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HEALTH
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Combined Districts of
**BATHAVON, KEYNSHAM,
FROME (Urban and Rural)**

ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

for the Year 1951

MINISTRY OF HEALTH
LIBRARY

R. H. G. H. DENHAM, M.D., Ch.B., D.P.H.,
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FROME (Urban and Rural)

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HEALTH DEPARTMENT,
8 CLEVELAND PLACE EAST,
BATH.

*To the Chairmen and Members of the
Bathavon, Keynsham and Frome
District Councils.*

Ladies and Gentlemen,

The satisfactory health record for the area reported last year was maintained during 1951.

Measles notifications showed a marked increase and the disease reached epidemic force in most parts of the area.

After the disappointing re-appearance of diphtheria experienced last year it is pleasing to be able to report its complete absence again this year.

The number of cases of infantile paralysis again showed a reduction on the previous year's figures.

Work in connection with the Clean Food Campaign has been continued and many talks have been given throughout the area. Probably more important still are the frequent inspections of premises that have been made by the sanitary inspectors and the valuable advice imparted at these inspections. The Bye-laws made under Section 15 of the Food and Drugs Act, 1938, operated satisfactorily and the co-operation received from traders was, on the whole, very satisfactory.

The birth and death rates continue to bear very favourable comparison with those of England and Wales. The remarkably low infantile mortality rate of 13.66 is no doubt the lowest ever recorded for this area and is in itself a tribute to the high standard of the local hospital and domiciliary midwifery services.

My thanks are again due to those council and staff members of the constituent authorities on whom I rely from year to year for their never-failing co-operation.

Yours faithfully,

R. H. G. H. DENHAM.

INFECTIOUS DISEASES

SCARLET FEVER

Cases of scarlet fever showed a notable reduction, 45 being notified compared with 94 for last year. The present extreme mildness of this disease is reflected in the gradual reduction of cases admitted to hospital. These are constantly lessening and this year removal was considered necessary in three cases only.

MEASLES AND WHOOPING COUGH

Both these diseases showed an increase on last year's figures, measles reaching epidemic proportions in most of the area. The numbers were whooping cough 202 as against 151 last year and measles 984 as against 181. Three cases of measles and one case of whooping cough were admitted to hospital. No death occurred from either disease.

PNEUMONIA

There was a considerable increase in the number of pneumonia notifications, 43 compared with last year's figure of 24. Eight of these proved fatal.

DIPHTHERIA

The apprehension caused by the re-appearance of diphtheria in the area in 1950 was, fortunately, not repeated last year as the disease was again notable by its complete absence. The immunisation campaign was continued with unabated vigour and the general response of parents in most parts of the area was satisfactory.

ERYSIPELAS

Five cases of erysipelas were notified compared with 8 last year.

TUBERCULOSIS

Since the peak year of 1948 when 64 cases were notified there has been a diminution in the number of cases of pulmonary tuberculosis notified. The 1951 figure shows an appreciable drop from 57 to 42. The non-pulmonary notifications remain fairly constant, 9 cases being notified compared with 8 for the previous year.

The Mass Radiography Unit of the South West Regional Hospital Board paid another visit to Frome in December. A total of 1,287 attended the survey, 826 men and 461 women. Further examination was asked for in 55 cases (38 male and 17 female). Of these, 28 cases (18 male and 10 female) were regarded as significant and, after further investigation, were classified as follows :—

	<i>Male</i>	<i>Female</i>	<i>Total</i>
Non-tuberculosis	9	7	16
Tuberculous (active)	3	—	3
„ (inactive)	6	3	9
	—	—	—
	18	10	28
	—	—	—

PUERPERAL PYREXIA

Only one case of puerperal pyrexia was notified compared with 3 during the previous year.

POLIOMYELITIS

There were 6 cases of poliomyelitis compared with 10 in 1950. One, a 5 months' old baby, died. The other cases were of slight severity, one being of the paralytic and the other 4 of the non-paralytic type.

FOOD POISONING

A single case of food poisoning was notified, the victim being a schoolboy of 12. The suspected food was 2 oz. of luncheon meat but confirmation was not possible as no material was available for investigation. The boy made a complete recovery.

DYSENTERY

A case of Flexner dysentery, contracted while on holiday abroad, was notified during the year. The attack was a sharp one but the patient made an uneventful recovery.

PARATYPHOID FEVER

An isolated case of paratyphoid fever was also notified. The diagnosis was confirmed by examination of the blood and faeces. The source of the infection could not be traced.

NATIONAL ASSISTANCE ACT, 1948

Section 47

Removal to suitable premises of persons in need of care and attention.

A number of visits were paid in the operation of this section of the National Assistance Act, 1948, but it was not found necessary to take Council action in any of the cases.

STATISTICAL TABLE

The figures in this Table represent the birth rates, death rates and infantile mortality rates for the combined districts for the six years period, 1946—1951 with the comparative figures for England and Wales.

				Birth rate	Death rate	Infantile Mortality rate
Combined districts	1946	....	....	18·0	12·3	39·0
England and Wales	1946	....	....	19·1	11·5	43·0
Combined districts	1947	....	....	19·1	13·2	31·9
England and Wales	1947	....	....	20·5	12·0	41·0
Combined districts	1948	....	....	16·2	9·9	23·2
England and Wales	1948	....	....	17·9	10·8	34·0
Combined districts	1949	....	....	16·41	11·48	19·49
England and Wales	1949	....	....	16·7	11·7	32·0
Combined districts	1950	....	....	17·94	10·61	21·99
England and Wales	1950	....	....	15·8	11·6	29·8
Combined districts	1951	....	....	16·55	11·29	13·66
England and Wales	1951	....	....	15·5	12·5	29·6

The birth rate is 1.39 lower and the death rate 0.68 higher than last year, but both figures compare favourably with those of the country as a whole.

The fall in the infant mortality rate is very appreciable, 8.33, and brings it to less than half the rate for England and Wales.

BATHAVON RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL

POPULATION ESTIMATED, MID-JUNE, 1951	....	....	19,010
AREA OF THE DISTRICT	....	....	39,996 acres
NUMBER OF HOUSES INHABITED ACCORDING TO RATE BOOKS, APRIL 1ST, 1951	....	....	5,661
AVERAGE NUMBER OF PERSONS PER HOUSE	....	....	3.35
SUM REPRESENTED BY A PENNY RATE	....	....	£410
RATEABLE VALUE, APRIL, 1951	....	....	£101,785

<i>Chairman of the Council</i>	....	J. W. MALE, ESQ., J.P.
<i>Chairman of the Health and Highway Committee</i>	....	J. I. DERRIMAN, ESQ.
<i>Senior Sanitary Inspector</i>	....	C. C. AXFORD, Cert. S.I.B., M.S.I.A., M.R.San.I.
<i>Additional Sanitary Inspector</i>		H. C. L. MORRIS, Cert. S.I.B., M.S.I.A., A.R.San.I.
<i>Health Department Clerk</i>	....	MISS TENNANT

Council Offices :

30-32 Westgate Buildings, Bath

Telephone : BATH 5391/5

Health Department :

8 Cleveland Place E., Bath

Telephone : BATH 5391/5

EXTRACTS FROM VITAL STATISTICS

BIRTHS

The number of live births registered, adjusted for inward and outward transfers, total 341.

				<i>Males</i>	<i>Females</i>	<i>Total</i>
Legitimate	....	....	....	185	141	326
Illegitimate	....	....	....	5	10	15
				<hr style="width: 100%;"/>	<hr style="width: 100%;"/>	<hr style="width: 100%;"/>
				190	151	341
				<hr style="width: 100%;"/>	<hr style="width: 100%;"/>	<hr style="width: 100%;"/>

STILL BIRTHS

				<i>Males</i>	<i>Females</i>	<i>Total</i>
Legitimate	....	....	....	4	3	7
Illegitimate	....	....	....	—	—	—
				<hr style="width: 100%;"/>	<hr style="width: 100%;"/>	<hr style="width: 100%;"/>
				4	3	7
				<hr style="width: 100%;"/>	<hr style="width: 100%;"/>	<hr style="width: 100%;"/>

Birth Rate, per 1000 estimated resident population, mid 1951	17.40
Still births, rate per 1000 total (live and still) births	19.51
Death Rate, rate per 1000 estimated average population	11.67
Death Rate of Infants under 1 year of age :—	
All Infants per 1000 live births	10.21
Legitimate Infants per 1000 legitimate live births	10.64
Illegitimate Infants per 1000 illegitimate live births	Nil

DEATHS

The number of deaths, adjusted for inward and outward transfers, total 255, 129 males and 126 females. The following Table indicates the cause of death:—

	<i>Male</i>	<i>Female</i>	<i>Total</i>
Tuberculosis, respiratory system	5	3	8
Tuberculosis, other	—	—	—
Syphilitic disease	1	—	1
Diphtheria	—	—	—
Whooping cough	—	—	—
Meningococcal infections	—	—	—
Acute poliomyelitis	1	—	1
Measles	—	—	—
Other infective and parasitic diseases	—	—	—
Malignant neoplasm, stomach	4	6	10
" " lung, bronchus	4	—	4
" " breast	—	4	4
" " uterus	—	1	1
Other malignant and lymphatic neoplasms	12	11	23
Leukaemia, aleukaemia	—	2	2
Diabetes	—	1	1
Vascular lesions of nervous system	15	18	33
Coronary disease, angina	13	3	16
Hypertension with heart disease	1	4	5
Other heart disease	26	26	52
Other circulatory disease	2	7	9
Influenza	6	7	13
Pneumonia	5	2	7
Bronchitis	9	9	18
Other diseases of respiratory system	—	1	1
Ulcer of stomach and duodenum	2	—	2
Gastritis, enteritis and diarrhoea	—	—	—
Nephritis and nephrosis	1	1	2
Hyperplasia of prostate	—	—	—
Pregnancy, childbirth, abortion	—	—	—
Congenital malformation	1	—	1
Other defined and ill-defined diseases	15	14	29
Motor vehicle accidents	4	—	4
All other accidents	1	4	5
Suicide	1	2	3
Homicide and operations of war	—	—	—
	129	126	255

Deaths under one year of age

There were 3 deaths of infants under 1 year of age, 2 male and 1 female, divided as follows :—

Under 1 week	....	2	1—4 weeks	....	—
1—6 months	....	1	6—12 months	....	—

NOTIFIABLE DISEASES (Other than Tuberculosis)

Disease	Total Cases notified	Cases admitted to Isolation Hospital	Total Deaths
Small Pox	—	—	—
Cholera	—	—	—
Diphtheria	—	—	—
Membraneous croup	—	—	—
Erysipelas	1	—	—
Scarlet Fever	7	2	—
Typhus fever	—	—	—
Typhoid fever	1	—	—
Enteric or relapsing fever	—	—	—
Acute poliomyelitis	4	4	1
Acute encephalitis	—	—	—
Meningococcal infection	—	—	—
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	—	—	—
Puerperal Pyrexia	—	—	—
Malaria	—	—	—
Dysentery	1	—	—
Acute primary pneumonia	8	—	1
Acute influenzal pneumonia	7	—	2
Measles	453	3	—
Whooping cough	102	—	—
Plague	—	—	—
Food poisoning	1	—	—
	585	9	4

TUBERCULOSIS

Twenty cases of pulmonary tuberculosis were notified, 12 male and 8 female. Four cases of non-pulmonary tuberculosis were notified, 2 male and 2 female.

		<i>Total cases notified</i>	<i>Total deaths</i>
Respiratory	....	20	8
Non-respiratory	....	4	—

No action was necessary under the Public Health (Prevention of Tuberculosis) Regulations, 1925, or under Section 172 of the Public Health Act, 1936.

REPORT OF THE SANITARY INSPECTOR

WATER SUPPLIES

The following areas are supplied by the District Council :—

Bathampton

In spite of the extra consumption caused by the erection of 40 council houses, it was possible to maintain the supply, without interruption, during the year but this was only achieved by constant vigilance regarding avoidance of wastage. At the time of writing negotiations are proceeding for the supply to be joined with, and administered by, the Bath Corporation Waterworks Department. The raw water at times still shows some evidence of pollution.

Bathford

The supplementary supply received from the Royal Engineering Works in Wiltshire enabled the Council to give an uninterrupted supply. Negotiations are proceeding for the inclusion of Bathford within the statutory area of supply of Bath city.

Camerton, Combe Hay, Priston, Shoscombe and Wellow

The water to these parishes is supplied from the Combe Hay pumping station and this supply is more than adequate for their needs. The quality of the raw and chlorinated water has been very satisfactory.

Monkton Combe

The part of this village supplied with water by this Council received a constant and pure supply throughout the year.

Upper Swainswick

The two small supplies are inadequate to meet the needs of the hamlet and negotiations are proceeding for an extension of the Bath city supplies.

Northstoke (Swinford)

The West Gloucester Water Company are not yet in a position to extend their mains to replace the present inadequate supply. The Council are still negotiating with the company on this matter.

Hinton Charterhouse

Part of the village is supplied by water taken in bulk from the Combe Down Water Company. The water has been adequate and pure.

Marksbury

This village is supplied by water taken in bulk from the Clutton R.D. Council. The maximum quantity of 3,000 gallons a day is now being taken and the Council will be asking for an increased supply when the Clutton Council is in a position to provide it.

SUPPLIES FROM STATUTORY AUTHORITIES

The Bath Corporation have supplied a pure and uninterrupted supply to the parishes of Batheaston and St. Catherine, the hamlets of Lower Swainswick, Bailbrook, Lansdown and Woolley.

The Combe Down Water Company supplies the whole of Combe Down, Freshford, Southstoke, Midford, parts of Monkton Combe, Hinton Charterhouse and Englishcombe with a pure and adequate supply.

The West Gloucester Water Company supplies the parish of Whitchurch, the hamlet of Queen Charlton and Chewton Keynsham and parts of the village of Corston. The supply was adequate and pure at all times.

PRIVATE SUPPLIES

Claverton Village Supply

The estate suppliers after encountering some difficulty caused the system to be overhauled and a constant supply was maintained throughout the year, no further trouble being experienced.

Kelston

This supply, although adequate, showed some evidence of contamination at times. The owners of the supply have made a tentative approach to the West Gloucester Water Company to obtain a bulk supply of water.

Compton Dando

The supply to this village is liable to contamination. The village is within the area of supply of the West Gloucester Water Company who have prepared a scheme for the supply of the village. The Council is doing its best to expedite the starting of the necessary works.

By agreement with the Clutton R.D.C. a bulk supply of water has been made available and their main has been extended to serve that portion of the hamlet of Woollard which is within the Bathavon district.

At the time of writing the Council's mains have been extended to serve the village of Dunkerton and the water will be available for use within the next six months.

Beyond certain extensions to housing estates, which are within the areas of the statutory water undertakers, no other extensions have been made.

Future proposals which are in an active state of preparation, deal with an augmented supply to serve Compton Dando, Corston, Newton St. Loe and the hamlet of Swinford.

Water Supplies from Public Mains

<i>Direct to the Houses</i>		<i>By means of Standpipes</i>	
<i>Number of Dwelling Houses</i>	<i>Population</i>	<i>Number of Dwelling Houses</i>	<i>Population</i>
4,535	15,970	496	1,470

All waters supplied were hard and plumbo solvent action therefore presented no difficulty.

SEWERAGE AND SEWAGE DISPOSAL

No difficulties were experienced in the maintenance of the existing sewers and sewage disposal works with the exception of the sewage disposal works for the village of Wellow. These works are worn out and unsatisfactory.

Our proposals for the parish of Freshford have unfortunately been deferred by the Ministry. This is a great disappointment to the Council as it is considered by them to be one of the parishes most in need of a scheme.

A scheme for extending sewers to serve parts of the parish of Bathford has received the approval of the Ministry and is about to be begun at an estimated cost of £11,800. During the year schemes have been prepared and are about to be laid before the Ministry for the laying of sewers and the construction of disposal works to serve the parishes of Southstoke, Hinton Charterhouse and Priston.

Future proposals of the Council include the provision of schemes for the parishes of Corston and Newton St. Loe.

No major sewers or works were completed during the year.

PUBLIC CLEANSING

The Council carried out routine collections of refuse and salvage from all the parishes. This was done by direct labour, six vehicles of the covered type being used. The collections varied from fortnightly to monthly according to the density of the population and built-up nature of the parish or hamlet. The refuse was disposed of on five partially-controlled tips.

Proceeds from the sale of salvaged materials amounted to £806 10s. 3d., which is equivalent to a 2d. rate.

HOUSING

	Houses erected during year		Houses in course of erection		Conversion to flats or dwellings		Temporary such as Army huts, etc.
	<i>Perm.</i>	<i>Temp.</i>	<i>Perm.</i>	<i>Temp.</i>	<i>Perm.</i>	<i>Temp.</i>	
Local Authority	70	—	100	—	—	—	—
Private Enterprise	27	—	12	—	11	—	—
TOTALS	97	—	112	—	11	—	—

Total number of post-war houses completed by :—

(a) Local Authority 497

(b) Private Enterprise 140

Houses occupied that have been condemned as totally unfit—24.

Number of houses found overcrowded—53.

Houses Required

(a) To replace those unfit—123.

(b) To abate overcrowding—53.

(c) Where conditions are unsatisfactory, e.g. two families living in same house, but not included in (a) or (b)—205.

Total number of applicants for Council houses at the end of the year—1,178.

No grants have been made under the Housing Act, 1949. Licences and costs to Local Authorities have restricted the operation of this Act.

Housing Act

Inspections made	....	....	....	....	228
Informal notices issued	....	....	....	....	57
Informal notices complied with	....	....	....	....	42
Statutory notices served	....	....	....	....	—

Public Health Act

Inspections made for various nuisances	....	....	....	....	273
Informal notices issued	....	....	....	....	62
Informal notices complied with	....	....	....	....	47
Statutory abatement notices served	....	....	....	....	3

MILK

- (a) Number of registered dairies—7.
- (b) Number of retailers in area—24.
- (c) Number of supplementary licences issued to dealers or distributors whose dairy is outside the area—17.

Graded Milk

Dealers' Licences under the Milk (Special Designation) Regulations, 1949, were issued in respect of :—

Tuberculin tested milk	....	....	....	....	12
Pasteurised milk	....	....	....	....	9
Sterilised milk	....	....	....	....	2

ICE-CREAM

Number of premises registered for :—

- (a) Manufacture and retail—Nil.
- (b) Manufacture only—Nil.
- (c) Retail only—39.

FOOD

As there are no centralised slaughterhouses in the area, meat and food inspections are confined to the inspection at shops and stores. During 63 visits 216 lb. of meat, 37 tins of meat, 21 tins of fish, 48 tins of milk and 19 tins of various foods were surrendered as unfit for human consumption.

The number of premises where food is prepared and registered under Sec. 14 of the Food and Drugs Act, 1938, is 33.

Byelaws relating to these premises were adopted in April. Informal action has been taken in 4 cases with beneficial results.

There are 8 bakehouses in the district all of which have been well maintained and it was not necessary to take action in respect of any.

GENERAL

Movable Dwellings

Twenty-one licences to station and use individual movable dwellings and 5 licences authorising land to be used as camping sites were issued under Section 269 of the Public Health Act, 1936. The licences are reviewed annually when the conditions of each are examined.

Rodent Destruction

During the year 115 baiting and poisoning operations were carried out at private residences and business premises. The Council's refuse tips were treated every two months and the sewers throughout the district were treated twice during the year in accordance with the Ministry's recommendations. The "block control" method was used in the villages and where it was found that farms were infested liaison with the County Agricultural Pest Officer was always sought. Private residences were given a free service.

Industries

The main industries of the district are :—

Coalmining	Paper Making
Stone Quarrying	Lime Kilns
Plasticine and Wax Making	Fullers Earth
Joinery Works	Rubber Industry
	Agriculture and Market Gardening

Inspections for purposes of provisions as to health :—

	<i>Number on Register</i>	<i>Inspections</i>	<i>Notices Served</i>
1. Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6 of the Factories Act, 1937, are enforced	30	23	—
2. Factories not included in (1) in which Section 7 is enforced	10	6	—
3. Other premises in which Section 7 is enforced	1	—	—

It has not been necessary to take action in respect of any of the 28 outworkers' premises.

Disinfection and Disinfestation

Sixty-three disinfections were carried out following cases of infectious disease and 6 disinfestations were made for various vermin infestations. The Council refuse tips were dressed during the summer months to minimise possible fly and cricket infestations.

KEYNSHAM URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL

POPULATION ESTIMATED MID-JUNE, 1951	....	....	8,262
AREA OF THE DISTRICT	....	....	4,170 acres
NUMBER OF HOUSES INHABITED ACCORDING TO RATE BOOKS	....	....	2,473
AVERAGE NUMBER OF PERSONS PER HOUSE	....	....	3.31
SUM REPRESENTED BY A PENNY RATE	....	....	£253
RATEABLE VALUE	....	....	£61,809

Chairman of the Council.... COL. S. H. G. DAINTON, O.B.E.,
J.P.
Chairman of the Health Committee V. L. BATEMAN, ESQ.

Sanitary Inspector D. F. G. LOCKYEAR,
M.R.San.I., M.S.I.A.

Council Offices : Keynsham.

Telephone : KEYNSHAM 2291 /3.

EXTRACTS FROM VITAL STATISTICS

BIRTHS

The number of live births registered, adjusted for inward and outward transfers, total 109.

				<i>Males</i>	<i>Females</i>	<i>Total</i>
Legitimate	....	....	....	51	54	105
Illegitimate	....	....	....	1	3	4
				<hr style="width: 100%;"/>	<hr style="width: 100%;"/>	<hr style="width: 100%;"/>
				52	57	109
				<hr style="width: 100%;"/>	<hr style="width: 100%;"/>	<hr style="width: 100%;"/>

STILL BIRTHS

				<i>Males</i>	<i>Females</i>	<i>Total</i>
Legitimate	....	....	....	2	—	2
Illegitimate	....	....	....	—	—	—
				<hr style="width: 100%;"/>	<hr style="width: 100%;"/>	<hr style="width: 100%;"/>
				2	—	2
				<hr style="width: 100%;"/>	<hr style="width: 100%;"/>	<hr style="width: 100%;"/>

Birth Rate, per 1000 estimated resident population, mid 1951	....	....	....	....	....	13.72
Still births, rate per 1000 total (live and still) births	....					18.91
Death Rate, rate per 1000 estimated average population						11.49

Death Rate of Infants under 1 year of age :—

All Infants per 1000 live births	....	....	....	15.41
Legitimate Infants per 1000 legitimate live births	....			16.00
Illegitimate Infants per 1000 illegitimate live births				Nil

DEATHS

The number of deaths, adjusted for inward and outward transfers, total 115, 52 males and 63 females. The following Table indicates the cause of death :—

	<i>Male</i>	<i>Female</i>	<i>Total</i>
Tuberculosis, respiratory	2	1	3
Tuberculosis, other	—	—	—
Syphilitic disease	1	—	1
Diphtheria	—	—	—
Whooping cough	—	—	—
Meningococcal infections	—	—	—
Acute poliomyelitis	—	—	—
Measles	—	—	—
Other infective and parasitic diseases	—	—	—
Malignant neoplasm, stomach	4	3	7
" " lung, bronchus	1	—	1
" " breast	—	2	2
" " uterus	—	1	1
Other malignant and lymphatic neoplasms	4	6	10
Leukaemia, aleukaemia	1	—	1
Diabetes	—	—	—
Vascular lesions of nervous system	11	15	26
Coronary disease, angina	14	4	18
Hypertension with heart disease	—	—	—
Other heart disease	6	9	15
Other circulatory disease	2	4	6
Influenza	2	2	4
Pneumonia	—	3	3
Bronchitis	1	4	5
Other diseases of respiratory system	—	—	—
Ulcer of stomach and duodenum	—	—	—
Gastritis, enteritis and diarrhoea	—	—	—
Nephritis and nephrosis	—	3	3
Hyperplasia of prostate	—	—	—
Pregnancy, childbirth, abortion	—	—	—
Congenital malformation	—	—	—
Other defined and ill-defined diseases	3	4	7
Motor vehicle accidents	—	—	—
All other accidents	—	2	2
Suicide	—	—	—
Homicide and operations of war	—	—	—
	52	63	115

Deaths under One year of age

There were 2 deaths of Infants under 1 year of age, 1 male and 1 female, divided as follows:—

Under 1 week	....	2	1—4 weeks	....	Nil
1—6 months	....	Nil	6—12 months	....	Nil

NOTIFIABLE DISEASES (Other than Tuberculosis)

Disease	Total Cases notified	Cases admitted to Isolation Hospital	Total Deaths
Small Pox	—	—	—
Cholera	—	—	—
Diphtheria	—	—	—
Membraneous croup	—	—	—
Erysipelas	3	—	—
Scarlet fever	3	—	—
Typhus fever	—	—	—
Typhoid fever	—	—	—
Enteric or relapsing fever	—	—	—
Acute poliomyelitis	—	—	—
Acute encephalitis	—	—	—
Meningococcal infections	—	—	—
Ophthalmia neonatorum	—	—	—
Puerperal pyrexia	—	—	—
Malaria	—	—	—
Dysentery	—	—	—
Acute primary pneumonia	4	—	—
Acute influenzal pneumonia	—	—	—
Measles	130	—	—
Whooping cough	61	1	—
Plague	—	—	—
Food poisoning	—	—	—
	201	1	—

TUBERCULOSIS

Eight cases of pulmonary tuberculosis were notified, 5 male and 3 female. Two cases of non-pulmonary tuberculosis were notified, 1 male and 1 female.

	<i>Total cases notified</i>	<i>Total Deaths</i>
Respiratory	8	3
Non-respiratory	2	—

No action was necessary under the Public Health (Prevention of Tuberculosis) Regulations, 1925, or under Section 172 of the Public Health Act, 1936.

KEYNSHAM NURSERY SCHOOL

Routine quarterly medical inspection was continued at the Nursery School and the standard of health among the children remained very satisfactory throughout the year.

KEYNSHAM DAY NURSERY

A satisfactory year's working is reported. A mild form of measles was epidemic during the early months of the year but, apart from this, there was very little illness of any sort among the children. As last year there were 22 children on the register with an average daily attendance of 20.

KEYNSHAM WELFARE CENTRE

The diminished attendances reported last year at the Keynsham Welfare Centre were, fortunately, not maintained and the figures for 1951 were more in keeping with those of previous years.

The figures for the year were as follows :

	<i>Keynsham</i>	<i>Saltford</i>	<i>Total</i>
Totals on the Register at the beginning of the year	455	69	524
Totals on the Register at the end of the year	546	120	666

The attendances for the year were as follows :—

	<i>Keynsham</i>	<i>Saltford</i>	<i>Total</i>
January	202	7	209
February	153	11	164
March	152	14	166
April	172	21	193
May	208	20	228
June	153	20	173
July	120	12	132
August	74	9	83
September	154	16	170
October	140	15	155
November	142	21	163
December	90	13	103
	1760	179	1939
Attendances for 1950 :—	1664	40	1704

SALTFORD WEIGHING CENTRE

The attendance figures for the Saltford Weighing Centre were as follows :—

January	1st	....	....	....	12
„	15th	....	....	....	22
„	31st	....	....	....	10
February	12th	....	....	....	15
„	26th	....	....	....	10
March	12th	....	....	....	18
April	4th	....	....	....	12
„	12th	....	....	....	25
May	7th	....	....	....	17
„	21st	....	....	....	21
June	4th	....	....	....	22
„	18th	....	....	....	22
July	2nd	....	....	....	24
„	16th	....	....	....	16
„	30th	....	....	....	24
August—closed					
September	3rd	....	....	....	12
„	17th	....	....	....	15
October	1st	....	....	....	20
„	15th	....	....	....	11
„	29th	....	....	....	10
December	10th	....	....	....	24
					<hr/>
					362
					<hr/>

Attendances for 1950—425

Total on the Register at the beginning of the year—106

Total on the Register at the end of the year—123

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE SANITARY INSPECTOR, 1951

PUBLIC CLEANSING

Domestic and trade refuse has been collected weekly throughout the year from the whole of the area. Under normal conditions this work has been carried out by the one refuse collecting vehicle, but in bad weather and in other difficult periods additional transport has been necessary.

The salvage from the refuse of various materials, especially paper, has been an important feature of this service, but the collection of kitchen waste declined to such an extent that it had to be discontinued.

Materials sold during the year were as follows :—

Paper	....	....	....	....	....	74 $\frac{3}{4}$ tons
Kitchen waste	....	....	....	....	....	5 tons
Rags, metal and miscellaneous	....	....	....	....	....	8 $\frac{3}{4}$ tons

The gross income from the sale of these materials amounted to £1,163.

Disposal of the town refuse has been carried on by controlled tipping. During the early part of the year the gravel pit at Stidham was still in use, but in August the newly acquired site adjoining the Council Depot at Unity Road, Keynsham, was opened for the purpose. This new site is proving to be of real advantage as it is so much easier for access and operation.

SEWERAGE AND SEWAGE DISPOSAL

The existing sewers which serve more than 95 per cent. of the properties in the district have operated satisfactorily during the year. No major maintenance work has been found necessary, neither has there been any extension of the system during the period under review.

Arrangements have been made for the preparation of a comprehensive scheme for the modernisation and improvement of the sewerage and sewage disposal systems of the district and the preliminary surveys are now proceeding.

Approximately 60 per cent. of the sewage is treated satisfactorily at the existing disposal works at Unity Road, Keynsham. Difficulties are, however, experienced during periods of heavy rain when the flow may vary from 100,000 to 1,500,000 gallons per 24 hours.

Few cess-pools remain in the district and these have created no nuisance. No action, therefore, on the part of your officers has been necessary.

HOUSING

While no comprehensive survey of houses in the district has been possible, from evidence obtained in dealing with complaints and from casual inspections, it is considered that the majority of dwelling houses in the district have been maintained in a reasonable condition despite the continued rise in costs. Even so there is no room for complacency. A number of the older cottages are far below the accepted standards for a fit house and a large proportion of these are incapable of repair and adaptation to provide the essential amenities. A start has been made on this problem with the small Clearance Area comprising ten houses in Bath Hill West, Keynsham, which was confirmed during the year and it is hoped that, as circumstances permit and satisfactory alternative accommodation can be provided, some of the worst properties will be cleared.

No applications for grants under the provisions of the Housing Act, 1949, have been received.

HOUSING STATISTICS

(1)	Total number of dwelling houses in district	....	....	2276
(2)	Total number of dwelling houses owned by Council	....	....	460
(3)	New houses completed during the year :—			
	(a) By Local Authority	....	....	44
	(b) By Private Enterprise	....	....	10
(4)	New houses under construction at 31st December, 1951 :—			
	(a) Local Authority	....	....	59
	(b) Private Enterprise	....	....	12
(5)	Total number of post-war houses completed to 31st December, 1951 :—			
	(a) Local Authority	....	....	346
	(b) Private Enterprise	....	....	71
(6)	Estimated number of houses required :—			
	(a) To replace those unfit	....	....	190
	(b) To abate overcrowding	....	....	40
	(c) To abate other unsatisfactory conditions, e.g. two families in the same house not included in (a) or (b)	....	....	200
	(d) Total number of applicants for Council houses at 31st December, 1951	....	....	732
(7)	Summary of action under Housing Act, 1936 :—			
	(a) Houses inspected	....	....	64
	(b) Total number of visits	....	....	88
	(c) Informal notices issued	....	....	29
	(d) Informal notices complied with	....	....	18
	(e) Work in hand at 31st December, 1951	....	....	6
	(f) Statutory notices issued	....	....	2
	(g) Statutory notices complied with	....	....	1
	(h) Work completed on Statutory Notice issued in 1950	....	....	1

PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTIONS

Total number of inspections made	....	....	....	202
Informal notices issued	....	....	....	17
Informal notices complied with	....	....	....	14
Infectious disease	{	Inspections and enquiries	....	16
		Disinfections	....	12
Pest infestations	{	Inspections	....	12
		Premises treated	....	4
Enquiries concerning various complaints of nuisance	....	....	....	22
Shops inspections	....	....	....	25

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD

Milk Supply

The general standard of milk supplied in the district is uniformly good and dairy premises well maintained. There are no premises now in use for the production of pasteurised milk, but during the early part of the year one plant was in operation and samples of the milk produced were taken by arrangement by Officers of the Somerset County Council, and during that period no adverse reports were received.

(1)	Number of registered dairy premises	....	....	....	4
(2)	Number of registered distributors	....	....	....	7
(3)	Number of producer/retailers in (2)	....	....	....	Nil
(4)	Number of licensed pasteurising plants	....	....	....	Nil
(5)	Number of supplementary licences to retail pasteurised milk	....	....	....	4
(6)	Number of supplementary licences to retail sterilised milk	....	....	....	2
(7)	Number of supplementary licences to retail T.T. milk	....	....	....	2

Bakehouses

Number of bakehouses

....	4
------	------	------	------	------	---

These have been periodically inspected and found in satisfactory condition except for minor defects which have been rectified on request.

Food Manufacturing Premises

Number of premises registered for the manufacture of food under Section 14 of the Food and Drugs Act, 1938

....	10
------	------	------	------	------	----

Very few of these premises are in regular use and no matter requiring action has been noted.

Slaughterhouses

Number of licensed slaughterhouses

....	3
------	------	------	------	------	---

(There are no knackers' yards)

None of these premises are in use by the Ministry of Food and are only used occasionally for the slaughter of privately owned pigs and goats.

Inspections at butchers' and other food shops

....	49
------	------	------	------	------	----

Food surrendered as unfit for human consumption :—

Home-killed beef	....	....	....	....	....	8½ lb.
" pork	....	....	....	....	....	7½ "
" bovine liver	....	....	....	....	....	32 "
Tinned meat	....	....	....	....	....	12 "
Tinned ham (imported)	....	....	....	....	....	186 "
Milk	....	....	....	....	....	36 tins
Fish	....	....	....	....	....	2 "

Ice-cream

The majority of the ice-cream sold in the district was produced by the large wholesale manufacturers, and quality and purity has been found quite satisfactory. Traders generally are quite co-operative and are anxious to maintain high standards of cleanliness.

No. of premises registered for :—

(a) Manufacture and sale ....	....	....	....	....	1
(b) Manufacture only ....	....	....	....	....	1
(c) Retail only ....	....	....	....	....	27

Samples taken :—

Grade	I	Hot mix	Cold mix
	I	6	1
„	II	—	4
„	III	—	—
„	IV	2	—

Byelaws (Section 15, Food and Drugs Act, 1938)

The Byelaws for securing the observance of cleanly practices etc. in the handling of food have been in operation since July, 1950. Traders generally have been found ready to co-operate and to adopt suggestions for the improvement of conditions, and no formal action has been necessary.

No organised Clean Food Campaign has been undertaken apart from the showing of the series of films by the Central Office of Information to the public and traders, but your officers take every opportunity of emphasising the importance of clean food. A little healthy competition now appears to be developing among traders which can but result in higher standards.

WATER SUPPLY

Rainfall

Month	Somerdale Station (Total depth in inches)	Greatest Fall in 24 hours	Date
January	3·08	0·70	5th
February	4·08	0·59	18th
March	3·04	0·37	23rd
April	3·54	0·83	8th
May	1·98	0·65	26th
June	0·68	0·27	9th
July	0·92	0·43	11th
August	4·47	0·80	11th
September	2·55	0·93	27th
October	0·80	0·26	20th & 29th
November	6·42	0·56	5th
December	2·14	0·35	26th
TOTAL	33·70	—	—

The whole of the district is within the area of supply of the West Gloucestershire Water Co. and practically all domestic supplies are obtained from this source. The quality and the quantity of this supply have been satisfactory.

As the source of the public supply is not within your district no samples of raw water have been collected by your officers. Samples of treated water have been taken quarterly for bacteriological examination and all have been found satisfactory.

Chemical analyses of the water have also been made periodically. The results indicate that the water is hard (210 parts per million), largely temporary, and slightly alkaline.

The water, being hard, has no plumbo-solvent action.

Practically all houses in the district have a piped supply direct from the main. There are no standpipes.

A few wells remain in use for outlying houses and farms and as far as can be ascertained, with one exception, the supplies have been satisfactory. In the one case a statutory notice was issued to the owner of five houses to provide a piped supply of water from the public main to replace the water obtained from an unsatisfactory well.

RODENT CONTROL

Frequent inspections by your operator have revealed no major rodent infestation. From these inspections it is evident that it is not generally understood that there is a statutory obligation on occupiers of premises to report the presence of rats, and it cannot be overstressed that early information is essential if effective control is to be maintained.

Inspections

Total number of properties visited	....	....	385
Treatments carried out	....	....	11

Council Properties

The sewage disposal works and refuse disposal sites have been treated as necessary and have been remarkably free from rodent infestation.

Sewers

The annual test baiting of the sewerage system revealed the presence of rats in one section. This was treated in the usual way with satisfactory results.

CARAVAN SITES

Six sites have been licensed under Section 269 of the Public Health Act, 1936. The majority of this accommodation is permanently occupied and gives rise to complaint from time to time. In one case strong, though informal, action was necessary to enforce the conditions of the licence.

FACTORIES AND INDUSTRY

The pattern of industry changes little and comprises the manufacture of chocolate, cocoa, paper, envelopes, soap, chemicals and paint. There are one or two firms engaged in light engineering projects.

Agriculture and market gardening also engaged a proportion of the population.

Inspection of Factories under Factory Act, 1937

Premises	No. on Register	Inspections	Written Notices	Occupiers prosecuted
i Factories in which Secs. 1, 2, 3, 4, and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities	7	22	2	—
ii Factories not included in (i) in which Sec. 7 is enforced by the Local Authority	32	45	5	—
iii Other premises in which Sec. 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding outworkers' premises)	11	36	1	—
Total	50	103	8	—

Result of Inspections

Particulars	Found	Remedied	Referred to H.M. Inspector	By H.M. Inspector	No. of prosecutions
Want of cleanliness	2	2	—	—	—
Sanitary conveniences :—					
(a) insufficient	1	1	—	—	—
(b) unsuitable or defective	4	4	—	—	—
Other offences against the Act (not including offences relating to outwork)	2	2	—	—	—
Total	9	9	—	—	—

FROME URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL

POPULATION ESTIMATED MID-JUNE, 1951	....	....	11,140
AREA OF THE DISTRICT	....	....	1,194 acres
NUMBER OF HOUSES INHABITED ACCORDING TO RATE BOOKS	....	....	3,400
AVERAGE NUMBER OF PERSONS PER HOUSE	....		3.27
SUM REPRESENTED BY A PENNY RATE	....	....	£275
RATEABLE VALUE MARCH, 1951	....	....	£67,675

Chairman of the Council H. M. SCOTT, Esq., J.P.

*Chairman of the Public Health
Committee* DR. G. WALKER

Senior Sanitary Inspector E. HOSKEN, M. R. San. I.,
M. R. I. P. H. H., M. S. I. A.,
Hon. Dip. in Advanced Hygiene

Additional Sanitary Inspector D. A. WARREN, M.S.I.A., Cert.
S.I.B., Meat and Food Inspector

Public Offices, Frome.

Telephone: FROME 2348

EXTRACTS FROM VITAL STATISTICS

BIRTHS

The number of live births registered, adjusted for inward and outward transfers, total 181.

				<i>Males</i>	<i>Females</i>	<i>Total</i>
Legitimate	....	....	....	79	91	170
Illegitimate	....	....	....	5	6	11
				<hr style="width: 100%;"/>	<hr style="width: 100%;"/>	<hr style="width: 100%;"/>
				84	97	181
				<hr style="width: 100%;"/>	<hr style="width: 100%;"/>	<hr style="width: 100%;"/>

STILL BIRTHS

				<i>Males</i>	<i>Females</i>	<i>Total</i>
Legitimate	....	....	....	2	3	5
Illegitimate	....	....	....	—	—	—
				<hr style="width: 100%;"/>	<hr style="width: 100%;"/>	<hr style="width: 100%;"/>
				2	3	5
				<hr style="width: 100%;"/>	<hr style="width: 100%;"/>	<hr style="width: 100%;"/>

Birth Rate, per 1000 estimated resident population, mid 1951	....	....	....	....	....	17.55
Still births, rate per 1000 total (live and still) births	....					29.03
Death Rate, per 1000 estimated average population	....					12.55

Death Rate of Infants under 1 year of age :—

All Infants per 1000 live births	....	....	....	....	8.73
Legitimate Infants per 1000 legitimate live births	....				9.29
Illegitimate Infants per 1000 illegitimate live births					Nil

DEATHS

The number of deaths, adjusted for inward and outward transfers, total 177, 84 males and 93 females. The following Table indicates the cause of death :—

	<i>Male</i>	<i>Female</i>	<i>Total</i>
Tuberculosis, respiratory	2	—	2
Tuberculosis, other	—	—	—
Syphilitic disease	—	—	—
Diphtheria	—	—	—
Whooping cough	—	—	—
Meningococcal infections	—	—	—
Acute poliomyelitis	—	—	—
Measles	—	—	—
Other infective and parasitic diseases	—	—	—
Malignant neoplasm, stomach...	2	2	4
" " lung, bronchus	5	—	5
" " breast	—	4	4
" " uterus	—	1	1
Other malignant and lymphatic neoplasms	5	3	8
Leukaemia, aleukaemia	1	1	2
Diabetes	—	—	—
Vascular lesions of nervous system	16	13	29
Coronary disease, angina	5	9	14
Hypertension with heart disease	1	3	4
Other heart disease	15	27	42
Other circulatory disease	2	2	4
Influenza	4	7	11
Pneumonia	5	6	11
Bronchitis	8	5	13
Other diseases of respiratory system	—	1	1
Ulcer of stomach and duodenum	—	1	1
Gastritis, enteritis and diarrhoea	—	2	2
Nephritis and nephrosis	1	—	1
Hyperplasia of prostate	—	—	—
Pregnancy, childbirth, abortion	—	—	—
Congenital malformation	—	—	—
Other defined and ill-defined diseases	7	5	12
Motor vehicle accidents	3	—	3
All other accidents	2	1	3
Suicide	—	—	—
Homicide and operations of war	—	—	—
	84	93	177

Deaths under One year of age

There was 1 death of an Infant under 1 year of age, a female.

Under 1 week	.... 1	1—4 weeks	.... Nil
1—6 months	.... Nil	6—12 months	.... Nil

NOTIFIABLE DISEASES (other than Tuberculosis)

Disease	Total Cases notified	Cases admitted to Isolation Hospital	Total Deaths
Small Pox	—	—	—
Cholera	—	—	—
Diphtheria	—	—	—
Membranous croup	—	—	—
Erysipelas	—	—	—
Scarlet fever	23	1	—
Typhus fever	—	—	—
Typhoid fever	—	—	—
Enteric or relapsing fever	—	—	—
Acute poliomyelitis	1	1	—
Acute encephalitis	—	—	—
Meningococcal infection	—	—	—
Ophthalmia neonatorum	—	—	—
Puerperal pyrexia	—	—	—
Malaria	—	—	—
Dysentery	—	—	—
Acute primary pneumonia	5	—	4
Acute influenzal pneumonia	3	—	1
Measles	144	—	—
Whooping cough	5	—	—
Plague	—	—	—
Food poisoning	—	—	—
	181	2	5

TUBERCULOSIS

Eight cases of pulmonary tuberculosis were notified, 7 male and 1 female. One case of non-pulmonary tuberculosis was notified a female.

	<i>Total cases notified</i>	<i>Total deaths,</i>
Respiratory	8	2
Non-respiratory	1	—

No action was necessary under the Public Health (Prevention of Tuberculosis) Regulations, 1925, or under Section 172 of the Public Health Act, 1936.

FROME DAY NURSERY

This Day Nursery continues to function well despite its rather unsatisfactory background and the staff are to be congratulated on the high standard they maintain. Infectious diseases during the year included 4 cases of chicken pox, 2 cases of German measles and 8 cases of whooping cough. The nursery was open for 252 days and the total attendances were 7,829. The highest daily attendance was 39 and the average during the year was 31.

FROME INFANT WELFARE CENTRE

The County Clinic was transferred to its new home in September and most people would agree that the converted British Restaurant in Cork Street is a credit to the county architects who designed it. Every inch of space has been utilised and the result is a building which is pleasing to the eye and at the same time easily workable. The county services carried out include clinics for minor ailments, eye refractions, orthopaedics, speech therapy, psychotherapy, maternity and child welfare and dental treatment.

In view of these changes in the environment it is pleasing to report a substantial increase in the attendances at the Infant Welfare Centre. The year's figures were as follows :—

Total on the Register at the beginning of the year	207
Total on the Register at the end of the year	315

The attendance figures for the year were as follows :—

January	128
February	136
March	147
April	162
May	192
June	276
July	267
August	267
September	250
October	264
November	294
December	219
	2602

Attendance figures for 1950	1743
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ANNUAL REPORT OF THE SENIOR SANITARY INSPECTOR, 1951

HOUSING

The number of housing applicants on the Council's list is now 347, an increase of 44 compared with 1950. There has been a break in the progress of providing new houses during the year but 59 council houses were completed and occupied.

The number of sub-standard houses in Frome makes the provision of new council houses essential for some years to come. In the meantime many of the older properties have been re-conditioned and thus given some years more of useful life as homes.

SANITARY INSPECTION OF THE DISTRICT

During this year the following number of visits was made and Notices served :—

Number of visits :

General sanitation	....	....	....	....	1204
Housing	....	....	....	....	1198

Notices served and complied with :

Number of informal Notices served	....	112
Number of informal Notices complied with		94
Number of Statutory Notices served	....	15
Number of Statutory Notices complied with		9

Total number of visits of all kinds made by the
Inspectors during the year 4777

Common Lodging Houses

The two common lodging houses are conducted satisfactorily and fulfil a useful purpose in the town.

Rodent Control

Number of premises treated for rats	....	....	120
" " " " " mice	....	....	14

Considerable progress has been made with the use of modern rat poisons and the newly introduced "Sorex" has been used successfully.

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD

Milk Supply

- (i) Number of registered distributors of milk 6
Number of premises registered as Dairies 3
- (ii) Milk (Special Designation) (Raw Milk) Regulations, 1949. Milk (Special Designation) (Pasteurised and Sterilised Milk) Regulations, 1949.

The licences in respect of graded milk issued by the Frome Urban District Council and in force on the 31st December, 1951, were as follows :—

Dealer's Licence authorising the use of the Special Designation " Pasteurised "	....	....	....	2
Dealer's Licence authorising the use of the Special Designation " Tuberculin Tested "	....	....	....	3
Dealer's Licence authorising the use of the Special Designation " Pasteurised T.T. "	....	....	....	2

During the year 71 samples of " Tuberculin Tested ", " Accredited ", and " Pasteurised " milk were taken for bacteriological examination. Seventy samples conformed to the required standard and one did not.

One sample of " Accredited " milk was tested for tuberculin infection and the result was negative.

Bakehouses

There are 12 bakehouses in the Urban District. In 3 cases informal notices were served to improve the cleanliness of the premises and these were complied with.

Ice-cream

Registered premises now total 33. During the year 32 samples were sent to the Public Health Laboratory for examination and the results were as follows :—

Grade I	....	....	....	31 samples
„ II	....	....	....	1 sample
„ III	....	....	....	Nil
„ IV	....	....	....	Nil

The results during the year were very satisfactory, and ice-cream may be said to be one of the safest articles of food. There is no doubt that all the dealers in the town have given splendid co-operation to the sanitary inspectors, and the results have demonstrated this.

MEAT INSPECTION

Carcases Inspected and Condemned

	Cattle	Calves	Sheep	Pigs
Number killed	2,002	4,686	3,136	6,595
Number inspected		As killed		
ALL DISEASES EXCEPT TUBERCULOSIS				
Whole carcasses condemned	33	41	10	36
Carcasses of which some part, or organ, was condemned	988	27	186	425
Percentage of the number inspected affected with diseases other than tuberculosis	51	1.4	6.2	7.0
TUBERCULOSIS ONLY				
Whole carcasses condemned	22	3	1	20
Carcasses of which some part, or organ, was condemned	302	—	1	247
Percentage of the number inspected affected with tuberculosis	16.1	.06	.06	4.05

OTHER FOOD INSPECTIONS

A total of 2,843 lb. of foodstuffs was found to be unfit for human consumption, the main items of which were as follows:—

	lb.
Tinned meat, fish, etc.	1,031
Bacon	112
Imported ham	861
English ham	45
Dried fruits	68
Tinned fruits	164
„ vegetables	82
„ milk	70

One hundred and three visits were made to food-preparing premises during the year.

A total weight of 24 cwts. 27 lb. of foodstuffs was certified as unfit for food due to the flooding of the River Frome in November.

SWIMMING BATHS

Fourteen samples of water were taken from the Public Swimming Baths and 2 samples were unsatisfactory. The proposed chlorination and filtration plant has not yet been installed and until this is in operation the bath is being re-filled three times per week during the season.

FACTORIES AND WORKPLACES

The total number of factories on the Council's Register on the 31st December, 1951, was 94. During the year 94 visits were made to factories as a result of which 10 informal notices were served requiring the remedying of defects and these notices were complied with.

The number of outworkers contained in the August list is 22, of whom all were engaged in the making of wearing apparel. No action was found necessary in respect of outworkers' premises.

WATER SUPPLY

The water supply to the Urban District has been quite satisfactory. Routine samples are taken at two weekly intervals and the results which were obtained are shown below :—

Number of samples taken ....	....	....	34
„ „ satisfactory samples ....	....	....	32
„ „ unsatisfactory samples ....	....	....	2

One chemical sample was taken and this was satisfactory.

An estimated number of 300 houses are supplied from stand pipes or from taps in common use by more than one householder.

CLEAN FOOD CAMPAIGN

A Clean Food film show was arranged for the 22nd February and the Central Office of Information loaned the following films :—

- “ This is Britain—Health.”
- “ Insect Pests in Food.”
- “ Another Case of Food Poisoning.”
- “ Fly about the House.”

By the kind co-operation of the manager, Mr. F. G. Shepherd, these films were shown at the Grand Cinema and about 400 persons attended.

No attempt has been made to form a Clean Food Guild in Frome as, in my opinion, better results are obtained by frequent inspection of premises and friendly advice offered to the traders concerned.

With regard to the Byelaws made under Section 15 of the Food and Drugs Act, 1938, the stalls in the market present a difficult problem as these are erected only twice weekly and fish, fruit and vegetables are sold from them. This is, of course, not only a local problem but one which requires consideration on a national basis as it is impossible to prevent dirt blowing on to open stalls in a market of this description.

DISINFECTION AND DISINFESTATION

Six premises were dealt with for bug and for flea infestation. Twelve batches of bedding were disinfected.

FROME RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL

POPULATION ESTIMATED MID-JUNE, 1951	....	....	10,390
AREA OF THE DISTRICT	....	....	51,933 acres
NUMBER OF HOUSES INHABITED ACCORDING TO RATE BOOKS	....	....	3,328
AVERAGE NUMBER OF PERSONS PER HOUSE	....	....	3.12
SUM REPRESENTED BY A PENNY RATE	....	....	£158
RATEABLE VALUE AT 1ST APRIL, 1951	....	....	£39,398

<i>Chairman of the Council</i>	....	C. CULLEN, ESQ. J.P.
<i>Chairman of the General Pur- poses Committee</i>	....	C. CULLEN, ESQ. J.P.
<i>Sanitary Inspector</i>	....	C. H. PROSSER

Public Offices, Frome.

Telephone: FROME 2625

EXTRACTS FROM VITAL STATISTICS

BIRTHS

The number of live births registered, adjusted for inward and outward transfers, total 164.

				<i>Males</i>	<i>Females</i>	<i>Total</i>
Legitimate	....	....	....	76	82	158
Illegitimate	....	....	....	3	3	6
				<hr style="width: 100%;"/>	<hr style="width: 100%;"/>	<hr style="width: 100%;"/>
				79	85	164
				<hr style="width: 100%;"/>	<hr style="width: 100%;"/>	<hr style="width: 100%;"/>

STILL BIRTHS

				<i>Males</i>	<i>Females</i>	<i>Total</i>
Legitimate	....	....	....	1	2	3
Illegitimate	....	....	....	—	—	—
				<hr style="width: 100%;"/>	<hr style="width: 100%;"/>	<hr style="width: 100%;"/>
				1	2	3
				<hr style="width: 100%;"/>	<hr style="width: 100%;"/>	<hr style="width: 100%;"/>

Birth Rate, per 1000 estimated resident population, mid 1951	....	....	....	....	....	....	17.52
Still births, rate per 1000 total (live and still) births	....						19.94
Death Rate, per 1000 estimated average population	....						9.43

Death Rate of Infants under 1 year of age :—

All Infants per 1000 live births	....	....	....	....	....	20.24
Legitimate Infants per 1000 legitimate live births	....					15.76
Illegitimate Infants per 1000 illegitimate live births						138.33

DEATHS

The number of deaths, adjusted for inward and outward transfers, total 118, 59 males and 59 females. The following Table indicates the cause of death :—

	<i>Male</i>	<i>Female</i>	<i>Total</i>
Tuberculosis, respiratory	1	1	2
Tuberculosis, other	—	—	—
Syphilitic disease	—	—	—
Diphtheria	—	—	—
Whooping cough	—	—	—
Meningococcal infections	—	—	—
Acute poliomyelitis	—	—	—
Measles	—	—	—
Other infective and parasitic diseases	—	—	—
Malignant neoplasm, stomach	2	1	3
" " lung, bronchus	2	—	2
" " breast	—	1	1
" " uterus	—	2	2
Other malignant and lymphatic neoplasms	9	2	11
Leukaemia, aleukaemia	1	1	2
Diabetes	—	1	1
Vascular lesions of nervous system	3	8	11
Coronary disease, angina	6	1	7
Hypertension with heart disease	—	—	—
Other heart disease	13	16	29
Other circulatory disease	1	—	1
Influenza	2	5	7
Pneumonia	1	3	4
Bronchitis	4	4	8
Other diseases of respiratory system	1	—	1
Ulcer of stomach and duodenum	—	1	1
Gastritis, enteritis and diarrhoea	—	—	—
Nephritis and nephrosis	1	1	2
Hyperplasia of prostate	3	—	3
Pregnancy, childbirth, abortion	—	—	—
Congenital malformation	1	—	1
Other defined and ill-defined diseases	5	10	15
Motor vehicle accidents	1	—	1
All other accidents	1	—	1
Suicide	1	1	2
Homicide and operations of war	—	—	—
	59	59	118

Deaths under One year of age

There were 5 deaths of Infants under 1 year of age, 4 male and 1 female, divided as follows :—

Under 1 week	....	3	1—4 weeks	....	Nil
1—6 months	....	1	6—12 months	....	1

NOTIFIABLE DISEASES (Other than Tuberculosis)

Disease	Total Cases notified	Cases admitted to Isolation Hospital	Total Deaths
Small Pox	—	—	—
Cholera	—	—	—
Diphtheria	—	—	—
Membraneous croup	—	—	—
Erysipelas	1	—	—
Scarlet fever	12	—	—
Typhus fever	—	—	—
Typhoid fever	—	—	—
Enteric or relapsing fever	—	—	—
Acute poliomyelitis	1	1	—
Acute encephalitis	—	—	—
Meningococcal infection	—	—	—
Ophthalmia neonatorum	—	—	—
Puerperal pyrexia	1	—	—
Malaria	—	—	—
Dysentery	—	—	—
Acute primary pneumonia	16	—	—
Acute influenzal pneumonia	—	—	—
Measles	257	—	—
Whooping cough	34	—	—
Plague	—	—	—
Food poisoning	—	—	—
	322	1	—

TUBERCULOSIS

Six cases of pulmonary tuberculosis were notified, 4 male and 2 female. Two cases of non-pulmonary tuberculosis were notified, both male.

	<i>Total cases notified</i>	<i>Total deaths</i>
Respiratory	6	2
Non-respiratory	2	—

No action was necessary under the Public Health (Prevention of Tuberculosis) Regulations, 1925, or under Section 172 of the Public Health Act, 1936.

REPORT OF THE SANITARY INSPECTOR

WATER SUPPLIES

The villages and hamlets in the district and their sources of supply are as follows :—

Village or hamlet	Public supply	Private supply	Adjoining undertakers	Shallow wells	Quantities
Coleford	whole	—	—	—	adequate
Kilmersdon					
Common	—	—	part	part	inadequate
Witham Friary	—	whole	—	—	adequate
Gaer Hill	part	part	—	—	"
Upton Noble ...	—	—	—	whole	grossly inadequate
Wanstrow	whole	—	—	—	inadequate
Cloford	—	part	—	part	"
Leighton	—	"	—	"	"
Trudoxhill	whole	—	—	—	adequate
Nunney	part	—	part	—	"
Holwell	—	whole	—	—	"
Ridgeway	whole	—	—	—	"
Marston	—	part	part	—	"
Tytherington ...	—	"	—	part	inadequate
Woodlands	—	whole	—	—	"
Rodden	—	—	whole	—	adequate
Clink	—	—	"	—	adequate
Leigh-on-Mendip	whole	—	—	—	inadequate
Tadhill	whole	—	—	—	adequate
Chantry	—	—	—	whole	grossly inadequate

Village or hamlet	Public supply	Private supply	Adjoining undertakers	Shallow wells	Quantities
Whatley	—	—	—	whole	grossly inadequate
Vobster	—	—	part	part	adequate
Egford....	—	—	„	„	inadequate
Norton St. Philip	whole	—	—	—	adequate
Farleigh	part	part	—	—	inadequate
Hungerford					
Tellisford	—	part	—	part	„
Faulkland	—	—	—	whole	grossly inadequate
Turners Tower	—	—	—	whole	adequate
Ammerdown	—	—	—	„	inadequate
Rode	whole	—	—	—	adequate
Rode Common	part	—	—	part	inadequate
Beckington	whole	—	—	—	adequate
Standerwick	part	—	—	part	inadequate
Rudge	—	—	—	whole	grossly inadequate
Berkley	—	part	—	part	inadequate
Berkley Marsh	—	whole	—	—	adequate
Woolverton	—	whole	—	—	„
Buckland Dinham....	whole	—	—	—	inadequate
Elm	—	whole	—	—	adequate
Mells	part	—	part	—	„
Kilmersdon	—	—	whole	—	„
Charlton	—	—	—	whole	inadequate
Fosseway	—	—	whole	—	„
Babington	—	—	part	part	adequate
Hemington	—	whole	—	—	„
Buckland Down	—	„	—	—	adequate
Hardington	—	„	—	—	„
Green Parlour	—	—	—	whole	inadequate
Foxcote	—	part	—	part	„
Lullington	—	„	—	„	„
Oldford	—	—	whole	—	adequate
Spring Gardens	—	—	„	—	„
Laverton	—	—	—	whole	grossly inadequate

Mells

During the year the supply to this village was augmented by taking a bulk supply from Messrs. Roads Reconstruction Ltd.

A pumping set was installed and an elevated reservoir erected at Bilbao Lake, and from this one mile of main was laid to the village. The supply is chlorinated.

Farleigh Hungerford

Owing to a serious mechanical defect in the pumping plant the private supply to the village failed. It was apparent that several months would pass before the supply could be restored, and the owner took a bulk supply from the Norton St. Philip source.

This water passes through a malleable iron main which was laid by the Ministry of Works during wartime. Arising from complaints investigations were carried out and various samples taken. It was found that, owing to the high carbonic acid content, the water attacked galvanised pipes. The Council have now made provision for the laying of a new 3 in. diameter asbestos cement main.

Blatchbridge and Woodlands

As the leases and agreements for the supply of water in this district were about to expire, the Estate Company served final notices on all consumers to the effect that supplies would be cut off on 30th June, 1951. In co-operation with the Ministry of Agriculture an *ad-hoc* committee comprised of representatives of the Council and the company, together with consumers in the district, was set up for a period of five years. Consulting engineers were engaged to prepare a scheme to supply the area from the main of the Frome U.D.C.

The Woodlands water is plumbo-solvent.

SEWERAGE AND SEWAGE DISPOSAL

Except for small purification plants on Council housing sites, no work has been carried out.

HOUSING

Great difficulties have been met in finding suitable sites for Council houses. This is due, in the main, to lack of public services although, where suitable sites have been chosen in certain villages, agricultural objections have been raised. This applies particularly to Coleford. Work is proceeding on 4 houses at Standerwick, and 37 at Nunney.

Since the war, 127 Council houses and 54 private houses have been built.

STATUTORY NOTICES

Two notices were served during the year. One of these, served with great trepidation, was in respect of a complaint by a householder concerning the manner in which pigs were being housed by a

farmer. The premises used for the pigs formed the rear part of the householder's dwelling. The building had been used for generations as a cart-shed, and could thus be claimed to be agricultural premises.

FOOD

Routine inspections of food premises have been carried out and advice or instruction given where necessary.

The following foodstuffs were condemned :—

8	tins of meat and meat products
18	„ „ milk
20	„ „ fruit
3	„ „ fish
10	„ „ vegetables
84 lb.	„ imported tinned ham

The Council have adopted Bye-laws made under Section 15 of the Food and Drugs Act, 1938, with respect to handling, wrapping and dealing with delivery of food.

MILK

There are two premises where the pasteurising and processing of milk is carried out, and the quantity dealt with is approximately 16,000 gallons per day.

The Register shows :—

Number of registered dairies	....	....	....	7
„ „ retailers	....	....	....	14
„ „ retailers from outside the district	....	....	....	4

MOVABLE DWELLINGS

Three licences have been issued under the provisions of Section 269 of the Public Health Act, 1936, for caravans on separate sites. There is no registered communal caravan or camping site in the district.

FACTORY ACTS

Notices have been served in liaison with the Factory Inspector on two of the 27 factories in the area in respect of sanitary accommodation.

PEST DESTRUCTION

Surveys and treatment of rat infestation have been carried out as required by the Ministry, and reports submitted to them.

Inspection has shown that infestation in private dwellings is of a very minor character compared with the degree which exists at many of the 400 farms in the district.

Disinfection following infectious disease has been carried out as necessary. Three premises have been treated for eradication of lice.



