

[Report 1952] / Medical Officer of Health, Banbury Borough.

Contributors

Banbury (Oxfordshire, England). Borough Council.

Publication/Creation

1952

Persistent URL

<https://wellcomecollection.org/works/yqhq2byg>

License and attribution

You have permission to make copies of this work under a Creative Commons, Attribution license.

This licence permits unrestricted use, distribution, and reproduction in any medium, provided the original author and source are credited. See the Legal Code for further information.

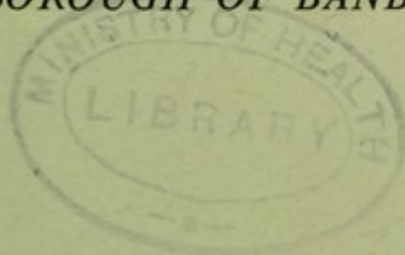
Image source should be attributed as specified in the full catalogue record. If no source is given the image should be attributed to Wellcome Collection.



Wellcome Collection
183 Euston Road
London NW1 2BE UK
T +44 (0)20 7611 8722
E library@wellcomecollection.org
<https://wellcomecollection.org>



BOROUGH OF BANBURY



ANNUAL REPORT

of the

Medical Officer of Health

and

Chief Sanitary Inspector

for the Year, 1952

H. E. Boddy & Co., Ltd., Factory Street, Banbury
1953





BOROUGH OF BANBURY

ANNUAL REPORT

of the

Medical Officer of Health

and

Chief Sanitary Inspector

for the Year, 1952

H. E. Boddy & Co., Ltd., Factory Street, Banbury
1953

BOROUGH OF BANBURY

Mayor—

COUNCILLOR J. H. PRICE, J.P.

Deputy Mayor—

COUNCILLOR MRS. M. A. JOHNSON, J.P., C.C.

Public Health Committee

*Chairman—*COUNCILLOR L. C. WALKLETT

*Vice-Chairman—*COUNCILLOR H. A. YOUNG

ALDERMAN PARTRIDGE

COUNCILLOR DAWSON

ALDERMAN TOOLE

COUNCILLOR JELFS

COUNCILLOR AULD

COUNCILLOR MRS. JOHNSON

COUNCILLOR BERRY

COUNCILLOR TOMS

COUNCILLOR CRINGAN

COUNCILLOR TRINDER

*Town Clerk and Clerk of Peace—*E. OWEN REID, *Solicitor.*

STAFF OF THE PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT

Medical Officer of Health:

A. J. CAMPBELL, B.Sc. (Oxon), M.D. (St. And.), D.P.H.,
Barrister-at-Law, Middle Temple.

Chief Sanitary Inspector and Certified Meat Inspector:

F. APPLEYARD, D.P.A. (Lond.), F.R.San.I., A.M.I.S.E.,
M.I.H. (Hons.).

Additional Sanitary Inspectors and Certified Meat Inspectors:

L. WHITELEY, M.S.I.A.

D. R. COTGROVE, A.R.S.I., M.S.I.A.

Clerks:

R. THOMAS (Chief Clerk).

Miss R. HARRIS (Shorthand Typist).

Rodent Officer and Disinfection Officer:

J. O. HUMPHRIS.



**To the Worshipful the Mayor, Aldermen and Councillors of
the Borough of Banbury**

MR. MAYOR, LADIES AND GENTLEMEN,

I beg to submit the Annual Report on the Health Services of the Borough during 1952. The report is prepared in accordance with the requirements of Circular 2/52 of the Ministry of Health.

Vital Statistics.

The Birth Rate in the Borough of Banbury in 1952 was 14.32 as compared with 15.3 for England and Wales and 15.6 in Banbury in 1951. The Death Rate was 8.54 compared with 11.3 in England and Wales and 11.5 in Banbury in 1951. This is the lowest Death Rate recorded for Banbury since 1942 when the figure was the same as in 1952. In records since 1919 no lower figure has been recorded.

In 160 deaths in 1952, 40 were due to Heart Disease of which 22 were caused by Coronary Thrombosis. The next most frequent cause was Cancer with 33 deaths—the same number as in 1950 and 1951. The commonest sites were the Stomach (6) and the Breast (5) while Cancer of the Lung was the cause in 3 cases only as compared with 9 in 1951; there were two deaths from Pulmonary Tuberculosis. Next in the list is Vascular Disease of the Nervous System (Cerebral Haemorrhage, etc.) with 22. There were 7 deaths from Pneumonia compared with 17 in 1951.

The Infant Mortality Rate was slightly higher than 1951—15.21 compared with 10.49—this means that 4 deaths occurred compared with 3 in 1951.

Housing.

Housing is still the most important and the most difficult public health problem in the Borough. As stated elsewhere in the report, as soon as circumstances permit it will be necessary to deal with several clearance areas as well as many individual unfit houses. At present it is only possible to deal with cases where the tenants are being re-housed; whenever an unfit house is vacated an opportunity is taken to deal with it under the Housing Act, 1936, Section 11. Overcrowding is a serious problem and there are many cases where there are two and three families living in a small house.

The question of caravans has also received the attention of the Health Committee frequently during the past year. In this connection I should like to endorse the opinion of the Chief Sanitary Inspector that if adequate supervision of caravans is to be maintained a properly constructed caravan site in the Borough is essential.

Infectious Diseases.

The incidence of the notifiable diseases during 1952 has been remarkably low. There were 10 cases of Scarlet Fever, 8 of Pneumonia, 7 of Whooping Cough and 5 of Measles. No case of Diphtheria occurred during the year, and there were no cases of Poliomyelitis. There was one case of Cerebrospinal Fever.

Food Hygiene.

It will be observed elsewhere in the report that an outbreak of food poisoning occurred in 1952, 10 cases being notified. While it is true that the outbreak originated from pies which were manufactured outside the district, it serves to illustrate the importance which is attached to food hygiene. As mentioned in the Annual Report for 1951, this subject is receiving increased attention not only in connection with Food Poisoning, but also Dysentery—the Sonne type is very prevalent in the country at present—and also Typhoid. The increase in the number of cases of Food Poisoning in the country as a whole is mainly due to two causes—firstly the increase in communal feeding—school and factory canteens, municipal restaurants, etc.—which began during the war and, secondly, owing to meat rationing there is a great increase in the use of made-up dishes, which are particularly liable to contamination with the food poisoning organisms (*Salmonella* and *Staphalococci*).

In view of all this it was thought advisable to start a course of lectures to food handlers in the Borough. A course of three lectures was given during the year—two lectures by Dr. T. Anderson, Deputy County Medical Officer and the third by Mr. F. Appleyard, Chief Sanitary Inspector. I should like to thank both Dr. Anderson and Mr. Appleyard for their valuable work in this connection. Further lectures are being arranged for 1953.

Staff.

There were no staff changes in the Public Health Department during 1952.

In conclusion I should like to thank all the members of the

staff for their helpful co-operation during the year and in particular the Chief Sanitary Inspector, Mr. Appleyard, to whom the efficient and successful working of the Health Department is largely due.

I am,

Your obedient servant,

A. J. CAMPBELL,
Medical Officer of Health.

SECTION A

STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE AREA.

Area	...	...	...	...	...	5,051 acres
Population (1952 Census)	...	...	...	...	...	18,917
Population (1952 Estimated Reg. Gen.)	...	...	...	...	...	18,910
Rateable Value	...	...	...	...	...	£123,873
Product of Penny Rate	...	...	...	...	...	£495

Extracts from Vital Statistics for the Year 1952.

Live Births.

					Males.	Females.	Total.
Legitimate	...	...	...	...	150	98	248
Illegitimate	...	...	...	...	11	4	15
					—	—	—
Totals	...	...	...	...	161	102	263
					—	—	—

BIRTH RATE per 1,000 of Estimated Population	...	...	...	...	...	...	14.32
(England and Wales—15.3)							

Stillbirths.

					Males.	Females.	Total.
Legitimate	...	...	...	...	2	2	4
Illegitimate	...	...	...	...	—	—	—
					—	—	—
Totals	...	...	...	...	2	2	4
					—	—	—

RATE per 1,000 (Live and Stillbirths)	15.21
---------------------------------------	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-------

Deaths.

					Males.	Females.	Total.
Deaths	...	...	...	...	84	76	160
DEATH RATE per 1,000 of Estimated Population	...	...	...	...	...	...	8.54
(England and Wales—11.3)							

Death Rate of Infants under One Year of Age.

					Number	Rate
All Infants per 1,000 Live Births	...	...	...	...	4	15.21
Legitimate Infants per 1,000 Legitimate Live Births	...	...	...	...	4	16.13
Illegitimate Infants per 1,000 Illegitimate Live Births	...	...	...	...	—	0.00
(England and Wales—27.6)						

Causes of Death of Infants under One Year of Age.

Causes : Legitimate :

All of the four deaths which occurred were due to Prematurity.

Illegitimate : Nil.

Causes of Death, 1952.

	Males.	Females.	Total.
Tuberculosis—respiratory	1	1	2
Meningococcal infections	—	1	1
Malignant neoplasm—stomach	5	1	6
Malignant neoplasm—lung, bronchus ...	3	—	3
Malignant neoplasm—breast	—	5	5
Malignant neoplasm—uterus	—	1	1
Other malignant and lymphatic neoplasms	11	7	18
Leukaemia, aleukaemia	2	1	3
Diabetes	—	1	1
Vascular lesions of nervous system ...	7	15	22
Coronary disease, angina	12	10	22
Hypertension with heart disease	4	—	4
Other heart disease	4	10	14
Other circulatory disease	1	6	7
Influenza	1	—	1
Pneumonia	4	3	7
Bronchitis	4	2	6
Other diseases of respiratory system ...	1	—	1
Ulcer of stomach and duodenum	4	2	6
Nephritis and nephrosis	2	—	2
Hyperplasia of prostate	1	—	1
Congenital malformations	1	—	1
Other defined and ill-defined diseases ...	12	8	20
Motor Vehicle accidents	1	1	2
All other accidents	—	1	1
Suicide	2	—	2
Homicide and operations of war	1	—	1
	—	—	—
Totals	84	76	160
	—	—	—
Deaths from—Cancer (all ages) ... ..	...	...	33
Whooping Cough (all ages) ... ..	...	...	—
Measles (all ages) ... ..	...	...	—

Classification of Cancer Deaths.

Breast ...	5	Stomach ...	6
Uterus ...	1	Other Sites	18
Lung ...	3		

SECTION B

GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES FOR THE AREA.

1. Staff of the Public Health Department.

A list of members of the Staff of the Public Health Department is given at the beginning of this report.

(a) Laboratory Facilities.

Laboratory work for the Borough is carried out at:—

- (a) the Public Health Laboratory, Walton Street, Oxford.
- (b) Horton General Hospital, Banbury.
- (c) Counties Public Health Laboratory, 66 Victoria Street, London S.W.1. (Water Examinations only).

The following are the details of the work carried out in 1952 at the Oxford Laboratory:—

SWABS	Number examined	41
	Positive for Haemolytic Streptococci	7
	Positive for Vincent's Angina ...	Nil
	Negative	34
FAECES	Number examined	15
	Positive for Salmonella Minnosta ...	6
OTHER EXAMINATIONS	... ..	2

(b) Nursing in the Home.

Facilities are provided by the County Council under Section 25, National Health Service Act, 1946, through the agency of the Oxfordshire Nursing Federation.

(c) Clinics and Treatment Centres.

CLINIC	PLACE	TIME
1. Maternity & Child Welfare Clinic	School Clinic Warwick Road	Tuesday and Friday, 2.30 p.m.
2. Ante-Natal Clinic	Neithrop Hospital Warwick Road	Wednesday morning by appointment
3. School Clinic	School Clinic	Each weekday 9 a.m. also Tuesday 2 p.m.
4. Child Guidance Clinic	"	Thursday 10.30 a.m.

5. Speech Clinic	„	Wednesday 10 a.m.
6. Eye Clinic	Horton Hospital	Monday 10 a.m.
7. Orthopaedic Clinic	„	Thursdays (1st & 3rd) 2.30 p.m.
8. Tuberculosis Clinic	„	Thursday 1 p.m.
9. V.D. Clinic	Radcliffe Infirmary, Oxford	Males—Wed. 6 p.m. Sat. 3 p.m. Females—Mon. 6 p.m. Wed. 3 p.m.
10. Diphtheria		1st Tues. each month
Immunisation	School Clinic	3 p.m.

Puerperal Pyrexia—One case occurred during the year.

Maternal Deaths—There were no maternal deaths during the year.

Illegitimate Children.

There were 15 illegitimate births during the year. Of these none died before reaching the age of one year. This represents an Infant Mortality Rate of 0.0 per 1,000 as against 16.13 for legitimate children.

National Assistance Act 1948, Sec. 47.

No action under this section has been taken during 1952.

SECTION C

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA.

1. Water Supply.

Water for the Borough was, up to the end of 1946, supplied by the Banbury Water Company but, during that year, a Bill was passed by Parliament under which the Town Council acquired the undertaking as from the 1st January, 1947. (Banbury Corporation Act, 1946).

The water supply is from the River Cherwell at Grimsbury and the Sor Brook at Adderbury; it is treated by sand and mechanical filters and is also chlorinated. During 1952 the supply was constant and sufficient.

During the year 27 samples of water were taken for chemical and bacteriological examination. All were reported to be satisfactory and suitable for a public supply.

With the exception of a few houses on the outskirts of the

town (24 separate premises), all are on the public supply. During the year, town's water was laid on to four premises at Nethercote which had hitherto been supplied with a very unsatisfactory water supply from shallow wells and it is interesting to note that in the course of the last seven years town's water has been laid on at 24 premises hitherto supplied from wells or springs and the supplies have been improved at 6 premises by the provision of a filtration plant in one case; the cleaning out of wells in four cases; and the provision of an alternative satisfactory well supply at the other house.

2. Drainage and Sewerage.

No important works were carried out during the year except the extension of sewers in connection with the Corporation's housing programme. Drainage repairs and improvements carried out under the supervision of the Department during 1952 included :

Drains cleared of obstruction	...	...	...	39
Drains repaired or relaid	...	...	...	24
Soilpipes repaired	...	...	...	4
Inspection chambers provided	...	...	...	4

3. Rivers and Streams.

The Thames Conservancy Board exercise general supervision over the rivers and streams in the Borough. The water-courses conveying storm water received attention from the Sanitary Inspector during the year and some cleansing of water-courses was carried out.

4. Closet Accommodation.

Practically all the dwelling-houses in the Borough are provided with water closets except a few on the extreme outskirts of the town where the water carriage system is not available. Improvements to closet accommodation carried out as a result of the work of the Sanitary Inspector were :—

New water closets provided	...	...	...	14
W.C. compartments repaired	...	...	...	61
W.C. compartments cleansed	...	...	...	12

W.C. pedestals provided	...	...	...	...	12
W.C. cisterns provided	...	...	...	...	10

5. Public Cleansing.

This work is carried out under the supervision of the Borough Surveyor and has been well maintained during the year.

6. Sanitary Inspection of the Area.

Particulars of the work of the Sanitary Inspectors are given in the report of the Chief Sanitary Inspector at the end of this report.

SECTION D

HOUSING.

1. Unfit Houses.

The position with respect to housing conditions in the Borough still remains far from satisfactory and, as mentioned in previous annual reports, several areas in the town will need to be dealt with as Clearance Areas and many individual unfit houses will have to receive attention as soon as conditions permit extensive work of this nature being carried out. A recent survey of some 600 low standard houses in the town has confirmed this view and has also shown that many of the lower-standard houses are rapidly deteriorating.

During 1952, a good deal of housing repair work was again carried out and 314 houses were repaired under the provisions of the Public Health Act, 1936, and the Housing Act, 1936. Three unfit houses were closed during the year following official representations made during 1951 and a Closing Order made during that year, was determined during 1952 after the house had been thoroughly reconditioned by the owner. The occupiers of the three unfit houses closed during the year were all re-housed by the Corporation.

2. Overcrowding.

As mentioned in my last report, the absence of precise details makes it impossible for comment to be made, with any

degree of accuracy, with respect to the position in the Borough in relation to overcrowding. It is, however, true to say that a good deal of overcrowding still exists in the area although several of the worst cases have been relieved as a result of the Corporation's vigorous post-war housing programme. I would again point out that the re-housing of overcrowded families is likely to form a substantial part of any housing programme carried out by the Corporation in the future and this is a fact which should constantly be borne in mind when long-term housing policy is considered.

SECTION E

INSPECTION OF MEAT, MILK AND OTHER FOODS.

(a) Milk Supply.

As a result of the operation of the Milk and Dairies Regulations, 1949, the Corporation's duties with respect to the supervision of the milk supply is now mainly concentrated on the distribution side, the responsibility for the supervision of milk production now being in the hands of the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries, whilst the responsibility for supervising milk pasteurisation plants has been placed upon the County Council.

During the year under review, therefore, the work of the Sanitary Inspectors has been devoted to the inspection of dairies and the sampling of milk and both these duties have been given satisfactory attention. 60 visits of inspection of dairies were recorded during the year and 88 samples of milk were taken. Some improvements were effected to certain dairies in the area, such improvements being detailed on page 24 of the Chief Sanitary Inspector's report.

During 1952, the following licences were granted by the Corporation under the provisions of the Milk (Special Designations) (Raw Milk) Regulations, 1949, and the Milk (Special Designations) (Pasteurised and Sterilised Milk) Regulations, 1949 :—

Dealers' Licences (T.T. Milk) ...	...	5
Dealers' Licences (Pasteurised Milk) ...	...	2

Routine milk sampling was well maintained during the year and the following table shows the number and results of the samples taken :—

<i>Type of Milk</i>	<i>Samples Taken</i>	<i>Samples Satisfactory</i>
Tuberculin Tested (Past.)	33	31
Pasteurised	55	53
	—	—
Totals ...	88	84
	—	—

These results are highly satisfactory and it is interesting to note that 67 samples taken in Banbury during 1952 by the County Council's Officer were all similarly satisfactory. So far as is known, practically all the milk passing through the town's dairies is now rendered safe by pasteurisation and it is reasonable to state that the town's milk supply is at present highly satisfactory.

(b) Meat Inspection.

During 1952 as in the five previous years, every animal slaughtered for human food in the Borough was inspected prior to sale and, in the period under review, the carcasses, parts of carcasses and offal detailed in the table below were condemned and surrendered :—

	Cattle		Sheep		Pigs		Calves	
Total number of Animals Slaughtered and Inspected	3204		9566		2364		2367	
	No	Weight	No	Weight	No	Weight	No	Weight
Carcasses Condemned:								
Tuberculosis ...	19	9120	—	—	1	230	2	222
Other Diseases	18	7639	67	2957	16	2441	64	2093
Total (A) ...	37	16759	67	2957	17	2671	66	2315
Parts of Carcasses, Organs, etc.								
Total Offal ...	37	2226	67	441	17	117	66	544
Livers ...	962	12589	947	1938	61	161	10	20
Lungs ...	259	2387	830	1786	208	530	10	45
Heads ...	221	5485	327	2777	58	864	9	56
Tongues ...	208	1458	—	—	—	—	2	6
Spleens ...	9	23	—	—	—	—	—	—
Intestines ...	19	400	—	—	2	13	—	—
Kidneys ...	2	10	4	10	4	4	—	—
Mesentery Fat	2	24	—	—	—	—	—	—
Meat ...	—	2937	—	409	—	475	—	144
Tripes ...	32	600	5	26	3	21	—	—
Skirts ...	16	50	—	—	—	—	—	—
Totals (B) ...	1767	28189	2180	7387	353	2185	97	815
Total Weight (A) & (B) in lbs.	—	44948	—	10344	—	4856	—	3130

The following table, in the form required by the Ministry of Health, gives further details of the incidence of tuberculosis

and other diseases in animals slaughtered and inspected in the Borough during the year 1952 :—

Carcases Inspected and Condemned.

	Cattle	Cows	Calves	Sheep	Pigs
Number Killed ...	2652	552	2367	9566	2364
Number Inspected ...	2652	552	2367	9566	2364
All diseases except Tuberculosis Whole Carcases Condemned ...	13	5	64	67	16
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned ...	872	236	27	1989	301
Percentage of number inspected affected with disease other than Tuberculosis ...	33.4%	43.7%	3.8%	21.5%	13.8%
Tuberculosis Whole carcasses condemned ...	12	7	2	—	1
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned ...	214	105	—	—	69
Percentage of number inspected affected with tuberculosis ...	8.5%	20.3%	0.1%	—	3.0%

(c) Other Foods.

The following other articles of food were inspected and surrendered as being unfit for human consumption during the year :—

TINNED FOODS.

Tinned Meat	...	...	...	247	Tins
Tinned Fish	...	...	...	68	Tins
Tinned Milk	...	...	...	69	Tins
Tinned Vegetables	...	...	...	158	Tins
Tinned Spaghetti	...	...	...	1	Tin
Tinned Fruit	...	...	...	629	Tins
Tinned Soup	...	...	...	21	Tins
Tinned Jam	...	...	...	18	Tins
Tinned Ham	...	...	...	89	Tins
Tinned Pickles	...	...	...	1	Tin

Tinned Christmas Pudding	...	2 Tins
Tinned Rabbit	... ..	8 Tins
Tinned Syrup	... ..	1 Tin
Tinned Mincemeat	... ..	1 Tin
Tinned Fruit Juices	... ..	10 Tins

SUNDRIES.

Wet Fish	... ..	6 Stones
Sausage Meat	... ..	447 lbs.
Corn Flakes	... ..	96 Packets
Cakes and Bun Flour	... ..	6 Packets
Faggots	... ..	74 Dozen
Cheese	... ..	26 lbs.
Biscuits	... ..	10 lbs.
Paste	... ..	1 Jar
Black Puddings	... ..	40 lbs.
Rice	... ..	2 cwts.
Pastry	... ..	12 lbs.
Flour	... ..	4 Packets
Stewed Steak	... ..	2 Tins
Fruit Pudding	... ..	1 Tin

Food Poisoning Outbreaks.

Eleven cases occurred in 1952. Ten of these cases were due to *Salmonella Minnosta* which occurred in infected pies obtained from a factory—outside the Borough. A warning was received from the Medical Officer of Health of the area concerned but this was not in time to prevent their sale to the public. 10 known cases occurred, but there were probably many others where a doctor was not called in.

The other case of *Salmonella* infection occurred in a newly-born baby at Neithrop Hospital. Investigations were carried out but no cause could be found. The organism responsible was *Salmonella Enteritidis*.

Clean Food Campaigns.

A scheme was started in 1952 for giving lectures to food handlers in the Borough. A course of three lectures was given, two by Dr. T. Anderson, Deputy County Medical Officer, and one by the Chief Sanitary Inspector. Further lectures are being arranged for 1953.

Bye-Laws under Food and Drugs Act 1938, Sec. 15.

These bye-laws have been adopted by the Council. Periodic visits are paid to food premises and market stalls in the Borough by the Sanitary Inspectors to ensure that the bye-laws are being complied with.

SECTION F

PREVALENCE OF, AND CONTROL OVER, INFECTIOUS AND OTHER DISEASES.

**Notifiable Diseases (other than Tuberculosis) notified during
the year 1952.**

Disease	Total Cases Notified	Admitted to Isola- tion Hospital	Total Deaths
Scarlet Fever	10	5	—
Measles	5	—	—
Whooping Cough	7	—	—
Erysipelas	1	1	—
Food Poisoning	11	1	—
Cerebro Spinal Meningitis	1	1	—
Puerperal Pyrexia	1	—	—
Pneumonia	8	—	7
Totals	44	8	7

AGE INCIDENCE OF NOTIFIED CASES.

AGE—over	0	1	2	3	4	5	10	15	20	35	45	65
AND UNDER	1	2	3	4	5	10	15	20	35	45	65	—
Disease												
Scarlet Fever	—	—	2	2	—	4	1	—	—	1	—	—
Measles ...	—	—	1	1	1	—	2	—	—	—	—	—
Whooping Cough ...	1	1	1	2	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
Erysipelas ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—
Food Poisoning	1	1	1	—	—	—	—	1	2	2	3	—
Cerebro Spinal Meningitis	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Puerperal Pyrexia	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—
Pneumonia	—	1	—	—	1	2	—	1	—	—	2	1
Totals ...	2	3	5	6	3	7	3	2	3	4	5	1

Scarlet Fever.

Ten cases occurred during 1952; five of these were removed to hospital and five isolated at home. Six cases occurred in school children, three in children under school age and one in adults.

Diphtheria.

No cases of Diphtheria occurred during the year.

Diphtheria Immunisation.

The following are the figures of cases immunised at the School Clinic, Warwick Road:—

Under 5 years	...	...	...	60
School Children	...	...	...	76
Re-inforcement Doses	...	...	...	408

Anterior Poliomyelitis.

No cases occurred in 1952.

Other Diseases.

Measles. Five cases occurred during 1952. There were no deaths and few complications were reported.

TUBERCULOSIS

Age Groups	New Cases				Deaths			
	Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary		Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
1 to 5 ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
5 to 15 ...	—	1	2	—	—	—	—	—
15 to 25 ...	4	2	—	—	—	—	—	—
25 to 35 ...	5	6	—	—	—	1	—	—
35 to 45 ...	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
45 to 55 ...	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—
55 to 65 ...	—	1	—	—	1	—	—	—
65 & over	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Totals ...	10	11	2	1	1	1	—	—

DEATH RATE per 1,000 from Tuberculosis:—

	<i>Pulmonary</i>	<i>Non-Pulmonary</i>
Banbury ... ..	.1	Nil
England and Wales ...	.912	.028

BOROUGH OF BANBURY
FACTORIES ACTS, 1937 and 1948.

**Annual Report of the Medical Officer of Health in respect of
the year 1952.**

Part I of the Act.

1. Inspections for purposes of provisions as to health
 (including inspections made by Sanitary Inspectors).

Premises	No. on Register	Number of		
		Inspections	Written Notices	Occupiers Prosecuted
(1) Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities ...	22	20	4	—
(2) Factories not included in (1) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority ...	126	76	9	—
(3) Other premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding outworkers premises)	10	9	1	—
Total ...	158	105	14	—

2. Cases in which defects were found

Particulars	No. of cases in which defects were found				No. of Prosecutions
	Found	Remedied	Referred to H.M. Inspector	by H.M. Inspector	
Want of Cleanliness ...	11	11	—	—	—
San. Conveniences (Sec. 7) Insufficient	3	3	—	—	—
San. Conveniences (Sec. 7) unsuitable or defective ...	13	13	—	2	—
Other offences ...	10	10	9	—	—
Total ...	37	37	9	2	—

3. Outworkers

No. of outworkers in August list required by Sec. 110 (1) (c) ...	17
(All outworkers engaged in making of wearing apparel)	
No. of cases of default in supplying lists ...	—
No. of instances of work in unwholesome premises ...	—

CHIEF SANITARY INSPECTOR'S ANNUAL REPORT, 1952.

**To the Worshipful the Mayor, the Aldermen and Councillors
of the Borough of Banbury.**

MR. MAYOR, LADIES AND GENTLEMEN,

I have the honour to submit my seventh annual report which gives details of the work carried out by your Sanitary Inspectors during the year 1952 and, once again, I am able to record good progress in all aspects of the Department's duties.

During the year under review, special attention has again been paid to the repair and re-conditioning of dwelling houses, the supervision of the town's food and milk supplies and to work under the Shops Act and the Factories Act and, in all these duties, I am able to record a satisfactory year's work.

Further progress was made during 1952 in our efforts to raise the standard of food hygiene in the area and, following the improvements effected to food premises in the area during the last two years, a commencement was made in the task of educating the food handlers in the Borough. One course of lectures was arranged in this connection and, on the whole, the response from the persons concerned was quite good.

The duties carried out by your Sanitary Inspectors in connection with meat inspection and the administration of the Diseases of Animals Acts and Orders during the year were particularly heavy and I feel that the appointment of a Senior Additional Sanitary Inspector, which took effect in June, 1953, will help to relieve the pressure which has been evident during the past two years, as well as improving the general standard of the work of the Department.

In presenting this report, which gives statistical information of our work during 1952 together with some comments thereon, I should be failing in my duty if I did not, once again, express my thanks to the Chairman and Members of the Public Health Committee of the Corporation for their unfailing support during the year and for the courtesy which is always shown to me. Also, my especial thanks are due to the Medical Officer of Health, the Town Clerk and the other Chief Officers of the Corporation for their ready assistance at all times.

Finally, I cannot but express my thanks to my own staff—both clerical and inspectorial—because, without their help and co-operation, I should be unable to record such a successful year's work.

I am, Mr. Mayor, Ladies and Gentlemen,

F. APPLEYARD, D.P.A. (Lond.), F.R.San.I.,
Chief Sanitary Inspector.

June, 1953.

VISITS AND INSPECTIONS MADE, 1952.

Public Health Act.

Houses inspected	373
Verminous Premises	12
Infectious Disease enquiries	47
Drainage inspections	220
Re-visits and work in progress	1710
Van dwellings	138
Smoke abatement	85
Streams and watercourses	13
Vacant land and refuse dumps	10
Canal boats	36
Water sampling	2
Refuse accommodation	202

Housing Act.

Houses inspected and recorded	246
Re-visits and work in progress	1511
Housing applications	26

Factories Act.

Factories inspected	87
Workplaces inspected	8
Outworkers premises inspected	1

Shops Act.

Shops inspected (health and comfort provisions)	233
Shops inspected (closing hours and records)	325
Shops re-inspected	28

Foods and Drugs Act.

Bakehouses	69
General food shops	435
Fried fish shops	12
Food preparing premises	103
Slaughterhouse	718
Knackers yard	5
Public Houses	130
Public Markets	174
Food inspection visits	177
Restaurants and cafés	133
Ice-cream premises	119
Food vehicles	13

Dairies	60
Milk sampling visits	82
Ice-cream sampling visits	83

Miscellaneous.

Rats and mice	22
Schools	5
Cinemas and public halls	11
Diseases of Animals Acts	623
Interviews with owners and builders ...	1400
Keeping of animals	104
Miscellaneous visits	976
Pet Animals Act visits	71
<hr/>	
Total visits and inspections made ...	10838
<hr/>	

NOTICES SERVED AND COMPLIED WITH, 1952

Type of Notice	Out- Standing 31-12-51	Served 1952	Complied with 1952	Out- Standing 31-12-52
Public Health Act-Prelim ...	39	173	175	37
Public Health Act-Statutory	73	63	101	35
Housing Act-Prelim ...	1	59	24	36
Housing Act-Statutory ...	34	33	14	53
Factories Act-Informal ...	7	14	20	1
Shops Act-Informal ...	—	56	26	30
Food and Drugs Act-Informal	38	55	72	21
Milk and Dairies Order- Informal	—	—	—	—
Canal Boats Regulations- Informal	2	4	—	6
Totals	194	457	432	219

**SUMMARY OF INSPECTIONS MADE, NOTICES
SERVED, NOTICES COMPLIED WITH, DEFECTS
REMEDIED AND PREMISES IMPROVED, 1952.**

	Public Health and Housing Acts	Food and Drugs Act	Factories Act	Shops Acts	Misc. Acts & Regs.	Totals
Inspections made ...	4631	2313	96	586	3212	10838
Notices served ...	328	55	14	56	4	457
Notices complied with ...	314	72	20	26	—	432
Defects remedied	1253	181	38	54	—	1526
Premises improved	314	72	20	26	—	432

NUISANCES ABATED AND DEFECTS REMEDIED, 1952.

(a) Dwelling Houses.

Roofs repaired or renewed	...	...	86
External walls re-pointed	...	...	82
Rainwater pipes repaired or renewed	...	...	12
Eaves gutters repaired or renewed	...	...	34
Dampness abated generally	...	...	32
Wall plaster repaired	...	...	75
Ceiling plaster repaired	...	...	44
Floors repaired or renewed	...	...	58
Windows repaired or renewed	...	...	175
Fireplaces and cooking ranges repaired or renewed	...	...	30
Coppers provided or repaired	...	...	15
Sinks repaired, renewed or provided	...	...	17
Sink waste pipes repaired or renewed	...	...	36
Repairs to water supplies	...	...	6
Food stores provided or repaired	...	...	5
New sashcords to windows provided	...	...	76
Stairs repaired or renewed	...	...	16
Doors and woodwork repaired or renewed	...	...	53
Chimneys and stacks repaired	...	...	34
Yards and passages paved or repaired	...	...	14

Interior water supplies provided	...	1
Town's water provided to houses (hitherto well supplies)	... ..	3
Additional light or ventilation provided		10
Rooms cleansed and re-decorated	...	111
Handrails provided in staircases	...	16
Houses closed or demolished	... ..	1
Drains cleared of obstructions	... ..	39
Drains repaired or renewed	... ..	24
Inspection chambers provided to drains		4
Soil pipes, vent. shafts, etc., repaired	...	4
W.C. compartments repaired and cleansed		25
W.C. pedestals provided	... ..	12
New dustbins provided	... ..	60
Offensive accumulations removed	...	7
Verminous rooms disinfected	... ..	17
W.C. cisterns repaired or renewed	...	10
Nuisances from animals abated	... ..	7
Additional water closets provided	...	3

(b) Shops Acts.

Additional water closets provided	...	3
Water closets cleansed and repaired	...	4
Notices re Early Closing Day exhibited		19
Notices re Assistants' Half holiday exhibited	... ..	6
Notices re Sunday Closing exhibited	...	3
Abstract of Act provided	... ..	7
Additional Ventilation provided	... ..	1
Heating facilities provided	... ..	1
Young persons records kept	... ..	5
Notices re seats exhibited	... ..	5

(c) Factories.

Additional water closets provided	...	3
Water closets cleansed, repaired, etc.	...	21
Structural repairs completed	... ..	5
Urinals cleansed or repaired	... ..	3
Intervening ventilated space to water closet		2
Smoke and grit nuisances abated	...	4
W.C's marked for sexes	... ..	4

(d) Bakehouses.

Water closets repaired and cleansed	...	2
Bakehouses cleansed and re-decorated	...	6
Structural repairs completed	... ..	4

Floors, etc., cleansed	5
External clothing removed from bakehouse	2
Food storage facilities improved ...	1
Refuse bins removed from inside bakehouse	1
Soap and clean towels provided	1
Fly infestation remedied	1

(e) Dairies.

Dairies cleansed and re-decorated ...	3
---------------------------------------	---

(f) Food Shops and Food Preparing Premises.

Constant hot water supplies provided ...	12
Shops cleansed and re-decorated	11
Washing basins provided	4
Clean towels provided	4
First aid outfits provided	1
Cold water supply laid on to sink ...	1
W.C's cleansed and repaired	6
Additional water closets provided ...	2
Structural repairs completed	15
Dustbins provided or properly sited ...	7
Food storage facilities improved ...	7
Floors cleansed	4
Store rooms cleansed and re-decorated ...	13
External clothing removed from food rooms	5
Miscellaneous improvements	2

(g) Cafes and Public Houses.

Additional water closets provided ...	3
Constant hot water supplies provided ...	4
Rooms and cellars cleansed and re-decorated	14
Water closets cleansed and repaired ...	3
Urinals provided or repaired	3
Structural repairs completed	10
Sinks provided	4
Drainage repairs	4
Cold water supply laid on to sinks ...	3
Dustbins provided or properly sited ...	6
New crockery provided	1
Floors cleansed	1
Ventilation improved	1
Dish washing room re-constructed ...	1
New kitchen provided	1

Clean towels provided	1
External clothing removed from kitchen	2

COMPLAINTS.

During the year 164 complaints were received at the office with respect to the following matters:—

Defective water closets	4
Defective house roofs	10
Offensive smells	11
Choked drains	33
Burst water pipe	1
Defective dustbins	9
Dumping of refuse	8
Flooding of cellars	6
Defective gutters and rainwater pipes ...	2
Defective window	1
Verminous or dirty houses	5
Defective firegrates	3
Absence of internal water supply ...	1
Dampness	7
Smoke and chimney nuisances	12
Keeping of animals	7
General defects	44
	<hr/>
	164
	<hr/>

DRAINAGE AND WATER CLOSETS.

During the year, 21 choked drains were dealt with by the Department and, in addition at 24 premises, drains were reconstructed or repaired under our supervision—this work including the provision of 4 new inspection chambers. Several choked sewers were also found during the year and, in each case, these received prompt attention after being referred to the Borough Surveyor.

Fourteen additional water closets were provided at various premises in the Borough during 1952; 61 water closet compartments were repaired; 12 new pedestal pans were fixed and 10 flushing cisterns were repaired or renewed.

During 1952, 8 sinks or washing basins were provided at food premises in the area.

CANAL BOATS.

Twenty canal boats were inspected during the year and the

total number of persons for which the boats were registered was 61. The boats were actually occupied by 17 adult males, 10 adult females and 13 children—a total of 40 persons. Two boats were found to be infringing the Regulations during the year and no case of infectious disease was met with on any of the boats inspected. The general cleanliness of the boats inspected was again satisfactory.

VERMINOUS PREMISES.

Seventeen rooms infested by bugs or fleas were disinfested by the Department during 1952 and 12 inspections of such premises were made by the Sanitary Inspectors. In each case the premises were dealt with by the use of some form of D.D.T. preparation with most satisfactory results. In addition to the work carried out by the Corporation, a quantity of D.D.T. powder and liquid was supplied to residents upon request and, in this way, several cases of minor infestation by flies, cockroaches, ants, etc., were dealt with satisfactorily.

REFUSE ACCOMMODATION.

During the year, 65 new dustbins were provided at various premises in the Borough following the service of notices by the Corporation. In six cases the owners failed to provide the dustbins and the Corporation made the necessary provision and charged the costs incurred to the owners concerned.

FACTORIES AND BAKEHOUSES.

The routine inspection of factories and bakehouses received the usual attention throughout the year and 165 visits of inspection were made to such premises. 25 premises were improved on our request and 62 defects or contraventions were remedied—details of this work being recorded on page 23 of this report.

RAG FLOCK AND OTHER FILLING MATERIALS ACT, 1951.

No applications were received during 1953 for registration of premises under the provisions of the above-mentioned Act.

SHOPS ACT, 1950.

The general routine inspection of shops, under the provisions of the Shops Act, 1950, was again given special attention during 1952 and 233 shops were inspected with respect to the "health and comfort" provisions of the Act. In addition, 325 inspections were recorded in relation to closing hours, the employment of young persons and the keeping of records. As a result of these

inspections, it was found necessary to serve 56 informal notices, most of which were in respect of the keeping of records and the exhibition of the necessary notices. Following the service of such notices, additional water closets were provided at 3 premises; water closets were repaired or cleansed at 4 shops; additional lighting or ventilation was provided at 2 premises and, at a further 38 shops, notices were exhibited to comply with the various requirements of the Act.

Your Inspectors are responsible for all duties under the somewhat complicated provisions of the Shops Act, 1950, and a good deal of work has been carried out in this connection during the year in the way of advising shop-keepers as to their manifold duties under the Act.

SMOKE ABATEMENT.

During the year under review 85 visits of inspection were made by the Sanitary Inspectors under this heading. 68 of these inspections consisted of half-hour observations of the factory chimneys in the area and, during 58 of these periods, no black smoke was recorded. During the remaining 10 observations, black smoke was emitted for periods varying from 1 minute to 17 minutes and, on six occasions, black smoke was recorded for 3 minutes or over in the half hour. All the latter emissions were from one chimney but, following extra attention being paid to these premises and, possibly, as the result of advice given to the engineer and stokers, I am able to record that some improvement took place during the latter months of the year—an improvement which has continued during the present year up to the time of preparing this report.

Apart from the one case mentioned above, little trouble was experienced during the year from smoke nuisances and it would seem that the improvements carried out to the boilers at various premises during the last few years has done a great deal towards minimising the possibility of serious nuisances from the majority of the smoke stacks in the Borough.

WATER SUPPLIES.

During the year, repairs were effected to burst water pipes or to defective water fittings at 6 premises following the service of notices by the Department and, in addition, town's water was laid on to four premises at Nethercote which had hitherto been supplied from polluted shallow wells.

Since 1946, good progress has been made in dealing with premises drawing their water supplies from unsatisfactory sources. During this period, 24 premises, which hitherto were supplied from wells or springs, have had town's water laid on and

well water supplies have been improved at a further 6 houses.

VAN DWELLINGS.

During the period under review, 138 visits of inspection were made to van dwellings in the area, 80 of these structures being inspected during the period of the annual Michaelmas Fair.

The persons occupying the fair vehicles comprised 102 adult males, 113 adult females and 51 children and, as in previous years, I am able to report that no serious cases of overcrowding were detected in the course of the inspections made. The caravans, in general, were clean and well maintained and, in most cases, were provided with their own sanitary convenience and dustbin. No cases of infectious disease were met with during the survey made of these caravans.

As in previous years, a few cases occurred of van dwellings being placed on unlicensed sites in the town and appropriate action was taken where the Public Health Committee so decided. As a temporary measure, the Committee decided to take no action with respect to caravans placed on a site at the Marshes, Southam Road, and about ten caravans have been on this site for some time now.

It is to be regretted that no properly constructed caravan site is yet available in the area. The question of the provision of such a site is still under discussion by the Corporation and, as mentioned in my last report, I would again state that, in my opinion, such a site is desirable if proper supervision is to be maintained over the van dwellings in the area.

HOUSING.

The work of maintaining houses in a reasonably satisfactory condition still remains one of the important duties of your Sanitary Inspectors and, as in the previous post-war years, a considerable amount of time was again devoted to this work during 1952.

During the year, 373 inspections were recorded under the Public Health Act, 1936, and 246 houses were inspected and recorded under the provisions of the Housing (Consolidated) Regulations. As a result of these inspections, it was found necessary to serve 232 informal notices and 96 statutory notices and, during the year, 199 informal notices and 115 statutory notices were complied with. The number of dwelling houses repaired during 1952 was, therefore, 314 and in 14 instances it was necessary for the Corporation to carry out work in default of the owners. In six of these cases, the Corporation provided new dustbins in default and, at 8 houses, repairs were executed by the Corporation under the provisions of the Housing Act, 1936, at a total cost of £408 16s. 4d.

Following representations by the Medical Officer of Health during 1951, three unfit houses were closed during the year 1952 and a Closing Order, made during the previous year, was determined during 1952 following the thorough reconditioning of the house by the owner. The occupiers of the three unfit houses closed during the year were all re-housed by the Corporation. In addition, a basement flat was closed following an undertaking not to re-let the premises and the occupants were given the tenancy of a Corporation property.

The housing conditions in the Borough still leave much to be desired and, in spite of the Corporation's most satisfactory post-war work in the field of housing, there are still many families living in unsatisfactory premises in addition to those who are in the unfortunate position of having to live in rooms or who have to share accommodation with relatives. There is no doubt to my mind that the present housing shortage is a problem which is creating serious consequences in both the public health and social fields and one cannot but wonder if its effects are not being seen in the general increase in such social problems as juvenile delinquency and the break-up of family life—problems which are all too frequent at the present time.

The work of the Department has been arranged to enable us to do all that is possible to improve housing conditions in the area—the work in this direction being devoted to, firstly, the carrying out of urgent repairs to low-standard houses, which are ripe for demolition, with a view to making conditions as tolerable as possible for the tenants. Secondly, a good deal of major repair work, carried out under the provisions of the Housing Act, 1936, has been undertaken with respect to houses which appear to have the prospect of many more years of use. During the past five years, as a result of the latter policy, approximately 450 houses have been thoroughly repaired and reconditioned in this way and, in only 20 instances, has it been necessary for the Corporation to use their default powers under the Act.

Apart from the repair of houses, 38 unfit houses have been closed or demolished during the same period, the tenants from such houses being re-housed by the Corporation in nearly every case.

The Corporation's policy on housing is, therefore, as satisfactory as present-day conditions permit but, as mentioned in my previous reports, there still remains a great deal to be done in the way of the clearance of unfit houses, the abatement of overcrowding and in the re-conditioning of low-standard dwellings.

INFECTIOUS DISEASES AND DISINFECTION.

During 1952, the Sanitary Inspectors made 47 visits of

enquiry into notified infectious disease cases and a report on each case was submitted to the Medical Officer of Health. As a result of the occurrence of infectious diseases 22 houses were disinfected during the year.

RATS AND MICE DESTRUCTION.

The work of eradicating rats and mice from premises in the Borough was continued during 1952 and the Corporation continued to participate in the N.S.19 Scheme of the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries whereby a free service is given in respect of work carried out at private dwellings whilst a charge is made for rodent destruction work at business premises.

The year's work is summarised in the following table and figures for the four previous years are given for the purpose of comparison:—

(a) Surface Infestations.

	1952	1951	1950	1949	1948
No. of complaints received	81	124	132	133	123
No. of premises inspected	2016	1940	1660	1511	1792
No. of revisits made ...	539	710	734	858	1150
No. of premises cleared ...	426	432	406	407	474
Amount of bait laid:—					
Pre-bait (lbs.) ...	433	577	533	638	702
Poison bait (lbs.) ...	223	245	213	220	260
No. of treatments by gas	—	—	2	2	3
No. of times traps used ...	27	34	65	37	50
Actual rat bodies found ...	687	701	666	738	852

(b) Sewer Infestations.

During the four-weekly periods ending 24th May, 1952 and 26th November, 1952, maintenance treatments of the Corporation's sewers were carried out—a full treatment being given on each occasion. The results of these two treatments, together with the results recorded in previous years, are set out below:—

<i>Date of Treatment</i>	<i>No. of manholes baited</i>	<i>No. showing pre-bait takes</i>
November, 1952	225	10
May, 1952	240	11
November, 1951	289	19
May, 1951	283	16
December, 1950	73	17
May, 1950	234	22
November, 1949	243	23
May, 1949	265	20
1948	237	81

1947	211	84
1946	240	73
1945	241	94

The results of the sewer baiting carried out during the year show that the reduction in the degree of infestation, noticed in previous years, has been maintained during 1952, and it is reasonable to assume that this reduction is mainly due to the constant attention given to rodent control work by the Corporation during the past few years.

MEAT AND FOOD INSPECTION.

The arrangements which have been in operation since 1940, whereby all animals intended for human food in Banbury and district are slaughtered at the Ministry of Food's Centralised Slaughterhouse in Swan Close Road, Banbury, were continued during 1952 and, once again, I am able to record satisfactory relations existing between your officers and the Ministry's officials there.

As the result of a very high "peak-kill" during the autumn, the total number of animals slaughtered during the year showed a large increase as compared with 1951, the kill being the largest recorded for some years. 17,501 animals were killed during 1952 and, in every case, the carcase and offal was inspected by one of your officers before it reached the public. 187 whole carcasses and organs were rejected during the year as being totally unfit for human food and 3,813 other carcasses had some part or organ rejected for the same reason.

The total weight of meat and offal found to be unfit during the year was approximately 28½ tons, as compared with 24½ tons recorded in 1951 and 23½ tons in 1950.

The following table shows the number of animals killed and the weight of unsound meat and offal condemned during the last few years:—

<i>Year</i>	<i>Animals Killed</i>	<i>Weight of unsound meat and offal</i>
1952	17,501	63,278 lbs.
1951	11,211	54,917 lbs.
1950	11,580	52,828 lbs.
1949	9,934	61,603 lbs.
1948	8,065	55,097 lbs.
1947	10,658	58,214 lbs.
1946	13,356	42,417 lbs.

In addition to the above-mentioned unsound meat and offal, a considerable amount of tinned foods and other unsound food-stuffs were dealt with during the year—177 visits of inspection

being recorded for this purpose. Full details of all unsound meat and other foodstuffs rejected during the year are set out in the Medical Officer of Health's annual report attached hereto.

The 100% inspection of animals killed at the local abattoir entailed a good deal of overtime being worked by your Inspectors as well as those duties having to be carried out, on occasions, on Sundays and on public holidays. The two Additional Sanitary Inspectors received a certain amount of overtime pay in respect of such duties carried out during the year and this additional remuneration in respect of overtime worked during the "peak" killing period only was refunded to the Corporation by the Ministry of Food.

MILK CONTROL.

During 1952, increased attention was given to the supervision of milk distribution in the Borough and, as in previous years, the regular routine inspection of dairies was carried out by your officers together with the taking of milk samples for examination for keeping quality, cleanliness and efficient pasteurisation.

The figures given in the table set out below show the results of the samples taken during the year, together with the results for the four previous years :—

	1952	1951	1950	1949	1948
Samples taken	88	56	66	135	138
Samples satisfactory ...	84	55	66	100	110
Samples not satisfactory	4	1	—	35	28

The 88 samples taken during 1952 included 55 samples of Pasteurised Milk and 33 samples of Tuberculin Tested (Pasteurised) Milk. In addition to these samples, I was informed by the County Council's Officer that he had taken 67 samples (48 Pasteurised Milk and 19 Tuberculin Tested Pasteurised Milk) in Banbury during the year with similar satisfactory results.

Two dealers' licences under the Milk (Special Designations) (Pasteurised and Sterilised Milk) Regulations, 1949, were issued during the year and five dealers' licences were granted under the provisions of the Milk (Special Designations) (Raw Milk) Regulations, 1949.

The dairies were maintained in a satisfactory condition by their owners during the year and on only three occasions was it necessary for informal action to be taken in relation to the need for cleansing and re-decoration of such premises.

FOOD PREMISES.

The detailed survey of food premises, referred to in my

two previous reports, was continued during 1952 and I am again able to report that good progress was made in raising the standard of food premises and of food hygiene in the area. The efforts made in this direction during recent years are now becoming apparent in the noticeably higher standard of premises and methods of handling food and I would again thank the food traders of the Borough for their co-operation in this regard.

The premises at which improvements were effected during 1952 comprised:—

Grocers Shops	...	12	Fishmongers and		
Butchers Shops	...	4	Greengrocers	...	5
Bakehouses	...	5	Confectionery and		
Public Houses	...	7	Sweet Shops	...	3
Cafés and Restaurants		8	General Food Shops	...	4

The various improvements carried out at the 48 premises concerned are summarised in the following list:—

			Premises
Rooms cleansed and re-decorated at	...	...	24
Structural repairs and improvements at	...	...	25
Refuse storage facilities improved at	...	...	9
Food storage facilities improved at	...	...	6
Constant hot water supplies provided at	...	...	15
New washing basins provided at	...	...	8
Floors cleansed at	...	...	4
Unsatisfactory crockery withdrawn at	...	...	1
Clean towels provided at	...	...	6
First aid outfits provided at	...	...	1
Sanitary conveniences improved at	...	...	10
Outdoor clothing removed from food rooms	...	...	7

During the year under review a total of 2313 visits of inspection were made under the provisions of the Food and Drugs Act and the Food Byelaws and, in the same period, 55 informal notices were served requesting improvements and 72 notices—including several served during 1951—were complied with during the year. This resulted in the remedying of 181 defects or contraventions and the consequent improvement of a large number of food premises.

A commencement was made during 1952 in the organisation of food hygiene lectures and a course of three lectures was given to the employees of one of the larger concerns in the Borough. Two of the lectures were given by Dr. T. Anderson, Deputy County Medical Officer of Health whilst the third lecture was given by your Chief Sanitary Inspector. In addition, an opportunity of talking to local organisations on this subject was taken by your officers when giving general public health talks during the

year. Further courses of lectures are being arranged for the present year and it can be said that the experience already gained in this work shows that the interest of many of the food traders in the town is being aroused. In reporting on this work I should be failing in my duty if I did not express my sincere thanks to Dr. Anderson for the most interesting lectures he gave during the year.

I would again mention that food inspection work and food hygiene duties now take up a considerable amount of the time of your officers but, as stated in my last report, I feel that this time is well spent having regard to the success which has so far attended our work in this particular sphere.

ICE CREAM.

The efforts to raise the standard—from a cleanliness point of view—of ice cream sold in the Borough were continued during the year under review and samples were taken from all manufacturers and retailers in the area. In addition, constant supervision was exercised over ice cream making plant and premises and satisfactory co-operation with colleagues in other areas took place with regard to manufacturers making ice cream outside the Borough in the few cases where such ice cream failed to reach a satisfactory standard.

During the year, 83 samples were taken in the Borough and, of these, 76 were satisfactory (91.57%) and 7 were not satisfactory (8.43%). These figures compare very favourably with those for 1950 when only 59.2% of the samples taken were satisfactory and are even better than those for 1951 when 90.5% were satisfactory.

The following table gives the comparative figures, for locally produced ice cream and for ice cream manufactured outside the Borough for the year 1952:—

	<i>Samples</i>			<i>No. Percentage</i>		<i>No. Percentage</i>	
	<i>Taken</i>	<i>Satis'y</i>	<i>Satis'y</i>	<i>Satis'y</i>	<i>Satis'y</i>	<i>not Satis'y</i>	<i>not Satis'y</i>
Locally produced ice cream ...	16	14	87.5%	2	12.5%		
Ice cream made outside the Borough	67	62	92.5%	5	7.5%		
Totals	83	76	91.57%	7	8.43%		

The gradings of all samples taken during the year,

distinguishing locally manufactured ice cream from that made outside the Borough, are given below:—

	Grade 1	Grade 2	Grade 3	Grade 4	Total
Locally produced ice cream ...	10	4	—	2	16
Ice cream made outside Banbury	36	26	4	1	67
Totals	46	30	4	3	83

Summarising the year's work, it can be said that a further improvement occurred in the cleanliness of the ice cream sold in the town and both locally produced and "imported" ice cream show a much higher percentage of satisfactory results than those for 1950 and even better results than for 1951. Eleven manufacturers, out of a total of sixteen sampled, produced entirely satisfactory samples throughout the year.

Comparative figures of the samples taken in 1952 and those taken in the four previous years are as follows:—

	1952	1951	1950	1949	1948
Grade 1 ...	46	56	38	22	10
Grade 2 ...	30	11	52	6	2
Grade 3 ...	4	4	42	6	11
Grade 4 ...	3	3	20	6	2
Totals	83	74	152	40	25

Five new premises were registered for the sale of ice cream during the year.

REPORT OF THE INSPECTOR UNDER THE DISEASES OF ANIMALS ACTS AND ORDERS FOR THE YEAR 1952.

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

MR. MAYOR, LADIES AND GENTLEMEN,

I have pleasure in submitting herewith my annual report on the administration of the Diseases of Animals Acts and Orders in the Borough for the year 1952.

As will be seen from the information given in the report, the duties entailed in this connection were again very heavy during the year under review and your Inspectors and clerical staff were, at certain periods of the year, devoting a great deal of their time to this work.

The year was noteworthy on account of an outbreak of Foot and Mouth Disease in the Borough itself and, as will be seen from the comments that follow, this outbreak had considerable repercussions on the local Cattle Market and the local farming community generally. In addition, it created a considerable strain on the staff of the Department but I am pleased to be able to report that, through the willing efforts of all concerned, the additional work was cheerfully and satisfactorily carried out.

I would, therefore, pay a special tribute to my staff for their work in this connection during 1952, because the year was a most difficult one in this particular phase of our activities.

I give below some comments on the various aspects of our duties for the year:—

(1) Anthrax and Sheep Scab.

No outbreaks of either Anthrax or Sheep Scab were reported during 1952.

(2) Swine Fever.

During the year 1952, one confirmed outbreak of Swine Fever occurred within the Borough and one suspected outbreak was reported but was not confirmed. The confirmed outbreak occurred in pigs on the Castle Gardens Allotments and, fortunately, the outbreak was restricted to the one premises. The usual restrictions were imposed on the premises concerned. The suspected outbreak occurred at premises in Bridge Street, but, after investigation by the Ministry's officers, the animals were found not to be suffering from the disease and the restrictions imposed as a precautionary measure were withdrawn within three days. Swine Fever was prevalent throughout the country during

the year and, as in previous years, I was able to give assistance on many occasions to the Divisional Veterinary Officer of the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries in the tracing of contact pigs passing through the local Cattle Market.

(3) Foot and Mouth Disease.

The incidence of Foot and Mouth Disease which occurred towards the end of 1951 increased very considerably during 1952 and very serious local repercussions of this very extensive epidemic occurred locally.

From January to April, a considerable amount of licensing work was entailed as a result of the numerous Infected Areas created by the Ministry following widespread outbreaks of the Disease and very close supervision of animals entering and leaving the Cattle Market was necessary on every occasion the Market was in use. In the early part of May, the Borough was placed in a "Controlled Area" and on the 21st of the same month, following the confirmation of the disease at a farm at Alveston, near Stratford-upon-Avon, the town came within an "Infected Area." As a result of these two Orders, the Cattle Market was closed for the sale of store cattle and other animals and it was only possible for a very small grading market to be held.

On Wednesday, the 28th May, an outbreak of the disease occurred at Crouch Farm, Banbury, and, following confirmation of the existence of the disease on the same day, the usual precautions and procedure was put into effect by the Ministry and by your Inspector. As a result of the outbreak, all movement within two miles of the infected premises (virtually the whole Borough) was prohibited and the Cattle Market was entirely closed. On the 5th June, a further outbreak of the disease was confirmed at premises just outside the Borough, but adjoining Crouch Farm, and, at these premises, a large number of animals, certified as free from the disease, were slaughtered on the spot and were passed through the local abattoir for human food following inspection by your Meat Inspectors. No further local outbreaks occurred and, on the 10th July, 1952, the infected premises in the Borough were freed from restriction by the Ministry.

The work thrown upon your Inspectors and clerical staff as a result of these outbreaks was very heavy and some idea of the work involved during the period of the epidemic may be judged by the summary of licences issued which is given below:—

- (a) *Licences issued by the Department for the movement of animals generally amounted to 468 involving the movement of 7,351 animals.*
- (b) *Licences issued for the movement of animals into the*

Cattle Market for Grading numbered 610 involving the movement of 7,223 animals.

- (c) *Licences issued for the movement of animals out of the Cattle Market for immediate slaughter* totalled 254 and allowing the movement of 7,223 animals.
- (d) *Licences, received from other authorities, for counter-signing* amounted to 186 with a movement of 3,218 animals.

During the period of the restrictions, therefore, 1,518 licences were dealt with and these licences involved the movement of no less than 17,793 animals.

In giving this somewhat condensed account of the incidence of Foot and Mouth Disease during 1952, I cannot but express my sincere thanks to Mr. J. C. Bennison, F.R.C.V.S., D.V.S.M., the Ministry's Divisional Inspector, who so very ably handled the local outbreaks and so willingly gave me the benefit of his advice during a difficult period; to the members of the local Police who were extremely helpful and to my own staff who gave up a great deal of their time and energy.

The incidence of the disease became less prevalent during the months of August and September and, by the close of the year, so far as this area was concerned, the epidemic was at an end. The work of the local Cattle Market suffered a great deal, as a result of Foot and Mouth Disease, during the year and the Market was virtually closed for a period of 14 weeks from the 7th May to the 13th of August.

(4) Regulation of Movement of Swine Order, 1950.

The number of licences issued during the year authorising the movement of swine from the Cattle Market to private premises was 2,042, involving the movement of 11,418 animals. These figures are rather lower in total than those for the previous year but, when it is borne in mind that the Market was closed for 14 weeks owing to the prevalence of Foot and Mouth Disease during the year, it is safe to say that the weekly average number of licences issued and the number of animals concerned in such licences showed an increase over the figures for 1951. Very few contraventions of the Order occurred during the year and in only three cases was it necessary for cautions to be administered by the Town Clerk to purchasers of pigs who failed to obtain movement licences. In all these cases, the persons concerned had not previously committed any infringement of the Regulations.

(5) Importation of Animals.

Eight licences were received during the year authorising the

movement of 311 Irish Cattle from the landing place to the Cattle Market and all these cattle were re-licensed to private premises.

(6) Sheep Dipping.

The number of sheep dipped in the Borough during the year was 1,261. In addition, 94 Carlisle sheep and lambs were licensed to the Cattle Market for sale, all of these having been previously double-dipped or dipped by the use of an approved single dip.

(7) Transit of Animals—Cleansing and Disinfection of Vehicles.

During the year 5,663 vehicles used for the conveyance of animals were cleansed and disinfected by the Corporation. This total gives an average weekly number of 153 vehicles for the year as compared with a total of 6,260 and a weekly average of 120 for the previous year. The income received by the Corporation in respect of this work was £283—a drop of £30 compared with 1951. This reduction in income is accounted for by the fact that the Market was closed for 14 weeks owing to the incidence of Foot and Mouth Disease during the months of May, June, July and August. The disinfection of vehicles was again strictly supervised during the year and, on the whole, it can be said that the cleansing and disinfection of such vehicles is being carried out in a satisfactory manner. As in the previous year, it was necessary to caution certain firms whose drivers had evaded the Regulations and, after reports made to the appropriate Committee of the Corporation, eight written cautions were issued in this connection. In fairness to the majority of the drivers attending the Market, however, it must be stressed that these defaulters represent a very small proportion of the total and most of the drivers adhere most conscientiously to the Regulations.

(8) The Live Poultry (Restriction) Order.

The sale of poultry at the Market was under restriction for the whole of the year and the auctioneers were licensed to enable them to hold weekly sales of poultry intended for immediate slaughter within the precincts of the Market. In addition, they were licensed to hold sales of store poultry on premises adjoining, but not within, the boundaries of the Market premises. The poultry sales were kept under observation by your Inspectors and no contraventions of the Order were discovered.

(9) The Markets, Sales and Lairs (Amendment) Order, 1926.

The provisions of the above-mentioned Order were given close attention during the year under review and a large number

of routine inspections in the early morning and at other relevant times were carried out to ensure that the provisions of the Order were being complied with.

It was necessary, on a few occasions, to request the owners of the Market premises to give closer attention to the cleansing and disinfection of the premises between markets and, as a result, considerable improvement was effected in this regard by the close of the year.

(10) Fowl Pest.

One suspected case of Fowl Pest occurred in the area during the year but, upon investigation by the Ministry's officers, the fowls concerned were found not to be suffering from the disease.

F. APPLEYARD, D.P.A. (Lond.), F.R.San.I.,

*Inspector under the Diseases of Animals Acts
and Orders.*



