

**[Report 1944] / Medical Officer of Health, Brackley R.D.C.**

**Contributors**

Brackley (England). Rural District Council.

**Publication/Creation**

1944

**Persistent URL**

<https://wellcomecollection.org/works/qw2emq4s>

**License and attribution**

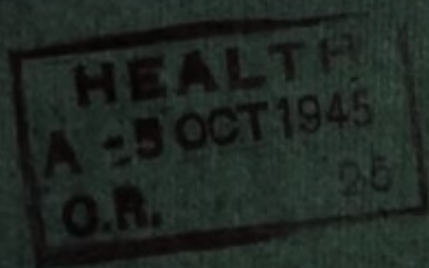
You have permission to make copies of this work under a Creative Commons, Attribution license.

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](mailto:library@wellcomecollection.org)  
<https://wellcomecollection.org>



Brackley Rural District Council



# Annual Reports

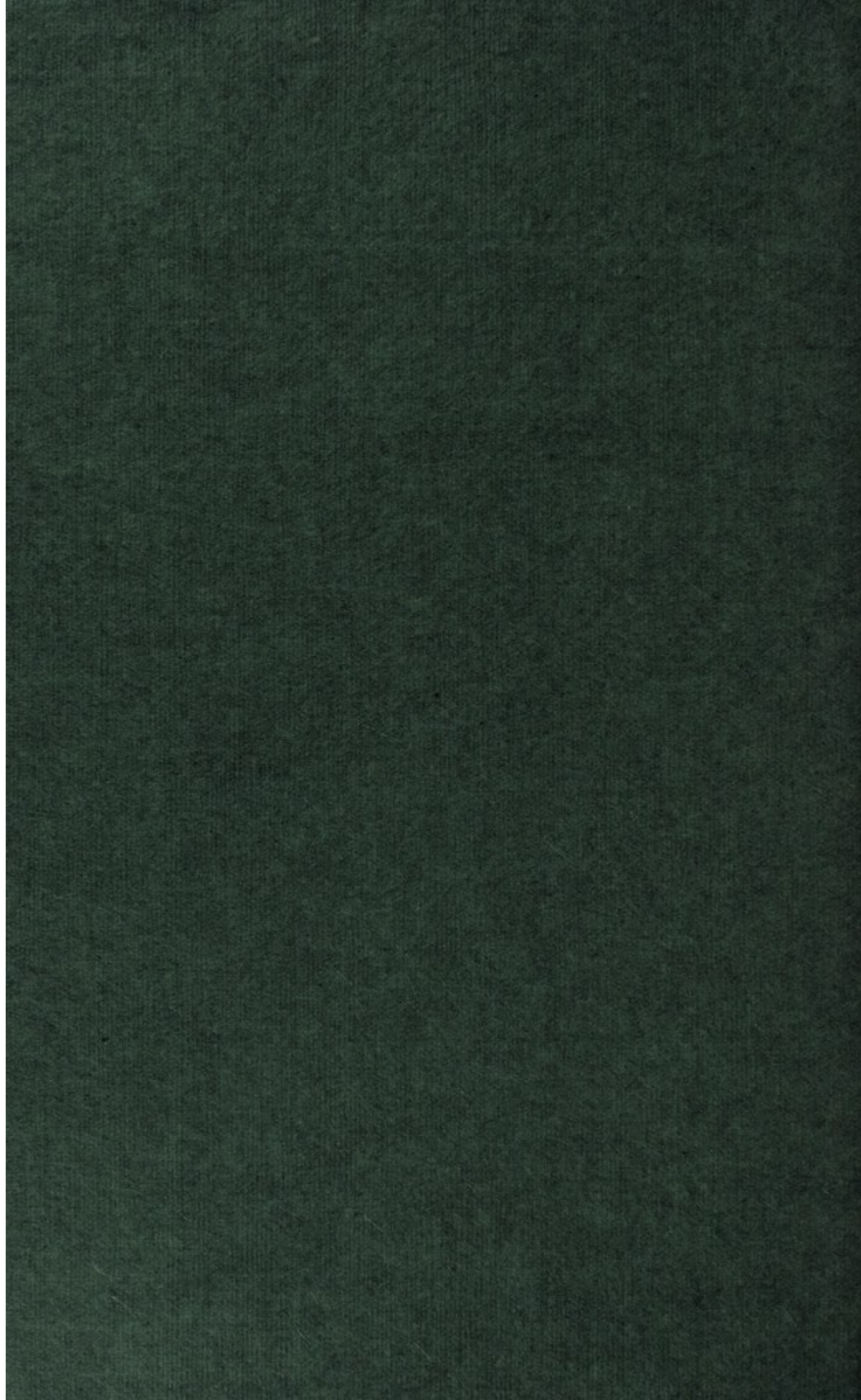
of the

Medical Officer of Health

and

Sanitary Inspector

For the year 1944



# BRACKLEY RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL

---

## REPORTS OF THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH AND SANITARY INSPECTOR

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31st DECEMBER, 1944

Mr CHAIRMAN, LADIES AND GENTLEMEN,

I have the honour to present to you the Annual Reports of the Medical Officer of Health and Sanitary Inspector for the year 1944.

I am, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

C. T. DARWENT.

Public Health Department,  
Rural District Council Offices,  
Brackley,  
Northants.

Medical Officer of Health.

September, 1945.

## BRACKLEY RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL.

---

**Chairman**—Lt. Col. J. L. Fisher, C.M.G., D.S.O., J.P., C.C.

**Vice-Chairman**—L. Watson, Esq., J.P., C.C.

### **Health Committee :**

Major G. R. Guinness (Chairman, resigned 27/12/44)

Mrs. M. E. Johnson, Mrs. N. N. Kekewich, Mrs. H. M. Norris,

H. S. Watson, Esq., R. Barrett, Esq., G. W. Wood, Esq.,

J. N. Gibbard, Esq., T. Cottrell-Dormer, Esq.

The Chairman and Vice-Chairman are ex-officio Members of the Health Committee.

## Public Health Officers of the Authority.

### OFFICERS.

C. T. DARWENT, L.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., F.R.San.I., D.P.H:

Acting Medical Officer of Health (commenced duties 1.5.44).

W. E. TURBITT, M.R.San.I., M.S.I.A.

Sanitary Inspector.

Miss D. W. HOWELL.

Joint Clerk to the Sanitary Inspector and Surveyor.

---

### Statistics and Social Conditions of Area.

Area in Acres	...	...	...	...	58,132
Resident Population (estimated)	...	...	...	...	9,050
Number of Inhabited Houses	...	...	...	...	2,726
Rateable Value 31/12/44	...	...	...	...	£35,521
Sum represented by a Penny Rate 31/3/45	...	...	...	...	£141.15.3

The district is mainly rural in character and, as in former years, the main industry is agriculture. The presence of the Aluminium Works in the adjoining town of Banbury, Oxfordshire, has been the cause of a slight immigration into the western part of the district.

# **Vital Statistics.**

The following extract from the Vital Statistics of the year relates to the births and deaths after correction for inward and outward transfers as furnished by the Registrar.

	Total		Male		Female		Brackley Rural District Council	N'ton : C.C.	Engd. & Wales
<b>Live Births.</b>	1944	1943	1944	1943	1944	1943	Birth rate per 1,000 of the estimated resident population.	—	17.6
Legitimate .....	179	153	109	75	70	78	1944 20.5		
Illegitimate .....	16	11	10	7	6	4	1943 17.3		
Total ..	195	164	119	82	76	82			
<b>Still Births.</b>	2	2	1	2	1	—	Rate per 1,000 total (live and still) births	—	0.50
Legitimate .....	—	—	—	—	—	—	20.7 12.05		
Illegitimate .....	—	—	—	—	—	—			
Total ..	2	2	1	2	1	—	Crude death rate per 1,000 estimated resident population	—	11.6
<b>Death Rate.</b>	133	99	60	43	73	56	13.9 10.05		
<b>Death Rate of Infants under one year of age.</b>	5	6	3	2	2	4			
Legitimate .....	2	2	—	2	2	—			
Illegitimate .....	—	—	—	—	—	—			
Total ..	7	8	3	4	4	4			
Death rate of all infants per 1,000 live births ...							...	35.9	
Legitimate infants per 1,000 legitimate live births ...							...	27.9	
Illegitimate infants per 1,000 illegitimate live births ...							...	125	

## Deaths from Puerperal Causes.

Puerperal Sepsis	}	Brackley R.D.C. Northamptonshire C.C.
Other Puerperal causes		Nil. —

### Deaths from :

	Total	Males	Females
Cancer (all ages) .....	18	6	12†
Measles (all ages) .....	—	—	—
Whooping Cough (all ages) ...	—	—	—
Diarrhoea (under 2 years of age) .....	—	—	—

### The registered causes of death were :—

Causes of Death.					Males	Females	Total
1.	Typhoid and Paratyphoid Fevers ...	...	...	...	—	—	—
2.	Cerebro-spinal Fever	...	...	...	—	—	—
3.	Scarlet Fever	...	...	...	—	—	—
4.	Whooping Cough	...	...	...	—	—	—
5.	Diphtheria	...	...	...	—	—	—
6.	Tuberculosis—Respiratory	...	...	...	1	4	5†
7.	Tuberculosis—Other Forms	...	...	...	—	1	1†
8.	Syphilitic Diseases	...	...	...	—	—	—
9.	Influenza	...	...	...	1	—	1
10.	Measles	...	...	...	—	—	—
11.	Acute Poliomyelitis: Polio Encephalitis...	...	...	...	—	—	—
12.	Acute Infectious Encephalitis	...	...	...	—	—	—
13.	Cancer of Buccal Cavity and Oesophagus	...	...	...	1	—	1
14.	Cancer of Stomach and Duodenum	...	...	...	2	1	3*
15.	Cancer of Breast	...	...	...	—	2	2†
16.	Cancer of all other sites	...	...	...	3	9	12†
17.	Diabetis	...	...	...	—	2	2†
18.	Intra Cranial Vascular Lesions	...	...	...	8	8	16†
19.	Heart Disease	...	...	...	18	17	35†
20.	Other Diseases of Circulation	...	...	...	1	2	3†
21.	Bronchitis	...	...	...	4	2	6*
22.	Pneumonia	...	...	...	—	2	2*
23.	Other Respiratory Diseases	...	...	...	3	1	4†
24.	Ulcer of Stomach or Duodenum	...	...	...	1	—	1*
25.	Diarrhoea (under 2 years)	...	...	...	—	—	—
26.	Appendicitis	...	...	...	—	—	—
27.	Other digestive Disorders	...	...	...	2	1	3†
28.	Nephritis	...	...	...	1	1	2†
29.	Puerperal and Post Abortive Sepsis	...	...	...	—	—	—
30.	Other Maternal Causes	...	...	...	—	—	—
31.	Premature Birth	...	...	...	1	3	4†
32.	Congenital Malformation : Birth Injury :	...	...	...	2	1	3nc
	Infantile Disorders	...	...	...	—	—	—
33.	Suicide	...	...	...	1	—	1nc
34.	Road Traffic Accidents	...	...	...	—	—	—
35.	Other Violent Causes	...	...	...	2	4	6†
36.	All Other Causes	...	...	...	8	12	20†
					60	73	133

† Denotes an increase on 1943 figures.

\* Denotes a decrease on 1943 figures.

nc Denotes no change from 1943 figures.

## **General Provision of Health Services.**

### **(a) LABORATORY FACILITIES.**

The Emergency Public Health Laboratory Service, the School of Pathology, South Parks Road, Oxford, examine all swabs submitted by General Practitioners in the area and have also undertaken the bacteriological analysis of water samples and other specimens submitted from this district.

Samples of milk are taken by the Sanitary Inspector and these are examined in the laboratory section of the County Health Department.

### **(b) DIPHTHERIA ANTITOXIN.**

A supply of antitoxin is maintained at the Council Offices in accordance with the provisions of the Diphtheria Antitoxin (Outside London) Order, 1910, and is available free of charge to all Medical Practitioners for use in cases of emergency in the rural district.

### **(c) AMBULANCE FACILITIES.**

The Council have an agreement with the Joint Hospital Board for their ambulance, which is stationed at Staverton Isolation Hospital, to be sent to any part of the district in order to transport patients suffering from infectious disease to the Isolation Hospital. A Nurse accompanies the ambulance.

### **(d) NURSING IN THE HOME.**

Under an agreement between the County Council and the County Nursing Association, the services of a nurse may be obtained for the treatment of patients suffering from puerperal fever, puerperal pyrexia, ophthalmia neonatorum, whooping cough, diarrhoea in young children, poliomyelitis, measles, and cerebro spinal fever, but owing to the acute shortage of nursing staff, it would almost be impossible to fulfil this agreement.

### **(e) CLINIC AND TREATMENT CENTRES.**

Infant Welfare—Brackley.	}	Organised by County Council.
Orthopædic Clinic.		
Vision Clinic.		
Ante-Natal Clinic, Middleton Cheney.		

---

## **Infectious Diseases.**

During the year there were 92 cases of infectious diseases (other than Tuberculosis) notified.

The following table sets forth the nature of the various diseases and shows the distribution of the cases throughout the parishes in the district.

(other than Tuberculosis) during the year 1944.

Parish.	* C—Civilian. N.C.—Non-Civilian.																TOTAL		
	No	0	No	0	No	0	No	0	No	0	No	0	No	0	No	0	No	0	No
Aston-le-Walls ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Aynho ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Boddington ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Chalcombe ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Charlton ...	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Chipping Warden ...	5	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Croughton ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Culworth ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Edgcote ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Evenley ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Eydon ...	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Farthinghoe ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Greatworth ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Helmdon ...	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Hinton-in-the-Hedges ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Kings Sutton ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Marston St. Lawrence ...	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Middleton Cheney ...	—	—	7	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Moreton Pinkney ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Radstone ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Sulgrave ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Syresham ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Thenford ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Thorpe Mandeville ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Warkworth ...	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Whitfield ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
	5	12	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	2	2	1	—	—	3	2	4	2	54
																			92

# Period Distribution of Notified Cases of Infectious Diseases—1944.

A statement shewing the period distribution of the cases notified is given hereunder :—

	Jan.	Feb.	March.	April.	May.	June.	July.	August.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	TOTAL.
Scarlet Fever ...	—	—	1	—	1	2	—	—	4	3	1	—	12
Diphtheria ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	2
Puerperal Pyrexia ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Pneumonia ...	—	—	2	1	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	4
Erysipelas ...	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
Jaundice ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	—	2
Measles ...	—	—	1	1	1	1	1	1	—	—	—	—	6
Whooping Cough ...	4	7	24	—	3	1	14	—	—	1	—	—	54
Malaria ...	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2
Chicken Pox ...	2	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	3
Catarthal Jaundice ...	—	1	1	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	5
Cerebro-Spinal Fever ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1
Total ...	4	7	27	4	6	4	15	2	4	4	3	2	92

C—Civilian.

NC—Non-Civilian.

## TUBERCULOSIS.

All new cases of tuberculosis, respiratory or non-respiratory, are reported to the County Medical Officer of Health. Institutional care, when considered necessary, is arranged by the County Medical Officer of Health and County Tuberculosis Officer in the County Sanatoria.

The living conditions, etc., of persons subsequently discharged from these sanatoria are investigated by this Authority.

During the year 5 new cases of Tuberculosis were notified, 2 being of a respiratory nature and 3 non-respiratory. This shows a decrease of 7 as against a total of 12 cases which were notified in 1942.

The following table gives the incidence of new cases with their age distribution.

### New Cases during 1944.

Age Periods Years	New Cases							
	Respiratory				Non-Respiratory			
	Male		Female		Male		Female	
	C.	NC.	C.	NC.	C.	NC.	C.	NC.
0 — 1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
1 — 5	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—
5 — 15	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
15 — 25	1	1	1	1	—	—	—	1
25 — 35	—	—	1	2	—	—	—	—
35 — 45	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
45 — 55	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—
55 — 65	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
65 and over	—	—	2	—	—	—	—	—
Totals	1	1	5	3	1	—	—	1

## Prevalence of, and Control over, Infectious Diseases, etc.

### DIPHTHERIA IMMUNISATION.

No. of children who completed the full course of immunisation during 1944 :—

**Under Five—80 (225).      Five to Fifteen—19 (197)**

Percentage of population considered immunised at December 31st, 1944 :—

**Under 5—45 (61).      Five to Fifteen—83 (94).**

The number of children considered immunised at 31.12.44 :—

**Under Five—361.      Five to Fifteen—1,369.**

The figures in brackets refer to the year 1943.

I am pleased to report a considerable increase in the number of children who completed the full course of immunisation during 1944 as compared with 1943. The reason for the success is largely due to the personal approach to the mothers at the Infant Welfare Clinics and at the School Medical Inspections. The effort has been very ably assisted by the Health Visitor, Miss Green, who has followed up all the cases and had made a personal approach to the mothers who did not attend the school inspections. The Head Teachers of schools have assisted in approaching the mothers and explaining to them the benefits of immunisation. Talks on immunisation were also given at the Infant Welfare Clinics by the Medical Officer of Health and the mothers were urged to spread the information.

### Scabies.

The patients with Scabies are usually treated at home by their own Doctor or by the Health Visitor. The Council has arranged with the County Council whereby patients who are below school age can be treated by the Health Visitor, the Council defraying the cost of materials used. In cases where home conditions are unsuitable for treatment the cases have been admitted to the Daintree Hospital, Daventry, for this purpose. In all instances

where only part of the family is affected attempt is made to treat the whole family.

The Sanitary Inspector visits the cases for the supervision of standards of cleanliness. The clothing is usually despatched for disinfection.

### **Drainage and Sewerage.**

Details of the work performed during the year will be found on Page 26 under the heading Drainage.

As mentioned in the annual report for 1943, the sewage disposal works throughout the district are of an obsolete type and unsatisfactory. New sewerage is necessary in considerable areas of the district.

If, as it is hoped, a mains supply of water will eventually serve the whole of this district a complete new system of sewerage and sewage disposal works will also have to be considered.

The absence of these two essential services is retarding progress in many of the parishes from a public health aspect, as each house and agricultural premises should be provided with a good water supply and efficient means for the expeditious removal of waste matters to a proper place of disposal.

### **Closet Accommodation.**

Statements have been made in previous annual reports regarding the predominating unsatisfactory types of closets in use, i.e., the pail or the privy.

The introduction of a mains water supply together with a proper system of sewerage and sewage disposal throughout the district will mean that the undesirable conservancy type of closets will quickly disappear in favour of the water closet.

### **Water Supply.**

This year, as last, the sampling of various water supplies in the district indicates that much of the water is bad.

Private supplies at Aynho, Evenley and Helmdon have received much attention during the year. A small chlorination plant has been installed and is in use at each of these villages but as the efficient working of these plants relies for control and maintenance on some person in charge efficient chlorination cannot be guaranteed as has been proved from time to time by check sampling of the water.

Broadly speaking the condition of the water supplies in this district are always a potential source of danger to the consumers and the risk will not be removed until a public mains supply is provided. I am glad the Council are considering the inclusion of this district in a regional scheme of water supply.

The various parishes or districts where sampling took place, the number of samples taken from each parish or district, and the results of the examination of the samples is as follows, viz.—

Parish or District	Number taken	Result of Examination.		
		Good	Suspicious	Bad
Aynho .....	21	8	4	9
Banbury .....	2	—	1	1
Chacombe .....	4	4	—	—
Charlton .....	2	2	—	—
Chipping Warden	1	—	—	1
Evenley .....	8	4	2	2
Eydon .....	5	—	1	4
Farthinghoe .....	2	1	1	—
Greatworth .....	2	1	—	1
Helmdon .....	16	5	5	6
King's Sutton ...	8	3	1	4
Newbottle .....	4	1	3	—
Overthorpe .....	1	—	1	—
Sulgrave .....	1	—	—	1
Thenford .....	1	—	—	1
Total ...	78	29	19	30

Summarised results of tests are as under, viz :—

Good ..... 29 (37%)

Suspicious ..... 19 (24%)

Bad ..... 30 (39%)

The samples are tested at the Emergency Public Health Laboratory, South Parks Road, Oxford, and I think it may be of interest to set forth the detailed remarks, made by the Analyst, concerning these water samples, viz. :—

No.	Parish or District	Probable No of B.Coli per 100 ml.	Result of Sample	Remarks of Analyst
1.	Aynho	1	Bad	Coliform bacteria should not be detectable in 100 c.c. samples of chlorinated water. The chlorination is apparently inefficient. Part of the contamination is due to organisms of faecal origin.
2.	Aynho	13	Bad	This water is heavily contaminated. Some of the contamination is due to organisms of faecal origin. The chlorination is obviously inefficient. The water is unfit for domestic use.
3.	Aynho	1	Bad	Coliform organisms should not be detectable in 100 c.c. of chlorinated water. As coliform organisms of faecal origin are still present the chlorination is inefficient.
4.	Aynho	0	Good	This water falls into Class 1 of Ministry of Health's grading
5.	Aynho	0	Good	ditto
6.	Aynho	0	Good	ditto
7.	Aynho	0	Good	ditto
8.	Aynho	0	Good	ditto
9.	Aynho	8	Suspicious	This water is equivalent to Class 3 of Ministry of Health grading. All contamination is due to organisms of faecal origin. The water is not fit for drinking purposes in the raw state.
10.	Aynho	8	Suspicious	Equivalent to Class 3 of the Ministry of Health grading. An improvement on F.18631 but the result is still unsatisfactory
11.	Aynho	3	Suspicious	Equivalent to Class 3 of Ministry of Health grading. The result is similar to F.18629.

No.	Parish or District	Probable No of B.Coli per 100 ml.	Result of Sample	Remarks of Analyst
12.	Aynho	11	Bad	This water falls into Class 4 of the Ministry of Health's grading. Part of the contamination is due to organisms of excretal origin.
13.	Aynho	0	Good	This water falls into Class 1 of Ministry of Health's grading
14.	Aynho	50	Bad	Grossly contaminated and unfit for human consumption. The chlorination is inefficient or the water is heavily contaminated after chlorination.
15.	Aynho	5	Bad	Coliform bacteria should not be detectable in 100 ml. samples of chlorinated water. The chlorination appears to be grossly inefficient.
16.	Aynho	0	Good	This water falls into Class 1 of Ministry of Health's grading
17.	Aynho	at least 180	Bad	Grossly contaminated and unfit for domestic use in the raw state.
18.	Aynho	3	Suspicious	This water falls into Class 3 of Ministry of Health's grading. All contamination is of faecal origin. This is a very unsatisfactory result for water from a public supply.
19.	Aynho	25	Bad	Very contaminated. Part of the contamination is due to organisms of excretal origin. Not fit for drinking purposes in the raw state.
20.	Aynho	160	Bad	Very contaminated. Unfit for drinking purposes in raw state.
21.	Aynho	0	Good	This water falls into Class 1 of Ministry of Health's grading. Very satisfactory result for water from a shallow well.
22.	*Banbury	17	Bad	This water is equivalent to Class 4 of the Min. of Health's grading. A small part of the contamination is due to organisms of excretal origin. Before considering its suitability for drinking purposes could we please have further samples, preferably a few days after heavy rain?

No.	Parish or District	Probable No of B.Coli per 100 ml.	Result of Sample	Remarks of Analyst
23.	*Banbury	8	Suspicious	This water is equivalent to Class 3 of the Min. of Health's grading. A part of the contamination is due to organisms of excretal origin. Before considering its suitability for drinking purposes could we please have further samples, preferably a few days after heavy rain?
24.	Charlton	0	Good	This water falls into Class 1 of Ministry of Health's grading
25.	Charlton	1	Good	This water is equivalent to Class 2 of the Min. of Health's grading. None of the contamination is due to organisms of excretal origin.
26.	Chacombe	0	Good	This water falls into Class 1 of Ministry of Health's grading
27.	Chacombe	0	Good	ditto
28.	Chacombe	0	Good	ditto
29.	Chacombe	0	Good	This water is equivalent to Class 1 of the Min. of Health's grading. Before reporting on fitness of the water for drinking could we please have another sample, preferably a few days after heavy rain?
30.	Chipping Warden	90	Bad	Shows evidence of gross faecal pollution and is unfit for human consumption.
31.	Evenley	0	Good	This water falls into Class 1 of Ministry of Health's grading
32.	Evenley	8	Bad	Shows evidence of contamination with organisms of faecal origin. Chlorination is obviously inefficient. The water cannot be considered fit for domestic use in its present state.
33.	Eydon	13	Bad	Falls into Class 4 of Ministry of Health's grading. Shows evidence of contamination, part of which is due to organisms of faecal origin. Treatment is apparently inefficient and the water cannot be considered suitable for domestic use.

No.	Parish or District	Probable No of B.Coli per 100 ml.	Result of Sample	Remarks of Analyst
34.	Eydon	5	Suspicious	Falls into Class 3 of Ministry of Health's grading. Shows evidence of contamination, part of which is due to organisms of faecal origin. Treatment is apparently inefficient and the water must be regarded as suspicious.
35.	Eydon	18	Bad	Water is contaminated. Part of the contamination is due to organisms of excretal origin. It is not fit for drinking in the raw state.
36.	Eydon	at least 180	Bad	This water is grossly contaminated.
37.	Evenley	more than 180	Bad	Grossly contaminated and unfit for drinking.
38.	Evenley	0	Good	This water falls into Class 1 of Ministry of Health's grading
39.	Evenley	8	Suspicious	Falls into Class 3 of the Ministry of Health's classification. It must be regarded as suspicious.
40.	Evenley	10	Suspicious	Could we please have another sample?
41.	Evenley	0	Good	This water falls into Class 1 of Ministry of Health's grading Could we please have another sample?
42.	Evenley	0	Good	This water falls into Class 1 of Ministry of Health's grading The plate count is very high for a chlorinated water.
43.	Eydon	more than 180	Bad	Shows evidence of gross faecal contamination and is unfit for human consumption.
44.	Farthinghoe	25	Suspicious	Moderately contaminated. Part of the contamination is due to organisms of excretal origin. As far as it is possible to tell from a single examination this water does not appear fit for drinking purposes in the raw state. Before condemning the supply, however, could we please have further specimens, preferably a few days after heavy rain?
45.	Farthinghoe	0	Good	This water falls into Class 1 of Ministry of Health's grading

No.	Parish or District	Probable No of B.Coli per 100 ml.	Result of Sample	Remarks of Analyst
46.	Greatworth	at least 180	Bad	Grossly contaminated. It is unfit for drinking purposes in the raw state.
47.	Halse	1	Good	This water is equivalent to Class 2 of Ministry of Health's grading. None of the contamination is due to organisms of excretal origin.
48.	Helmdon	0	Good	This water falls into Class 1 of Ministry of Health grading.
49.	Helmdon	0	Good	ditto
50.	Helmdon	0	Good	ditto
51.	Helmdon	0	Good	ditto
52.	Helmdon	5	Suspicious	Falls into Class 3 of Ministry of Health's grading. A large part of the contamination is due to organisms of excretal origin.
53.	Helmdon	at least 180	Bad	This water is very grossly contaminated. It is quite unfit for a village supply.
54.	Helmdon	1	Good	This water falls into Class 2 of Ministry of Health's grading. The contamination is due to organisms of excretal origin.
55.	Helmdon	5	Suspicious	Falls into Class 3 of Ministry of Health's grading. The contamination is due to organisms of excretal origin.
56.	Helmdon	5	Suspicious	This water is contaminated, part of the contamination being due to organisms of faecal origin. The chlorination appears to be inefficient. The water is unfit for domestic use.
57.	Helmdon	35	Bad	Grossly contaminated. Part of the contamination is due to organisms of faecal origin. Coliform organisms should not be detectable in 100 ml. of chlorinated water so the chlorination is apparently inefficient. The water is unfit for domestic use.

No.	Parish or District	Probable No of B.Coli per 100 ml.	Result of Sample	Remarks of Analyst
58.	Helmdon	3	Suspicious	Chlorinated water should not contain detectable coliform organisms in 100 ml. quantities. The contamination may have been derived from the tap or may have entered during sampling—but if this can be excluded the water is not efficiently chlorinated.
59.	Helmdon	at least 180	Bad	This water is grossly contaminated. It is unfit for drinking purposes in the raw state.
60.	Helmdon	at least 180	Bad	ditto
61.	Helmdon	at least 180	Bad	ditto
62.	Helmdon	at least 180	Bad	ditto
63.	Helmdon	5	Suspicious	This water is equivalent to Class 3 of the Min. of Health's grading. All of the contamination is due to organisms of excretal origin.
64.	Kings Sutton	0	Good	This water falls into Class 1 of the Min. of Health's grading.
65.	Kings Sutton	0	Good	ditto
66.	Kings Sutton	14	Bad	This water is equivalent to Class 4 of the Min. of Health's grading. None of the contamination is due to organisms of excretal origin.
67.	Kings Sutton	more than 180	Bad	This water shows evidence of gross faecal pollution and is unfit for human consumption.
68.	Kings Sutton	3	Suspicious	This water is equivalent to Class 3 of the Min. of Health's grading. None of the contamination is due to organisms of excretal origin.
69.	Kings Sutton	0	Good	This water falls into Class 1 of the Min. of Health's grading.

No.	Parish or District	Probable No of B.Coli per 100 ml.	Result of Sample	Remarks of Analyst
70.	Kings Sutton	18	Bad	This water is equivalent to Class 4 of the Min. of Health's grading. It is an improvement on the previous sample taken. If the well is suitable in other respects and no other source is available it might be worth taking a few further samples for bacteriological analysis.
71.	Kings Sutton	90	Bad	This water is very contaminated. It is unfit for drinking in the raw state. Could we please have another sample, preferably after heavy rain?
72.	Newbottle	0	Good	This water falls into Class 1 of the Min. of Health's grading.
73.	Newbottle	3	Suspicious	This water is equivalent to Class 3 of the Min. of Health's grading. None of the contamination is due to organisms of excretal origin.
74.	Newbottle	3	Suspicious	ditto
75.	Newbottle	8	Suspicious	This water is equivalent to Class 3 of the Min. of Health's grading. Part of the contamination is due to organisms of excretal origin.
76.	Overthorpe	3	Suspicious	This water is equivalent to Class 3 of the Min. of Health's grading. Part of the contamination is due to organisms of excretal origin. As far as it is possible * to tell from a single examination this water is unsuitable for drinking in the raw state.
77.	Sulgrave	25	Bad	This water is heavily contaminated. Part of the contamination is due to organisms of excretal origin. The water is unfit for drinking in the raw state.
78.	Thenford	35	Bad	This water is moderately contaminated. None of the contamination is due to organisms of excretal origin.

\* These samples were taken to ascertain the quality of the water which Messrs. Kimberleys had kindly consented might be used by the Council as an emergency supply during the drought throughout the year.

## Public Cleansing.

A systematic collection of house refuse is in operation throughout the district.

The Parishes are served as follows :—

Village.	Date of Collection.	Refuse Tip.
King's Sutton	Alternate Fridays	Croughton
Aynho	" "	Croughton
Middleton Cheney	First Tuesday in each Month	Greatworth
Chacombe	" " "	"
Chipping Warden	" Wednesday "	Moreton Pinkney
Aston-le-Walls	" Monday "	"
Boddingtons	" " "	"
Eydon	Second Monday "	"
Thenford	Second Tuesday "	Greatworth
Thorpe Mandeville	" " "	"
Marston	" " "	"
St. Lawrence	" " "	"
Culworth	First Wednesday "	Moreton Pinkney
Moreton Pinkney	Second Monday "	"
Greatworth	" " "	Greatworth
Sulgrave	" Wednesday "	"
Helmdon	" " "	"
Radstone	Second Monday "	"
Charlton	Third Tuesday "	Croughton
Croughton	" " "	"
Hinton-in-the-Hedges	" Wednesday "	"
Evenley	" " "	"
Whitfield	" " "	Greatworth
Syresham	" " "	"
Farthinghoe	" " "	"

A good system of house collection should collect at not longer than weekly periods and it is hoped that this will eventually be achieved in this district. Household ashes should be included and recognised as normal household refuse.

From a public health aspect household refuse should be properly stored in metal sanitary bins pending collection. Such type of bins assist in protecting the contents against the creation of nuisances from stench, flies, dust and pilfering by dogs or other animals. There is also to be considered the unsightliness of miscellaneous receptacles at present used in the district for the storage of the refuse.

Nuisance is often associated with collection and removal and this may be reduced to a considerable extent by the Council using vehicles specially constructed for the purpose, provided with covers to keep out the rain and prevent dust being blown about; they must be loaded in such a way as to avoid the scattering of dust on passers-by.

Proper and sufficient maintenance is essential at the place of disposal of the refuse.

### **Sanitary Inspection of the Area.**

A total of 144 complaints were received during the year and promptly investigated. The number of complaints lodged at the Public Health Department increases annually, which may be considered as an encouraging sign that the residents in the district are availing themselves of the help which can be given them by the Local Authority.

The Sanitary Inspector made 985 inspections.

106 Preliminary and 21 Statutory Notices were served. Of the number of Statutory Notices 12 were complied with during the year and it is expected that the outstanding notices will be complied with in due course.

### **Shops and Offices.**

No action was taken during the year.

### **Camping Sites.**

As in the previous year, the Northamptonshire War Agricultural Executive Committee established a camp for agricultural workers in the district. It was sited at Farthinghoe. From time to time this camp was visited by the Medical Officer of Health and the Sanitary Inspector.

### **Smoke Abatement.**

No action was necessary.

### **Swimming Baths and Pools.**

There are no baths or pools subject to inspection in the district.

### **Eradication of Bed Bugs.**

In a few cases evidence of infestation was discovered during the year and appropriate measures of disinfestation adopted.

### **Housing.**

Of the utmost importance to rural authorities is the Hobhouse Report on "Rural Housing" which was published in May, 1944.

The Minister of Health, in general, accepts the recommendations made in this Report for securing improvement of rural housing. It recommends means for remedying the shortcomings and defects in housing administration in order to bring all rural housing up to proper standards within a reasonable period of years. The changes recommended are mainly administrative.

The Report points out that it is imperative that the frequent inferiority of rural and particularly agricultural housing should not be allowed to persist after the War. Mention is made of the

high proportion of the youth of the countryside which is now serving in the Forces or in War industries, and that if housing conditions in many parts of the country continue to lag behind those of the towns these young people on demobilisation will be tempted to seek urban employment and the countryside will be deprived of the best and most enterprising of its youth.

It also recommends certain preparatory housing matters on which action can now be taken, e.g. (a) the establishment of Joint County Committees to enable concentration of thought and effort to be secured through the co-operation of all local authorities interested in rural housing and (b) the carrying out, as soon as possible, of a comprehensive survey of housing conditions in rural areas.

A Joint County Committee on Rural Housing has already been set up in the County of Northamptonshire with a view to co-ordinating work on rural housing in the County and has specified a standard to which all working class houses in the County should be raised within a suggested period of ten years. Your Council have adopted this County standard.

Regarding the survey of rural housing conditions, the Hobhouse Committee made reference to the following staffing needs : " We consider that an efficient and zealous staff with proper qualifications and sufficiently numerous to carry out the work is an essential pre-requisite to good housing and that each Council should review its arrangements to this end before commencing on its housing programme."

The Council has decided to advertise for an additional Sanitary Inspector and, if an appointment is made, the recommended survey of the housing conditions in the district will be commenced early in 1945.

It has still been impossible to carry out systematic housing inspection and is becoming increasingly difficult, due to shortage of labour and materials, to maintain houses in a reasonable state of repair. In fact, housing conditions have deteriorated to an alarming degree in most parishes in the district. Condemned houses, occupied under temporary licence, are a continuous source of worry to (a) the unfortunate occupiers; (b) the owners; and (c) the officers of the public health department. Such properties are completely worn out and should be, and would have been, completely obliterated had it not been for the War. Under no circumstances can such deplorable housing conditions promote health and happiness amongst the occupants.

Overcrowding is still rife in the district and cannot be relieved, to any degree, until it is possible to build new houses.

The erection of two pairs of agricultural houses were completed during the year. They are sited at Upper Boddington and

Farthinghoe respectively. These houses are of an exceptionally good standard and, in the case of the Boddington pair, may be considered an improvement on any other type of working class house built in the district, insofar that both hot and cold water is supplied throughout the houses. It is to be regretted, however, that the Farthinghoe houses were not provided with hot and cold water to the up-to-date sanitary fittings inside the houses, but it is hoped that, in due course, this will be achieved.

The district is faced with a formidable housing programme and, as soon as conditions will allow, it is to be hoped this programme, together with the various problems which go hand in hand, will be enthusiastically tackled as I have no doubt it will be by the encouraging and progressive indications already made by the Council.

The provision of an adequate supply of wholesome water throughout the area, both for agricultural as well as domestic purposes, together with proper and sufficient means for efficient sewerage and sewage disposal are pre-requisite essentials to good housing conditions in the district.

## 1. INSPECTION OF DWELLING-HOUSES DURING THE YEAR.

1	(a)	Total number of dwelling-houses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts)	315
	(b)	Number of inspections made for the purpose	... 683
2	(a)	Number of dwelling-houses (included under sub-head (1) above) which were inspected and recorded under the Housing Consolidated Regulations, 1925	—
	(b)	Number of inspections made for the purpose	... —
3		Number of dwelling-houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation	... .. —
4		Number of dwelling-houses (exclusive of those referred to under the preceding sub-head) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation	86

## 2. REMEDY OF DEFECTS DURING THE YEAR WITHOUT SERVICE OF FORMAL NOTICE.

Number of defective dwelling-houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or their Officers	... .. 85
---	-----------

### 3. ACTION UNDER STATUTORY POWERS DURING THE YEAR.

#### (a) Proceedings under Sections 9, 10 and 16 of the Housing Act, 1936 :—

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| (1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs ... .. | — |
| (2) Number of dwelling-houses which were rendered fit after service of formal notices :—       |   |
| (a) By Owners ... ..   | — |
| (b) By Local Authority in default of owners ...  | — |

#### (b) Proceedings under the Public Health Act, 1936 :—

- |   |    |
|---|----|
| (1) Number of dwellinghouses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied ... | 86 |
| (2) Number of dwelling-houses in which defects were remedied after service of formal notices :—           |    |
| (a) By Owners ... ..  | 14 |
| (b) By local Authority in default of owners   | —  |

#### (c) Proceedings under Sections 11 and 13 of the Housing Act, 1936 :—

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| (1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made ... .. | — |
| (2) Number of dwelling-houses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders ... ..    | — |

#### (d) Proceedings under Section 12 of the Housing Act, 1936 :—

- |   |   |
|---|---|
| (1) Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were made ...  | — |
| (2) Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were determined, the tenement or room having been rendered fit ... | — |

### 4. HOUSING ACT, 1936—PART 4—OVERCROWDING.

Present position not thoroughly investigated.

# Statement of Sanitary and Housing Work completed during the Year 1944.

Details of work completed.	Total.
Roof renewed or repaired... ..	11
Chimney Stack repaired or renewed ... ..	6
Gutters repaired or renewed ... ..	2
Rainwater pipes repaired or renewed ... ..	2
External walls repaired or re-pointed ... ..	—
Dampness abated :—	
i. repairs to roof ... ..	5
ii. repairs to external walls ... ..	3
iii. repairs to gutters or rainwater pipes... ..	1
iv. waterproofing of internal walls ... ..	2
v. Damp proof course provided ... ..	—
Permanent ventilation provided ... ..	—
Wall plaster repaired ... ..	20
Ceiling plaster repaired ... ..	20
Walls cleaned or redecorated ... ..	19
Ceilings cleaned or redecorated ... ..	21
Windows repaired or renewed ... ..	7
Sashcord provided ... ..	1
Doors repaired or renewed ... ..	1
Floors repaired or renewed ... ..	12
Stairs repaired or renewed ... ..	3
Window and door sills repaired ... ..	—
Plinth provided ... ..	—
Through ventilation provided ... ..	—
Yard or passage surface paved ... ..	4
Firegrates or ranges repaired or renewed ... ..	5
New sink provided ... ..	1
New waste pipe to sink provided ... ..	1
Separate water supply provided ... ..	6
Sub-floor ventilation provided ... ..	—
Washing copper repaired or renewed ... ..	1
Wash-house rebuilt or repaired ... ..	—
Ventilated food store provided ... ..	—
Food store repaired or improved ... ..	1
Verminous rooms disinfested ... ..	4
Miscellaneous Housing items ... ..	3
Staircase handrails provided ... ..	10
Wells repaired or cleansed ... ..	8
Water pumps repaired or renewed ... ..	—
Chlorination plants provided ... ..	1
Metafilters provided ... ..	1

## Sanitary Conveniences.

Elsan Closets provided ... ..	4
Separate accommodation provided ... ..	14
New W.C.'s provided complete ... ..	7
New W.C. basin provided ... ..	5
W.C. cistern repaired or renewed ... ..	5
W.C. compartment repaired ... ..	1
Closets repaired ... ..	5
Closets limewashed ... ..	1
New pails to closets ... ..	9
Closets cleansed ... ..	2

Urinals repaired or cleansed	...	...	...	...	...	—
Privies converted into water closets	...	...	...	...	...	3
Privies converted to pail closets	...	...	...	...	...	11
Pail closets converted to water closets	...	...	...	...	...	4
<b>Drainage.</b>						
Drains examined	...	...	...	...	...	20
Drains cleansed	...	...	...	...	...	20
Drains repaired or reconstructed	...	...	...	...	...	13
Premises drained to sewer	...	...	...	...	...	2
Soil pipe or vent-shaft repaired	...	...	...	...	...	1
Inspection chamber provided	...	...	...	...	...	16
Fresh air inlet fixed	...	...	...	...	...	3
Vent-shaft provided	...	...	...	...	...	5
New gullies provided	...	...	...	...	...	18
Miscellaneous draining items	...	...	...	...	...	1
New septic tanks provided	...	...	...	...	...	—
<b>Nuisances.</b>						
Offensive accumulation removed	...	...	...	...	...	7
Nuisance from keeping animals abated	...	...	...	...	...	2
Smoke nuisance abated	...	...	...	...	...	—
Miscellaneous nuisances abated	...	...	...	...	...	4
Overcrowding abated	...	...	...	...	...	—
<b>Cowsheds and Dairies.</b>						
Cowshed cleansed and limewashed	...	...	...	...	...	4
Accumulation of manure removed	...	...	...	...	...	4
Impervious floor provided	...	...	...	...	...	6
Additional ventilation provided	...	...	...	...	...	1
Water supply improved	...	...	...	...	...	1
Dairy cleansed and limewashed	...	...	...	...	...	7
Proper dairy provided	...	...	...	...	...	4
Floors cleansed	...	...	...	...	...	—
Additional lighting provided	...	...	...	...	...	1
Yard surfaces cleansed	...	...	...	...	...	—
Proper facilities for sterilizing	...	...	...	...	...	—
Miscellaneous items	...	...	...	...	...	6
<b>Slaughterhouses.</b>						
Slaughterhouse cleansed and limewashed	...	...	...	...	...	14
Offensive accumulations removed	...	...	...	...	...	1
Miscellaneous items	...	...	...	...	...	—
<b>Bakehouses.</b>						
Bakehouse cleansed and limewashed	...	...	...	...	...	27
Benches cleansed	...	...	...	...	...	27
Miscellaneous items	...	...	...	...	...	—
<b>Food Preparing Premises, Shops, Stalls, Etc.</b>						
Premises cleansed or limewashed	...	...	...	...	...	—
Benches etc., cleansed	...	...	...	...	...	—
Waste foodstuffs and refuse removed	...	...	...	...	...	—
Structural repairs carried out	...	...	...	...	...	—
Miscellaneous items	...	...	...	...	...	—

## Summary of Sanitary Inspector's Visits to Premises during 1943.

Inspections—Housing Act	...	...	...	...	...	40
Notices served	...	...	...	...	...	—
Re-inspections	...	...	...	...	...	—
Inspections—Public Health Acts	...	...	...	...	...	275
Notices served	...	...	...	...	...	106
Re-inspections	...	...	...	...	...	368
Verbal Notices	...	...	...	...	...	—
No. of complaints received	...	...	...	...	...	143
Notices complied with (including food premises)	...	...	...	...	...	122

### Visits to :—

Slaughterhouses	...	...	...	...	...	20
Butchers' Shops	...	...	...	...	...	27
Bakehouses	...	...	...	...	...	44
Fishmongers	...	...	...	...	...	—
Cowsheds	...	...	...	...	...	57
Dairies and Milk Shops	...	...	...	...	...	68
Public Houses	...	...	...	...	...	16
Provision Shops	...	...	...	...	...	12
Greengrocers	...	...	...	...	...	—
Ice Cream Places	...	...	...	...	...	—
Dining Rooms	...	...	...	...	...	—
Schools	...	...	...	...	...	—
Petroleum Stores	...	...	...	...	...	—
Piggeries	...	...	...	...	...	1
Infectious Diseases Enquiries	...	...	...	...	...	35
Public Conveniences	...	...	...	...	...	—
Urinals	...	...	...	...	...	—
Miscellaneous	...	...	...	...	...	4
Drains re-laid	...	...	...	...	...	6
Drains partly re-laid	...	...	...	...	...	4
Rat infested premises	...	...	...	...	...	45

### Milk Supply and Control.

Total number of Cowkeepers on Register at 31.12.44 ... 209

56 produce designated milk, i.e. (10 "Tuberculin Tested"; 46 "Accredited").

153 produce undesignated milk.

Of these Cowkeepers the number who retail milk is 61.

13 retail designated milk, i.e. (3 "Tuberculin Tested," 8 "Accredited," 2 "Pasteurised").

48 retail undesignated milk.

The year brought 7 applications from persons requiring to carry on the trade of a cowkeeper in this district, 5 of which were granted. Six producers were promoted to the designated standard, i.e., 3 "Tuberculin Tested" and 3 "Accredited."

The following figures show the increase of "Tuberculin Tested" producers over the past five years :—

1940, 4. 1941, 4. 1942, 4. 1943, 7. 1944, 10.

During this period 3 Cowkeepers gave up business and have been removed from the Register.

The Sanitary Inspector made 125 visits concerning clean milk production.

Results of 54 samples of milk taken in 1944 are as under :—

#### METHYLENE BLUE TEST.

Good, 37 (70 per cent.); Moderate, 13 (24 p.c.); Bad, 3 (5 p.c.)

#### PHOSPHATASE TEST.

1 sample of Pasteurised milk taken. Result—Satisfactory.

Comparative results of sampling (methylene blue test) over past 5 years :—

	1940	1941	1942	1943	1944
Good ...	25 (40%)	40 (55%)	31 (55%)	34 (64%)	37 (70%)
Moderate ...	14 (20%)	14 (19%)	12 (23%)	9 (17%)	13 (24%)
Bad ...	27 (40%)	19 (26%)	11 (22%)	10 (19%)	3 (5%)
Total taken	66	73	54	53	53

By the passing of the Food and Drugs (Milk and Dairies) Act, 1944, the powers of local authorities regarding milk production will, upon an appointed day, be transferred to the Ministry of Agriculture. This does not mean, however, that local authorities and their officers will cease to be interested in safe and clean milk production, as it will continue to be their responsibility to see that milk, after production, reaches the consumer as wholesome food.

The transfer of the production side to the Ministry of Agriculture must be keenly felt by local authorities and public health officers who have for many years past strived to maintain the standard of milk production in their districts at as high a level as possible. Often this important branch of the public health officer's duties has been carried out under most trying and unencouraging

circumstances. In most rural areas the staff engaged upon the control of milk production has been grossly inadequate and often one official only has been responsible for the milk produced at anything between 200 to 400 registered premises **in addition** to his other multifarious duties—surely an impossible task. Then there are rural local authorities who have not given this subject the consideration and attention it deserves nor have they supported or encouraged their officers in carrying out their onerous duties under the milk and dairies legislature.

There has not been proper co-operation between the milk officers of the War Agricultural Executive Committee and the public health officials. The former look at the problem from the point of view of gallonage irrespective of milk quality or methods of production and, in some instances, have urged farmers to produce milk in premises which are quite unsuitable from the viewpoint of the health officials.

It is still very difficult to convince many of the farmers of the importance of the various aspects of clean milk production. The problem resolves itself into a slow process of education which will not show much success unless the public health officials can spend most of their time at the cowshed or in the dairy.

It is because, as a whole, rural authorities have not performed their obligation regarding clean milk production that their powers are to be transferred to the Ministry of Agriculture. Meanwhile the struggle goes on in the rural areas until the dawning of the appointed day when the Minister of Agriculture takes up, as the local authorities leave them the numerous problems and difficulties of clean milk production. The main consideration, however, is that the community should enjoy a milk supply which is free from infection, clean, and of good keeping quality.

The acute shortage of water during the year has accentuated the difficulties of the milk producer. An ample supply of wholesome water is indispensable for cooling the milk and washing down purposes. Water should be laid on inside each cowshed and, in addition to plenty of cold water, a supply of hot water should also be available for cleasing utensils and the milkers' hands.

Whereas all producers of the designated milks are required to provide facilities for sterilising, very few producers of undesignated milk possess a sterilizer. Sterilization of all utensils and apparatus is essential to clean milk production and should be made compulsory, irrespective of any particular grade of milk produced.

### **Food Premises.**

As far as it was possible visits were made to premises where food is prepared or stored. When conditions permit it is hoped that all food premises in the district will be persuaded to provide

first-class facilities for the washing of hands of those persons engaged in handling foods. There is much improvement necessary in the places where food is prepared and stored, but at the present time it is extremely difficult to effect such improvement.

Following are details of food premises existing in the district together with the number of visits made during the year, viz.:—

	No. in District.	No. of Visits.
No. of Provision Shops .....	57	12
„ „ Butchers' Shops .....	13	27
„ „ Dining Rooms .....	1	1
„ „ Public Houses or Inns	38	16
„ „ Bakehouses .....	14	44
„ „ Registered Cowkeepers	209	125

#### **Food and Drugs Act 1938.**

There are 13 registered premises in the district which are affected by this Act, viz :—

13 Butchers' Premises.

Also there are 13 Licensed Slaughterhouses in the district and 1 Knacker's premises.

#### **Slaughter of Animals Act 1933.**

There are 26 licensed slaughtermen in the district.

#### **Meat and Foods Inspection.**

The amount of food condemned during the year is set out in the following table.

Description.	Weight.	Disease or Condition
33 Duck Eggs .....		Unsoundness
77 Hen Eggs .....		
<b>Tinned Food.</b>		
Beans .....	2lbs.	Decomposition (“blown” or perforated tins)
Salmon .....	1lb.	
Milk .....	10lbs. 9ozs.	
Stewed Steak .....	1lb.	
	<hr/> 14lbs. 9ozs. <hr/>	

## Police Court Proceedings.

Despite every endeavour, made by the Health Department, to get the requirements of an abatement notice complied with without having to resort to legal action, it eventually became necessary to take the following proceedings :—

1. Court where heard. 2. Date of hearing. 3. Parties Concerned.	Offence.	Result of Legal Action.
1. Brackley Petty Sessions.  2. 6.12.44.  3. Brackley R.D.C. v. Mr. J. G. Fox.	Failure to abate a nuisance under the Public Health Act, 1936.	Abatement Order made to operate within 14 days, together with costs of 15/-.
1. Brackley Petty Sessions.  2. 7.2.45.  3. Brackley R.D.C. v. Mr. J. G. Fox.	Failure to abate a nuisance under the Public Health Act, 1936.	Fined £2.

C. T. DARWENT,  
Medical Officer of Health.

Robert Louis Stevenson  
 Robert Louis Stevenson, the author of the famous  
 novel, "Treasure Island," was born in 1850.  
 He was a Scottish writer and traveler.  
 He is best known for his adventure stories.  
 He died in 1894.

Name Title Office	Name Title Office	Name Title Office
John A. Smith President Board of Directors	James H. Jones Vice President Board of Directors	William B. Brown Secretary Board of Directors
Charles E. White Treasurer Board of Directors	Thomas G. Green Director Board of Directors	Robert L. Black Director Board of Directors
Edward F. Hall Director Board of Directors	George W. King Director Board of Directors	Henry J. Lee Director Board of Directors
Frank M. Adams Director Board of Directors	Philip R. Baker Director Board of Directors	David S. Clark Director Board of Directors

C. J. DAKWENT  
 Medical Officer of Health  
 1900



