workshops (including laundries)	58	30	—	—
Workplaces	3	2	—	—
Total	71	37	—	—

The number of outworkers in the August list was 8; 7 engaged in the making of wearing apparel and 1 in curtains and furniture hangings.

SUMMARY OF SANITARY INSPECTORS' WORK DURING 1954

No. of different premises visited	475
„ Inspections made	1723
„ Complaints received	120
„ Defects or nuisances discovered	60
„ Notices served (Informal)	15
„ Notices served (Statutory)	4
„ Prosecutions	Nil
No. of Defects or Nuisances Abated	
As to Privies, W.C.'s, Sink Wastes, etc.	11
„ Drains or cesspools	25
„ Pigs or other animals	2
„ Unclean Houses	2
„ Other defects or nuisances	72
No. of Premises disinfected	10
„ Water samples taken for analysis	24
„ Houses connected with water mains	271
„ Milkshops on register	1
„ Cowsheds and Dairy farms on register	4
„ Slaughterhouses on register	2
„ Inspections of Slaughterhouses	486
„ Inspections of Milkshops	5
„ Inspections of Cowsheds and Dairy farms	2
„ Inspections of Piggeries	5

Matters in relation to which visits were made

Nuisances	80
Inadequate or defective sanitary accommodation	25
Drainage	93
Keeping of animals	25
Water supplies	9
Refuse collection	38
Refuse disposal	307
Tents, vans, sheds or similar structures	100
Butchers shops	37
Food premises	243
Milk supplies	18
Bakehouses	9
Petroleum storage	40
Shops (other than food shops)	12
Factories and workplaces	37
Schools	30
Building licensing	17
Rodent control	28
Mortuary	18
Miscellaneous visits	593

ABINGDON RURAL DISTRICT

This table gives certain essential figures as a background against which the following pages can be viewed.

Parish	Est. Pop. Mid. 1954	Area in Acres	Total Houses	Council Houses	Rateable Value £	Product of 1d Rate	
						£	s.
Appleford	300	862	79	14	998	4	0
Appleton with Eaton	688	2077	206	33	3262	13	2
Besselsleigh	96	906	20	2	375	1	10
Cumnor	2890	5672	931	227	23640	91	19
Draycott Moor	546	1054	152	75*	1714	5	18
Drayton	1533	2604	494	96	6568	26	3
Frilford	164	1147	55	—	1908	7	16
Fyfield and Tubney	510	2746	155	24	3073	12	6
Garford	122	1068	36	4	384	1	12
Kennington	1775	1369	560	80	12827	52	19
Kingston Bagpuize	216	1109	71	16	1112	4	6
Lyford	106	774	34	—	198		15
Marcham	783	2514	221	42	5954	24	3
Milton	870	1466	223	36	14831	59	9
North Hinksey	3480	1087	1102	72	24370	98	14
Radley	1293	2863	379	63	10349	42	17
St. Helen Without	2524	2047	289	8	18540	76	3
South Hinksey	315	509	98	8	3145	13	3
Steventon	1463	2401	395	83†	7060	28	0
Sunningwell	904	1332	251	38	8982	35	5
Sutton Courtenay	1795	2103	434	38	27092	108	7
Wootton	1892	1523	562	85	13757	55	12
Wytham	185	1992	58	—	1890	7	13
Totals	24450	41225	6605	1044	£192029	£771	13

*Includes 53 Camp Hutments.

†Includes 33 Camp Hutments.

HOUSING CONSTRUCTION

New houses completed during the year numbered 355. These consisted of 171 new Council Houses and 185 built by Private Enterprise. A further 204 were under construction on 31st December, 1954, of which 51 were Council Houses and 153 were private.

The distribution of these 559 houses is shown in the following table:—

Parish	Council Houses		Private Enterprise	
	Completed	Under Construction 31.12.54	Completed	Under Construction 31.12.54
Appleford	—	—	1	1
Appleton with Eaton	—	—	2	1
Cumnor	133	29	20	15
Draycott Moor	—	—	3	1
Drayton	—	—	2	3
Frilford	—	—	6	1
Fyfield & Tubney	—	—	1	1
Garford	—	—	1	—
Kennington	—	—	34	47
Kingston Bagpuize	16	—	1	—
Marcham	—	—	1	2
Milton	—	—	—	1
North Hinksey	—	—	90	62
Radley	4	—	3	3
South Hinksey	—	—	1	3
Steventon	—	12	1	1
Sunningwell	—	—	2	2
Sutton Courtenay	—	—	5	—
Wootton	18	10	10	9
Total	171	51	184	153

TEMPORARY DWELLINGS

The 40 prefabricated bungalows situated at Wootton continue to be used as housing accommodation, as well as the two sites listed below which contain huts converted into living units, the maintenance of which is the Council's responsibility.

Steventon. Further progress has been made in rehousing families in this camp, and dismantling of all huts, when vacated, has taken place. The number of families living there was reduced during the year from 53 to 33.

Kingston Bagpuize. Evacuation and dismantling of the camp has continued, and the number of families living there was reduced from 81 to 53.

RENTS

Pre-war Council houses were let at the standard rent of 15/- or 17/6 per week which could be reduced to a minimum of 5/- by various rebates. Post-war Council Houses had a standard rent of 22/6 which could be reduced to a minimum of 5/- by rebate or increased to a maximum of 27/6 in the presence of lodgers or of sons or daughters over 16 years of age.

'Prefabs' were let at 14/- and camp huts at 7/6 per week. This last figure is inclusive while all the other are exclusive of rates.

HOUSING IMPROVEMENTS

Repair and improvement work to all classes of property has continued throughout the year and was almost double that of the previous year, shown in brackets. The following table shows the distribution of the work.

Parish	Housing Conversions	Additional Bedrooms	New Bathrooms	New W.C. Accom.
Besselsleigh	—	—	1	1
Cumnor	—	6	7	7
Drayton	—	—	2	2
Frilford	1	8	1	1
Fyfield & Tubney	—	—	2	2
Garford	—	—	1	1
Kennington	—	3	5	5
Marcham	1	4	6	6
Milton	1	3	2	2
North Hinksey	—	7	2	—
Radley	—	1	1	1
Steventon	—	—	3	3
Sunningwell	—	—	1	1
Sutton Courtenay	—	—	2	2
Wootton	1	3	3	3
Totals	4 (4)	35 (16)	39 (12)	37 (13)

Included in the above figures are seven houses which have been modernised and improved with the aid of Improvement Grants made by the Council under the authority of Section 20 of the Housing Act, 1949.

MOVABLE DWELLINGS

Five licensed caravan sites in the district remain open for permanent occupation. Southdown Caravan Park, at Drayton, has been increased in size and is now capable of accommodating 40 caravans, and this appears to be meeting the needs of the southern parishes. About the middle of the year a new site at Bigwood situated between Radley and Kennington was completed and was licensed for first 50, and later for 75 caravans. This site largely accounts for the increase of 77 in the total number of caravans licensed in the district during the year, namely 369 compared with 292 in 1953.

The following list shows their disposition on 31st December, 1954:—

2	Appleford	2	Marcham	4	Steventon
45	Cumnor	5	Milton	4	Sutton Courtenay
65	Drayton	22	North Hinksey	15	Sunningwell
7	Frilford	142	Radley	14	Wootton
20	Kennington	3	St. Helen Without		
1	Kingston Bagpuize	18	South Hinksey		

SALVAGE

A total of 40 tons of waste paper and rags was sold during the year. After deduction of bonuses, a net sum of £153 was received for the relief of the rates.

REFUSE DISPOSAL

The weekly kerbside collection of household refuse has continued as in previous years. As reported last year a new large capacity vehicle was put into operation in June, 1953, in an effort to relieve the volume of work placed on the outside staff.

However, the completion of 355 new houses and the entry of 77 more caravans into the district necessitated the employment of an extra refuse collector.

Disposal of refuse at Kennington and Milton has proceeded as in previous years. Extensive work has been carried out at Kennington to the perimeter of the tip, and it has been possible to improve the general appearance and provide facilities for the later provision of a raised footpath and necessary surface water drainage along the roadside.

WATER

The northern and central areas of the district, comprising 18 parishes, continue to be served by a piped supply from the Oxford City Water Undertaking, who carry out regular sampling for bacteriological and chemical analyses.

The following table gives details of dwellings receiving water from piped supplies:

Parish	Total No. of Dwelling Houses	No. of Houses supplied with main water	No. of Houses supplied by standpipes
Oxford City Water Undertaking			
Appleton	217	135	—
Besselsleigh	21	15	—
Cumnor	900	827	—
Draycott Moor	127	106	—
Frilford	55	45	—
Fyfield & Tubney	159	110	—
Garford	38	33	—
Kennington	563	522	—
Kingston Bagpuize	74	50	—
Marcham	239	159	—
North Hinksey	1088	1023	—
Radley	294	258	—
St. Helen Without	249	208	—
South Hinksey	87	84	—
Sunningwell	238	228	—
Wootton	558	556	—
Wytham	55	24	—
Total	4962	4383	—

Abingdon R.D.C. Undertaking

Drayton	473	362	100
Milton	214	155	43
Steventon	354	163	143
Sutton Courtenay	435	308	98
Total	1476	988	384

Not supplied with Main Water

Appleford	81	—	—
Lyford	43	—	—
Total	124	—	—

Grand Total	6562	5371	384
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The water supply to the southern parishes of Drayton, Milton, Steventon and Sutton Courtenay was from the beginning of the year supplied in bulk by Wantage R.D.C. The result of chemical analyses showed the water to be much harder than that which was previously supplied by the Sutton Courtenay borehole. All water samples submitted for bacteriological examination were Class I in the Ministry of Health's grading.

When the new supply was first received from Wantage R.D.C. teething problems were encountered owing to the increased pressure. A considerable amount of scouring of the old mains took place, the water was discoloured by ferrous oxide and the older lengths of mains frequently burst. These difficulties were overcome by the laying of new piping.

The Council have under consideration the provision of main water to the village of Lyford. Two sources of supply are open to them: (a) to take a bulk supply from a private and newly constructed borehole at Lyford Grange, or (b) to connect to the link main at Charney Bassett and supplied by Faringdon R.D.C. A decision has not yet been reached as to which supply is to be taken, but it is hoped this will be made in the near future.

The results of bacteriological examination of water samples taken from standpipes in the southern parishes are shown in the following table:

	Total	Highly Satisfactory	Slight Contamination	Heavy Contamination
Drayton	3	3	—	—
Milton	3	3	—	—
Steventon	2	2	—	—
Sutton Courtenay	—	—	—	—
Total	8	8	—	—

DRAINAGE AND SEWERAGE

The main Botley-Kennington scheme continues to function satisfactorily, although the time is fast approaching when the works will have difficulty in dealing with the extra effluent with which the plant is expected to cope.

The small temporary disposal works constructed to serve the Council's housing estates functioned reasonably satisfactorily throughout the year in the following parishes: Radley, Drayton, Sutton Courtenay, Wootton, Sunningwell, Appleton, Fyfield and Milton.

As intimated last year, it was necessary to carry out works of modification on a minor scale to the drainage area of the plant at Sutton Courtenay. This work however was limited in view of the pending comprehensive sewerage scheme for this area.

(1) Whitecross, Sunningwell, Wootton and parts of St. Helen Without.

The first phase of the above main drainage scheme was completed and is now in operation. This comprises part of the parish of Wootton, including Whitecross, Lamborough Hill and Home Close, as well as parts of the parish of St. Helen Without, including Shippon Village, Faringdon Road and the Royal Air Force Station, Shippon.

The second phase of this scheme was almost completed. This covers part of Wootton Parish, including Wootton Village, Cumnor Road, part of Besselsleigh Road and Berrymere Road, together with part of St. Helen Without parish which includes part of Besselsleigh Road, Sandleigh Estate, Lashford Lane and Lansdown Estate.

(2) Appleton and part of Cumnor

(3) Part of Cumnor and Radley

Further representations are to be made to the Minister of Housing and Local Government with a view to obtaining from him a starting date for the proposed main sewerage scheme.

The sewer serving part of Cumnor Hill was being extended in order to take in the majority of premises situated at Cumnor Hill. It is hoped that approval for a further extension will be obtained from the Minister in the future.

(4) Drayton, Milton, Steventon and Sutton Courtenay

It is anticipated that the comprehensive main drainage scheme to serve the above parishes starting in April 1955, will take 21 months to complete.

MILK AND DAIRIES REGULATIONS

The total number of "Distributors" who registered under the above and who retailed milk in this district was 5. One Dairy (not being a Dairy Farm) was registered. Seven firms retailed in the area under cover of supplementary Licences.

The collection of samples of milk from schools supplied by six Dealers retailing in the area continued throughout the year. Out of a total of 26 samples taken for examination, three failed to satisfy the phosphatase Test, and in each case the appropriate authorities were notified of the adverse result.

Routine milk sampling from Dealers supplying direct to consumers in the area was carried out. One sample failed the Phosphatase Test and the Authority having control over the pasteurising plant was notified accordingly.

During the early part of the year several complaints from one particular school were received, concerning particles of glass found in bottles of milk delivered by a Dealer holding a Supplementary licence. The matter was taken up with the authority in whose area the dairy is situated and after investigation it was found that the fault lay in a bottle filling plant of obsolete design. Certain modifications were made to the equipment, and no further complaints were received.

FOOD PREMISES

Attention has been focussed on food premises of all types during the year. The total number (as in 1953) is 127, consisting of 72 shops, 49 public houses and 6 bakehouses.

Inspections of the majority of premises, including bakeries, once again revealed that shopkeepers were maintaining a reasonably high standard of hygiene. This was particularly noticeable in the case of food premises of the older type which are largely controlled by owner occupiers. In order to conform with existing legislation structural improvements have been carried out in many instances, and it was also observed that glass cases are being more frequently used to protect unwrapped food from dust, flies, etc.

Inspections were also made under the Shops Act, 1950, and in the main sanitary conveniences and washing facilities were provided on the premises. In two instances "Exemption Certificates" have been granted by the Council where shops have not possessed these services.

MEAT AND OTHER FOODS

During the year the following foodstuffs were voluntarily surrendered after examination had shown them to be unfit for human consumption:—

Beef (home killed) 58 lbs. 7 ozs.

Pork (home killed) 20 lbs.

DAMAGE BY PESTS ACT, 1949

The Rodent Officer carried out control work under the above Act by means of poison.

The total number of visits to premises during the year was 1420, and the number of dead rats and mice recovered was 241. Infestation work was carried out at 927 premises.

HOUSING TABLE

No. of New Dwelling Houses built:

(1) By Local Authority	171
(2) By Private Enterprise	184

1. Inspection of Dwelling Houses during the year:

(1) (a) Total number of dwelling houses inspected for housing defects	836
(b) Number of inspections made for the purpose	1008
(2) Number of dwelling houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation	58
(3) Number of dwelling houses (exclusive of those referred to under the preceding sub-heading) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation	730

2. Remedy of Defects during the year:

(1) Number of defective dwelling houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action	88
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3. Action under Statutory Powers during the year:

(1) Number of dwelling houses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders	5
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4. Overcrowding:

(1) Number of overcrowding cases relieved during the year	179
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FACTORY AND WORKSHOPS ACTS

Premises	No. on Register	Inspections made	No. of written notices	Prosecutions
Factories (including laundries)	6	6	—	—
Workshops (including laundries)	38	24	2	—
Total	44	30	2	—

The number of defects found and remedied during the year was 2. They were in respect of unsuitable or defective sanitary conveniences, both of which were referred by H.M. Inspector.

The number of outworkers in the August list was 8. Seven were engaged in the making of wearing apparel and one in the making of curtains and furniture hangings.

SUMMARY OF SANITARY INSPECTORS' WORK DURING THE YEAR 1954

No. of different premises visited	752
„ Visits made	1371
„ Complaints received	142
„ Defects or nuisances discovered	124
„ Notices served (Informal)	82
„ Notices served (Statutory)	Nil
„ Prosecutions	Nil

Matters in relation to which visits were made:

Nuisances	127
Inadequate or defective sanitary accommodation	15
Drainage	87
Keeping of animals	16
Water supplies	90
Infectious Diseases	2
Disinfections	Nil
Pollution (streams or ditches)	10
Refuse Collection	60
Refuse Disposal	132
Tents, Vans, Sheds, etc.	347
Unclean Houses	8
Butchers' Shops	29
Bakehouses	15
Food Premises	68
Public Houses	20
Dairy Inspections	15
Milk Supplies	33
Shops (other than food shops)	11
Petroleum storage	57
Factories and workplaces	30
Outworkers	8
Miscellaneous	191

The above table excludes all housing work.

No. of Defects or Nuisances abated:

As to Privies, W.C.'s, Sink wastes	28
„ Drains or cesspools	50
„ Pigs or other animals	4
„ Dairies, etc.	3
„ Deficient or impure water	16
„ Unclean houses	3
„ Overcrowded houses	3
„ Polluted ditches, streams, etc.	6
„ Insanitary accumulations or deposits	3
„ Other defects or nuisances	38
No. of Premises disinfected	Nil
„ Water samples taken for analysis	56
„ Wells closed	2
„ Wells cleansed, repaired, etc.	7
„ New wells sunk	5
„ Houses connected to water main	355
„ Seizures of unsound food	4
„ Closets replaced by W.C.'s	37
„ Inspections of piggeries	8
„ Milk samples taken	29

FARINGDON RURAL DISTRICT

This table gives certain essential figures as a background against which the following pages can be viewed.

	Est. Pop. Mid. 1954	Area in Acres	Total Houses	Council Houses	Rateable Value £	Product of 1d. Rate £ s.	
Ashbury	607	5609	160	36	2398	8	7
Baulking	114	1580	36	—	350	1	7
Bourton	363	1260	73	—	1312	5	3
Buckland	642	4505	176	—	2658	10	9
Buscot	275	2887	79	—	1195	4	16
Charney Bassett	168	1209	49	—	482	1	17
Coleshill	235	2014	68	—	664	2	12
Compton Beauchamp	87	1812	31	—	489	1	18
Eaton Hastings	111	1570	34	—	377	1	10
Faringdon	3203	3547	948	235	17778	70	0
Fernham	201	1016	52	8	1005	4	0
Great Coxwell	253	1435	75	12	833	3	5
Hatford	91	993	24	—	320	1	4
Hinton Waldrist	269	2016	72	14	758	2	19
Kingston Lisle	250	2040	69	12	1125	4	11
Little Coxwell	202	887	65	—	947	3	14
Littleworth	273	2350	74	—	985	3	17
Longcot	291	1894	91	12	883	3	9
Longworth	640	2291	184	40	2870	11	16
Pusey	119	1040	29	—	557	2	5
Shellingford	183	1761	52	2	848	3	8
Shrivenham	1671	2695	396†	80	16636	68	5
Stanford	956	2927	288	70	3821	15	7
Uffington	580	2929	179	54	1816	6	13
Watchfield	1314	1517	363*	4	13004	53	16
Woolstone	102	1942	36	—	440	1	13
Total	13200	55726	3703	579	74551	298	6

†Includes 82 Military Married Quarters

*Includes 289 Military Married Quarters

HOUSING CONSTRUCTION

New houses completed during the year numbered 31. These consisted of 16 Council Houses and 15 built by private enterprise. A further 39 houses were under construction on the 31st December, 1954, of which 26 were council houses and 20 were private.

The distribution of these 70 houses is shown by the following table:—

Parish	Council Houses		Private Enterprise	
	Completed	Under construction 31.12.54	Completed	Under Construction 31.12.54
Faringdon	10	26	11	12
Longcot	—	—	1	—
Longworth	—	—	2	—
Shrivenham	—	—	—	4
Uffington	6	—	—	—
Little Coxwell	—	—	—	3
Watchfield	—	—	1	—
Compton Beauchamp	—	—	—	1
Totals	16	26	15	20

In addition 39 Military Married Quarters were completed in the parish of Shrivenham.

RENTS

Rents for all Council properties are fixed at an average economic figure for each class of property. Tenants may receive rebates from the rent of an amount, depending upon individual circumstances, which may be up to the full amount of the average Exchequer subsidy plus the Rate Fund contribution applicable to the particular class of property.

Excluding a few 4-bedroomed houses these maximum economic rents range in the case of pre-war houses from 15/- to 17/7 and for post-war houses from 26/6 to 28/6. Tenants however receive rebates which may total up to 7/- for pre-war houses or total 13/9 for post-war houses. These rebates may reduce the rents to minimum figures of between 8/- and 11/7 for pre-war houses and between 12/6d. and 15/3 for post-war houses.

MOVABLE DWELLINGS

There were no site licenses in operation in the district but 20 caravans were individually licensed as set out below:—

Parish	Caravans	Parish	Caravans
Buckland	1	Stanford-in-the-Vale	1
Eaton Hastings	5	Uffington	1
Faringdon	6	Watchfield	1
Longworth	1	Little Coxwell	1
Shrivenham	3		

Only three families were still housed in former Service Camps, namely 2 at Little Coxwell and 1 at Shellingford.

WATER

Quality

The piped water supplies in the area maintained a reasonable quality throughout the year, while water from private wells continued generally unsatisfactory.

Quantity

There was no shortage of water from piped supplies during the year but private wells were generally low. This, however, was not serious as the greater part of the district was covered by the public piped supplies under the Council's Regional Water Scheme.

New Construction

The Comprehensive Water Supply scheme was completed in 1954 when the village of Coleshill was connected. Small extensions to the mains are to be made from time to time as the demand necessitates. The bulk of the supply is now derived from Buscot but Ashdown Park is used to supply the villages of Ashbury, Bourton and Compton Beauchamp while Wicklesham is in regular commission to help maintain the water level in the Folly Hill Reservoir during the night.

Although the bulk of the district has had a piped water supply for some two years the public are slow in taking advantage of the supply and a considerable percentage of the population still rely on wells, etc.

Piped Water Supplies

The following piped supplies exist in the district:

The Comprehensive Water Scheme supplies all parishes in the district with the exception of Woolstone (which has a satisfactory private supply) and Kingston Lisle which obtains a supply from the Wantage R.D.C.

Shellingford, Shellingford R.A.F. Station, Buckland, Buscot and Eaton Hastings have private piped supplies in addition to the public supply.

All public supplies are chlorinated as also are the private supplies of Buckland village, Buscot and Eaton Hastings.

Examinations

Routine bacteriological examinations of all piped supplies were made, the results of which are tabulated below. Of those supplies which are chlorinated no samples of raw water were taken prior to chlorination.

Supply	No. of Samples	Ministry of Health's Grading			
		Grade 1	Grade 2	Grade 3	Grade 4
Ashdown Park	6	6	—	—	—
Kingston Lisle	1	1	—	—	—
Woolstone	4	4	—	—	—
Shellingford	3	1	2	—	—
Shellingford RAF Station	4	4	—	—	—
Buscot and Eaton Hastings	1	1	—	—	—
Buckland	1	1	—	—	—
Folly Hill	7	6	1	—	—
Totals	27	24	3	—	—

The main water supplies in the district are 'hard' and no plumbo-solvent action is experienced.

Details of Dwellings receiving water from piped supplies

Parish	Houses			Approx. Population		
	No.	Direct Supply	Standpipe	No.	Direct Supply	Standpipe
Ashbury	160	142	23	607	525	85
Baulking	36	18	17	114	67	63
Bourton	73	52	20	363	192	74
Buckland	176	83	4	642	307	15
Buscot	79	28	32	275	104	118
Charney Bassett	49	21	—	168	78	—
Coleshill	68	12	45	235	44	167
Compton Beauchamp	31	28	2	87	104	7
Eaton Hastings	34	20	14	111	74	53
Faringdon	948	822	39	3203	3041	144
Fernham	52	47	6	201	174	22
Great Coxwell	75	59	4	253	218	15
Hatford	24	8	4	91	31	15
Hinton Waldrist	72	42	14	269	155	53
Kingston Lisle	69	65	4	250	241	15
Little Coxwell	65	52	8	202	192	31
Littleworth	74	24	—	273	89	—
Longcot	91	70	6	289	259	22
Longworth	184	115	—	640	426	—
Pusey	29	15	5	119	56	19
Shellingford	52	13	28	183	48	104
Shrivenham	314	330	40	1671	1221	148
Stanford	288	139	18	956	514	67
Uffington	179	156	35	580	577	130
Watchfield	74	330	28	1314	1221	104
Woolstone	36	27	16	102	100	59
Totals	3332	2718	412	13200	10058	1539

DRAINAGE AND SEWERAGE

The only new work to report under this head during the year is the linking up of the drainage of Uffington School with the existing drainage system and a number of minor extensions in the parish of Faringdon. Schemes are, however, to be prepared for submission to the Ministry for several parishes where the need is greatest.

REFUSE DISPOSAL AND SALVAGE

Household refuse continued to be collected from the kerbside weekly in Gt. Faringdon and fortnightly in all other Parishes. In spite of a gradual increase in the quantity of refuse placed in the dustbins, the service has been maintained without additional staff. It was found necessary however to reduce the time devoted to the handling of waste paper, and this partly accounts for the fall in the total receipts.

The collection of tins was discontinued during the year since it was not possible to find a market for them.

The total receipts from the sale of tins and paper during the year amounted to £216 compared with £286 during 1953.

MILK SAMPLING

Six samples of milk as delivered to Schools in the district were taken during the year and submitted to the Methylene Blue and Phosphatase tests. One sample failed to satisfy this latter test.

MEAT

There are three licensed Slaughterhouses in the District and the following is a list of carcasses inspected and meat found to be unfit for human consumption:

	Cattle	Calves	Pigs	Sheep
No. of animals inspected	888	121	244	862
All diseases except tuberculosis				
Whole carcasses condemned	1	—	—	—
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	34	—	5	3
Percentage of the number inspected affected with disease other than tuberculosis	3.9	—	2	.3
Tuberculosis only				
Whole carcasses condemned	1	—	—	—
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	55	—	—	—
Percentage of the number inspected affected with tuberculosis	6.3			

In addition the following meat was inspected at food shops and found to be unfit for human consumption:—

331 lbs. Raw Meat. 14 lbs. Tinned Meat

OTHER FOODS

The following other foods were condemned:—

18 lbs. Tinned Food. 21½ lbs. Cod.

FOOD PREMISES

Number in district:

Grocers	41	Fish Frying Establishments	2
Butchers	11	Cafes	8
Confectioners	15	Fishmongers	1
Greengrocers	3		

35 premises are registered for the sale of Ice-Cream under Section 14 of the Food and Drugs Act and two Dairies are registered under the Milk and Dairies Regulations 1949.

Number of inspections carried out on food shops	56
Number of inspections carried out on stalls and vehicles	4
Number of inspections carried out on cafes and inns	21

BAKEHOUSES

Number in district	9
Number of inspections	13
Defects found and remedied	Nil

HOUSING TABLE

No. of New Dwelling Houses built:

(1) By Local Authority	16
(2) By Private Enterprise	15

1. Inspection of Dwelling Houses during the year:

(1) (a) Total number of dwelling houses inspected for housing defects	74
(b) Number of inspections made for the purpose	102
(2) Number of dwelling houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation	27

2. Remedy of Defects during the year:

(1) Number of defective dwelling houses in which defects were remedied in consequence of informal action	13
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3. Action under Statutory Powers during the year:

(1) Number of dwelling houses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made	8
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4. Overcrowding:

(1) Number of new cases of overcrowding reported during the year	1
(2) Number of cases of overcrowding relieved during the year	2

FACTORY AND WORKSHOPS ACTS

1. Inspections

Premises	No. on Register	Inspections made	No. of written notices	Prosecutions
Factories (including laundries)	12	14	—	—
Workshops (including laundries)	37	43	—	—
Workplaces	2	1	—	—
Total	51	58	—	—

One defect was found, and remedied, during the year. This was in respect of a defective sanitary convenience. There were two outworkers in the district employed on the making of wearing apparel.

SUMMARY OF SANITARY INSPECTOR'S WORK DURING THE YEAR 1954

No. of different premises visited	601
„ Visits made	1448
„ Complaints received	41
„ Defects or nuisances discovered	34
„ Notices served (Informal)	37
„ Notices served (Statutory)	4
„ Prosecutions	Nil

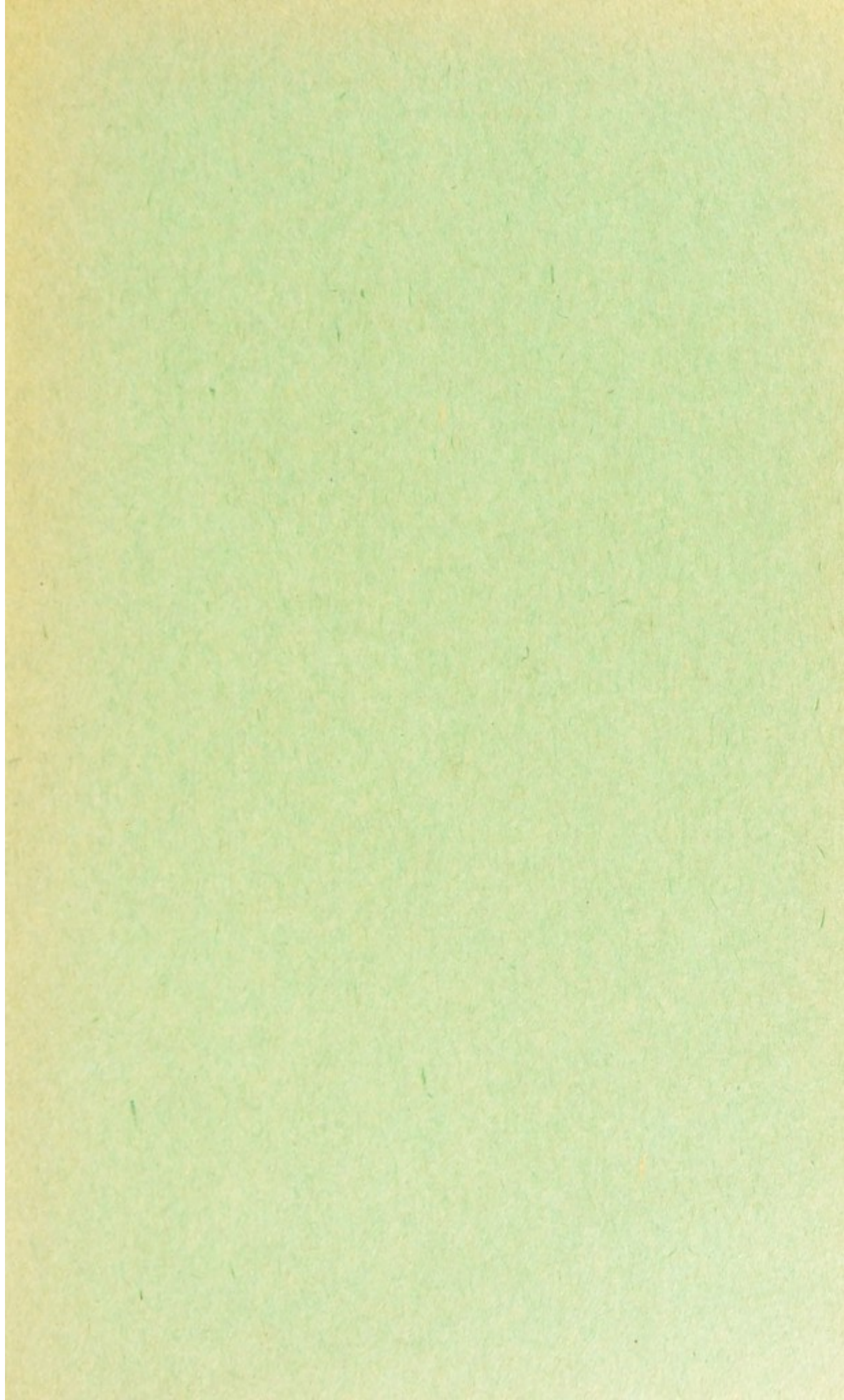
Miscellaneous matters in relation to which visits were made:

Nuisances	57
Inadequate or defective sanitary accommodation	4
Drainage	212
Keeping of animals	3
Water supplies	256
Infectious Diseases	12
Pollution of streams or ditches	6
Refuse Collection	139
Refuse Disposal	119
Overcrowding of Houses	4
Tents, Vans and sheds or similar structures	30
Knacker's Yards	5
Unclean Houses	15
Council House applications	262
Butchers' Shops	32
Bakehouses	13
Food premises	81
Milk Supplies	10
Petroleum Storage	52
Shops (other than food shops)	36
Factories and Workplaces	58
Schools	48
Miscellaneous Visits	65

No. of Defects or Nuisances abated:

As to Deficient or impure water	33
„ Privies, W.C.'s, Sink Wastes	1
„ Drains or Cesspools	4
„ Other Defects or nuisances	38

No. of Premises disinfected	4
„ Water samples taken for analysis	75
„ Houses connected with water mains	33
„ Seizures or surrenders of Unsound Food	70
„ Inspections of Dairies	10
„ Inspections of Piggeries	2
„ Slaughterhouses on Register	3
„ Inspections at Slaughter houses	232



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